

JURY REPORT

E18 Amersfoort Re_sourcing

Launching Partner Amersfoort

Amersfoort is thriving and embracing significant growth. Several major societal challenges require solutions, including issues related to housing, mobility, energy, sustainability, and climate change. How we shape these solutions will define the city now and for many generations to come. We prioritize the development with care for the living environment of people, animals, and plants. Strengthening greenery and nature is essential for biodiversity and liveability. To achieve this we focus on connections between neighbourhoods and between people.

In line with these ambitions, European Netherlands and the Municipality of Amersfoort are proud to present six locations for European 18. These locations are strategically significant for the municipality and aligns closely with this session's theme of resourcing, highlighting Amersfoort's search for innovative approaches to urban transformation.

ORGANIZATION & JURY COMPOSITION

The E18 Session features a professional jury comprising 9 main members, supported by 2 substitutes, making a total of 9 to 11 participants.

Kristiaan Borret (BE)

Bouwmeester Maitre Architecte (BMA) at Brussels Capital Region

Jeroen de Willigen (NL)

Urbanist and partner / De Zwarte Hond, Chairman BNA, Supervisor Amsterdam Amstel, Healthy Ageing Campus.

Eric van der Kooij (NL)

Chairman BNSP, Concept development at BPD Amsterdam

Oana Rades (NL)

Architect / Partner at Shift architecture urbanism

Wouter Veldhuis (NL)

Urban planner / State advisor for the physical living environment, Director MUST Ambassador, Platform Space for Walking

Cécilia Gross (NL)

Architect Partner / Director at VenhoevenCS architecture+urbanism

Nathalie van Hoeven (NL)

Concept development at Eigen Haard

Rob Meurders (NL)

Architect Partner / Diederendirix architects, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality in Eindhoven

Tom Avermaete (CH)

Professor for the History and Theory of Urban Design at ETH Zurich

SUBSTITUTE Jury

Oliver Thill (NL)

Owner of Atelier Kempe Thill architects and planners

Cristina Gamboa (ESP)

Cristina is co-founder at Lacol

18th-19th September

1st Jury Session

25th and 26th September 2025: Shortlisting of entries by the national juries (around 20% max. or at least 3)

Forum of Cities and Juries

17th-18th October 2025: European Comparative analysis of the shortlisted ideas at the “Forum of Cities and Juries”

2nd Jury Session

31st October 2025: Final selection of entries by the national juries

FACTS & FIGURES

Sites	Number of submissions	Number of Shortlisted	Number of Special mention	Number of Runnerups	Number of Winner
Flint, Amersfoort	13	5	1	1	1
Amicitia, Amersfoort	10	5	1	1	1
Otto Scheltus, Amersfoort	11	4	2	0	1
Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort	8	4	1	1	1
Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort	19	4	1	1	1
Koppelbrug, Amersfoort	14	6	1	1	1

PROCEDURE

This chapter explains how the jury and the technical committee evaluated the projects at the different phases: the preliminary analyses, the first jury meeting to select the projects for the shortlist, and the second jury meeting to select the winning projects.

PHASE I: PRELIMINARY ANALYSES BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Technical Committee

18th-19th September

In the preliminary analysis phase, the European E18 organization checked if the projects were carried out and submitted in accordance with the rules of European E18. The partners and representatives of the project sites, together with the Project team European NL, also drew up recommendations to inform the jury in phases II and III.

Check by European NL Board and Project Team European NL

The goal of this round was to check if the projects had been carried out and submitted in accordance with the rules of European and the site briefs. Also, an overview was made of the types of strategies and interventions for each competition site, as a preparation for jury sessions I and II. Check by European NL Board and Project team European NL resulting in completed score forms per entry.

Consultation with Site Representatives

People taking part in this round:

Project team European 17:

Madir Shah (Director, European NL / E18 Project leader), Arno Goossens

(Senior Strategic Advisor Spatial Development at the Municipality of Amersfoort), Maricke Hiddink (Architect - Advisor Spatial Development at the Municipality of Amersfoort), Agnes Galama (Spatial Development Strategist at the Municipality of Amersfoort)

Site representatives E18:

Flint, Amersfoort (NL) Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock, Amicitia, Amersfoort (NL) Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock, Scheltus Flat, Amersfoort (NL) Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock, Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort (NL) Maricke Hiddink, Esther van Son-Kock, Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort (NL) Maricke Hiddink, Dirk Hölzer, Koppelbrug, Amersfoort (NL) Maricke Hiddink, Dirk Hölzer

The project partners and site representatives were given sufficient time to study all the plans. Per project all panels were presented in hard copy. The participants read all entries. Every member studied all the entries on their own, In dialogue with each other, the score form was finalized. This form had a 'technical' purpose only: to check to what extent the entries answered all the questions described in the site briefs. No projects were eliminated; all projects met the rules of European E18.

The aim of this round was to access the knowledge of site representatives to provide the jury with site-specific information and views. In addition, it was essential that the various partners, in response to the European submissions, had in-depth discussions about the future of

the city with each other at an early stage. This increases the chance for results to be included in the implementation phase following the announcement of the winners.

As an introduction to the viewing, the European NL project team presented the outcome of round, an overview of the types of strategies and interventions per competition site. Round II resulted in the formulation of recommendations for the jury. The recommendations are annexed to the jury report.

FIRST SESSION OF THE JURY TO MAKE A PRESELECTION AMONG THE ENTRIES

1st Jury Session

25th and 26th September 2025: Shortlisting of entries by the national juries (around 20% max. or at least 3)

Goal

Objectives of the 1st Phase of the Jury was to reach a pre-selection of a minimum 3 entries for each site. (List below are the preselected entries for each site location)

Process

The first Jury Day started with a welcome and introduction by the program manager E18. He explained the various challenges and extensively shared the findings from technical committee and the recommendations made by the technical committee. All jury members selected **Cécilia Gross (NL)** as the Jury President.

Next, the jury reflected on the challenge in plenary sessions of around 3-4 hours per location. What characterizes the different areas, what problems do they face and what was the brief of European 18 and why? The site representative presented in short, the recommendations (± 15 mins). This discussion gave rise to some critical comments and questions about the set challenges. The jury then defined points of interest for the judging per location.

Next day early in the morning the jury members visited some sites as they are in waking distance. In the afternoon, all jury members were given ample time to revisit the entries, with the aim of formulating a personal top 3/5 per location. So as not to influence each other, the jury agreed to express individual votes by pasting sticky notes on the project sheets prior to the discussion. The jury members subsequently discussed the panels which had sticky notes on them in plenary sessions. This discussion resulted in a substantiated, unanimously adopted preselection. The number of places for candidates on the preselection was proportional to the number of entries submitted for locations. The preselection contained a total of 28 proposals. The preselection is purely based on the main qualities addressed by the design proposals.

Flint, Amersfoort (5 Shortlisted projects)

WU211 – “Open Show”

The project is praised for being well integrated at different scales and for its strong connection to the city's green spaces and the waterfront through the footbridge. The inclusion of a productive economic program supports a balanced, mixed urban environment. However, the footbridge extends too far into the site, which affects its usability, and it is unclear how much of the open space is truly outdoors or accessible.

IC986 – “Speelstadje / Play Village”

The jury appreciates the creative idea of transforming the theatre tower into a public vertical park and converting the parking garages into housing. Despite these positive gestures, the project lacks character in its main squares, which feel undefined and without a strong identity. Several passageways seem unnecessary or unpleasant, and the overall program appears too ambitious and crowded.

MY181 – “Ctrl Alt Flint”

This proposal maintains the cultural function of the site while linking it to creative production. The reuse of the theatre hall as a central atrium creates openness and strong connections to the greenery and the water. At the same time, the project does not fully resolve the transformation of the car parks, and the edges of the site remain weak and undefined.

UW318 – “Flintkwartier – Re-value, Re-use, Re-connect”

The plan makes a bold and well-reasoned move to convert the entire site into a residential area that blends with the surrounding urban fabric. It successfully creates a new identity along the riverbank, replacing the dominant image of the theatre tower. However, by focusing almost entirely on housing, the project risks losing essential public amenities. The quality of the proposed wall along the river also raises questions about its design and appearance.

SI186 – “Reverse Structuralism – What Once Was Becomes More”

The project defines three distinct but complementary parts that together form a lively and coherent piece of city. The outdoor spaces are diverse and well considered, and the design reconnects the site to the riverbank. The structure is handled with care and subtlety. Yet, the treatment of the park-facing wall and the comfort of the dwellings could be improved, and the program for the large theatre hall remains somewhat unclear.

Overall Impression:

The shortlisted entries show a wide range of approaches to reuse and urban transformation. The most successful projects are those that combine architectural innovation with sensitivity to the surrounding context. Across all entries, there is room for improvement in clarifying public space, refining the program, and enhancing livability.

Amicitia, Amersfoort (5 Shortlisted projects)

RT812 – “Amerspoort”

This project is recognised for its precision and focus. Through a small but well-considered set of interventions, it successfully reconnects the existing Amicitia structure to the public fabric of the historic city. The jury appreciates the clarity of this approach but notes concerns about the quality of the workspaces located along the subterranean passage. The proposal also lacks a clear and convincing vision for the adjacent green space along the Stadsring.

HR575 – “Radical Optimism”

The project embraces the monumental nature of Amicitia and strengthens it through bold architectural gestures. By adding new layers and a refreshed façade, it creates opportunities for innovative housing typologies. While the jury values this courage and ambition, it also highlights open questions about the consequences of this renewed monumentality for the Stadsring and for the broader city context, suggesting that further exploration is needed.

GO680 – “Old Walls, New Ties”

By separating the three main parts of the existing complex, this project creates two clear pedestrian routes linking Amicitia with the historic city centre. It takes a decisive approach to the underground passage, closing it and transforming part of it into a vertical housing structure that integrates with the green belt along the Stadsring. The jury, however, finds the lightweight façade elements and the additions on the square rather superficial and is uncertain about the urban quality they contribute.

PG205 – “Amicitia Exchange”

This proposal combines a redefinition of Amicitia’s architectural identity with two new pedestrian connections to the historic core. It introduces new housing along the Stadsring and reimagines the underground passage as a lively urban street. The jury appreciates this strong urban gesture but questions the appropriateness of the maisonette housing types in relation to the busy conditions of the Stadsring.

HF604 – “Capriccio: Beyond the Analogue”

The project proposes an ambitious architectural and urban extension of the Amicitia complex by inserting new buildings within its open areas and attaching additions to existing structures. This approach generates a network of alleys, streets, and small squares, re-establishing a meaningful relationship between Amicitia’s large-scale form and the finer texture of the old city. While this reconnection is highly appreciated, the jury remains doubtful about the overall quality of the proposed housing types.

Overall Impression:

The shortlisted entries offer diverse interpretations of how Amicitia can be reconnected to the historical centre and transformed into a vibrant urban node. The strongest proposals balance architectural boldness with sensitivity to the site’s monumental scale, though most still need refinement in terms of housing quality, public space definition, and spatial livability.

Otto Scheltus, Amersfoort (4 Shortlisted projects)

KC693 – “build on otto scheltus”

This project introduces a height accent on the building’s key corner, creates a green inner courtyard, and proposes a new housing typology. However, the architectural execution of the rooftop addition, described as resembling containers, is seen as poor, and the decision to keep the entrance in its current position is viewed critically.

XK121 – “sutura suturae”

The proposal focuses on integrating energy-efficient solutions for the existing loggias, which the jury appreciates. At the same time, the overall set of interventions is considered messy and lacks coherence.

FK505 – “stop demolition and make sense of place “

This is described as a restrained yet confident project. The additions along the road are considered elegant, though their exact purpose and placement raise questions. The design successfully activates the building's main corner, but the new balcony design is judged to be less successful than the original one.

TP807 – “ont moetto me halverwege”

The project introduces new housing typologies by thickening the building structure. While this idea is promising, the jury finds it unclear what the costly new openings at ground level actually contribute to the overall spatial or public quality.

Overall Impression:

The shortlisted entries for Otto Scheltus reflect a shared ambition to enhance the building's public role and strengthen its connection to the urban environment. The jury favours renovation-based approaches that integrate sustainability, greenery, and architectural sensitivity, while noting that many proposals still require greater clarity in execution and purpose.

Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort (4 Shortlisted Projects)

KZ047 – “Cultural Archipelago”

Praised for its sensitive approach to the existing urban fabric and for reinstating the town hall as a central focus. The proposal creates a lively cultural atmosphere with adaptable spaces and a grid structure that supports experimentation. Omitting a large theater opens the site and strengthens the public realm. However, the reuse of existing buildings for cinema or theater functions seems uncertain, and the design for reusing the town hall lacks depth. Elevated bridges are seen as disruptive to the urban structure.

AG835 – “Enfold (Where Sophie meets Anton)”

Commended for its bold concept of a cultural park and its strong reuse of the town hall. The grouping of three theaters around a shared foyer gives the complex a distinct identity, and the use of existing parking and water basins adds quality. Yet, logistical concerns around Molenstraat, the transformation of Hellestraat into a park, and the density of programs—possibly one theater too many—raise doubts about feasibility and spatial coherence.

VW255 – “Onze Lieve Boogiewoogie”

Recognized for its inventive layout of elevated theaters and open ground-floor spaces that activate the public realm. The reuse of the old town hall for community culture and the rooftop cultural landscape create vibrancy and continuity through the site. Nonetheless, the St. Jorisplein area feels underdefined, truck access on Stadsring is problematic, and parking and canal-front design issues remain unresolved.

OV210 – “Fragments of History”

Appreciated for its layered spatial composition linking new and existing buildings through an underground passage and elevated theater. The integration of the town hall and the creation of multiple green squares enhance urban connections. However, the underground link's purpose is unclear, facades appear too closed, and the park designs, particularly along Westsingel and St. Jorisplein, lack urban fit.

Overall Impression

The shortlisted entries offer diverse strategies for transforming Stadhuisplein into a dynamic cultural quarter. The best projects balance heritage reuse with new cultural programming and strong public space design. Still, the jury notes recurring challenges in feasibility, spatial clarity, and integration with Amersfoort's historic context.

Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort (4 Shortlisted Projects)

LO341 – “Parkplein aan de Eem”

This proposal concentrates development along the site's perimeter, framing a large central green space that functions as a communal park at both neighborhood and district levels. The reactivation of industrial heritage, especially the transformation of the Van der Meijden factory into a covered outdoor space, is particularly convincing. While the closure towards the Amsterdamseweg strengthens the park's enclosure, it limits ecological connections to the Utrechtse Heuvelrug. The concept is strong, but the jury questions whether it sufficiently addresses the site's densification needs.

VM982 - Hart van Isselt

The project transforms industrial heritage into a lively hub for local businesses, forming a new central heart for redevelopment. Fine-grained urban blocks combine housing, green spaces, and amenities, enhancing the human scale. The ecological corridor linking the

Utrechtse Heuvelrug and Eemland is conceptually valid, though the lack of detail in its profile makes its ecological performance uncertain. While the idea is promising, more elaboration on housing typologies and landscape integration is needed.

OS986 - Re: Isselt growing by reuse

A comprehensive and phased redevelopment strategy that integrates natural regeneration and a circularity hub as the foundation for future urban growth. The striking addition of housing atop the Van der Meijden factory creates a strong urban landmark and anchors the park structure. Experimental housing typologies add innovation, though the overall urban framework feels less robust. The jury values the project's holistic vision—linking heritage reuse, circularity, rewilding, soil and water management—with strong visual storytelling.

PS459 - In Between

Distinguished by its bold high-rise gesture positioned between two heritage factories, the design reinforces the industrial identity of the site. Elevating the program creates a covered outdoor passage that connects green areas and activates the historic buildings. However, doubts remain about its ability to support ecological continuity across the site. The second new block is seen as less successful, as it visually separates the new park from its urban surroundings.

Overall Impression

The shortlisted entries for Kop van Isselt present thoughtful strategies to balance heritage reuse, green structure, and new urban living. The strongest proposals combine spatial clarity with sustainability and circularity ambitions. Across the board, the jury notes the need for clearer articulation of ecological connectivity, housing typologies, and density within the future urban framework.

Koppelbrug, Amersfoort (5 Shortlisted Projects)

FJ778 – “Assembly City”

An open, modular, and demountable system with a low-tech, adaptable character. The concept promotes a dynamic and expandable living environment suitable for creative communities. The transparent sports hall strengthens the identity of health and recreation, while the use of CLT units connects to the ecological corridor along the Eem. However, structural feasibility is questionable, and underground parking contradicts the sustainable, modular concept. Dwellings in the core lack daylight and environmental connection, and visible sports facilities may conflict with functional requirements.

UQ221 – “A Good Sport”

A flexible concept driven by adaptability. Parking is placed on upper levels, freeing ground space for large sports facilities. The plan creates a sheltered and pleasant residential environment with a vibrant appearance, using sustainable materials like rammed earth and recycled steel. While the design merges utility and beauty, the internal car ramp—intended for recreational use—raises doubts about its spatial and practical value.

OQ172 – “Terrace on the Eem”

Features a clear and rational programmatic structure that aligns with construction logic. The roof is envisioned as an active, sports-oriented space with a distinct architectural language reminiscent of Mies van der Rohe. However, the strong formal clarity risks creating a hermetic environment with limited interaction between functions. The connection between the building and its surroundings depends mainly on the transparency of the sports areas, overlooking practical constraints and social engagement.

ZG634 – “From Plain to Place”

Presents a technically and economically feasible layout with clearly separated functions. While aiming to create a new sense of homecoming, the elaboration feels unconvincing. The dominant round staircases and isolated internal spaces lack human scale and social connectivity. The materiality and architectural expression do not adequately reflect the ambitions of the site, and multifunctionality within the inner space remains weak.

WP049 – “De Brugwachter”

An iconic, landmark proposal that responds to the site's urban orientation and bridge relationship. The sports facilities are realistically designed and visually connected to the Eemside, though the strong formal expression of the upper volumes overshadows residential quality. Underground parking is insufficiently addressed environmentally, and the animated rooftop program feels too isolated to effectively engage with its surroundings.

Overall Impression

The shortlisted Koppelbrug entries propose diverse interpretations of sports, housing, and community integration. While several designs explore modularity, adaptability, and iconic form-making, recurring concerns include technical feasibility, ecological impact, and spatial connectivity. The most successful proposals balance architectural identity with human scale and environmental awareness.

FINAL-SELECTION

SECOND SESSION OF THE JURY

2nd Jury Session

31st October 2025: Final selection of entries by the national juries

Goal

Objectives of the 2st Phase of the Jury is to reach the final selection of Winner (12000€), Runner-up (12000€) and or special mention per site. Each jury member was allowed to recall maximum of one entry which was not in the preselection with very clear argument for short discussion.

Process

Jury session started with presentation by the jury representatives (Cécilia Gross, Arno Gossens en Marick Heddink) who have been to the "Forum of Cities and Juries" and a short recap of the preselection made in the prior jury session.

The jury members individually determined their preferences for the positions of winner and runner-up per location on the basis of hard copies of the project sheets. Again, so as not to influence each other, they used sticky notes. Next, all jury members substantiated their choices. Projects that were not sufficiently developed to qualify for the position of winner or runner-up, but did contain valuable elements for the debate about the different locations were discussed as candidates for a special mention. Finally, the jury once again discussed the selection of award-winning projects in hard copy per location. In this reflective round, the jury confirmed its selections. All the jury's selections were unanimous.



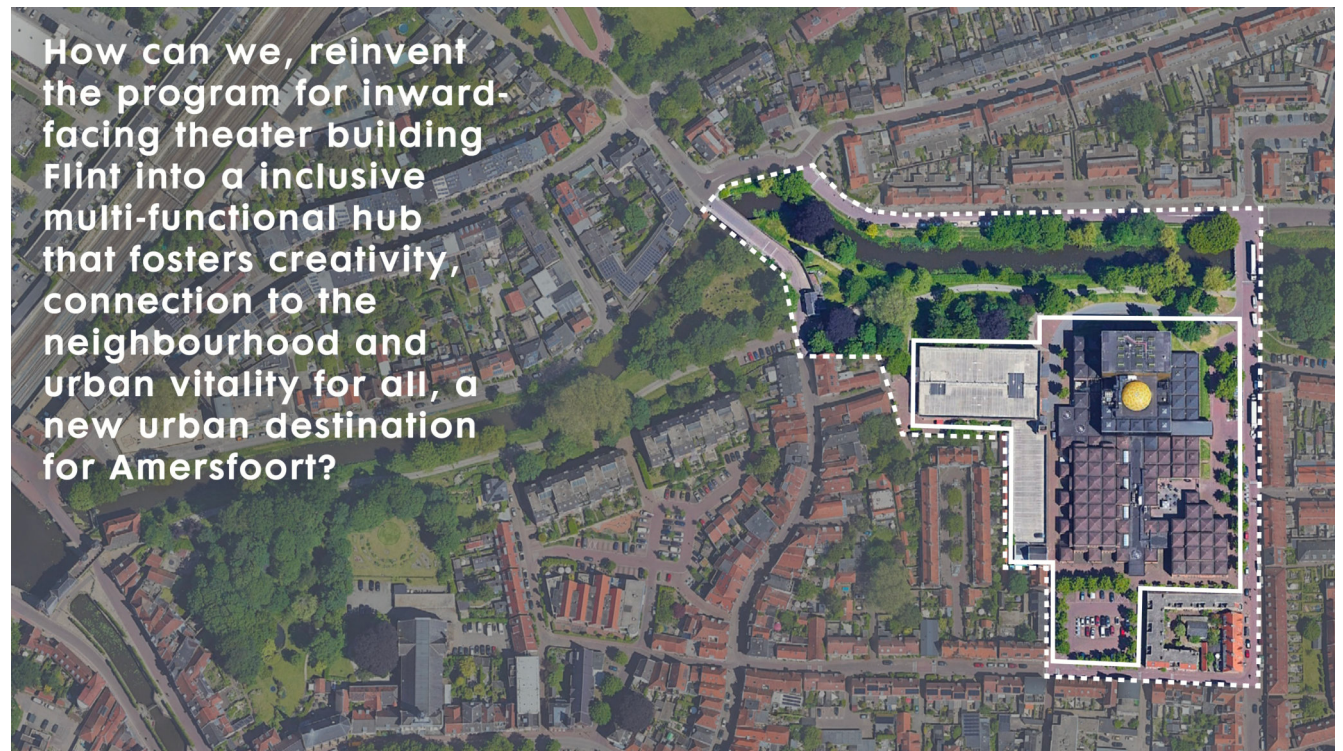




Flint, Amersfoort (NL)

Reinvent the Theater

Reinvent the program for inward-facing theater building Flint into a inclusive multi-functional hub that fosters creativity, connection to the neighborhood and urban vitality for all, a new urban destination for Amersfoort!



The City of Amersfoort is re-imagining urban life at Flint, transforming this currently inward-facing building into an open, dynamic, and locally integrated space - a welcoming “central living room” for all. A space where individuals from diverse backgrounds can come together, fostering connections through a wide range of cultural, social, and recreational activities.

This transformation prioritizes multi-functionality, adaptability and a meaningful relationship with its urban environment materially and socially. By aligning the building’s functionality with contemporary needs, Flint seeks to position itself as a landmark that stimulates creativity and encourages collaboration. Think of a new and strong program for this location that can contribute to a vibrant city and be a meeting- place for a wide range of users and visitors.’

Currently, the building includes 6,400 m2 dedicated to the theatre and cultural house, along with additional parking building (350 cars) offering opportunities for integration with adjacent structures. Formulate innovative design solutions to re purpose these structures into valuable spaces that enhance functionality, foster community-centric programming, or drive economic activation, without significantly increasing building volume. The parking facility can be partially re purposed to suit the program’s profile, as long as parking needs are sufficiently met.

Create a vibrant, inclusive multi-functional building a space where innovation and creativity converge to connect a diverse, multi-generational community. Envision a place that fosters collaboration and inspiration through a strong and new cohesive commercial and/or social program. Guided by principles of transparency and openness, propose transformation which embrace the building’s original design Principles including its flexible grid, internal street, and multi-purpose spaces. Enhance the principles of its structuralist design to foster adaptability and sustainability. Design a welcoming ground floor with seamless indoor-outdoor connections.

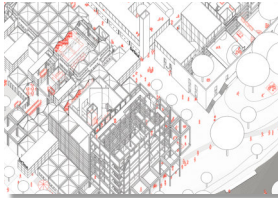
Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort owns Flint and its adjacent parking structures. Currently, the building remains in active use; however, the theater’s operations are gradually declining, with a planned relocation to a new venue within the next years. Concepts, typologies, and approaches developed through the competition could lay the foundation for future initiatives. The municipality of Amersfoort envisions the potential for commissioning further feasibility studies and/or architectural design studies to transform the Flint location.

Flint, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The final selection for *Flint, Amersfoort* highlights three distinct yet complementary strategies for transformation: *Reverse Structuralism* translates the site's structuralist legacy into a framework for the future; *Flintkwartier* boldly reimagines it as a new residential fabric; and *Ctrl Alt Flint* preserves its cultural function through adaptive reuse. Together, they demonstrate that transformation is not only about architectural form but also about how a city negotiates continuity, identity, and collective memory in its evolution.



Winner

Reverse Structuralism - what once was becomes more (SI186)

Authors: Gabriel Deliancourt, student in architecture (DE), Paul Moritz Keul, student (DE)

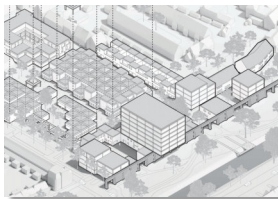
Team location: Stuttgart , Germany

"This is not a building. This is a framework." It is a very appropriate quote from the supporting project text. The designers take the structuralist concept of the original scheme as their starting point and build on it for the future transformation of the site. This continuity and open-ended evolution are much appreciated by the jury.

The proposal reorganizes the site's messy expanse by defining three distinct yet complementary entities: the transformed Flint complex and two former car parks redeveloped as independent building blocks. Together, they form a coherent and diverse new piece of city—an urban collage where variety produces unity. The current massive Flint complex will be reduced in size but remain recognizable, the former theatre tower is stripped down and reimagined as a vertical park that reconnects the building to the green river banks, while the overall structure is opened up and scaled to engage with the surrounding neighbourhood.

Outdoor spaces are carefully differentiated: the current forecourt, once a car park, becomes a lively square framed by active frontages; a new axis weaves together housing and productive spaces such as studios. The open park tower serves as both landmark and connector, giving new life to the river-facing edge.

Reverse Structuralism achieves a measured balance between preservation and change, private and public, structure and openness—an exemplary response to the site's complex identity.



Runner-up

FlintKwartier: re-value, re-use, re-connect (UW318)

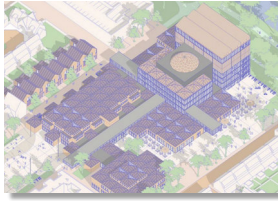
Authors: Thomas Rosema, architect (NL), Remon Mulder, urban planner (NL)

Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

This project impresses through its bold but well-founded decisions. Programmatically, it chooses to focus almost entirely on housing while transforming the existing complex into a fine-grained urban fabric of streets, alleys, and small squares. The intervention is radical, yet it maintains the spirit of the original structure. The result is a picturesque new urban quarter that integrates smoothly with the neighbouring residential districts on both sides of the current Flint site.

The jury appreciates the decisive reworking of the riverside park edge. Here, a separate strip of buildings, punctuated by a rotated tower volume, establishes a new architectural identity that breaks with the dominant image of the old theatre block. The plan celebrates transformation as a positive act of renewal.

At the same time, the jury raises a concern about the exclusive dedication of this strategic public site to housing. A growing city also requires accessible civic amenities and shared facilities, which could receive greater attention in future development. Despite this reservation, *Flintkwartier* is a convincing and characterful proposal that reinterprets reuse as an act of urban regeneration.



Special mention

CTRL ALT, FLINT ! (MY181)

Authors: Hans Prieur, student in architecture (FR), Kimberley Bellamy, student in architecture (FR),
Lucas Carrio, student in architecture (FR)

Team location: Lille, France

Ctrl Alt Flint is recognised for its intelligent and respectful approach to reuse. The project preserves much of the existing Flint complex and proposes a programmatic mix that remains within the cultural sphere while extending towards education and creative production. Transforming the theatre hall into an atrium, a generous internal space that unifies functions and opens views to greenery and water which gives the project a distinctive spatial identity. The decision to maintain a significant public use on this site is an important statement within the broader debate about the future of the theatre.

However, the plan's strength at the level of internal reprogramming is not fully matched by its treatment of the site's periphery. The surrounding edges and the transformation of the one of the car park remain unresolved. The new street introduced through the large parking area is a promising gesture but requires further development. Still, the proposal stands out for its sensitivity, pragmatism, and vision, offering a meaningful commentary on the cultural and civic role of Flint in Amersfoort's urban landscape.

Amicitia, Amersfoort (NL)

Restore The Fabric

Restore the underutilized Amicitia location into an iconic gateway to Amersfoort's historic centre seamlessly blending housing, commercial, semi-cultural and green spaces to revitalize the urban fabric.



Amersfoort, in collaboration with the owner of Amicitia, is committed to revitalize and restore the urban fabric. This initiative aligns with the city's vision of a cohesive inner-city experience through context-sensitive architectural design and integrated and connected green spaces.

Amicitia offers a unique chance to redefine urban living through an iconic housing project that serves as a gateway to Amersfoort's historic city centre. Project should create a vibrant building by combining housing with commercial and/or semi-cultural spaces at the ground floor, fostering social interaction and community cohesion. The proposal should integrate sustainable urban renewal with economic feasibility and historical preservation, fostering and contributing to the overall livability of Amersfoort's city centre.

Envision a design that restores the urban fabric, fosters lively street-scapes, and strengthens connections to the city's green spaces, including Plantsoen Oost and the Stadsring By prioritizing accessibility, functionality and sustainability, the project aims to create a landmark that enhances urban liveability and contributes to Amersfoort's unique identity.

Amersfoort is calling for visionary designs that reimagine Amicitia as a welcoming landmark at the entrance to the historic city centre, a design that integrates seamlessly with the urban context and provides economically viable solutions implementing thoughtfully designed housing units. The design should embrace mixed-use functions such as hospitality, culture, and social amenities.

Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort, in partnership with the owner of Amicitia, is committed to re-imagining the potential of the site. Currently, the building is underutilized, and the owner is keen to advance the concepts and typologies developed through the competition into a viable and profitable project, with the aim of realizing it. The owner also envisions the possibility of commissioning further design studies, either for the Amicitia site or for other locations facing similar urban challenges, to explore opportunities for thoughtful urban development.

Amicitia, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The final selection for *Amicitia, Amersfoort* reflects a shared ambition to reweave a fragmented architectural object into the living tissue of the city. The winner, *Capriccio: Beyond the Analogue*, achieves this through delicate addition and reinterpretation; the runner-up, *Old Walls, New Ties*, through incisive transformation; and the special mention, *Amicitia Exchange*, through refined architectural cohesion and reconnection. Together, they illustrate how Amicitia's future lies not in monumental isolation, but in its rediscovery as a porous, lived, and integral part of Amersfoort's evolving urban fabric.



Winner

Capriccio: Beyond the Analogue (HF604)

Authors: Margit van Schaik, architect (NL), Jesper Baltussen, architect (NL)

Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

The winning proposal distinguishes itself through its depth of understanding and precision of intervention. Rather than viewing Amicitia as an isolated architectural object, the project repositions it within Amersfoort's broader historical continuum. By recognizing the site's location at the convergence of two key urban axes, the design uncovers Amicitia's latent potential as a hinge between different parts of the city.

The project's strategy is one of complementarity, an architectural dialogue between preservation and transformation. Instead of erasing or replacing, the design works through careful additions, extensions, and completions. New built fragments are inserted with great sensitivity into both the existing structure and its surrounding spaces, gradually dissolving the rigid symmetry of the original complex. Through this process, Amicitia evolves from a self-contained monument into a porous and integrated piece of city.

Equally convincing is the redefinition of the public realm. The large, undefined open areas are transformed into a network of intimate streets, small squares, and courtyards that evoke the spatial character of Amersfoort's historic core. Along the Stadsring, a new sequence of public spaces emerges that ties the complex to the city's green belt. The closure of the subterranean shopping street completes this reconnection, allowing the site to re-engage with the landscape.

Finally, the introduction of diverse residential typologies brings new life to Amicitia, opening it to a range of inhabitants and uses. The project succeeds in turning a once introverted Grossform into a living Stadtform; diversified, dynamic, and deeply urban. *Capriccio: Beyond the Analogue* offers a subtle yet transformative vision of how to "restore the fabric" of Amersfoort's architectural and social life.



Runner-up

Old Walls New Ties (GO680)

Authors: Lucien Schmidt-Berteau, architect (DE), Karla Radovic, architect urbanist (HR), Lina Etzkorn, architect (DE), Julien Jacob, architect (FR)

Team location: Bruxelles, Belgium

In the view of the jury, this project stands out for its compelling strategy to give the Amicitia complex another presence within the city of Amersfoort and along the urban ring road. The design approach is both simple and effective: through four strategic cuts and two carefully considered additions, the Amicitia complex is transformed into a new urban formation.

The fragmentation allows the historic Amicitia building to rediscover its own identity while granting autonomy to the newly formed blocks. The result is a renewed urban porosity that aligns Amicitia with Amersfoort's fine-grained morphology and everyday pedestrian rhythms. The project's asymmetrical densification toward the Stadsring gives the ensemble a fresh civic frontage and a stronger relationship with the surrounding urban fabric.

The project also takes a strong stance regarding the subterranean passage. By closing it, the designers create the opportunity for an open, green public space that strengthens the connection between the Amicitia site and the green belt of the *Stadsring*. In this way, the renewed presence of Amicitia in the city emerges not only from an improved urban morphology but also from its careful integration into Amersfoort's network of public spaces.



Special mention

Amicitia Exchange (PG205)

Authors: Andrew Jackson, architect (GB), Joe Wojewoda, designer (GB)

Team location: Manchester , United Kingdom

Amicitia Exchange is recognised for its coherent integration of architectural renewal and urban reconnection. The project introduces two new links between the Amicitia site and the historic city centre, transforming the complex from an isolated entity into a continuous part of Amersfoort's public network. Within this new framework, the architects propose a refined rearticulation of the urban architecture — from new dwelling typologies to the rhythm and expression of façades.

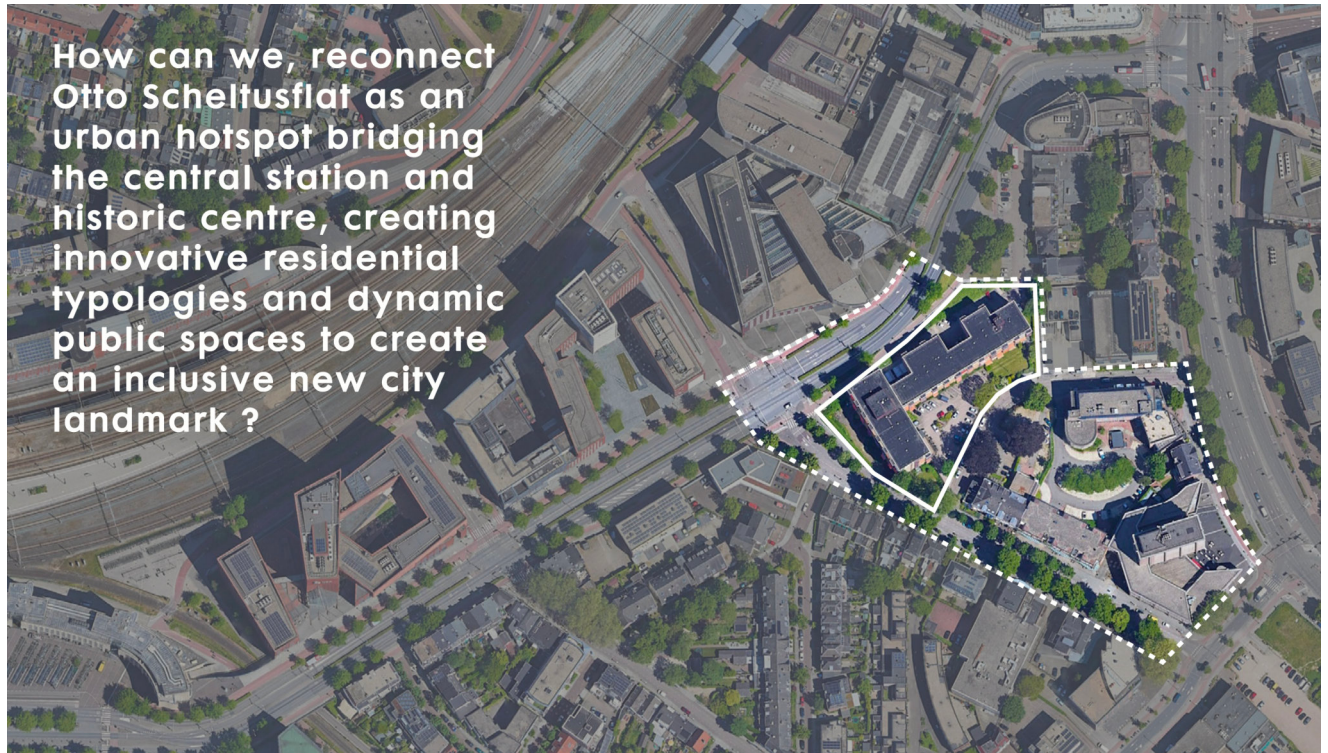
The proposal balances contemporary intervention with sensitivity to scale, material, and proportion. The row of new housing along the *Stadsring* is particularly noteworthy, as it defines a new urban edge and brings cohesion to the ensemble. By reimagining the former subterranean passage as a collective urban street, the project adds both social and spatial depth to the site. Although the jury questions the appropriateness of the scale and character of the proposed frontage along the ring,

The project is commended for the ambition and clarity of the design. *Amicitia Exchange* demonstrates how careful architectural articulation and renewed connectivity can transform a once detached complex into an active urban neighbourhood.

Otto Scheltus, Amersfoort (NL)

Reconnect the City

Reconnect Otto Scheltusflat as an urban hotspot bridging the central station and historic centre, creating innovative residential typologies and dynamic public spaces to create an inclusive new city landmark.



The Otto Scheltusflat presents a key opportunity to reconnect and reshape its urban fabric recreating a new landmark and meeting place for the city. Situated at a vital intersection, the location can function as a connector between the central station and historic city centre improving and ensuring effortless flow of people to the city centre.

The vision to aims transform the location into an integrated urban cluster seamlessly connecting with the surrounding urban context. Focusing on innovative residential typologies and introducing dynamic public functions contributing to a vibrant street life. A cohesive inner public space with well-designed transitions between public and private areas has the potential of creating comfortable and welcoming urban environment.

Transform Otto Scheltus location into a thriving urban hotspot, guiding residents and visitors intuitively from the station to the heart of the city. Reshape the urban context by optimizing building scale and alignment, exploring possible visual connection toward the iconic Onze Lieve Vrouwetoren. A space that enhances connectivity and revitalize the street-scape.

The project aims to expand or reshape the existing building into a cluster of buildings accommodating housing program with a mix of elderly housing and other social groups combined. The ground floor will play a key role offering public spaces such as a city café, co-working areas, or fitness facilities, carefully balanced to enhance the living experience for residents while creating a vibrant urban street life.

Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort, in partnership with the Housing corporation Alliantie, is committed to maximize the potential of the site. The building is outdated and difficult upgrade to meet the functional and sustainable requirements. The owner is keen to advance the concepts and typologies developed through the competition into a viable and profitable project, with the aim of realizing it. The owner also envisions the possibility of commissioning design studies for the Otto Scheltus site to explore opportunities for integral implementation.

Otto Scheltus, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The jury sees the Otto Scheltusflat as a key opportunity to transform a post-war housing block into a socially engaging and spatially open part of Amersfoort's urban fabric. The winning proposal, **ont mOeTTO me halverwege**, succeeds through its integrated vision — combining architectural renewal, social activation, and environmental awareness into a coherent and inspiring whole. Its approach demonstrates how careful additions and typological diversity can reintroduce human scale and liveliness to a modernist structure.

In awarding two special mentions, the jury acknowledges the value of distinct yet complementary approaches. **Stop demolition and make sense of place** highlights the potential of minimal, low-carbon renovation to preserve architectural heritage while improving collective life, whereas **Build on Otto Scheltus!** emphasizes the power of strategic urban gestures to give renewed identity and visibility to the building along a major city route. Together, these three projects offer a complete picture of how renewal, respect, and reinvention can coexist; guiding the Otto Scheltusflat toward a more inclusive, recognizable, and sustainable urban future.



Winner

ont mOeTTO me halverwege (IP807)

Authors: Maria Agrici, architect (FR), Charlotte Guillochon, architect (FR), Victor Mesguich, architect (FR), Frederique Van Vuure, architect (NL), Laura Levy Ruimy, architect (ES)

Team location: Paris , France

The winning proposal offers a sensitive yet transformative vision for the renewal of the Otto Scheltusflat. It combines respect for the building's post-war modernist legacy with a forward-looking social and architectural strategy. The design's strength lies in its ability to humanize the large housing block — softening its volume and breaking down its scale through the addition of corridor stairwells that serve both as architectural elements and as vertical meeting places for residents.

The project opens the plot at key corners, creating welcoming communal spaces that encourage social interaction and strengthen the connection to the surrounding streetscape. The height accent placed at the most visible point gives the building a renewed presence and identity along the route from the station to the city centre. The narrative presentation, told through the perspectives of imagined future residents, underlines the project's human focus and social ambition.

Architecturally, the proposal succeeds in introducing a rich mix of housing typologies: dual-aspect apartments for optimal ventilation and light, and duplex family homes along the garden side that activate the green courtyard. This densification contributes meaningfully to the city's housing needs while improving the building's liveability.

The jury acknowledges that certain aspects, such as the loss of some original façade rhythm and the financial feasibility of the extensive ground-floor interventions, may need refinement. Nevertheless, **IP807** stands out for its balanced integration of architectural renewal, social engagement, and urban presence. It transforms the Otto Scheltusflat into a welcoming, future-proof anchor point for the city's western gateway.



Special mention

Build on Otto Scheltus! (KC693)

Authors: Philip Becker, architect (DE), Tim Becker, student in architecture (DE)

Team location: Koblenz , Germany

Proposal **Build on Otto Scheltus!** earns a special mention for its focused urban gesture: the reinforcement of the building's most prominent corner, giving the Otto Scheltusflat a renewed civic role along the Snouckaertlaan. The design recognizes the importance of this site as a visual and social landmark on the route from the station to the city centre.

However, the jury finds that the architectural expression of the proposed rooftop addition does not yet fully realize the project's ambition to create a beloved and iconic anchor for residents and visitors alike. Even so, *KC693* makes a valuable contribution by emphasizing the need for strategic, recognizable interventions that connect the Otto Scheltusflat to the broader urban narrative of Amersfoort.



Special mention

Stop demolition and make sense of place (FK505)

Authors: Daan Vulkers, architect (NL), Keimpke Zigterman, architect (NL)

Collaborators: Antonio Acocella, 3D designer (IT)

Team location: Lille, France

Stop demolition and make sense of place is commended for its respectful approach to the striking modernist architecture of the Otto Scheltusflat and for its commitment to sustainability through renovation rather than replacement. The project's restrained attitude towards intervention reflects a belief in the continued relevance of the existing structure. The new entrance design, conceived as a shared threshold between the public and private realms, creates opportunities for informal encounters between residents and passers-by.

While the jury appreciates the idealism behind this minimal-impact approach, it questions whether the new balcony structures enhance or detract from the rhythmic quality and material integrity of the original façade. Despite this, *FK505* presents a thoughtful reflection on how to adapt post-war modernism to contemporary living needs without compromising its architectural dignity.

Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort (NL)

Rebuild Culture

Rebuild Stadhuisplein into a dynamic Cultural Quarter which integrates performance venues, honours heritage and creates a pedestrian-friendly design, bridging the historic core and river-front redevelopments into one vibrant urban experience.



The Stadhuisplein area in Amersfoort is a historically layered urban site that reflects the city's evolution from a medieval settlement to a modern municipality. The location is part of the protected cityscape of Amersfoort's historic core, emphasizing its high cultural and architectural value.

The challenge is to rebuild a dynamic cultural quarter integrating cultural podiums while respecting and using the quality of its historical character and scale that amplify the city's social and cultural vibrancy. The area lies in the historic city centre at the border of the significant redevelopment zones along the River Eem, presenting the challenge of crafting a cultural urban district with a pedestrian friendly design that acts as a transformative link uniting these areas into a cohesive and harmonious urban experience.

Propose Visionary urban design ideas to transform Stadhuisplein into a new cultural district, balancing historical preservation with modern urban functionality. The new cultural district proposal must integrate cultural performance spaces—theatre, music, film, and education creating seamless connection from Varkensmarkt, Eem, Stadsring and Westsingel.

Stadhuisplein is poised for transformation into a new cultural district, where history and modernity coexist. Propose a phased development strategy that will guide this transformation over the next seven years, ensuring an organic and sustainable evolution, leveraging the City Hall as an anchor for place-making and fostering dynamic cultural experiences.

Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort is dedicated to establishing the new cultural district as a crucial element of the broader urban development plan. Building on the proposed phasing concepts, the Municipality seeks to collaborate with stakeholders to implement innovative ideas generated through this competition. Furthermore, the Municipality is open to conducting feasibility studies to explore long-time opportunities for the Stadhuis (brown brick building), whether through a partial study or as part of the comprehensive and integrated development strategy.

Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The final selection for *Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort* reflects a shared ambition to craft a vibrant cultural quarter rooted in the city's historical and spatial character. The winner, *Cultural Archipelago*, offers an adaptable framework that prioritizes reuse and small-scale cultural energy; the runner-up, *Fragments of History*, proposes an elegant urban composition that expands the network of public spaces; and the special mention, *Onze Lieve Boogiewoogie*, reveals the potential of architectural intensity and social activation.

All submissions demonstrate that the programmatic requirement is both vulnerable and very costly to realize, and also the pressure on open spaces is steadily increasing. Together, these proposals illustrate how Amersfoort's future cultural district can evolve through continuity, flexibility, and an enduring respect for public space.



Winner

Cultural Archipelago (KZ047)

Authors: Flavio Martella (IT), architect, Maria Vittoria Tesei (IT), architect urbanist

Team location: Madrid, Spain

The winning proposal distinguishes itself through its strategic, step-by-step vision for transforming the Stadhuisplein into a living cultural district. Rather than presenting a fixed architectural design, the project establishes a development framework capable of evolving over time. This gradual and adaptive approach aligns with Amersfoort's scale and pace, turning complexity into opportunity.

The plan skillfully combines reuse and renewal. It repositions the former town hall at the heart of the scheme while introducing a network of smaller cultural buildings and open spaces that together form a vibrant urban fabric. By focusing on modest programmatic components—such as an art-house cinema, pop venue, and makers' spaces—instead of a single large theatre, the project gives breathing space to the historic setting and surrounding public realm.

The grid-based structure provides both coherence and flexibility, allowing the site to remain open to future interpretation. The opening from Molenstraat creates a welcoming passage into the courtyard, enhancing permeability and activating the interior of the block. The proposal also demonstrates a strong commitment to circularity through material reuse and structural adaptation. *Cultural Archipelago* successfully transforms the challenge of density and programmatic diversity into a framework for cultural and urban synergy, making it a sensitive and forward-looking winner.



Runner-up

Fragments of history, threads of community (QV210)

Authors: Nathan Guillaume (BE), architect, Justine Noulain (FR), architect, Mathilde Flas (BE), urban planner

Team location: Vaux-et-Borset, Belgium

Fragments of History stands out for its ambition to create a coherent and breathing urban network that reconnects the Stadhuisplein with the city's green and public space structure. By organizing a series of buildings around a diagonal underground link, the design introduces new layers of connection and circulation. The elevated central theatre becomes the key civic figure, addressing multiple open spaces; a green square along the Stadsring, a waterside garden at the Westsingel, and smaller plazas tied to the historic context.

The careful separation of volumes and the integration of the existing town hall within this ensemble are handled with skill, achieving a balance between old and new. The proposal's clarity at the urban level, particularly its treatment of public spaces and pedestrian

accessibility adds generosity to the site. However, the underground connections and closed architectural expression raise questions about spatial liveliness and environmental integration.

Despite these reservations, *Fragments of History* is a strong and comprehensive scheme. It presents a clear spatial structure that respects Amersfoort's historic grain while proposing a renewed framework of cultural and public life along the Stadsring.



Special mention

Onze Lieve Boogiewoogie (VW255)

Authors: Mark Kanters, architect (NL), Dario Sposini, architectural and urban theorist (IT), Dimitrios Gerardus Andrinopoulos, architect urbanist (GR), Bogdan Vladescu, civil engineers-architect (RO), Phoebus Panigyrakis, architect (GR)

Team location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

This project impresses with its architectural precision and spatial ambition. It proposes a clear and powerful gesture: elevating the theatres to create an open, transparent ground floor that activates the surrounding public spaces. The result is a dynamic interplay between performance, public life, and urban continuity. The re-use of the oldest part of the town hall for community-driven cultural activities gives the plan a strong social dimension.

The design establishes an engaging sequence of public spaces—from the inner courtyard pavilion to the open-air theatre along the canal—while maintaining connections through the town hall towards the Burgemeester Brouwersplantsoen. The rooftop landscape adds an additional layer of recreation and culture, enriching the site's programmatic mix.

The jury praises the liveliness and spatial coherence of the design but notes that the scale of certain volumes and the fragmented configuration at St. Jorisplein could be refined to better fit the historic fabric. Even so, *Onze Lieve Boogiewoogie* demonstrates that all program can be fitted on the site into an expressive, people-oriented vision for the cultural heart of Amersfoort.

Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort (NL)

Reintegrate the Old

Repurpose Kop van Isselt's industrial heritage buildings into a vibrant mix-use identity establishing new homes, creative industries, and lively green public spaces to foster a dynamic, sustainable urban ecosystem.



Amersfoort is reimagining its urban landscape to create vibrant, sustainable and inclusive growth. The transformation of the Kop van Isselt area presents an opportunity to reintegrate industrial legacy into a dynamic district. This mixed-use development envisions 2,000 to 3,000 new residences, creative industries, and public amenities, fostering a lively and sustainable urban ecosystem.

Propose bold yet practical solutions for the comprehensive transformation of this area by repurposing industrial heritage structures, integrating diverse mixed-use programs, enhancing ecological connectivity. The goal is to create a distinctive central urban area with a renewed identity, creating vibrant public spaces that reflect adaptability and sustainability while addressing local and urban-scale needs.

This adaptive reuse project must honor the architectural heritage, blending modern designs ensuring financial viability while integrating spaces for recreation and creative industries. Becoming the centerpiece of Eempark's design—a vibrant green heart with biodiversity and river connections establishing a distinct identity for Kop van Isselt.

The transformation should blend the old and new, activating urban life at the ground floor and adding 16,500 m² of residential space above. Preserve the industrial character while fostering community through mixed-use spaces and innovative housing that reshape urban living. Proposal should also prioritize sustainability and circular design principles.

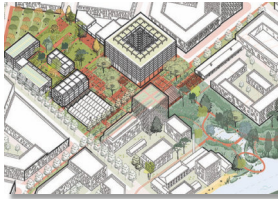
Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort, in partnership with the owner(s) of industrial heritage structures, are committed to realize the central public space. Currently, the building(s) are for temporary use, the owner(s) are keen to advance the concepts and typologies developed through the competition into a viable and profitable project, with the aim of realizing it. The Municipality also envisions the possibility of commissioning further design studies for the central public space, to explore opportunities for thoughtful urban development.

Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The final selection for *Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort* reflects a collective commitment to shaping a sustainable, mixed, and resilient urban district rooted in the reuse of industrial heritage. The winning project, *Re: Isselt*, defines an adaptive and circular development framework; the runner-up, *Parkplein aan de Eem*, articulates a synthesis of architecture and landscape; and the special mention, *In Between*, experiments with vertical density to preserve open space. Together, these projects outline a compelling vision for Kop van Isselt as a productive, ecological, and inclusive neighbourhood along the River Eem.



Winner

RE:Isselt - Growing by Reuse (OS986)

Authors: Ada Jaskowiec, architect urbanist (PL), Kinga Murawska, architect urbanist (PL), Zuzanna Sekuła, landscape architect (PL), Michał Strupiński, architect (PL), Małgorzata Wyszynska, architect (PL), Paulina Gocoł, architect (PL)

Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

The winning project distinguishes itself through its comprehensive and forward-looking strategy for transforming Kop van Isselt into a resilient and inclusive urban ecosystem. Rather than focusing solely on form, *Re: Isselt* articulates a clear step-by-step redevelopment process in which placemaking, natural regeneration, and circularity form the foundation for long-term change.

The proposal begins with the reactivation of the site's landscape and industrial heritage, establishing conditions for gradual urban growth. A striking architectural gesture defines the ensemble: a substantial housing superblock rising above the Van der Meijden Factory. This bold addition becomes both landmark and anchor, connecting the bayonet-shaped park and creating a recognizable focal point within the district. Its timber structure, combined with infill made of reused materials, exemplifies circular design at an architectural scale. The ground level functions as a makerspace, a hub for creative production and local enterprise that ensures activity and engagement throughout the day.

The project's ambition extends beyond architecture. Its holistic approach integrates experimental co-housing typologies, water and soil management, rewilding, and community participation into a cohesive vision of circular urban living. While the overall urban framework could benefit from stronger spatial definition, *Re: Isselt* convincingly demonstrates how sustainable development can emerge from the interconnection of ecology, heritage, and community.



Runner-up

Parkplein aan de Eem (LO341)

Authors: Hellmer Rahms, architect urbanist (ES), Marta Cendra i Vilardebo, architect (ES), Kees Fritschy, architect urbanist (NL)

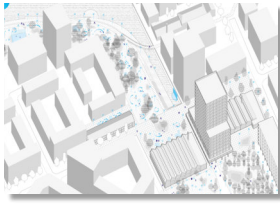
Team location: Rotterdam, Netherlands

This proposal offers a refined and balanced vision of urban transformation through the careful orchestration of built form and landscape. By concentrating development along the site's perimeter, *Parkplein aan de Eem* defines a generous central green space that acts as both communal park and ecological corridor. The resulting composition—an inhabited garden enclosed by low-rise timber buildings—translates industrial heritage into a new, human-scaled urban fabric.

At the centre, the former industrial landmarks are repurposed as active social and cultural anchors. The transformation of the Van der Meijden Factory into a covered outdoor space, combining production, recreation, and gastronomy, captures the imagination and gives the ensemble an inviting civic character. The proposal's preference for low-rise construction aligns with sustainable building methods and creates a calm, domestic atmosphere.

The jury appreciates the project's conceptual strength and spatial generosity, but notes that its low-density approach may limit the potential for the required urban intensity. By enclosing the park on all sides, the design risks isolating the green space from future

development. Nevertheless, *Parkplein aan de Eem* is an evocative and well-composed vision that successfully redefines the balance between living, making, and green space.



Special mention

In Between (PS459)

Authors: Marini Michele, architect (IT), Comotti Edoardo, architect (IT)

Collaborators: Enrico Gobbi, architect (IT), Lemuel Pedrotti, architect (IT)

Team location: Berlin, Germany

In Between presents a bold and unconventional approach by concentrating nearly all new programmatic elements in a single high-rise volume positioned between two heritage factories. This vertical strategy minimizes the project's footprint while enhancing the visibility of the historic structures, turning them into active participants in a new spatial composition.

By elevating the program, the design introduces a covered outdoor passage that connects the green areas to the north and south, offering a flexible and sheltered space for public use. The tower accommodates a diverse mix of functions—creative incubators, cluster housing, and standard apartments—expressing a contemporary urban hybridity.

While the jury admires the clarity of the concept and its ecological restraint, it finds that the design of the ground level and the relationship between built form and landscape remain underdeveloped. The secondary volume, which closes off part of the park, is less convincing in its contribution to the ensemble. Still, *In Between* is commended for its courage and inventiveness, demonstrating that density and openness can coexist as complementary strategies within the evolving identity of Kop van IJssel.

Koppelbrug, Amersfoort (NL)

Reintegrate the Old

Rethink Koppelbrug as a mix-use building complex combining indoor/outdoor sports, housing, and parking so it becomes a landmark for health, community well-being, and inclusive urban living along the River Eem.



The Koppelbrug is a cornerstone in the ambitious urban transformation of Kop van Isselt. The site offers an unique opportunity to rethink Koppelbrug as a multi-functional urban hub, skill-fully blending indoor and outdoor sports facilities, residential spaces, and parking. Situated along the scenic river Eem, the area aspires to become a landmark destination for health, recreation, and community well-being.

The new proposal has the potential to create a vibrant community that promotes both active lifestyles and inclusive living by integrating 3000-3500m² of sports facilities with 8000m² housing program. The proposed parking hub, accommodating at least 300 cars, is designed to minimize car dependency while supporting urban logistics and enhancing the district's appeal as a healthy and walkable urban environment.

This location is pivotal, serving as a dynamic transition point between residential, industrial, and ecological zones. Envision the Koppelcomplex as a thriving urban hub that integrates modern sports facilities, housing with diverse typologies, and a neighbourhood parking. Focus on balanced building volumes between 5-12 stories emphasizing captivating views and fluid indoor-outdoor connectivity.

Design a sensitive public space where health and recreation integrate indoor facilities with the surrounding environment. Create opportunities for swimming, boating, and riverside leisure, blending cutting-edge indoor sports with thoughtfully designed outdoor activities to foster community wellness and enhance the area's role as both an ecological corridor and a recreational haven.

Follow-up Process

The Municipality of Amersfoort is committed to realizing the Koppelbrug multi-complex as a strategic asset integral to the success of the broader development. Currently, the existing building on-site is marked for demolition. The Municipality is keen to collaborate with developers and advance the innovative concepts generated through this competition, aiming for implementation. Additionally, the Municipality is open to commissioning further feasibility studies to explore opportunities for

a thoughtful and integral development.

Koppelbrug, Amersfoort (Final Selection)

Overall Jury Statement

The final selection for *Koppelbrug, Amersfoort* demonstrates a shared commitment to combining urban density, mobility, and public life into an integrated whole. The winning project, *A Good Sport*, succeeds through its synthesis of structure, adaptability, and livability; the runner-up, *Assembly City*, reimagines flexibility and reuse as a dynamic architectural system; and the honourable mention, *H.E.A.R. T. Y. HUB*, enriches the dialogue with a socially and ecologically open vision. Together, these projects set the foundation for an active, healthy, and inclusive gateway to the future Kop van Isselt district.



Winner

A Good Sport (UQ221)

Authors: Nick Boer, architect (NL), Italo de Vroom, architect (NL), Martijn Dahrs, architect (NL)

Team location: Amersfoort , Netherlands

The winning project excels through its clear, elegant, and adaptable integration of multiple programs that vary widely in scale and spatial character. *A Good Sport* succeeds where others struggle; in uniting housing, mobility, and sports facilities within a single coherent concept that remains both functional and inspiring. The parking structure, serving not only the complex itself but also the surrounding neighbourhood, provides a robust and flexible framework that supports the large-scale sports program at an urban level.

Above this base, the design introduces a layered living environment that alternates between outward-facing urban façades and a softer, inward-looking courtyard. This contrast creates a balance between openness and intimacy, allowing for social interaction and everyday activity to flourish. The internal “cat ramp” elegantly connects these worlds; a spatial device that encourages movement and encounter while visually tying together the different layers of the building.

The project demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainable material use and a credible sense of technical feasibility. Its clarity and optimism make the proposal both realistic and visionary, offering a luminous, dynamic presence that acts as a true place maker for the emerging Kop van Isselt district. *A Good Sport* embodies a compelling synthesis of utility and beauty; an emblem for a new, active urban lifestyle along the River Eem.



Runner-up

Assembly City (FJ778)

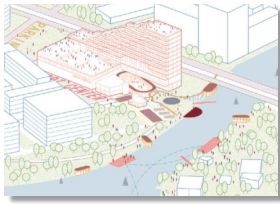
Authors: Miquel Ruiz Planella, architect (ES), Joan Gener González, architect (ES), Adrià Orriols Camps, architect (ES)

Team location: barcelona , Spain

Assembly City presents a bold and open-ended concept — a modular, prefabricated, and demountable system that proposes a new way of thinking about adaptability in architecture. With its straightforward, low-tech expression, the structure conveys a spirit of experimentation and resourcefulness that fits the maker-oriented character of the area. Its dynamic and expandable framework suggests a growing system, capable of continuous evolution and reuse of materials on-site.

Above this structural base, the project envisions a vibrant living environment with flexible, switchable units supporting diverse housing types and community configurations. It captures the atmosphere of an inventive, productive neighbourhood — part workshop, part home — and extends the ecological corridor along the Eem through its open and porous design.

The concept’s strength lies in its clarity and transformative potential, though the jury notes that aligning the architectural vision with full technical feasibility could challenge its conceptual purity. Even so, *Assembly City* stands out for its imaginative spatial logic and its refreshing rethinking of urban flexibility and reuse.



Special mention

H.E.A.R.T.Y. HUB (KR978)

Authors: Hao Ma, student in architecture (CN), Dongmei Luo, student in architecture (CN), Ruizhen Luo, student in architecture (CN), Yiting Zhou, student in architecture (CN), Yusen Liu, student in architecture (CN)

Team location: Den Haag, Netherlands

This proposal offers an alternative and thought-provoking perspective on the site's potential. By scaling down the parking component; diverging from the brief *H.E.A.R.T.Y. HUB* suggests a more open and spatially generous development strategy, one that emphasizes public accessibility and environmental quality.

The project extends and opens the sports program to its surroundings, forging a strong relationship with the adjacent green zone along the River Eem. This gesture transforms the site into a civic landscape where recreation, health, and social interaction merge naturally with the riverside environment. Though it does not fully meet the programmatic requirements, the design's clarity and generosity highlight valuable possibilities for future planning, emphasizing the importance of openness, connectivity, and community vitality.