The hub of life

Encounter between living and dying

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INTRODUCTION

The hub of life focuses on bringing the vibrancy of society to the hospice and its residents. A place where one becomes **AWARE OF MORTALITY**. In the **CITY CENTER** of Eindhoven where the dying process and giving those in their dying process a chance to participate in society. Every person in the hospice has their own life stories and knowledge. This project focuses on an inclusive society in which the inhabitant of the target group can share these stories and knowledge with his or her fellow man as a resident of Eindhoven.

Currently, the hospices are located in green environments and quiet neighbourhoods. This is beautiful, but not inclusive. This project takes place in a vibrant city center where we create inclusiveness. A hub is being created in which both the hospice resident and the other target groups are encouraged to contact each other. This makes a personal connection with death, the process and the people associated with it. This is a place where life and death are connected. Where people can be aware of mortality. This is a place in a rare study with the possibility of realisation. In this assignment, a balance has been sought between tranquility and liveliness, with the aim of allowing a conversation between different people to take place in which everyone can form his or her own safe environment.

INTRODUCTION TO DYING

As Dutch people we deal with death in an ambivalent way. As a result, we as a society make adjustments that are intended to prevent people from becoming aware of their animal nature, and therefore also of our mortality. This is, as it were, a cultural 'shield', which most guard man from everything that points to our creation and mortality. This is a social phenomenon that affects every person. A taboo is the ritual avoidance of certain persons, things, places or times. By placing a "shield" in front of the reality of our mortality, we avoid being confronted with our animal nature and our mortality. We do this with the restrictive provisions, which has no conscious or rational purpose behind it. A taboo is not consciously created, but it slowly forms in the general norms and values of a people. This project focuses on creating a new way of dealing with the dying process, in which the dying process can no longer be seen as taboo.

From avoiding death, towards dying - making death manageable for society.

Quality of life until the moment of death, the option of a lively environment in the last phase of life.

LIVING WITH DYING

CORRY WIJKMAN

To understand the subject it is very important to get to know the person behind the hospice resident. This is Corry.

Corry chose this hospice because his wife also died there. He has experienced this place as pleasant. Corry went for walks with his wife every day while she was in hospice. Now that Corry is here himself, he cannot walk outside on his own anymore. Corry loves fishing, but he can no longer do this alone. There is now no way for him to go. Corry is very happy with the care that is offered to him, but he is isolated.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

LIVELINESS

Other hospices are located in a quiet, not lively environment. In this project we will do things differently. We want to bring life to the hub of life. We want to create a place where people can come not only for a hospice, but we want to do more in this place. We want people to come here, so we create vibrant programs in the plinth that continue into the building. But not only that, we also welcome a group that will live together with the hospice resident, so there is always someone around. This project shows that you don't have to be alone and challenges people not to feel lonely either.

CONNECT

The connection already starts with the city, in this project an almost abandoned building has been chosen in one of the most beautiful places in Eindhoven, by turning this into a lively environment, this place becomes part of the city center again, with the people who live there as an important plus. The connection between different target groups is important for the understanding of dying, the dying process and the hospice, in order to combat the taboo of dying. But that applies not only from the side of the hospice, but also from the other target groups. Everyone can learn something from each other over a cup of coffee with someone or play a game. It's not only about things that we see as norms. It can be beautiful when someone can share their passion through someone else after years.

GUIDANCE

Already from the outside to this place and let them explore here, the visitor has to be taken along. This is already happening outside the building by placing benches where meetings can take place in the same layout and materialization as the reference points in the building, such as the division of the different lines in the building by means of brass colored tube, but also the entrance that just as the benches is made of perforated brass colored aluminium. The entrance leads you inside to the meeting square, where you can see the entrance to the hub of life. The hub of life is located in the middle of the building, so you enter all spaces of the building and eventually end up on the city balconies, from which you look out over the Dommel towards the city park, but you can also see the city hall square and a part of Strijpsenwijk.

SEAMLESS

This project deals with public and private different than we normally do in the Netherlands. In the Netherlands we are used to let the public and private be defined by the facades. In this project we want to encourage the public, for this a natural progression has been made from public to private. In order to give the hospice resident the opportunity to be in a quiet place during this intense and difficult period, the hospice resident can determine the separation of his space himself. The hospice rooms are therefore also placed at the top of the building, increasing the distance between the city and the hospice, without affecting the accessibility for him.

LOCATION

1. High-rise - Strijpsenwijk

2. New city vision on location

3. Eindhoven Lower-Oude Stadsgracht

5. Lively street - Strijpsenwijk during the day

4. Transition street- Oude Stadsgracht

Alley- Molenstraat

6. The city park on the Dommel

7. Location from the Dommel

8. Park at the location

1. Festival- Royal Dutch Eindhoven

2. Strijpsenwijk at night

CITY BLOCKS

The location is part of the inner city and consists of reconstruction buildings, high buildings of thirteen layers and the Eindhoven layer with an average of four layers. The location is part of the inner city of Eindhoven, which proposes a high-rise building on the existing layer.

LIVELINESS ROUTES

The location is in the inner-city and this brings both lively streets, with people, but also streets with an evening. Transition streets serve as an important connection between places and allows that are a lively getting more quality.

NATURAL LINE

The Dommel from the city park takes the greenery into the city center and creates a green space, which is a natural connection. This makes the place a natural environment in the city center of Eindhoven

THE BLOCK

The architect of the building is J. R. Kruger. It was built from 1962 to 1965 for the Philips company, as an extension to the Philips, which served its function and is therefore heavy and massive. It immediately gives the feeling of being tired because of its large atrium with galleries (2) located in it. The quality of the building lies in making vertical connections. This refers to the small connections (3) that are located in the atrium (1). These spaces are located in the core of the building (7). They create a playful character in the otherwise hard building. Another great quality in this building is that the core towers (8) itself a big open special shaped block in its building with large windows (9).

Atrium (1) from ground floor

Gallery (2)

1960
BASIC FORM
The existing concrete core
NEW CROSSING TO CHANGE PASSAGE
The existing core is made up of a rectangular core with a large central hall and two smaller through-passages.
CROSS-CORE FORM
A large open space with a rectangular core is created by connecting the two smaller passages.
SCALE-BLOCK FORM
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space.
CORRIDOR-BLOCK FORM
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
1970
GUIDANCE
The core is made more open and accessible by adding a staircase and a lift.
2020
CLUSTER
A large open space with a rectangular core is created by connecting the two smaller passages.
CORRIDOR
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
CROSS-CORE
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space.
CORRIDOR
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
SCALE-BLOCK
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space.
CROSS-CORRIDOR
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
HALFWAY CORRIDOR
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
HALFWAY CROSS-CORRIDOR
The two smaller passages are connected to the rectangular core, creating a large open space with a corridor.
The existing core is made up of a rectangular core with a large central hall and two smaller through-passages