

# Urban Architecture

## MSc\_2 The Living City



Downtown Brooklyn, New York (2017) by Leeke Reinders

### Tutors

Leeke Reinders  
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Code	[AR2UA010]
Credits	[5 ECTS]
Location	[Rotterdam/Brussels]**
Excursion	[Yes]
Costs	[tbd]

*\*Only for MSc2 projects*

Project type	Research & exploration, Fieldwork and visual script
Approved Master 2	[Yes]
Architecture design project	

\*\* only in the EU, green/yellow zones are allowed.

### How to make architecture move?

This elective explores the city as an assemblage of people, places, structures and materials. It locates architecture in the flows, rhythms, cycles and seasons of natural and human life. The living city is in the stories of buildings, the flows of human life, the histories of urban places, and the ecology of non-human species. In this course you learn to look at architecture and the city through experimental methods of notation, analysis and visualization. The course is set up as a diptych, which moves from unlocking (fieldwork) to unfolding (visual scripts).

The first part of the course engages with the real stuff and living matter of the city. You learn to unlock the city by conducting a small and detailed fieldwork study; to 'read', de-code and analyze the living city by observing a specific piece of urban space and time. You are asked to roam the city, search for cues and materialize your observations in writing and drawing, photographing and filming.

In the second part of the course the city unfolds. You learn to translate real-life observations into visual scripts that translate your findings into moving and foldable narratives. Individual fieldwork studies here will be assembled in the collective work of a life-size book and exhibition.

Upon completion of the course you are able to organize a fieldwork study and apply different methods of notation, analysis and visual representation. You relate architecture to real life and develop an understanding of the complex relations between (non)humans, buildings and places. And you learn to collectively work from fieldwork to acts of storytelling in script, model and movie.

In this fieldwork course the city of Rotterdam and/or Brussels serves as our expedition ground. Both cities are nearby and accessible, and offer a set of pressing social concerns, intriguing histories and cultural territories, that urge and invite you to relate architectural ways of doing and thinking to real-life matter.