

SUTOR-PRIZE 2007

A cathedral of electricity - the former power station on the River Bille



COMPETITION RESULTS

HCU | HafenCity Universität
Hamburg
with the support of
Sutor-Stiftung, Hamburg

**WELCOME FROM THE PATRON OF THE
SUTOR-PRIZE 2007,**

SENATOR AXEL GEDASCHKO



HafenCity University, the only German university that is exclusively dedicated to architecture and spatial development, with the exemplary support of the Sutor Stiftung Hamburg, has held an international students' competition for the first time this year.

Around 130 architecture students from four renowned European universities submitted designs for the revitalisation of the inner urban site in Hamburg-Hammerbrook and strategies for the after-use of the former power station on the River Bille. The proposals of the participants from Delft, St. Petersburg, Naples and Hamburg have opened new perspectives for this building of great significance in the city's industrial history.

Through the collaboration of the fields architecture, preservation of historical buildings and spatial development, the students' projects can also give new impetus to the surrounding neighbourhoods. Urban life in areas that have lost their original land uses - this aspect of the Senate's overall concept is reflected in the careful transformation of this survivor of bygone times into a vibrant attraction in Hammerbrook.

Following the in-house preselection of schemes at the respective universities, the best 28 were submitted to the jury, who, under the chairmanship of Markus Peter from ETH Zurich, had a hard time choosing the prize winners and accreditations. The wealth of high-quality contributions and the multifaceted and creative proposals of the students have shown that despite the challenging and complex task it was mastered with much interest and enjoyment in the practice of architecture and urban design. Intense study of the site and the brief has produced exceptional designs, which we would like to present to you in this publication on the Sutor-Prize 2007.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Axel Gedaschko'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Head of the Ministry of Urban Development and Environment, Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

NOTES ON THE JURY

Luckily, our work as jurors began with a long walk from the main station across the city to Hammerbrook, for us to get an impression of the competition site, its location in the city and its integration within the urban fabric.

For the requirements of the competition brief were extremely challenging and complex. The task equally involved aspects of urban design, architecture, landscape design as well as economics and - last but not least - conservation issues.

The complexity of the brief already reflects the high demand on the participants, the majority of whom are not from Hamburg. Apart from the architecture students from HafenCity University Hamburg, students from the architecture faculties of the cities of Naples, Delft and St. Petersburg took part.

The 28 schemes presented to us for assessment all attempted, in a surprising thematic range, to suggest leading themes for the future urban development of the area. A variety of new uses for the former power station were proposed and developed into architectural designs. The schemes intended to respond to the historical significance of the building ensemble on the one hand and to come up with visions for its possible development on the other.

For these reasons the assessment and valuation of the projects was extremely difficult. In stimulating discussions the following assessment criteria helped us to select the prizes and accreditations:

- the quality of integration into the urban fabric
- activating the potential of the place and of the existing building
- elaborating the relation of the former power station and its proposed use
- the quality and strength of the design's architectural expression.

After much controversial discussion the jury was able to paint a representative picture of the submitted schemes and awarded four prizes and three accreditations. In our opinion, these competition proposals demonstrate that the district of

Hammerbrook-Süd has great and valuable urban development potential and that there are a whole range of feasible after-uses for the power station site which could provided it with a new life cycle in the heart of the City of Hamburg.



Prof. Markus Peter, Architect SIA
as Chairman of the Jury

JURY MEMBERS

Jury

Prof. Steven Spier
Prof. Jörn Walter

HafenCity University Hamburg, Founder President
Department of Urban Development and Environment (BSU),
Chief Planning and Building Director
District of Hamburg Mitte, Director of Building Department
ETH Zurich, Department Architecture
Technische Universität München, Chair of Urban Design
Technische Universität Dresden, Chair of Monument Protection
Landscape Architect, Berlin
Architect, Hamburg

Bodo Hafke
Prof. Markus Peter
Prof. Sophie Wolfrum
Prof. Thomas Will
Regina Poly
Isabell Feest

Guests

Dirk C. Schoch
Marcus Farwig
Frank Pieter Hesse
Gabriele Bohnsack-Häfner
Rudolf Kärcher
Christian Hellbing
Gerhard Eichhorn
Prof. Petra Kahlfeist

Sutor-Stiftung, Hamburg
Sutor-Stiftung, Hamburg
Monument Protection Department, Hamburg
Monument Protection Department, Hamburg
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Vattenfall Deutschland, Berlin
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Professor of the Sutor Foundation, HafenCity University, Hamburg

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D&K drost consult, Hamburg
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PRIZES

First Prize

Caroline Carlsson, Enno Redeker, Janina Popp
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

Second Prize

Arend Kölsch
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

Third Prize

Maria Rosaria Villani
Universita degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Italy

Fourth Prize

Fridolin Lippens, Marc Postrach
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

Accreditations

*

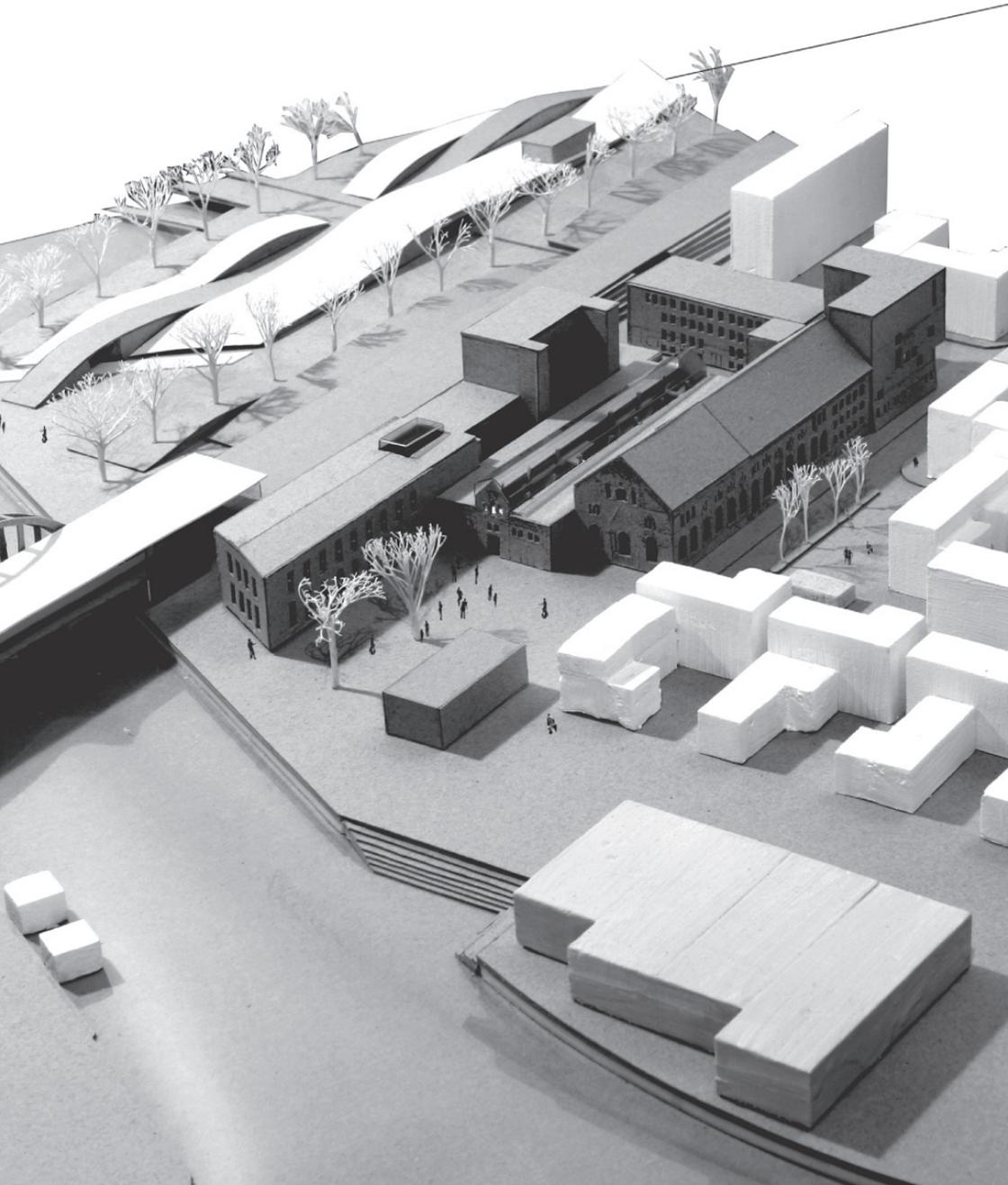
Eleonora Schröder, Grischa Wunderlich
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

*

Stefano Piedimonte
Universita degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Italy

*

Christine Pongratz, Irina Panaitesen, Hedda Kohlmann
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany



First Prize

Participants: Caroline Carlsson, Enno Redeker, Janina Popp
University: HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

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"LEAP ACROSS THE BILLE"

Extract from the participants' explanatory text:

The relocation of the urban railway station (S-Bahn) Rothenburgsort on the Bille bridge meets the requirements of the new centrality of the area around the power station. As the fourth built layer the station is added to the three existing layers of the power station. The urban railway station is linked through all four layers to the central square, with a bus stop on Anton-Ree-Weg, and takes up the original functional direction of the building complex: coal depot - boiler house - turbine hall.

The layers work independently of each other: the former coal depot has a connecting function. A rooflight directs light into the boiler house. The accessible part of the turbine hall is characterised by the generous space. A cinema screen and gastronomic establishments form a communicative counter pole to the circulation function.

The buildings along the northern railway embankment and on Buller-deich will be kept. The architecture is designed to permit flexible use in units of different sizes.





THE JURY'S COMMENTS

The scheme presents a convincing concept for a new neighbourhood. Its structure takes up the pre-modern urban pattern without trying to literally replicate it. The jury specially commends the landscape proposals for the large Billepark, which displays a sensitive response to the adapted block structure. Also appreciated is the proposal of densifying existing housing areas with small-scale buildings and the additional access routes providing a hierarchy from public to private spaces.

The former power station on the River Bille is developed into the distinctive and widely visible centre of the neighbourhood. This industrial monument and its interior spaces are preserved while being added to in a sensitive manner. The jury praises the project for its sensual imaginativeness, which is carried through right to the graphic presentation of the scheme. The proposal to reconstruct the destroyed building on the corner Anton-Ree-Weg/Bullerdeich, its bulk and the choice of similar materials, bring out the exceptional sense of scale and appropriateness that strengthen the character of the industrial monument.





Second Prize

Participant: Arend Kölsch
University: HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

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"MILEWORK" - FORUM FOR DRIVING CULTURE

Extract from the participant's explanatory text:

In the context of the vision for the "growing city", the urban development of Hammerbrook can accommodate quantitative as well as qualitative growth. For the area around the power station this would be primarily an increase in density and diversifying the present land uses. The principle of "working on the waterfront - living elsewhere" found in the old Hammerbrook is inverted to form new spaces that meet the demands of the post-industrial city.

The redevelopment of the former power station on the River Bille as a "Milework", a forum and complex of uses based on historical vehicles, with examples in Berlin and Düsseldorf, would provide an impulse to spark off the transformation of the neighbourhood. The scheme aims to illustrate how the different use components can be accommodated on the Bullerdeich site. To exploit to the full the favourable location, new building volumes complement the old layers. Their heights clearly represent the power station in the city's silhouette. The material of black brick marks the new buildings as the "third generation" within the ensemble.





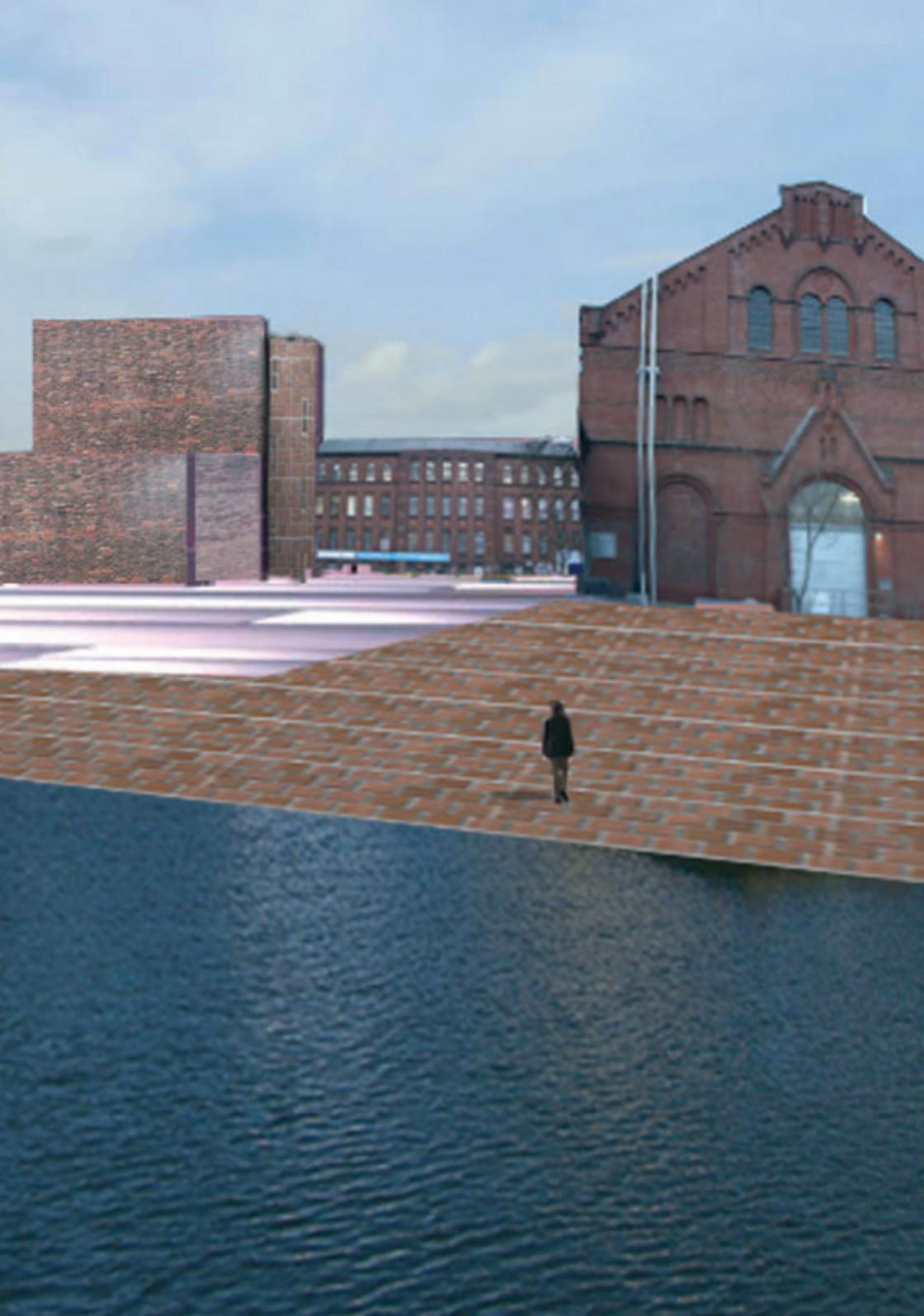
THE JURY'S COMMENTS

The special quality of this scheme lies in the excellent enhancement of the neighbourhood and the former power station on the River Bille, in a proposal which has been derived from its own scale and logic.

In particular; the jury applauded the good integration of the scheme into the urban fabric, based on the appropriate design decision to increase the density of the area around the monument, the introduction of many new uses and the balance achieved between the proposed intervention with the potential of the existing.

The site with its large halls and extensive floor areas is well suited for the proposed after-use, a "forum of transportation culture", and related space requirements. The design of additional buildings within the ensemble creates a new city silhouette in the best sense and sets up a dialogue between old and new at a high design standard.





Third Prize

Participant: Maria Rosaria Villani

University: Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Italy

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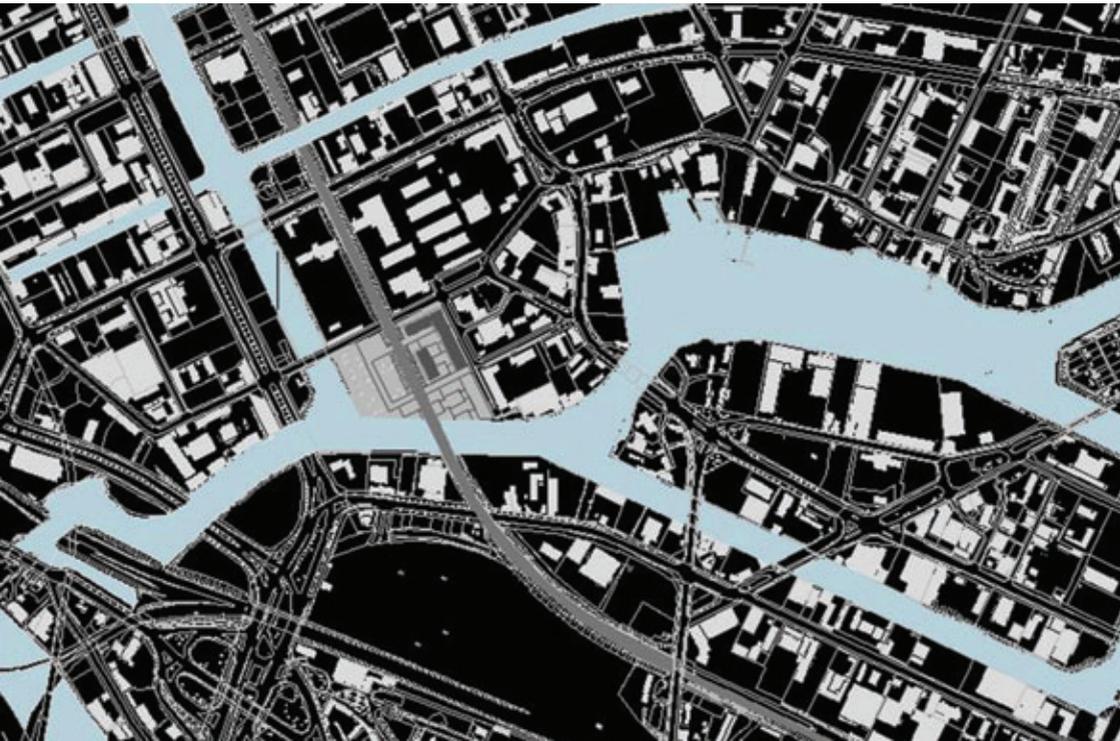
"FABROOKART"

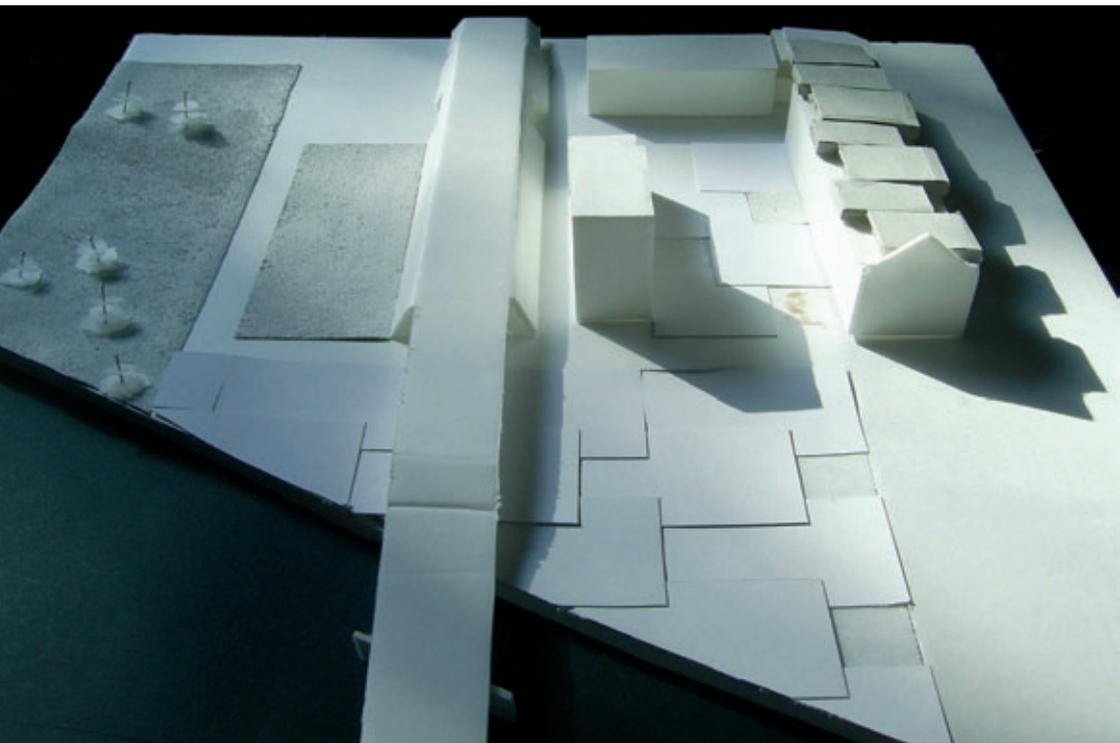
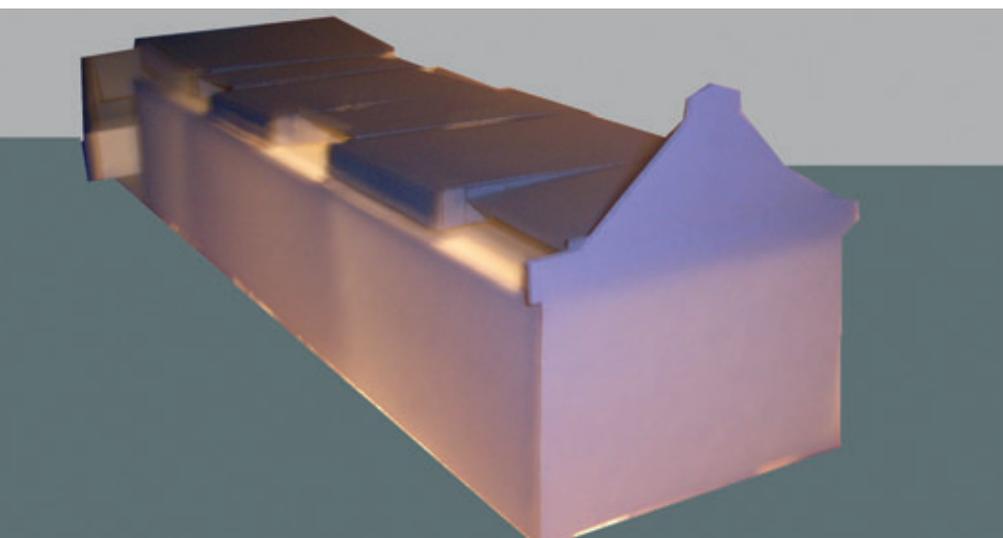
Extracts from the participant's explanatory text:

Fabrookart emerges like a spontaneous continuation of the building's DNA. Originally like a cathedral for work, the power station is converted into an arts plant, while keeping the idea of the place intended for production, as well as that of "doing" being something sacred. The focus of the project is on the integration of the site into the urban fabric, with green paths and access across the river. For that purpose, the square facing the water, designed with a system of plates that gently slope towards the river, intends to represent a moment of usability of the Bille.

Regarding the building, the floor plans are extremely flexible, the spaces made up of walls that can be easily substituted or put together. The cathedral is integrated into the inner space with a modern, latticesteel construction. It is detached from the existing structure in order to preserve the external appearance of the building as an element of industrial archaeology. The flat roof is made up of staggered prisms to create refractions that make the inner space bright.

Ultimately, Fabrookarts attempts to apply the triad of Vitruvius (firmitas, venustas, utilitas) to the existing structures and functions.





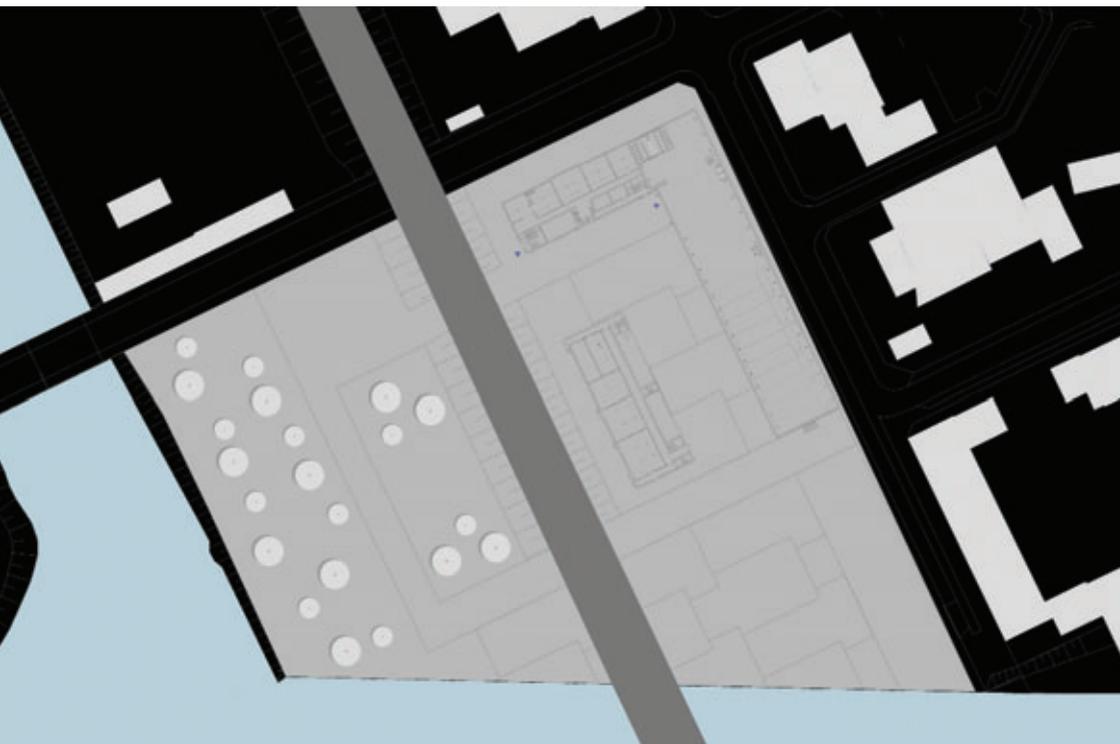
THE JURY'S COMMENTS

"The one who fuses beauty with functionality, simplicity with greatness, gets the maximum quality": Horatio's motto as a design approach is carried through to a remarkable degree in this proposal.

The courage for emptiness, similar to historical "tidying up", celebrates a kind of minimalism in the scale of the urban fabric as well as the architecture. Partly disturbing and partly fascinating, poetical places are created.

The decision of the designer to decrease the power station area in favour of the open space on the River Bille, and to rigorously expose those parts of the primary buildings that are considered worth preserving, creates a large-scale sculptural sign, the erratic quality of which provides a starting point for development in this deprived area.

The proposals for buildings complementing the existing structures stand in unison with the reinterpretation of the site: without making reconciliatory repairs, the design approach utilises perforation and contrast to highlight the losses experienced.





Fourth Prize

Participants:

Fridolin Lippens, Marc Postrach

University:

HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

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"WATERSIDE SEQUENCES"

Extract from the participants' explanatory text:

The special appeal of the area is determined by the different bodies of water that enable Hammerbrook, as part of the city on the waterfront, to further diversify development. The natural watercourse of the widening River Bille and the canals create different sequences of embankment situations offering various views and crossing points. The urban design proposal aims at creating a new mixed-use centre between the chocolate factory on the canal and the power station on the Bille, extending from the new urban railway station (S-Bahn) to Ausschlägerweg.

The power station ensemble is one of the components of the waterside sequence. In the string of spaces it forms the hinge that connects the paths along the north-south axis parallel to the urban railway with the riverside walk. The existing building layout of the power station ensemble retains its access concept, with an introverted north and open south side. It is adapted to accommodate the new uses: a hotel in the new building along the railway, a product hotel in the boiler house with shops and workshops on the gallery, a fashion school in the transformer plant II and an event space in the former turbine hall.



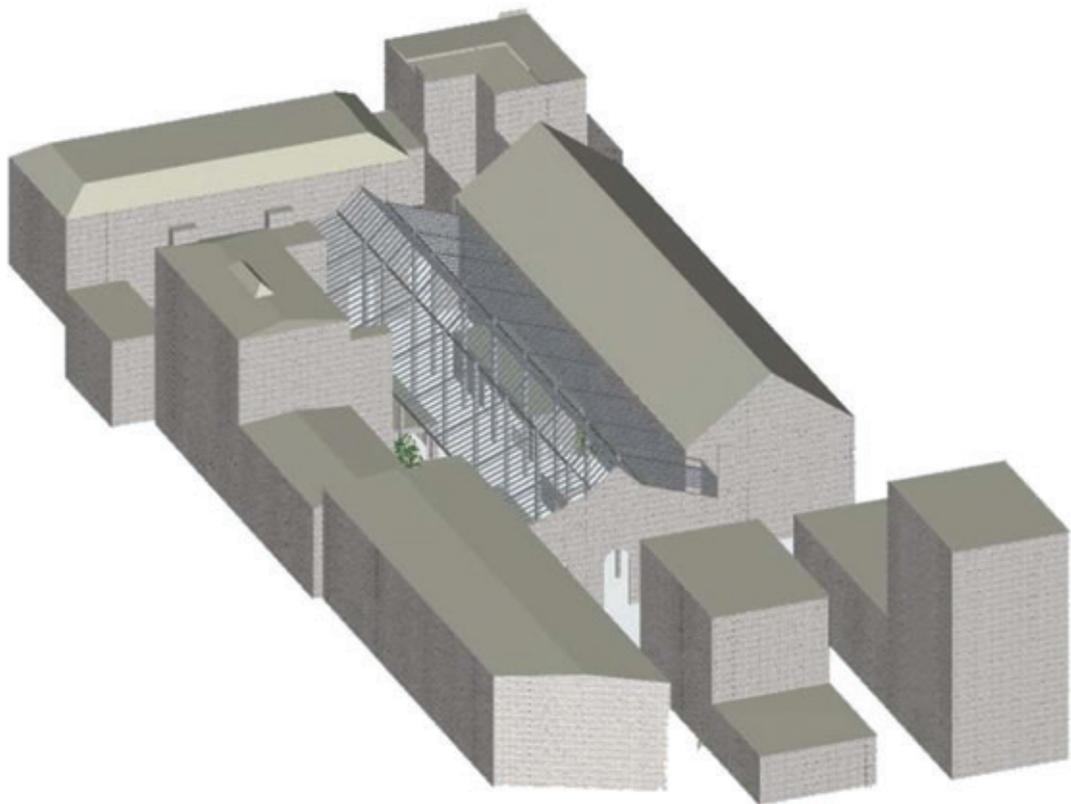


THE JURY'S COMMENTS

Programmatic is the key word for the submitted scheme. Using "water-side sequences" the designers attempt to integrate the power station on the River Bille into the urban fabric, while - it should be noted - carefully taking up and extending the largely existing historical network of paths. The proposal to develop the banks of the Bille into a promenade and link this into the adjacent residential areas with open courtyards is interesting. The jury commends the designers for consistently addressing the public open spaces. In the interior of the site, along the roads, mainly administration buildings and multi-storey car parks are proposed, which is considered appropriate.

The pivot point of the proposed neighbourhood is the industrial monument. It will receive uses of regional significance and thereby add to the character of the area; a decision appreciated by the jury. A central feature is the product hotel, a kind of trade fair that remains attractive by showing continuously changing innovations. New structures will be added to the existing building; however, the jury recognises that conservation issues have been largely considered.





Accreditation

Participants:

Eleonora Schröder, Grischa Wunderlich

University:

HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

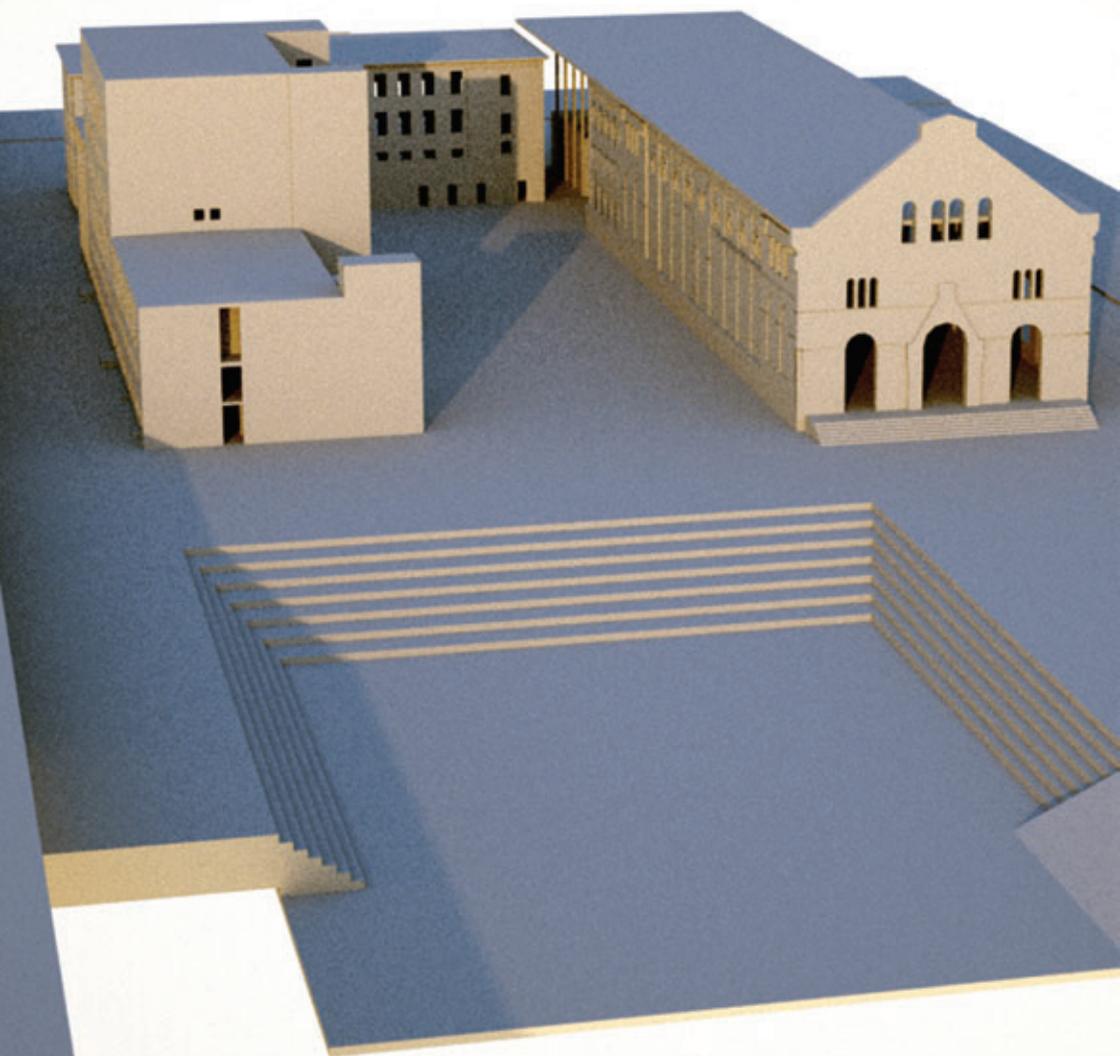
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THE JURY'S COMMENTS

At the centre of the scheme "Scenery City" is the transformation of places formerly associated with labour. Transposing and redefining this meaning also takes effect in the treatment of the industrial monument of the power station on the River Bille. The jury appreciates the attempt to set contrasting and selective signs. Conservation issues were only secondary to the overriding intent to give the ensemble, which has been fragmented into single buildings, a new silhouette with a distinctive sequence of heights.

The jury does not consider the urban design proposal to be convincing. Neither the proposed transport concept nor the monotonous building patterns are comprehensible. The integration of the undoubted potential of open spaces and proposed buildings cannot be recognised.





Accreditation

Participant:

Stefano Piedimonte

University:

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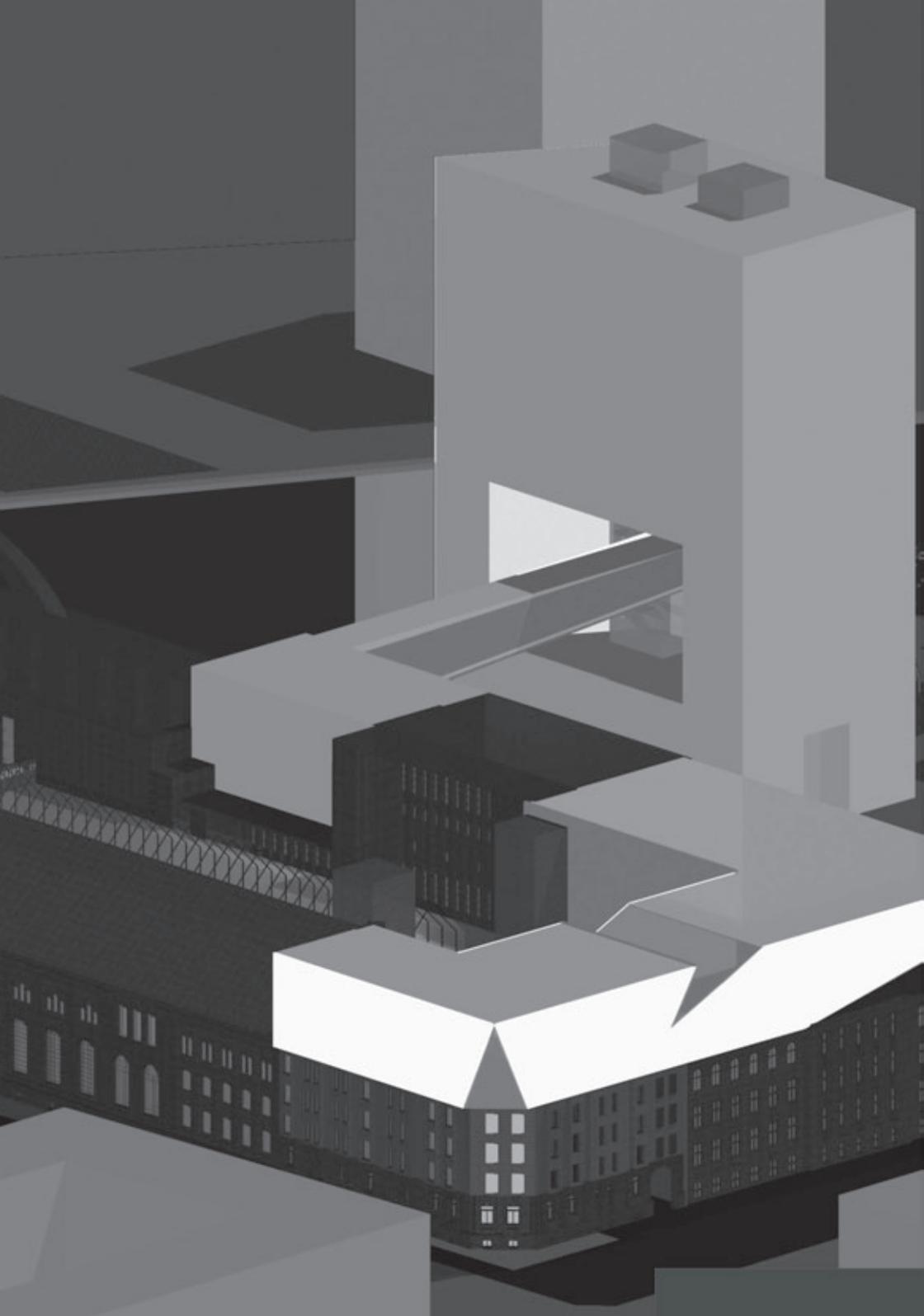
25

THE JURY'S COMMENTS

The scheme "Open Stage" focuses on interventions related to the industrial monument. The jury appreciates the conviction with which the designer exposes old building parts of the power station on the River Bille, making them into sculptural monuments and abandoning newer buildings in favour of a generous square on the water's edge. However, the concept was not followed up by a logical architectural design.

The focus is consistently placed on those buildings in the ensemble which the designer considers to be primary importance. They are emphasised by for instance giving the great hall a formal, sacred character. The jury recognises a rudimentary theme of transposing existing and new building parts in the extended columns, moved in from the facade to support a roof membrane floating above the existing building and extending beyond the eaves.





Accreditation

Participants: Christine Pongratz, Irina Panaitesen, Hedda Kohlmann
University: HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany

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THE JURY'S COMMENTS

The jury considers the main quality of the entry to be the urban integration of the power station site into the neighbourhood immediately to the east and also across the separating railway embankment into the green corridor linking the Alster and the Elbe, and beyond to City Süd.

With the proposal for a confident tower, a new emblematic building in the open space link and an elevated bridge connection, the designers successfully reinterpreted the power station. Not only the increased urban density but also the new symbolism of the overall proposal has definite potential. However, the question of the appropriateness of the building proposal and the impact of the grand gesture on the scale of the existing ensemble remains unanswered. The jury also sees deficits in the quality of the spaces at the foot of the railway embankment.

Almost contradictory to creating the "super structure" of the tower is the handling of existing buildings, which is commended by the jury. The proposed allocated uses are exemplary in their response to the potential and structure of the various building parts.

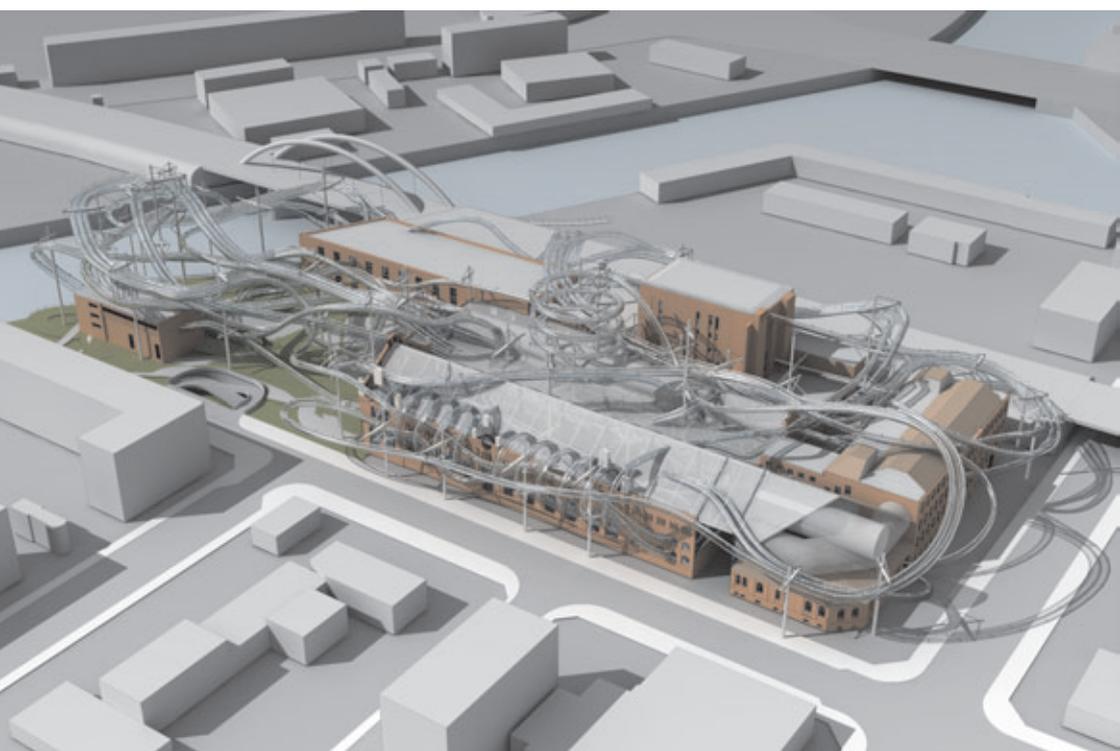


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Participants

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Participant:

Victor Schmidt

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Technical University Delft, Netherlands



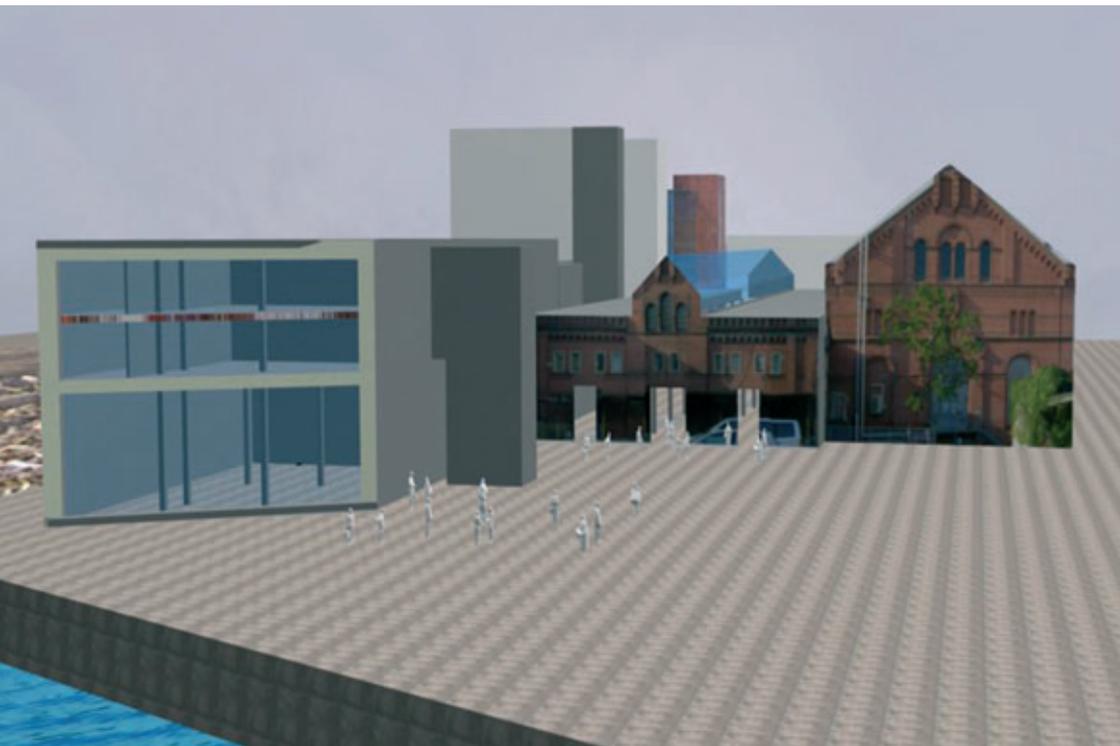
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Participant:

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Participants

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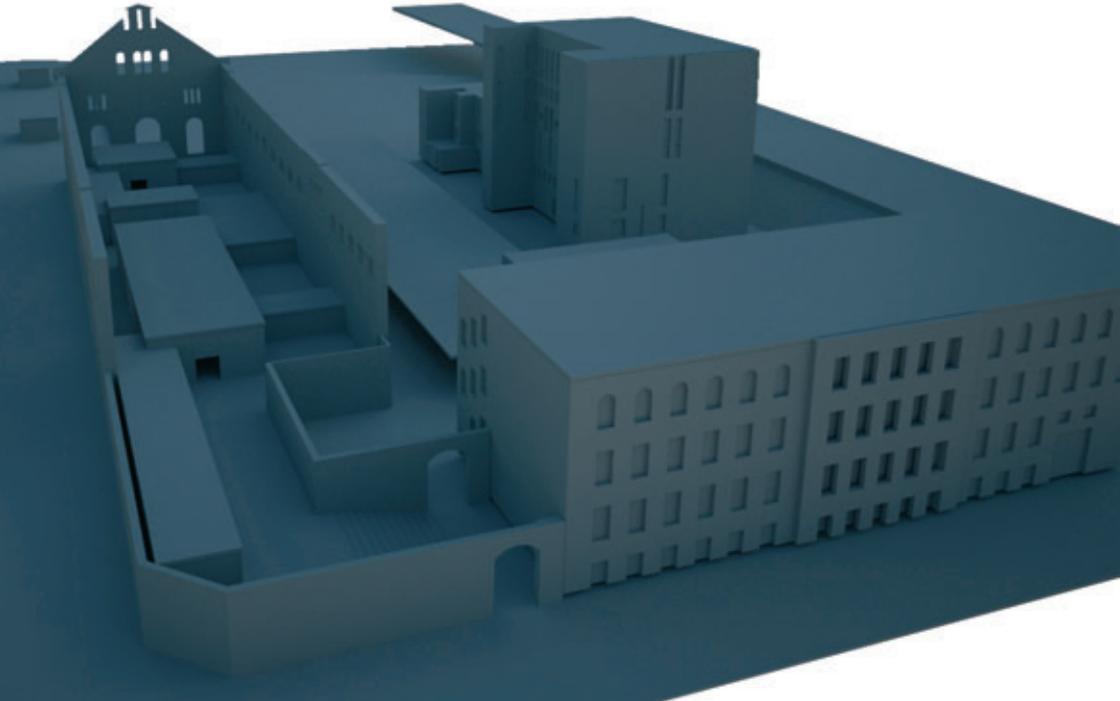


Participant:

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Participants

Participant:

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Lydia Richter

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Participants

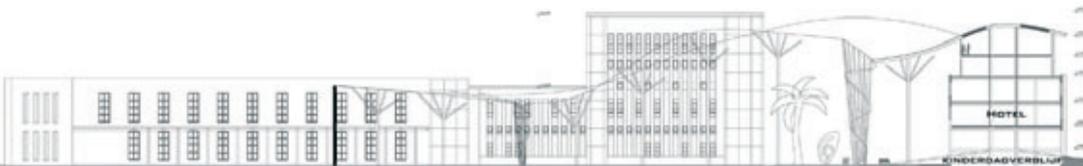
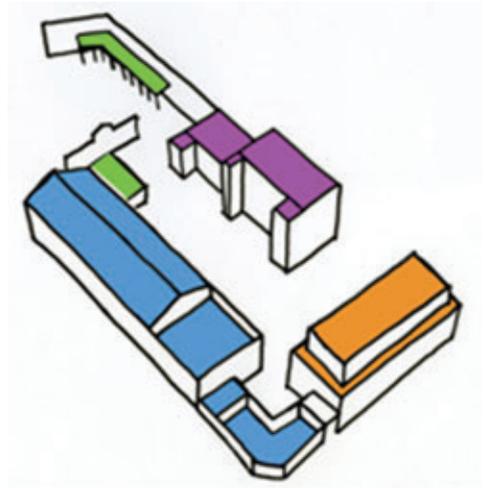
Participant:

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Participant:

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Participants

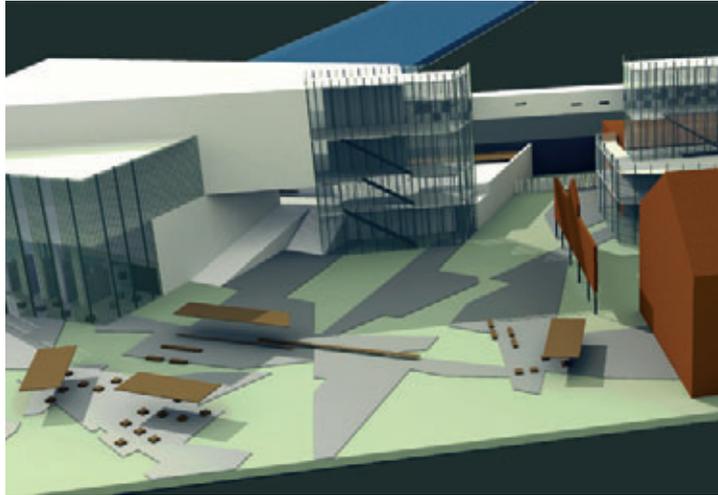
Participant:

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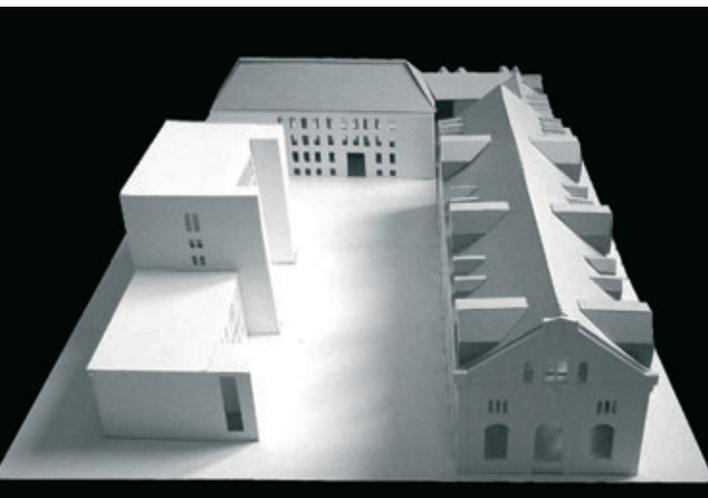


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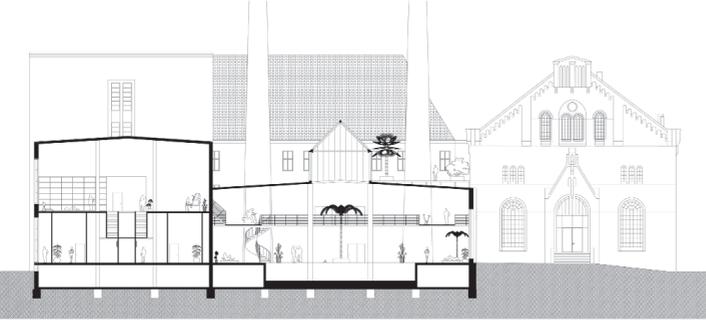


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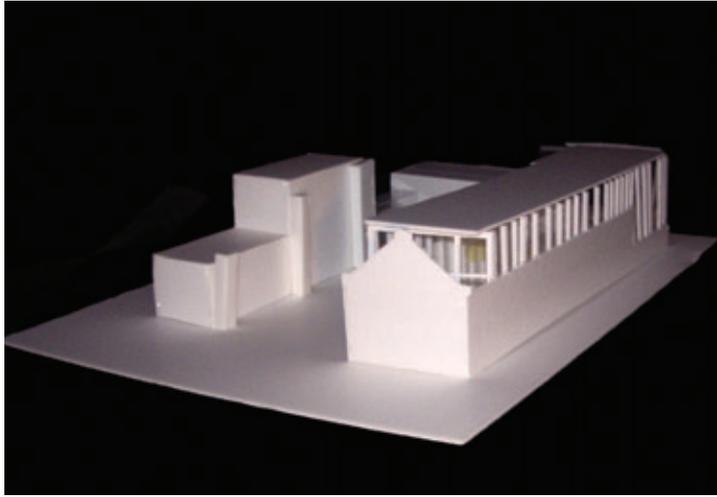
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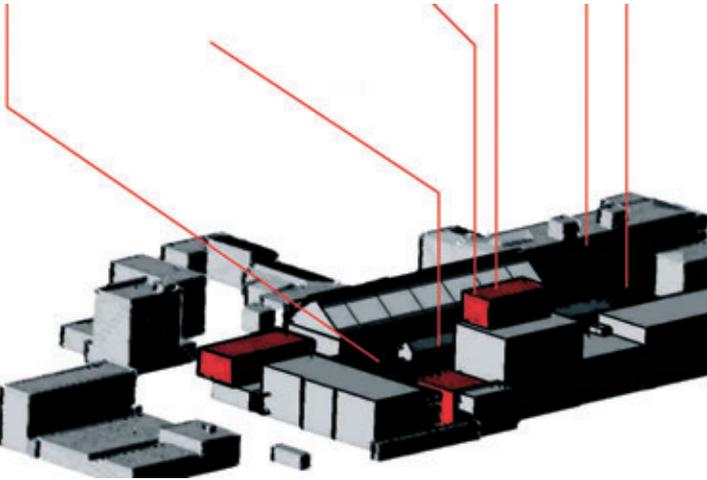


Participant:

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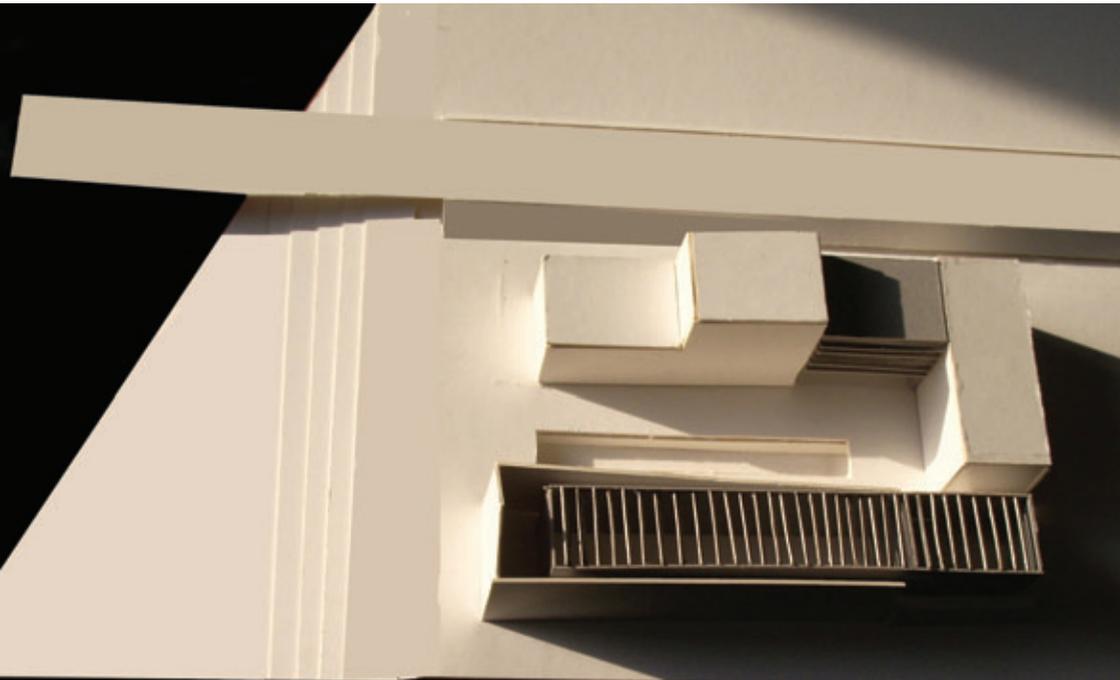
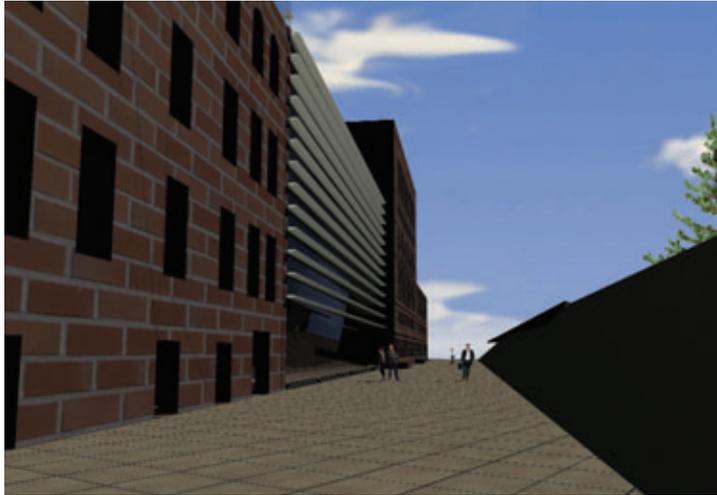
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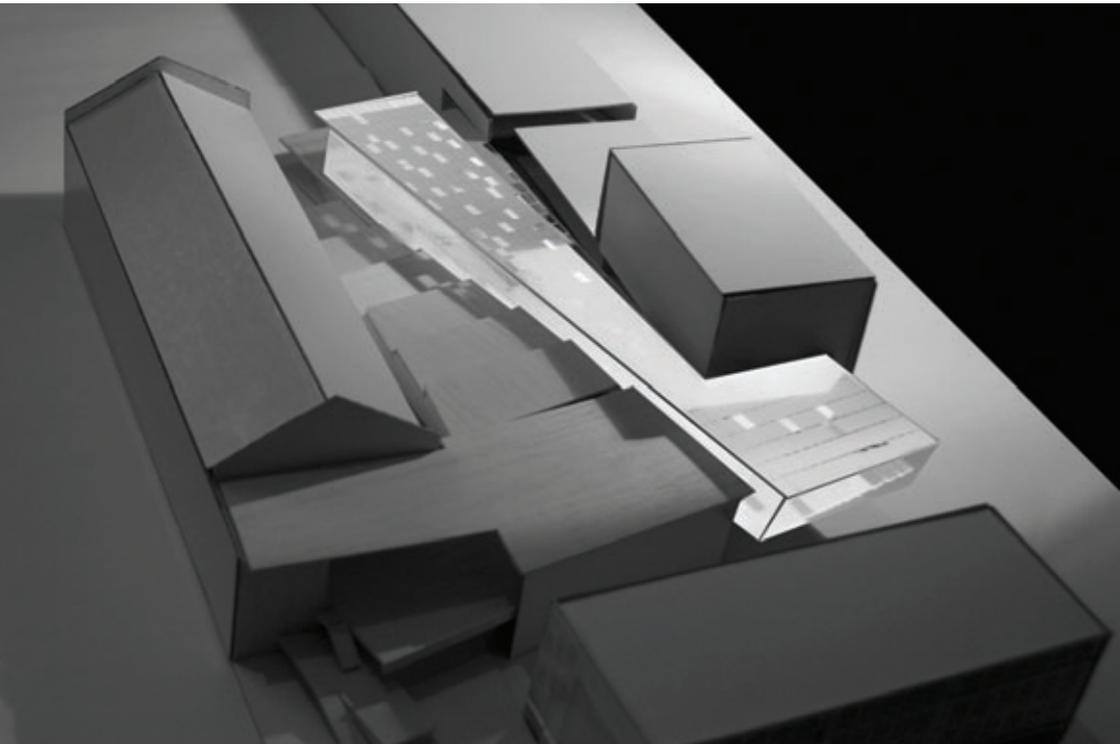


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All illustrations/plans of the submitted designs were provided by the participants for publication.

