Zeitschrift: Trans : Publikationsreihe des Fachvereins der Studierenden am Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich

Herausgeber: Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich

Band: - (2011)

Heft: 19

Artikel: Architecture and everything else

Autor: Gerrewey, Christophe van

DOI: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-919294

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Mehr erfahren

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. En savoir plus

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. Find out more

Download PDF: 13.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch

ARCHITECTURE AND EVERYTHING ELSE

Christophe van Gerrewey (text)
OFFICE kgdvs (collages)
Bas Princen (photos)

The photographs taken by Bas Princen show existing forms of anonymous space and architecture; the images made by Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen are fictitious views of their architecture designs. In this sense, they seem to move in opposite directions: the perspectives of Princen long for authorship and particularity; the perspectives of Office want to shed their artifice as a layer of skin. This division, however, is false, as both sorts of perspectives just want to show places where people can exist by being confronted with their own existence.

The perspectives by Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen and Bas Princen reintroduce architecture as what it has been since the advent of mankind: a brave and necessary attempt to impose order, structure and spatial legibility to the world in general and to one place in particular. Architecture is not a medium of conceptual signification. The absolute absence of clear, ‹textual› or ‹referential› meaning is installed, in such a way that whoever wants to create meanings, is encouraged to do so.

A perspective representation of architecture and of all that it is not – and thus a three-dimensional picture of every part of the earth – will always include these two opposites. A perspective is only real if it shows both the independent ambition of architecture and the autonomous reaction of all that is not architecture.

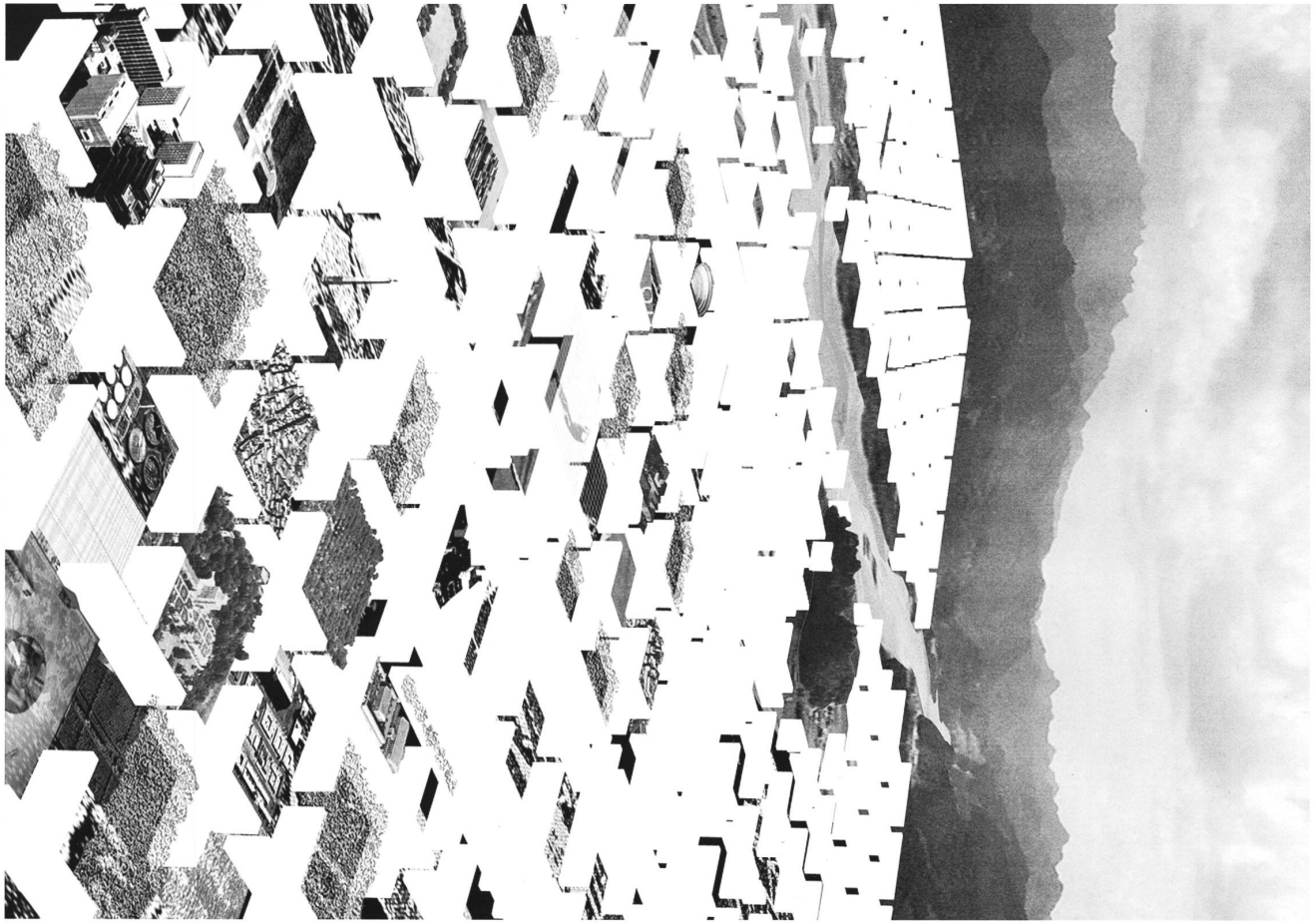
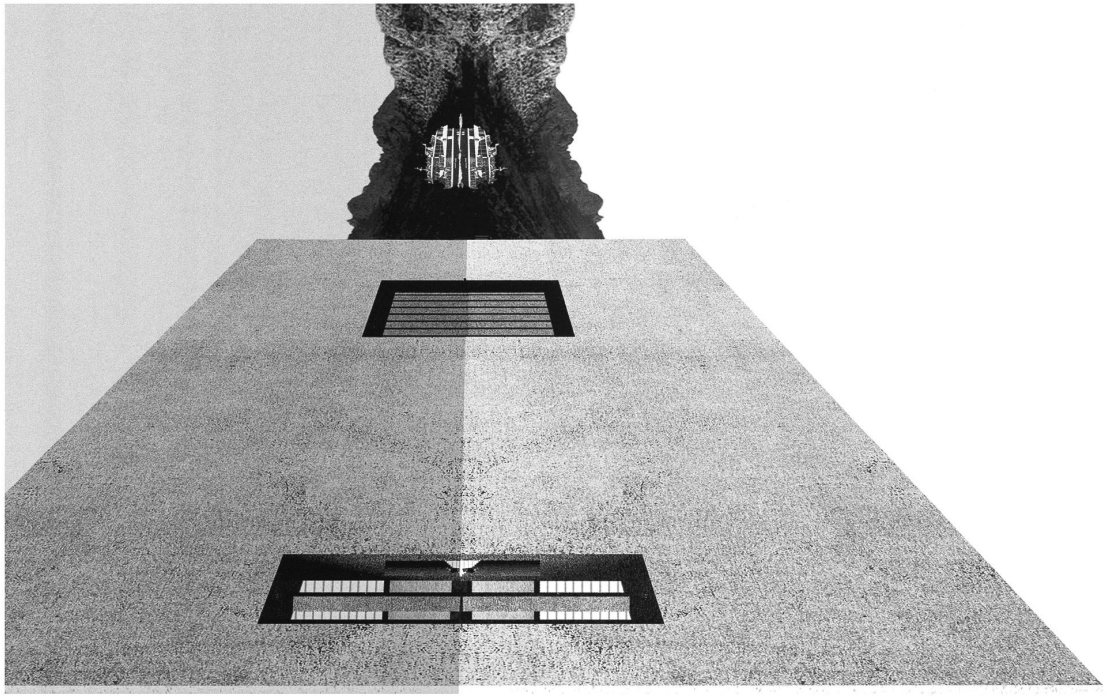


fig. a
New Administrative Capital, South Korea, with
Pier Vittorio Aureli and Martino Tattara, 2005.

fig. b
Bas Princen: ‹Ringroad› (Findeq - Ceuta), 2007.

fig. c
Bas Princen: ‹Grid II›, 2008.

fig. d
OFFICE kgdvs & Bas Princen: Garden Pavilion
(7 Rooms / 21 Perspectives), Venice, 2010.



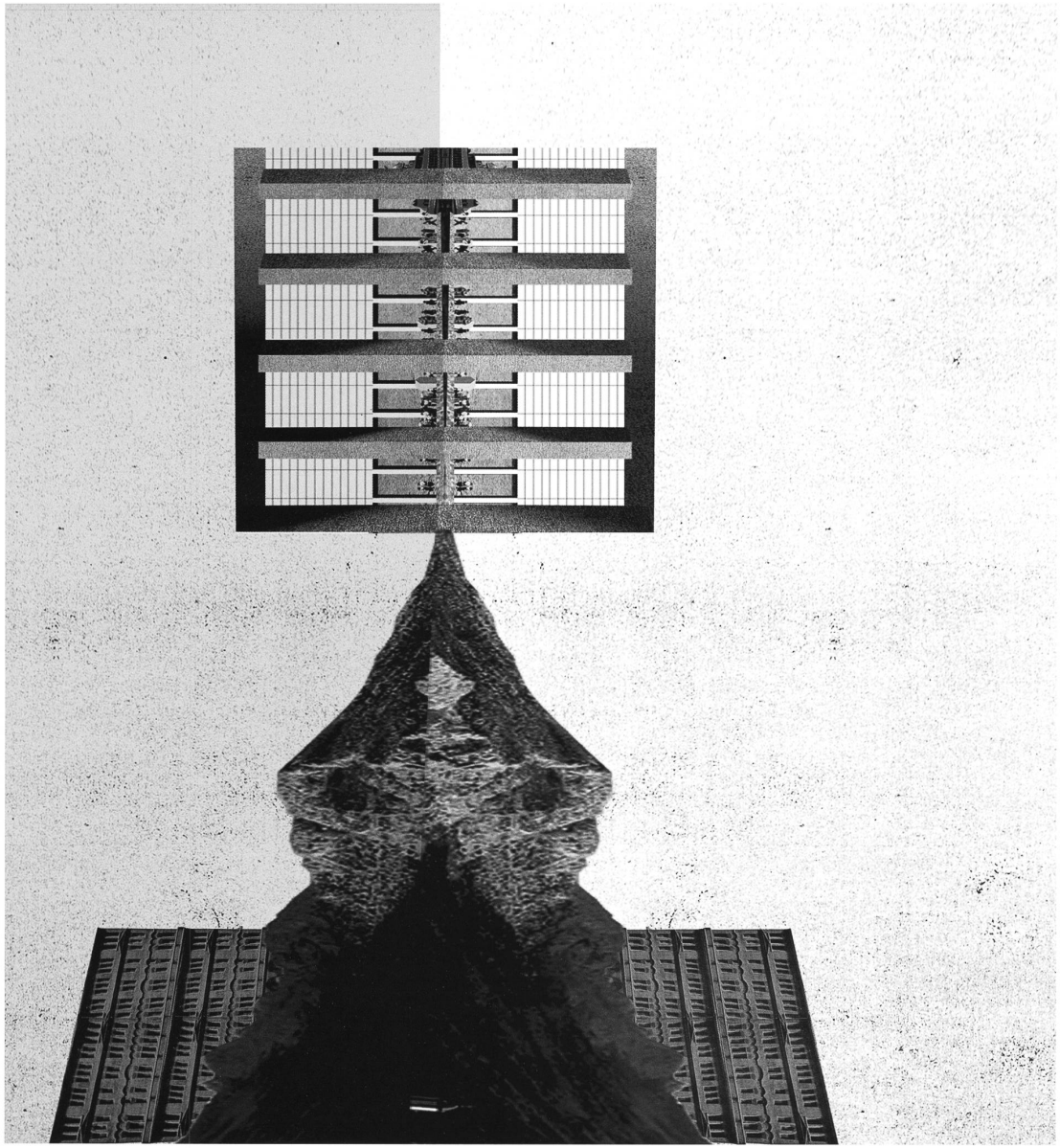


fig. e
OFFICE kgdvs: Cité de Refuge, Ceuta, Project for the Biennale of Rotterdam, 2007

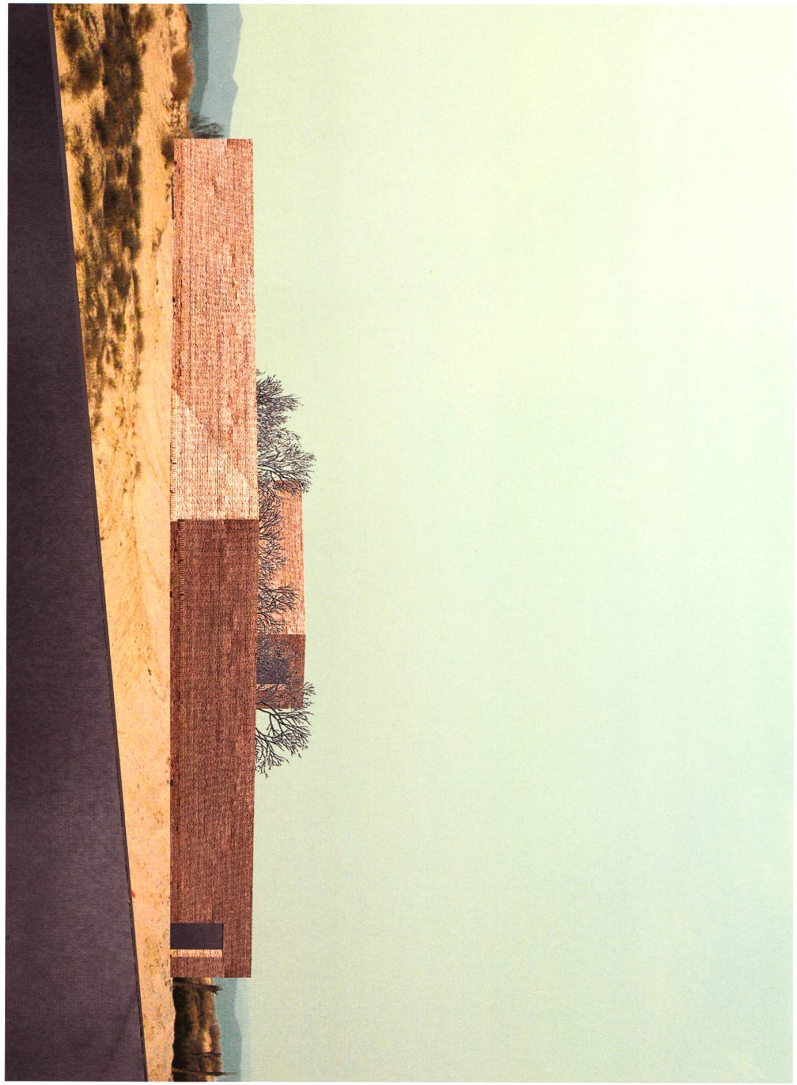


fig. f
‹25 Rooms›, Project for a Villa in Inner Mongolia, China, 2008.

Christophe van Gerrewey, born 1982 studied architecture at Ghent University and literary science at the the University of Leuven. He publishes widely on literature, the arts and architecture – for example in European magazines such as OASE, Domus and De Witte Raaf. He is editor of the collected writings of Geert Bekaert. At the department of architecture & urban planning at Ghent University, he is preparing a PhD on the relationship between postwar architecture criticism and theory.

Bas Princen is an artist and photographer living and working in Rotterdam. His work focuses on the transformations of the urban landscape researching the possible future scenarios and outcomes. Recent exhibitons include: Reservoir, deSingel Antwerp 2011, Five Cities, Depo, Instanbul 2010, Refuge, Storefront for art and architecture NY 2010; The Venice Bienale of Architecture 2004 and 2006 and 2010.

The Brussels-based architectural firm Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen was set up in 2002 by Kersten Geers (born 1975) and David Van Severen (born 1978). After graduating from the University of Ghent and the Esquela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura in Madrid Geers and Van Severen began their collaboration while working seperately at Neutelings-Riedijk Architects and Xaveer De Geyter. Recently they were awarded with the Silver Lion for most promising young office, for their participation to the 2010 Venice Architecture Biennale.