

THE KOLLEKTIV

The official news letter with the latest news and updates



*By Cor Wagenaar and
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OUR NEXT ADVENTURE TO HAMBURG

The Kollektiv is an initiative of the staff of the History and Theory of Architecture and Urbanism section. As we speak, more than 20 students – masters, premasters, bachelors – have joined the Kollektiv, all of them lovers of iconic cities, beautiful buildings and intriguing histories. After a successful trip to Budapest and Antwerp in 2022, we are quite confident many more interesting cities will be discovered in this initiative.

VOLUME X

Dear members of the Kollektiv, we proudly present the tenth newsletter, with the announcement of new and exciting adventures to come.

Two years ago, staff members of the architectural history section ('history and theory of architecture and urbanism', officially), founded Das Kollektiv. Nicky Bouma, then our student assistant, produced the first Newsletter in Februari 2021. We were in the middle of the Covid pandemic (but we didn't know that at the time), and we were planning a post-covid excursion to Moscow, one of the most fascinating and inspiring metropolitan

cities on the planet. Friends in St. Petersburg and Moscow helped us with the program, and we got all the support we could wish for from the Dutch embassy. It never happened, this excursion, but we decided to stick to the name of our initiative. Kollektiv refers to the collective design groups that were tasked with the construction of an entirely new, socialist world after the Russian Revolution of 1917. It also appeared an appropriate term for our group: a loose collection of students and guests with no other ties than the membership of Das Kollektiv.

At the exact day we were going to have our postponed Russian New Year's party in celebration of our trip to Moscow, Russia invaded Ukraine, and we decided to go to Budapest instead. Later that year we visited Antwerp, but lack of available staff forced us to postpone an excursion to Copenhagen. We did organize a walk-along with Zef Hemel, our professor by special appointment. Our next event will be a **weekend trip to Hamburg, from the 12th to the 15th of October.**

Our beautiful Newsletter provides information on upcoming events and documents the expeditions we already made. Since September 2021, Jenny van Calsbeek, then our student assistant and now our research assistant, designs and partly writes them.

You are now reading Volume X – probably the best proof that Das Kollektiv is viable and very much alive and kicking. We're looking forward to our future trips and next ten volumes of our Newsletter.



BUDAPEST



ANTWERP



ANTWERP



ZEF HEMEL WALK-A-LONG



CHILEHAUS

The next adventure awaits: Hamburg

Less than a three-hour bus trip from our Groningen homebase, Hamburg overlooks Germany's largest port. With almost two million inhabitants it the second largest city of our neighbors to the east – half the size of Berlin, a few hundred thousand more than Munich. With Munich, Hamburg ranks as Germany's most expensive and luxurious place to live – a rare quality for port cities.

Among its many architectural highlights, the *Speicherstadt* stands out as a unique historical complex of historical warehouses. The world famous *Chilehaus* by Fritz Höger and completed in 1924, an expressionist masterpiece with the most striking corner ever built is part of zone of huge red brick office blocks north of the *Speicherstadt*.



SPEICHERSTADT



HAFENCITY

South of it, the Hafencity is one of the most ambitious brownfield developments in Europe and maybe in the world. Its westernmost tip accommodates the *Elbphilharmonie*, a combination of a warehouse of the 1950s and spectacular tent-like structure on top of it. It is host to a number of concert halls, a hotel, bars and luxury apartments. Designed by Herzog & de Meuron, star architects from Switzerland, it cost so much more than originally planned that for a time it appeared to be doomed as an ‘investment ruin’; ultimately, its commercial spaces were sold for so much more money that this did not happen and now it is probably Hamburg’s most successful and iconic building.

David Chipperfield designed an equally ambitious landmark, the Elbtower, that is going to crown the easternmost tip of the *Hafencity*. Chipperfield also designed the Empire Riverside Hotel with a beautiful cocktail bar on top. It is located next to the *Reeperbahn*, Hamburg’s, once the city’s best known red-light district and now a tourist hotspot.

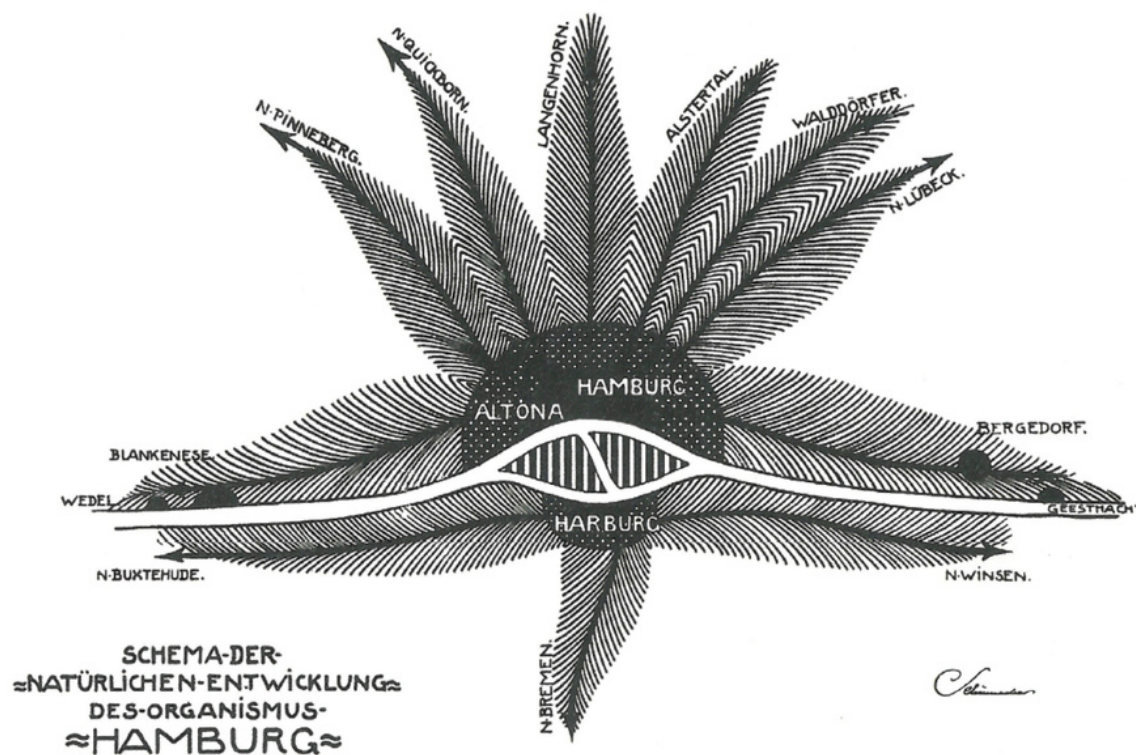
Hamburg was largely destroyed during the infamous air raid of May 31, 1943, when ‘Operation Gomorrha’ destroyed three quarters of its buildings. In the inner city, several landmarks survived, among them the town hall, a huge neo-renaissance structure. The luxurious living quarter in the north, Eppendorf, also survived, and so did large parts of Sankt Pauli, now a hotspot of bars, restaurants and the alternative scene.



ELBPHILHARMONIE

CHIPPERFIELD
ELBTOWER

Hamburg is also the city of Fritz Schumacher, a pioneer of early twentieth century architecture and urbanism. Architects and urbanists flocked to Hamburg to see how Schumacher redesigned an industrial port city into a convenient, healthy and beautiful metropolis. Even today, Schumacher's work attracts admirers from all over the world. On our trip, we will find out why...



SCHUMACHER CITY MODEL

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...an initiative of the staff of the History and Theory of Architecture and Urbanism section. As we speak, more than 20 students – masters, premasters, bachelors – have joined the Kollektiv, all of them lovers of iconic cities, beautiful buildings and intriguing histories. We are quite confident that the next trip will take place to Hamburg and Copenhagen. We are absolutely sure that the program of social gatherings and literary entertainment leading up to this seminal event will be filled with movies, lectures, fine food and vodka.

Only members of the Kollektiv can participate in its events. Membership is open for architecturally minded students of the Department of History of Art, Architecture and Landscape (bachelors as well as masters, including exchange students and visiting students), PhD-candidates, staff members and invitees. Membership is free of charge. The costs for participation in the Kollektiv's events need to be paid by the members themselves. Interested in joining? Send an e-mail to the Kollektiv's Secretary-General, Jenny van Calsbeek: jvcalsbeek@gmail.com