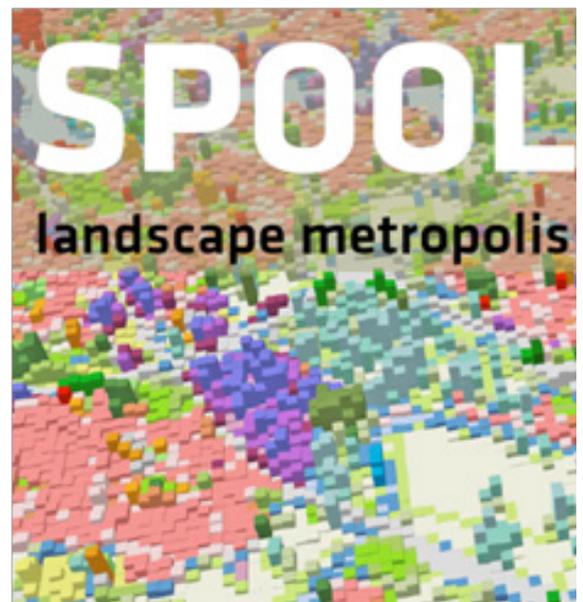


**SYMPOSIUM**

**LANDSCAPE  
METROPOLIS**

**METROPOLITAN  
LANDSCAPES**

**28 NOVEMBER 2014  
BERLAGE ROOMS,  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT,  
TU DELFT**



## SUBJECT

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The metropolitan region is a form of urban territory in which city and landscape re-array into an urban-landscape system characterized by multiple modes of organization and dynamic socio-spatial processes. Emerging perspectives on the relationship between landscape and city present new ways to understand, order and act in metropolitan territories. To what extent landscape as permanent underlying substructure, as physical open space, or as metabolic process has a bearing on the future of the metropolitan region are the broader lenses of these perspectives.

The term **Landscape Metropolis** is a lens to explore the scope of landscape in the challenges facing large urban regions: in maintaining spatial quality and liveability; in the provision of meaningful places for leisure and social interaction; in accommodating nature and biodiversity; and in addressing energy needs, food security and climate change. Editors **René van der Velde** and **Alexandra Tisma** from the research group **Urban Landscape Architecture** at the **TU Delft**, have drawn together new academic research in this field from the **Netherlands** and abroad for the inaugural issue of **SPOOL - Online Open Access Journal for Architecture and the Built Environment**.

The research group **Urban Landscape Architecture**, in collaboration with **SPOOL**, is pleased to announce a one-day symposium to officially launch the inaugural issue. **Six** international authors of published papers will present their research, and industry and government partners from **Dutch** metropolitan areas will be invited to present and discuss contemporary challenges and approaches in metropolitan green space planning, design and management.

## THEMES

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- **Landscape Planning (Strategies) for Metropolitan Areas;**
- **Metropolitan Landscape Typologies, Characterization and Assessment;**
- **Landscape Design (Strategies) in Metropolitan Contexts;**
- **Metropolitan Recreation and Leisure in Spatial Policy and Planning;**
- **Forming the Metropolitan Park;**
- **Place-Making in Intermediate Metropolitan Green Spaces;**

We hope that the symposium will result in a research agenda in which actual topics can be jointly tackled in future research projects and partnerships between academics on methods, insights and emerging research questions; practitioners on their insights, approaches and emerging challenges; and research and praxis on potentials for future interaction.

## PROGRAMME

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| 9.00 – 9.30  | Registration and coffee  |
| 9.30 – 13.00 | MORNING SESSION -<br>Landscape Metropolis  |
| 9.30 – 9.40  | Welcome and program<br>introduction – Dirk Sijmons<br>(TU Delft)   |
| 9.40 – 9.50  | Launch of the first issue of<br>SPOOL – Frank van der<br>Hoeven (TU Delft)                                 |
| 9.50 - 10.35 | THEME 1: Planning strategies<br>for metropolitan areas<br>Session Chair: Alexandra<br>Tisma (PBL TU Delft) |

In recent years various terms are used to name the process of spreading of built-up areas and the space appearing as result of that process. Urbanization, urban sprawl, suburbanization, dispersion, or fragmentation are processes which lead to new spatial forms termed urban fringe, peri-urban areas or territories-in-between. Although these processes extend far beyond the urban fringe, land-use dynamics are particularly strong in the peri-urban zone. These areas are currently growing four times faster than urban core areas, and at a rate capable to double their total area within 30-50 years. Even in urban regions, which are shrinking in terms of population, urban land uses are still expanding on the fringe. The presentations in this session will highlight spatial, strategic and operational problems and propose the strategies for the future developments of the landscape of peri-urban zones.

**Paper presentation 1:** Kersten Nabielek (PBL)

**Paper presentation 2:** Carmen Aalbers (WUR) & Stephan Pauleit (Technical University Munich) [to be confirmed]

**Respondent:** Arnold Reijndorp (UvA)

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10.35 – 10.50 Break  
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10.50 – 11.50 THEME 2: Metropolitan landscape typologies, characterization and assessment  
Session Chair René van der Velde (TU Delft)

Landscape characterization is a tool used in planning as an aid to understand what landscapes are like today, and how they can change in the future. If we consider the metropolis as a dispersed urban region characterized by blurred boundaries between urban and rural areas, we see complex new configurations of spatial tissue emerging, along with the appearance of a range of new hybrid landscape types. These new configurations and hybrid typologies challenge existing tools for landscape characterization, which until now were mainly used for rural landscape characterization. The presentations in this section present new methodologies for landscape characterization in metropolitan areas which explore and expose the spatial complexities of large urban regions and elaborate on the role characterization might play in developing a new 'grammar' for the discourse on the urban-rural interface. They also explore how more appropriate planning practices might emerge to deal with the complexity and dynamics of metropolitan territories and how characterization can be used to address environmental challenges such as climate mitigation at a metropolitan level.

**Paper presentation 1:** Mari Sundli Tveit, (Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Oslo)

**Paper presentation 2:** Alexandra Tisma (PBL|TU Delft)

**Paper presentation 3:** Richard Stiles, (TU Vienna)

**Respondent:** Dirk Wascher (WUR) [to be confirmed]

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11.50 – 12.00 Break  
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12.00 – 13.00 THEME 3: Landscape design strategies in metropolitan contexts  
Session chair  
Saskia de Wit (TU Delft)

Socio-spatial practices in metropolitan communities differ from those in smaller urban environments, and are largely based on networks. Conventional green spaces and design strategies used in towns and cities may appear obsolete in this new context. Under certain conditions however, conventional green space strategies can be used to develop new localities and nodes in these networks. This session will present

**new design approaches evolved out of conventional strategic instruments and show how they can influence metropolitan space.**

**Paper presentation:** *Saskia de Wit (TU Delft)*

**Examples from practice: Creating place in intermediate metropolitan spaces**

Intermediate spaces appear to be the perfect fit for the myriad bottom-up initiatives, which contemporary praxis seems to be geared at facilitating. But without any formal definitions, these interstitial gardens have the tendency of becoming generic greens, instead of providing the identity their initiators aim for. Could they not also provide the opportunity for accessing the genius loci, thus integrating the genius loci as an integral part of the metropolitan landscape? What is it that defines a place as place? In the discussion on 'place' there appear to be different components or views, which seem to lead separate lives. There is a social component – adequately addressed in the afore-mentioned bottom-up initiatives – a physical-spatial component – the concept of genius loci – and a psychological component – the experience, linked to history, memory, narratives.

All three views have protagonists in Dutch praxis, and all three would probably have different answers to questions regarding the possibilities of intermediate spaces in creating 'places.' What is there to be learned from the difference in views?

What determines whether a transformation from intermediate space into place will succeed: policy, branding, the users, the landscape, history, or are there other, less obvious, factors at play? Can success be directed or designed or can it only evolve? Can places exist autonomously or are they always anchored in spatial and social structures? What is the influence of temporality?

**Place as Social Catalyst** *Wolbert van Dijk*

**Place as Spatial Unity** *Paul Achterberg (Atelier Quadrat)*

**Experiential Place** *Irene Fortuyn*

**Respondent:** *Saskia de Wit (TU Delft)*

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13.10 – 14.00 Lunch

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14.00 – 17.00 AFTERNOON SESSION –  
Metropolitan Landscapes

14.00 – 15.00 THEME 4: Metropolitan  
recreation and leisure in  
policy and planning

Since the 1960s the Netherlands has had a policy of maintaining buffer zones between large cities. The buffer zones had an important function in providing public space for recreation, and "recreatieschappen" (Recreation Boards) have been playing an important role in the development and programming of these areas. Many of these zones included day-recreation areas, such as Spaarnwoude, Twiske and Rottemeren. Since 2012 however, the buffer-zone policy has been decentralized, and Recreation Boards are facing financial difficulties. How are these boards adapting to decentralization and deregulation of policy? How do they respond to new trends in recreation and leisure in metropolitan areas? What are the future prospects of the large public recreational areas? Who are supposed to use them and what should they become? What opportunities and challenges emerge in this situation? Can we expect that these inter-city zones will become the subject of dynamics typical for peri-urban areas? These questions will be addressed by comparing and confronting situations and experiences of the two regions in the countries, Netherlands and Belgium.

**Introduction** *Alexandra Tisma (PBL|TU Delft)*

**Presentations:**

- 1. Recreation North Holland**  
*Jan Hylkema, (Recreatie Noord-Holland)*
- 2. Territorial Development of Limburg**  
*Liesl Vanautgaerden (Ruimte Vlaanderen)*

**Panel discussion:** *Jan Hylkema, Liesl Vanautgaerden, Hans Hillebrand [to be confirmed]*

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15.00 – 15.15 Break  
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Initiatives for landscape development in metropolitan areas in the Netherlands include four new large parks: **Park Maxima** in Leidsche Rijn, **Park Lingezege**n between Arnhem and Nijmegen, **Park 21** in the Haarlemmermeer and **Park Buitenland van Rhoo**n south of Rotterdam. These parks represent a new generation of public landscapes on a grand scale and are now in varying stages of design and implementation.

Critical in these schemes is the question of their meaning to metropolitan communities. Great metropolitan parks are nuclei of outdoor experience and collective identity for urban communities. They provide the emotive and experiential qualities of nature within an urban environment, and offer a range of landscape experiences, from the contemplative enclosed space of the garden to the unbounded space of the horizon. They are also centres of civic life and urban culture, providing infrastructures for recreation, sport and leisure, forging social and cultural connections between city dwellers. What is the projected experiential and cultural meaning or value of these schemes? How do they differ in this respect from recreation landscapes such as Spaarnwoude and Rottmeren?

Generating experiential and cultural value in a large park often conflicts with the meaning of the park site as an existing (cultural) landscape. These park sites are on centuries-old agricultural landscapes which invariably have heritage value for local communities, as well as harbouring the intrinsic identity (*genius loci*) of a place in the vast metropolitan territory. In transforming these landscapes, how have designers resolved experiential and cultural goals with issues of landscape heritage and identity?

These parks form important ecological and environmental infrastructures such as biodiversity, water management and climate mitigation. These goals can conflict with experiential and cultural objectives, as well as clash with questions of landscape preservation and *genius loci*. How have designers dealt with these tensions in their schemes?

Lastly, a central challenge for designers is the interaction between form and process in these schemes.

Large parks always exceed singular ideas and are subject to unpredictable external forces during their planning and construction. Large parks are also complex, dynamic systems, which continue to evolve and change over time. How have designers dealt with this dialectic of form and process in their proposals?

These questions are framed by the lessons and challenges of the 'grand old lady' of Dutch metropolitan parks, the **Amsterdamse Bos**. Now entering its 75th year of operation, this park has changed and evolved from within and without over its long life. Which critical forms and materialities have given the park its experiential and cultural meaning and which have not? How did designers resolve experiential and cultural goals with issues of landscape heritage and identity? Has the park developed a new layer of landscape heritage and identity as a park and how do these impact future transformations? How does the park deal with the tension between environmental goals and new experiential and cultural demands? How do park administrators address the dialectic of form and process in the context of a continually evolving public landscape? Which critical forms and materialities from the original design has stood the test of time and proven valuable for contemporary developments?

**Introduction** *René van der Velde (TU Delft)*

**Presentations:**

**Park Maxima** *Adriaan Geuze|Edzo Bindels (West 8)*  
*[to be confirmed]*

**Park Lingezege**n *Berdie Olthof (Feddes-Olthof)*

**Park 21 & Park Buitenland van Rhoo**n *Rik de Visser (Vista)*

**Amsterdamse Bos** *Jan-Peter van der Zee*  
*(Gemeente Amsterdam)*

**Panel discussion** Moderator *René van der Velde*  
*(TU Delft)*

+ Project leaders *(Rob van Aerschoot, Willy Cornellisen, ... Park Maxima, ... Park Lingezege)*

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16.30                      Wrap-up *Dirk Sijmons (TU Delft)*  
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17.00 – 19.00            Drinks