

CTRL ALT, FLINT!

Amersfoort (NL)

1. REVIVING AND ICON, FROM CONCENTRIC THEATRE TO OPEN STAGE

Transforming, at the center of urban transitions

As part of its 2030–2040 vision, Amersfoort aims to build a healthier, more connected, and more human city. At the heart of this ambition lies the transformation of the Flint, a key project. Currently inward focused, hardly oriented towards the historic center, and turning its back on the monumental green belt that surrounds it, the Flint embodies the full potential of a site ready to be reinvented.

The city envisions it as a central meeting point, open to all, fostering social connection, shared creativity, and cultural innovation. The project addresses this ambition by proposing a complete reinterpretation of the site through urban and architectural approaches that both respect the existing structure and anticipate future uses. It positions the Flint not only as a renewed venue, but as a civic and cultural catalyst capable of revitalizing its entire urban context.

An evolving framework for shared uses

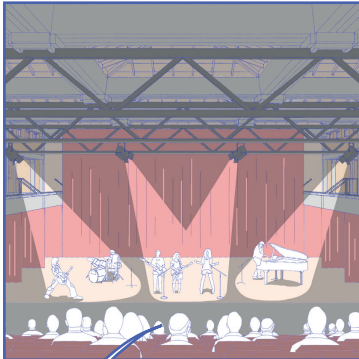
Rather than imposing a fixed form or rigid program, our proposal draws from the richness of the existing structure to unlock its latent potential. The project is conceived as an open framework, capable of accommodating a multiplicity of evolving uses, activated by a wide range of actors and visitors.

The goal is to free the building from internal partitions, rethink its circulation, and repurpose its components to create a porous, vibrant space oriented toward its surroundings. The building becomes a permanent site for experimentation, blending work, learning, and production, as well as a place for living and sharing, all welcoming both regular users and occasional visitors.

A collective space serving local communities

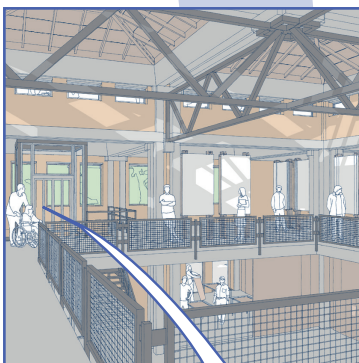
The project is also exemplary in its social approach, by making the building accessible to a wide variety of users, integrating shared governance mechanisms, and encouraging synergies between professional, associative, and civic initiatives.

It encourages the emergence of an active community around the site. Architecture here becomes an infrastructure of trust and connection, capable of supporting collective forms of organization. This strategy aims to foster the progressive appropriation of the place by its inhabitants, while ensuring overall coherence.



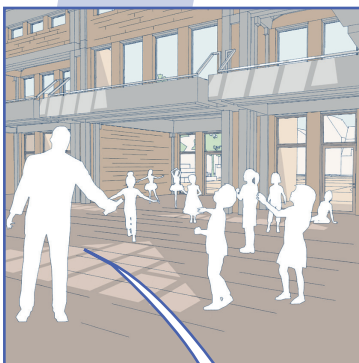
Your daughter has a beautiful voice, and your son is so talented at playing the guitar !

A day of performance in the indoor stage



This exhibition looks interesting, do you want to visit it before going to life drawing class?

A Saturday in the artistic and exhibition space



Come on guys, let's do one last show rehearsal before the performance tomorrow night !

A Wednesday in the scenic workshop

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2. A NEW NARRATIVE FOR AN INHERITED ARCHITECTURE

A respectful and legible intervention

The project draws on the structural and material qualities of the Flint designed by Onno Greiner in 1970, characterized by a 6.4 meter concrete grid, brick infill, timber roof framing, and massive concrete theatre stands. Inside, the new interventions remain measured and precise, with partitions and window frames made of wood, ensuring continuity and harmony in the material dialogue. The part transformed in 2013 follows the same internal partitioning logic, the façades, made of steel, glass, and zinc, retains their identity, but some are reinterpreted to enhance transparency and spatial coherence. All of the Flint's roofs adopt a unified architectural language, alternating between bi-colored zinc and north-facing glazed sections. Bricks recovered from the partial demolition of the parking and certain frames of the Flint are reused in the façades of the new housing units.

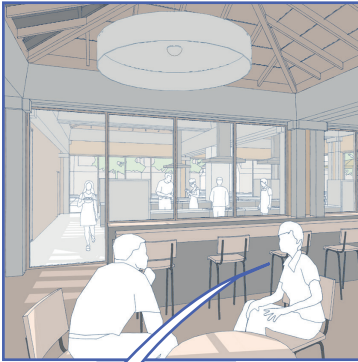
This frugal, circular and measured approach ensures that the interventions remain faithful to the principles of the original building and aligned with Amersfoort's ecological aspirations.

Spatial synergy between functions

The transformation begins with a reconfiguration of internal circulation, enabling fluid, PRM accessibility, and legible pathways across ground floors and upper levels. This new spatial organization facilitates the coexistence of open, interactive spaces with quieter environments dedicated to work, research, production, and artistic performance. By opening up the façades and introducing new visual connections to the city and the green belt, the project restores the original intentions of Onno Greiner, staging the building as a visible, integral part of the urban landscape.

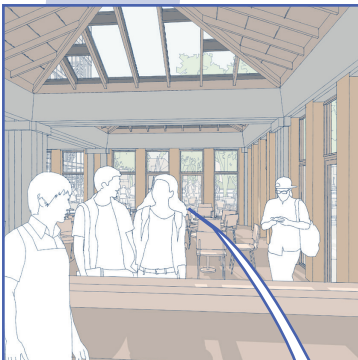
A catalyst for a vibrant and active neighborhood

This programmatic diversity goes hand in hand with a strong ambition for urban renewal. A part of the former parking lot is replaced with family and artists housing. The southern square is transformed into an interactive public space capable of hosting performances, markets, and community events. The adjacent square, currently underused, is turned into a vibrant forecourt, extending the building's activities into the public realm. The treatment of thresholds and surroundings helps promote soft mobility, proximity, and accessibility. The project offers a sensitive, context-aware reading of the site, where every intervention, contributes to enhancing the quality of transversal interactions.



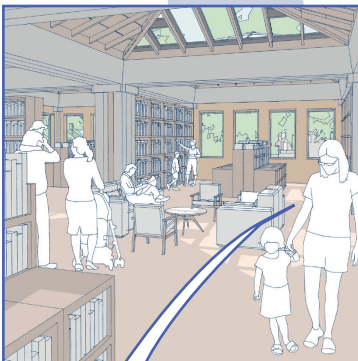
It's great to see catering students cooking our meal live, both inside and outside.

Weekdays in the teaching restaurant



Why don't we get takeaway and eat near the Eem river instead of staying inside ?

A sunny day in the café



Let's start by choosing a gift for your father's birthday, then you can pick a book or a cartoon.

A Saturday in the library's 1st floor

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3. THE CITY AS PROCESS, THE PROJECT AS TOOL

A functional and livable ecosystem

The project is envisioned as a hub for diverse activities, designed to coexist or operate independently. It is simultaneously a learning center offering training in crafts and culinary arts, a creative hub with studios and workshops, a co-working space for emerging cultural enterprises and a venue for performances and events. Some of those allows to generate an income, such as sales or rental spaces, to keep the place financially sustainable. The whole is designed to establish complementary temporalities of use, activating the site continuously, day and night, weekdays and weekends.

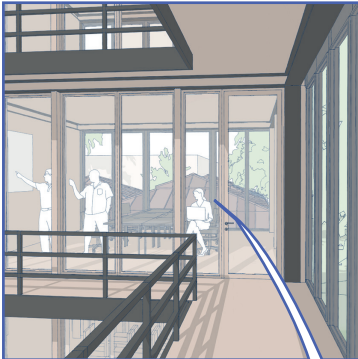
A gradual and controlled transformation

The project can be implemented in phases, ensuring that the building remains active throughout the transformation. The first phase focuses on reconfiguring the original 1970 spaces, which can be activated quickly by adjusting partitions and enlarging openings without major structural interventions. The second phase transforms the theatre and its backstage area, with the addition of new steel structural elements integrated into the existing grid, along with façade and upper levels reconfigurations. In the final phase, the parking structure is dismantled to make way for new housing, built using recovered on-site materials. Public spaces follow a strategic, incremental approach: some are activated at the beginning to support early uses, while larger exterior spaces are completed after the main interventions, ensuring a progressive and collective appropriation of the site.

Toward a resilient and human-scaled city

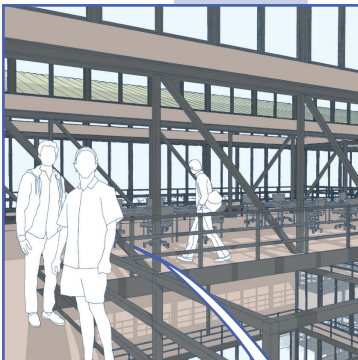
This project is fully aligned with Amersfoort's broader transition toward a more inclusive, ecologically responsible, and adaptable urban future. The transformation of the Flint addresses contemporary challenges through a framework of social inclusion, ecological restraint, and functional flexibility. It embodies the vision of a network interlinking public spaces, creative hubs, and residential zones into a coherent, human-scaled fabric.

More than just an architectural proposal, the project proposes a paradigm shift. It breathes new life into an icon by reinventing it as a collective and open structure. The Flint is no longer a static building, but a living process: a place of convergence, creative friction, and cultural emancipation. A space to work, share, imagine, gather and most importantly, to co-inhabit the future of Amersfoort.



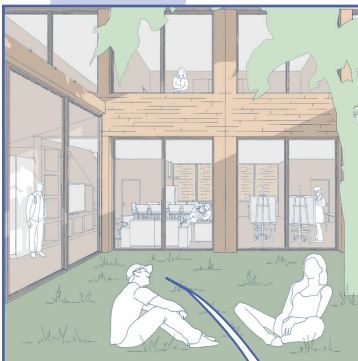
I just booked a studio on the top floor for next week so we can start testing our ideas.

Monday in a bookable working space



The view is wonderful, we can really have a 360° view on the city of Amersfoort !

First visit in the public work space



If you're looking for Carl, he's in the common workshop, working on his new project.

From one of the artist houses