

Architecture Archives of the Future

MSc2_The Virtual Architecture Museum



"Alison's Room, an extended reality archive", Paula Strunden, 2022. Photo by Johannes Schwartz

Tutors

Dirk van den Heuvel
Alejandro Campos Uribe

Collaborations

VR Lab BK
Design, Data and Society group
Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam

Code	AR2AA016
Credits	15 ECTS
Location	Rotterdam
Excursion	Yes
Costs	Public Transport NL

Project type Practice related

Approved Master 2 Yes
Architecture design
project

The digital turn has created a new reality in the fields of design, research and knowledge dissemination, introducing new formats for public outreach and storytelling. In this studio, we aim to collectively envision the architecture museum of the future, delving into the intersections of the virtual and the real, the physical and the digital.

Digital technologies have created an intricate web of archives and institutions interconnected across diverse disciplines and media platforms. Our bodies and minds have become integrated into this new data-landscape through smartphones and tablets, VR goggles and smartwatches. The studio aims to rethink this ubiquitous network as a generative memory space that challenges and expands the core concepts of our discipline, raising questions on space, materiality, representation, and bodily experience.

The studio starts from the architecture archives of the Nieuwe Instituut as

our collective disciplinary memory. Reactivating historical design knowledge helps to set the stage for the design assignment for a Virtual Architecture Museum: a mixed reality environment that combines plan analysis, narrative storytelling, and speculative design. The physical location is the Lijnbaan shopping street, at the very centre of Rotterdam. You will design individual structures, such as pavilions, that act as entry portals to the virtual world and together connect into the new virtual architecture museum.

The studio will involve a series of workshops with the VR Lab, the Design, Data and Society group, and the Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam. You will acquire the skills to create interactive VR models, and learn to develop a critical perspective to reassess celebrated spatial experiences from architectural history. You will be challenged to reimagine these for the new digital era. The end result will be a collectively produced design for a Virtual Architecture Museum.