

Participants: Honoka, Mert, Nisan

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In my project, I reveal the multiplicity of Tilburg with participants through mapping. I inspired from the three themes in Invisible Cities. memory, place and desire. These three themes explore how the city is constructed through the shared experiences in the city. Mapping is a way to reveal the invisible. Based their inner feelings international students will explore the external by walking. (Prologue)

The day before send some instructions.

Hello dear friends, thank you for attending this experience today. I will conduct the performative mapping experience via Whatsapp. The experience consists of three parts.

In the first part, I will send you a questionnaire. Take a look and try to do before come into Train Station. Give not more than 15 minutes for it.

The second part is walking and drifting. I will give some instructions, before starting your experience in the city. The third part will take place in Lochal Tilburg, I will also send the location when you finish your walk.

Section 1. Online Questionnaire: Memory (15 mins.)

Firstly, I have questionnaire for you about you and the city of Tilburg. About things that the city reminds you of, things you encounter in this city or rumors you have heard... Could you answer them by using this link: ...

"The city is redundant: it repeats itself so that something will stick in the mind. [...] Memory is redundant: it repeats signs so that the city can begin to exist." Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities

- Which city do you come from?
- How long have you been in Tilburg?
- What comes to your mind when I say Tilburg's identity?
- How might Tilburg's identity evolve over the years?

Collective memory refers to the shared memory, experiences, and knowledge of a society that shapes their identity and understanding of the past. This memory can be constructed through various forms of cultural expression, such as monuments, museums, street art, and festivals.

- Do you remember any social event, structure, or public installation in your previous city that contributed to the collective memory?
- What significant events or moments about Tilburg's past do you know that have contributed to its collective memory, and maybe you have attended some of them?
- How do you think your cultural background has influenced your perception of Tilburg and its diverse communities?
- How does the word 'international' resonate with you?

Multiplicity refers to the coexistence of diverse cultures, identities, and perspectives within a city. This diversity can shape the collective memory of the city, as different groups may have unique memories, stories, and experiences that contribute to a distinctive and multifaceted understanding of the city.

multiplicity: the quality or state of being multiple or various

-max. 3 words come to your mind about 'multiplicity':

singularity: a separate unit

-max. 3 words come to your mind about 'singularity':

Singularity of a city refers to a condition where a city lacks diversity or variety, and everything in it is uniform, monotonous, repetitive.

Last but not least:

-How is your mood today?

Section 2. Explore: Place

If everybody is ready, we can start the experience.

"The city, however, does not tell its past, but contains it like the lines of a hand, written in the corners of the streets, the gratings of the windows, the banisters of the steps, the antennae of the lightning rods, the poles of the flags, every segment marked in turn with scratches, indentations, scrolls."- Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities

Take a look at these words, what they may mean to you, and think for a while. For instance, while some may express the multiplicity of a city, others may evoke the generic city.

distinctive

unique

diverse

singularity

dominance

repetitive

-I sent your areas privately. Because areas are different, tasks also change. I will send tasks privately.

-Your walk will take place in the purple area. The name of this area is: Veemarktkwartier. What do you expect to see?

Here are the main instructions for your walk:

-Your walk will last about 1 hour.

-Try to stay inside your chosen area.

-Record your observations, feelings, and experiences along the way with your phone. Take photos OR record the sound of the urban environment. Focus only one thing but you're free to do both of them.

-Take small breaks also to observe your surroundings in stillness.

-I will provide you with some tasks that can help on your walk. Keep track of your time with your timer and follow the others when times up.

-After you finish your tasks, text me and come to Lochal.

...

-If you have any questions, you can text me whenever you want. I'm here for you.

-It's time to drift! You can slowly start to walk.

-You can follow your tasks, as you walk. Always let your emotions, your internal experience guide your path and capture the multiplicity of Tilburg.

-Walk in any direction that feels appealing to you. When you enter the area, choose a starting point and start to keep time!

Tasks:

Observe yourself: inner monologue (2.5 mins.)

At your starting point, stay in stillness for a while, observe the urban environment: sights, sounds, smells, people, the rhythm and movement in the space.

...

Observe yourself: inner monologue (10 mins.)

Walk from your starting point. Focus on your emotional responses to the surroundings. What you are drawn by and how your emotions are changing?

...

15 mins. Observe through elements

distinctive

unique

diverse

(or your keyword for multiplicity)

repetitive

dominant

singularity

(or your keyword for singularity)

How do these elements resonate with you in the urban environment? Choose two words from the list and observe the urban environment. **Photograph your surrounding.**

...

15 mins. Observe through elements

distinctive

unique

diverse

(or your keyword for multiplicity)

repetitive

dominant

singularity

(or your keyword for singularity)

How do these elements resonate with you in the urban environment? Choose two words from the list and observe the urban environment. **Record the sounds.**

...

7.5 mins. Observe through engaging with the space

Engage with the space in an unexpected way and pay attention to the environment, what is changed.

green are: Catch typography in the area. Follow the old signs on buildings such as 'anno' or the name of the building. Imagine you're living in these times as a citizen in this old city.

red area: Start walking very slowly and speed up your pace every time you see a famous brand. While doing this, record the sounds of the city.

purple area: While walking, think of a song lyric from a music band you love, and walk while silently singing this song for a while. Write this lyric in a public space, say it out loud, or perform a movement that corresponds to this lyric. Choose a location for yourself to do this.

7.5 mins. Observe through engaging with people

Choose one person or a group to talk with.

Tip1:

You were in public space until now.

For this task, you can go into a store and talk with a person there.

Tip2:

You may say that you're in a school project to start the conversation.

Tip3:

Here are some ideas to ask questions:

What do you think are the most interesting or unique aspects of your city/town?

What do you love most about living in this city/town?

What is the history of the area?

How has the city/town changed over the years?

(or anything you're curious about through your walk.)

...

2.5 mins. Slowly end your walk

-Decide on an endpoint to gradually end your walk.

-It's the ending of performative walk! Let's meet you in LocHal Tilburg. **See you there!**

-Don't forget to text me :).

Section 3. Reflect-Share-Feedback: Desire

"Perhaps everything lies in knowing what words to speak, what actions to perform, and in what order and rhythm; or else someone's gaze, answer, gesture is enough; it is enough for someone to do something for the sheer pleasure of doing it, and for his pleasure to become the pleasure of others: at that moment, all spaces change, all heights, distances; the city is transfigured, becomes crystalline, transparent as a dragonfly."— Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities

20 mins.

Reflect:

Tell us your walk through your map:

1. *how would you express starting and ending points and in-between through pencils and the paper?*
2. *mood line*
3. *key terms can help you: multiplicity, emotions like monologue (inner talk), your photos and sound recordings*
texts, keywords, doodles and drawings of encounterings such as signs, symbols, events, buildings all around the line and paper

+use these maps to manipulate it.

5*3, 15 mins.

Share:

Where did it start-Where did it end?...

How did your mood is changed through space?....

What did you encounter?...by following the multiplicity terms.

What did it change when you engage with public space?...

+

Familiarities and unfamiliarities between what you see in this city and the other city?

I chose multiplicity concept. Because I want to search on the word international which is related to multiculturalism, diversity, inclusivity... Would this experiment be different where you are comparing it?

5/10 mins.

Collective Mapping:

Decide together on how you will place the maps. How does the map of this area looks like?

5 mins.:

We started with collective memory. It is how we conceive the space. Moved on by walking in the space, we discovered the place. And we make a map of this area, that reflects our perspective on the place. And our perspective shapes the space. You collect them and place them. You created a new map of this area. Maps are drawn by a particular aim, and desire. We claim the space.

Talking about Counter-Map and Call for Meeting At the End of the Project



There are 9 areas on the Tilburg City Centre map to explore that city experts decided.

And, you didn't use Tilburg City Center Map which is a touristic map that is actually designed for inhabitants who are international students and entrepreneurs. But you used your own intuition in the lived space. So, this walk was different from the practice of a tourist for sure.

10 mins.

Feedback

Audience feedback:

-How did drifting and walking make you feel? Did it evoke any emotions or thoughts?

-What did you expect from Performative Mapping? And how has your perspective changed after event?

- Did you feel connected to the chosen area and theme multiplicity during the walk?
- What instructions and tasks helped you to discover the city?
- Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience on the performative walk?