

OVERSIZE

CHARLEROI

Harold Fallon - Sophie Laenen
KU Leuven faculty of architecture - Sint Lucas

Masterproef 2020 - 2021

OVERSIZE is about buildings that are too large in regard of current or planned uses. Buildings that are beautiful, yet neglected. These buildings appear to be underused. It is not about size in absolute terms.

How can OVERSIZE be transformed into a new quality?

OVERSIZE is not really about programming, but about enabling. It is about real buildings, about structures, about construction.

About strategies: the scale of the building, and the scale of the city.

OVERSIZE does not ask what can be done in a building. It asks what the building can do for the use, and for the city.



Palais des Expositions de Charleroi, Jacques André (© city archives)

OVERSIZE is a Master Dissertation studio in Brussels, addressing sites in Charleroi.

Through OVERSIZE, we will discover Yernaux and his hyperactive intelligence, the refined moderation of Laurent, the ample pragmatism of Depelsenaire, the cultured modernism of André, the sharp objectivity of Bourgeois, the formal hedonism of Leborgne, and even some work by Van de Velde, who facilitated the foundation of the Bauhaus and founded La Cambre in 1926.

We will talk about architecture, structures and construction, urbanity and industry, economy, environment and collectivity, growth and decrease.

It is about the past, the present and the future.



Palais des Expositions de Charleroi, AdvvtgwA (© F. Dujardin)

OVERSIZE is an Academic Design Office, combining a studio, research and practices.

OVERSIZE is run together with U Liège (Lisa De Visscher & Benoît Vandenbulcke).

We will partly address the same sites and collaborate actively. A one-day workshop will be organized in Charleroi in 2021.

As this is the last year of the project OVERSIZE, the ambition is to publish and exhibit selected extracts of the work at the end of 2021.



Charleroi Architecture Guide (2017)

For OVERSIZE, you will work in parallel on two parallel projects, just like the reality of an architecture office.

On the one hand, you will be invited too choose a site or building in the city of Charleroi, based on your understanding of the topic.

On the other hand, you will be assigned a site. On this site, you will work in team with master students from ULiège for about 4 weeks, after which a collective workshop is organized.

The design output of the Master Dissertation is a double project.

OVERSIZE

CHARLEROI



25.10.2019

ARCHITECTURE WORKSHOP

announcement of the 2019 workshop at BPS22

The first semester is to be engaged to
choose and document the site of your
election and visit the sites.

It will also serve to develop an original
understanding of OVERSIZE, a way to look
at it and to talk about it. This is the start of
your reflexive essay.

You will be proposed (non-fiction?) books
to fuel and color your reflection, of which
you should choose (at least) one.

You can propose books too.

The Mnemosyne Atlas (Warburg)
The Life of Termites (Maeterlinck)
Brodsky & Utkin (Brodsky & Utkin)
SMLXL (Koolhaas)
The Order of Discourse (Foucault)
The End of Certainty (Prigogyne)
Pour un Malherbe (Ponge)
Atlas (Richter)
Things (Perec)
Collage city (Rowe & Koetter)
161_Book (De Geyter)

...



a few potential sites



Centre de Tri Postal



Mutuelle Solidaris



Université du Travail



Parking Du Moulin



Hotel des Chemins de Fer



Générale de Banque



Cité du Soleil



Rockerill



Abbaye de Soleilmont

OVERSIZE

CHARLEROI

Harold Fallon - Sophie Laenen
KU Leuven faculty of architecture - Sint Lucas

Masterproef 2020 - 2021