

FUSEDSPACE – Contest <http://www.fusedspace.org>

Contest | Fusedspace

FUSEDSPACE, an international competition for innovative applications for new technology in the public domain. Do you have an idea or proposal through which technology will make possible other interactions with the public domain, will shed new light on it or in any other way will bring about innovation? Then do enter the Fusedspace competition. Fusedspace is an international competition for ideas on inspiring applications for new technology in the public domain.

The total prize money amounts to € 17,500. The competition is open to artists, architects, designers and anyone who is interested in the subject. Fusedspace is an initiative of Stroom, the Hague's center for contemporary art, InformatieWerkPlaats, SKOR Foundation for Art and Public Space and Premisela foundation for Dutch design.

Contest | Concept

Changing notions on public space

Information and communication technology have fundamentally changed our relationship with public space. These days we are not at all surprised to see someone on the street seemingly talking to himself. Wherever we are, we can get information on whatever subject we like: the weather, traffic jams or historical details concerning an old building we happen to walk past. More than ever we see public space is the spot to meet the other, where we have to come to terms with other standards of conduct, other ideas and priorities, where 'social coherence' could come into being.

Technology has not only changed the way we use public space, it also has brought about its virtual expansion. Through technological innovations like the Internet, text messaging, mobile communication, intranet and gps we can freely share information and develop a community life on the web. One can meet people, assume a meaningful identity and exchange thoughts. In the privacy of one's own room the world has become infinitely larger and more noisy than the world out on the street. Some of the idealistic concepts of what public space should be are being realized in virtual public space.

Occupying space

Within a few years time the whole city will be jam-packed with cables providing fast connections everywhere. It is up to artists, designers and architects to find an answer to the question how current technology can breathe new life into the urban environment and into public domain. The emerging virtual space and urban space increasingly are being privatized and are becoming more and more exclusory. Now is the time to occupy space for public use through the development of meaningful ideas. Public space is by no means dead. It just has to be looked for at different places.

Contest | Assignment

Fusedspace calls for innovative ideas that, by means of existing technology change or improve our current relationship with physical public space or that can otherwise bring about innovations in the public domain.

Fusedspace calls for submissions

- that succeed either in increasing or simplifying the accessibility of virtual public spaces.
- that (by means of hardware or software) succeed either in making use of or increasing the public potential of the new media.
- that (by means of hardware or software) develop facilities which generate or enhance 'social coherence'.
- that stimulate or define the debate on the newly formed public domain.
- that search for modifications to utilities that predominantly are used commercially, and that can broaden cultural and social perspectives in the public domain .

Contest | Criteria

1. Does the project substantially and meaningfully enrich the city or public space, is it an improvement or enhancement: does it increase the quality and accessibility; does it develop ways of exchanging and does it strengthen involvement; is entertainment a part of the project; does it make processes more functional?
2. Does the project express a clear position on the part of the designer/artist/architect on the topic of public domain; which aspects pertain to it, why and to what extent is it accessible via new media?
3. Does the project include a critical statement on the function of today's public domain or perhaps even on political implications?
4. Does it investigate the new media as a cultural phenomenon?

Contest | Definitions

Public space : the physical collective space that is freely accessible to everyone.

Virtual public space : the space created by the Internet and other kinds of technological networks like sms, and mobile phones accessible to everyone.

Public domain : both the physical and the virtual public space; the commonly shared space of ideas and memories and the physical manifestations that they embody.

Contest | Submission

To participate you will have to fill up the registration form and pay the 50 euros registration fee. Registration is a fact when the registration fee is received before 31 May 2004. After registration you will receive a password to enter the participants level of the site.

Register now! The registration-fee of 50 euros can be payed:

A. by transfer to Postbank, giro account number 605409, Stichting Stroom hcbk, The Netherlands with the reference: 'Fusedspace' and your email address of registration. Foreign payments from euro countries must mention the following bank codes: SWIFT code PSTB NL 21 and IBAN number NL16 PSTB 0000605409 Payments from all other countries must mention the following bank codes: SWIFT code PSTB NL 21 and giro account number 605409.

B. by credit-card or transfer through **Paypal**. Open a free account on www.paypal.com and transfer the registration fee free of charge to info@fusedspace.org.

Contest | Entry specs

Entries should be uploaded to the website www.fusedspace.org and have to include the following documents:

1. maximum of three images that give a proper impression of the project proposal (portrait or landscape 10x15 cm, 300 dpi, jpg, max 2.5 MB).
2. text of maximum 5.000 characters (about 750 words) that describes the possibilities of the design.
3. summary of maximum 250 characters (about 50 words).
4. completely filled up entry form.

Material not requested will not be assessed. Entry closes 31 May. You can enter your proposal after registration: **register now!**

Contest | [Rules](#)

A selection of the rules and regulations:

Participation in Fusedspace is open to visual artists, architects and designers, students as well as everyone who is interested in this subject. Members of the jury, their bureaus and all those involved in the setting-up of this competition or who have collaborated on the execution of this project in whatever way are excluded from participation.

The submissions will remain the intellectual property of the participants.

Alternative versions are not allowed. If you submit more than one design, each design has to be entered independently.

Entries should be sent in anonymously. Participants, members of the jury and in general anyone who is not a member of the project team are not permitted to reveal any matter pertaining to the content of the submissions or the competition as such before the verdict of the jury has been published.

All correspondence is conducted via the website www.fusedspace.org or email: faq@fusedspace.org

The jury will report in writing and the report shall be publicly accessible.

For more information on the complete set of rules and regulators download the competition program now.

[download pdf \(zip file\)](#)

The participants subscribe to these regulations by means of their entries.

Awards

The total amount of prize-money is € 17,500. VAT is not included and will be compensated by the organisers.

[first prize consists of € 10,000](#)

[second prize consists of € 5,000](#)

[third prize consists of € 2,500](#)

The jury awards an honourable mention to a maximum of seven submissions.

Contest | [Timetable](#)

[27 Januari](#)

start of registration

[30 May](#)

final registration date

[31 May](#)

final entry date

[1 June](#)

publication of all entries on the website

[7 June](#)

publication of the thirty nominated designs on the website

[16 July](#)

on-line award giving ceremony, publication of the names of participants

Jury

Final jury

The nominated projects will be assessed by an on-line jury consisting of 25 international, leading experts in the fields of public domain, visual art, architecture, design, and media. The on-line jury consist of Max Bruinsma, Ole Bouman, Nicolas Bourriaud, Jodi Dean, Amy Franceschini, Adam Greenfield, Knowbotic Research, Natalie Jeremijenko, Derrick de Kerckhove, Jouke Kleerebezem, Charles Leadbeater, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Sugata Mitra, Christian Moeller, Kazuto Mugura, Monica Narula, Anne Nigten, Franziska Nori, Sally Jane Norman, Chee Pearlman, Francois Roche, Joachim Sauter, Marleen Stikker, John Thackara and Hideki Yoshimatsu.

Nomination Jury

Bart Lootsma

Bart Lootsma is a historian, critic and curator in the fields of architecture, design and the visual arts. He is a visiting Professor at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Nürnberg and an editor of ARCHIS and GAM. Together with Dick Rijken he published the book 'Media and Architecture'.

Final Jury

Adam Greenfield

Information architect, user-experience consultant and writer. Formerly IA lead for the Tokyo office of Razorfish, Adam continues to work out ideas about design, culture and technology at his personal site, v-2.org, as well as seeing projects like last year's First International Moblogging Conference to fruition. He remains quite helplessly in love with his 1972 Citroen DS.

Quote:

Every time you're willy-nilly subjected to a stranger's mobile-phone intimacies, you've bumped up against the future of public space. What are you going to do there?

Contact

All correspondence is conducted via the website. Questions and answers will be published on this website and will be attached to the competition programme.

info@fusedspace.org