

Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Making a human-centred city - The transitional space between public and private as a place for daily life and encounter

- **Format:**

Written paper (3,000 words) and Verbal presentation

- **Author(s) Name:**

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- **University or Company Affiliation:**

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- **Abstract (words):**

The transitional space between outside and inside, public and private of urban residential houses often works as a threshold and not as a place of daily encounter. During the last century the changes of the public sphere in our cities definitively influenced this space and the design of the facade. The growing desire of privacy had impact on the design of urban residential architecture as well. The main question that will be asked in this paper concerns the design and use of this transitional space between outside and inside. Is this space designed as a space for daily encounter?

Starting point is the Dutch culture. Directed towards the public sphere, the space in front of the house and the facade enter into a relationship between public and private which may be a social one. The design of this space and its use is influenced by the socio-cultural background of the inhabitants and the city, ideas about the public sphere and

privacy and the socio-economic situation of a neighbourhood can play an important role.

A short overview about the change of the public sphere and the relation between outside and inside, public and private, will be shown on the Dutch context of the residential buildings. The last 50 years up to today's situation will be the time frame. Casestudies in the Dutch cities Amsterdam and Rotterdam will be discussed. Then the main question will be put in an international perspective to understand the codes of design, the behaviour of people and the cultural dependency of the inside-outside relations of urban residential neighbourhoods. Two casestudies of small grain neighbourhoods in a different cultural context will be explained: a small grain neighbourhood in Kyoto, Japan, and in Seoul, South Korea. These studies are meant as a starting point for further research.

• **Author(s) Biography (199 words each):**

Dr.-Ing. Birgit Jürgehake is architect, researcher and lecturer. She started in 2004 to work as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, chair of Architecture and Dwellings, at the Delft University of Technology. She became a member of the European Network for Housing Research (ENHR) conference and in 2011, a coordinator for the 'Residential Buildings and Architectural Design' work group of the conference. The subject of her finished PhD, *the facade – an intermediary element between outside and inside*, brought her to Kyoto in Japan in October 2011 and to Seoul in 2017, where she pursued research and workshops with students on this subject. In 2014 she was one of the founders of 'startruimte010', an initiative to bring new design talent, clients and experts together. At this moment she prepares more research about the cultural differences in architectural and behavioural codes of thresholds between public and private. Next to this she started to discuss residential architecture for elderly with dementia. The research and education of the design of residential buildings in the city, where public and private come very close to each other, is not only her field of expertise, but as well her passion.