The creative space race

FT architecture critic **Sharon Miller** listens in on a soured debate at MOMA Heathrow

and libraries are for?

the late composer Morton Brussels-based creative industries brink of ecological meltdown resources disappear along with authors is creativity. "Nowadays Warhol promised everybody 15 financial costs of BERR's creative Feldman reputedly said that watchdog. Taking to task the arts could not have seemed less the old-fashioned materialism we see creativity popping up on minutes of fame", says Ms Butler. skills initiative have yet to be the best thing about the establishment for concealing compelling to Horst Buchwald, of steel ships, noisy airports and every street corner, so solid you "But as our digital infrastructure announced, citizens are becoming 20th century was "that for inequalities of access with the Austrian philosopher congested roads? The answer, could almost touch it", says Mr is increasingly making both weary of a government whose one brief moment - maybe, say, formulas such as "co-design" and Dressed in black Prada apparel according to the Department Zubenik. "In the morning, it's front-of-house and backstage policies are increasingly also six weeks in the 1950s - nobody "collaboration", turning artists for the panel discussion, he was for Business, Enterprise and what you brush your teeth with. production areas accessible, being delivered on a createunderstood art." At the dawn of into nomads, and refurnishing seen leaving MOMA Heathrow Regulatory Reform (BERR), is a During daytime, it's what you people are becoming accustomed as-you-go basis. For example, the 21st century, it's the spaces we arts space into theme-parks for barefoot in the early hours by this resounding 'no': In a new report work with. In the evening it's the to constantly performing, planning your personal education use for producing and performing, "curated consumption", his call correspondent. displaying and storing art that is for arts spaces that promote "What's the future anyway - an that the physical equivalents of feel whenever you allow your feet one go." are increasingly being called into solidarity within the creative island of the blessed?", was Mr our most highly prized virtual to touch the ground. Speaking Mssrs Butler and Zubenik boldly probabilities, without a clear question. With books, film and industries and are dedicated to a Buchwald's lofty question to his resources, such as information, in terms of VRP, creativity is the claim that the future spells the end structure. While many career music digitalized and rampant on culture of genuine sharing. the web, spectators demanding to be recognized as active Will arts spaces seize participants and private collectors

tumbling over one another for upon the future as an their share of prized young talent, opportunity to grow does anybody still understand what our museums, concert-halls out of their role as the world's favourite In response to the uncertain talking shops? future of today's prime arts

commercial opportunities".

spaces, MOMA Heathrow Airport, the newly opened London branch "MOMA claims to be a non- off and resumed the pressing at Cardiff University, contend or buildings. Web-based design "Living in a create-as-you-go perish will be able to do so with of what many still consider to profit institution, but what is tasks awaiting him at this time that the future will still be filled studios and platforms for creative culture is significantly more complete dignity. be the world's leading modern it doing to prevent intellectual of day in Bishkek, Mr Toublanc art museum, ended three days property from becoming the oil and Ms Shenzu were left to talk of inaugural celebrations with of the 21st century?", asked Mr away the London night on their an interdisciplinary video-debate Toublanc, whose red-headed own, unheard by the audience on "Arts Spaces for Tomorrow". and beady-eyed delivery likely and repeatedly overheard by each Chairing the debate from a would have solicited more nods other. simultaneous event at MOMA from French union workers than One is left wondering whether Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, was Frederik it did amongst MOMA's bemused MOMA Heathrow and other Barro, MOMA's chief curator for evening crowd. "Behind their next-generation arts spaces will "When MOMA New York moved and many other 20th century arts as an opportunity to grow out into its 53rd Street building in spaces act as central warehouses of their new-found role as the 1939, the museum's founding for the arts, accumulating our world's favourite talking shops.

architectural upgrade", said the creative proletariat - mon dieu, orchestrated, brief moments outspoken Mr Barro. "They set c'est du Marx!" out to transform the function A more finely poised argument have the provocative power to of museums everywhere, by was offered by the only architect transform art and architecture promoting a modern style speaking on the panel, Li Shenzu alike. Perpetuated indefinitely, of design and arts, and by of Shenzu and Associates, however, they're one more sign abandoning the atmosphere of Tianjin. In an age of global of a luke-warm relationship, in the Beaux-Arts temple to become warming, resurgent nationalism which meaningless conversation a club-house for art lovers to see and looming energy wars, Ms belies a sheer lack of Shenzu warns of arts spaces as creative guts.

Meeting the demands of today's havens of irrationality in which global arts tribes requires MOMA immaterial artistic agendas are to expand its simple culture-and- granted priority over humanity's coffee offering and explore new more practical needs. However, opportunities for hybridisation, culture could help to shift cross-selling and combined public perceptions and provide programming, argues Mr Barro. the "missing link" between the Opening branches in Asia's challenges confronting a nation As creativity steals the emerging arts capitals and global and its ability to deliver pragmatic transport hubs such as Heathrow responses if it were embedded show, citizens struggle airport has allowed MOMA to in a more worldly architecture. stay ahead of competitors stuck. As a Chinese architect looking in urban centres, raise visitor to the future with concern, Ms writes Richard Sands numbers and exploit a new Shenzu noted that her foremost range of "fruitful creative and professional concern was "building corridors that connect a world dominated by looked at one end of it.

Which isn't necessarily to the to the real world". liking of Stephan Toublanc, co- Yet what rings true for the citizen

> blank-eyed audience. "Can we intelligence and creativity, will new gravity." space race? Must we determine economies.

fine and well for Mr Buchwald.

shining new facades, MOMA, Tate eventually seize upon the future fathers weren't just getting an cultural capital and exploiting the Sparingly applied and artfully of misunderstanding may well

lightweight kind.

in the real world." There has

between the real and the virtual,

towards a flexible future,

Barro had conveniently logged- both innovation economists combined goods, such as aircraft and-mortar creative skills.

with solid stuff, albeit of a more collaboration allow us to shape challenging than today's passive the world we inhabit on a create- pay-as-you-go "In the past, you got all sorts as-you-go basis. Eventually, even cautions Jaco Singhal, a senior of stuff ranging from love simple goods such as pasta will VR-officer at BERR, in his relationships and shaving kits only materialise once their creative introduction to the report. through to financial markets and and informational components Compared to the complex mix encyclopaedias moving online", have been added online and set of creativity, talent, innovation explains Ms Butler. "What you into the desired shape. get now is a lot of stuff that was

never real to begin with surfacing Creativity is what you always been a two-way street brush your teeth with

infrastructure, will our example of a virtual-to-real whether we are all in the process them most." founder of Freedom Fjord, the of a 1.5 billon nation on the 📕 reliance on 'real-world' transference provided by the of turning into artists. "Andy But as form, scope and actual

industrial production hinges on factories: "We are irreversibly as likely disperse on sight.

Letters

From Ms Beth Woodliff

ousiness", November 2) is

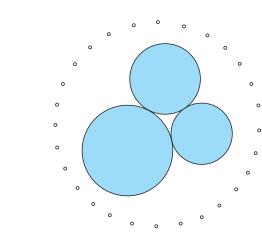
Mozart Beethoven or Purcell

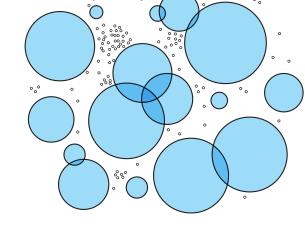
An unfinished

symphony

and intellectual property holdings by which individual net worth is now being measured, the personal monetary wealth of former times was relatively easy to obtain. "As demand and competition increase, but so far VR-planners have only Inevitably, this scenario of BERR must move to phase in new creativity at once materialised programmes, delivering creative silent and seamless digital Perhaps the most intriguing and ubiquitous raises the question skills to those citizens needing

released yesterday, experts claim bread on your table. It's what you producing and enjoying all in in creative space means planning of arts spaces as such and also does opportunities materialise at a know who will win the creative provide the mainstay of future As an ever larger segment of away with universities, offices, moment's notice, they may just the future? Or is there a return At present, Virtual Resource direct creative input by users and headed for a single, ubiquitous No wonder then that Lynn Planning (VRP) focuses on consumers, creativity is fast on its creative space." The upshot is Melhuish, Honorary Member of Lamenting the "huge symbolic identifying and exploiting the way to becoming an everyman's that while the physical energy Parliament and Minister of State power" exerted by arts spaces and virtual equivalents of basic ore. Given the right tools, delivered by carbon fuels, wind for Competitiveness, is driven to "deconstructing" architectural commodities such as petrol, creativity can be reconfigured farms and solar panels is rapidly conclude at the report's end that progress as a "myth" may all be copper, maize and money. But the into marketable products becoming obsolete, navigating the future isn't so flexible after authors of the new VRP-report, ranging from simple T-shirts space under conditions of creative all. "As there won't be enough But at the debate's end, when Mr Kristy Butler and Perez Zubenik, and mountain-bikes to complex gravity requires ever more brick- opportunities for everyone, we





Communities may converge towards a single point or practise direct collaboration between all members

Sticky business

films, shop and dine.

As UK arts spaces struggle to meet the needs of fuzzy communities, the outsiders may be closer to the inside, finds Fiona Hicks

arrested Cuban-born artist marginalising younger segments centres. Teresa Las Zechas and five of Britain's ageing population and further activists who had set up employing underpaid immigrant 'Amber Arts is not tent outside Amber Arts Centre, labourers to service British welfare Manchester. Amber Arts Centre clients stranded in specialised arts going to become is a showcase 'grey' arts space, centres. combining media and library "Amber Arts Centre is a purportedly services, exhibitions and live democratic, community-based performances with day-care Police intervened after Ms been criticised for Zechas and her team were found employing immigrant soliciting and conducting videorecorded interviews of visitors, labourers to service staff and others present at Amber Arts Centre, including permanent

British welfare clients residents, ambulance drivers,

prompted to talk "spontaneously" the point of view of future generations and life-forms.

farts nurses' and even cleaners. initiative to improve operational that in the latter case, posting the as dance, theatre and exhibitions lines which activists such as Ms Swans Music Conservatory Speaking on the phone from an efficiency in the arts and meet book online is usually sufficient. cater to a more marginal demand Las Zechas continuously seek to 104489 Moscow, Russia Arts Detention Centre where she access targets for the elderly and Meanwhile, back in Manchester, for specialised creative goods. being held for questioning, the disabled", Ms Las Zechas Cynthia Hopkins, an e-arts retailer Ms Las Zechas told the Financial told this correspondent. "Yet in who has co-funded the building Plan we can, but Times that she was intervening as practise, welfare planners have of Amber Arts Centre, made an an artist to bring public attention acted like surgeons, who keep appearance on local television collaborate we must to the UK government's "60+" themselves at a clinical distance by to condemn Ms Las Zachas' initiative. She said she was solely sending in market researchers to intervention. "Not everyone likes "In the realm of opera as in the spaces. Preferring instead to join aiming to address controversial consult people as listed by postal to get involved in planning an arts realms of country music or hip- in the fluid tactics of an ongoing, issues of access and that she was district. In response to this kind space as intensely as Elizabeth hop, different art spaces have festival- and events-driven Sir, Sigur Yau's call to end deof superficial consultation, we've Coin or myself or an artist like evolved to satisfy demands for culture, their 'fuzzy' mantra is sign by competition is on target A 78-year woman attending taken it on ourselves to engage Ms. Castro would", she said, different goods and experiences, "plan we can, but collaborate we | ("Unnatural Selection", Deceman antiques' fair in the centre's with and become part of the basement said she had been actual ground-level situation."

basement said she had been actual ground-level situation."

brandishing a tube of superglue. cherished by different value must".

ber 10). I am not an architect, but I have seen dead elephants

police have gone along with ageing electorate he has come to unfolding events by dismissing cultural facilities and attain "60+" Access", published in October from site-specific architectural researchers leaves you cringing Assistent Caretaker all accusations. She said that efficiency targets in the arts. 2009 by Samuel Brill, a researcher projects to the development of and wishing you'd never set sight Komodo National Park all material was destined to be Citing the 'stickiness' of creative in cultural anthropology at a technology-driven, generic on the future's spinning, 'self-posted for public debate as part of skills and cultural goods, Lord the Massachusetts Institute of cultural infrastructure. Similar lubricating' doors, it may well be a 'Future Archive', an open online Rotter, the committee's 78- Technology (MIT) and Ray Rotter, kinds of infrastructure, capable too late: you're inside already.

Britain's rampant arts-access down by authorities. On previous government to refrain from otherwise. debate, police acting on a occasions, she had criticised providing access at all costs and Comparing the arts to subjects of already proven their worth in the them their compositions could

> another playpen for the poor'

medical facilities and gated security for elderly citizens.

Grey arts centres have security for elderly citizens.

"Getting a book unstuck from the library shelves for use by a blind, movies and music in wide release, passions to be expressed and individuals are always waiting individuals are always waiting limping or otherwise impaired 60+ blockbuster exhibitions as well accessed by audiences of utterly for their cue and ready to audience incurs higher costs than as TV shows function as "social variable dimensions. getting that same book unstuck glue", cutting across classes and What about the brick-and-mortar left off. for a generation of internet-savvy, interests groups by allowing world we inhabit otherwise? middle-aged, middle-class, native everyone to find different personal While institutional strongholds English speakers with university values in common goods, other such as Amber Arts Centre degrees", he points out, adding more site-specific art forms such continue to define social fault

asked our artists, we've asked and Brill. Trying to design such fiction writers and government about her present-day life from the renewed controversy ourselves. I see further scope for the point of view of future comes at a difficult moment collaboration across the board, guidelines is "akin to installing insightful analyses, Mssrs Rotter | them. And what is the point of for Gordon Brown, the but I don't often see our younger turning doors at the entrance and Brill are able to conclude stuffing a beautiful parrot - to There were several playful and 👢 ageing prime minister, who ones taking that much interest of your personal living room". that tomorrow's arts spaces will brush off the dust afterwards? irresponsible negotiations with has previously referred to the "60+" and behaving themselves in our Strangers that did actually flock likely bear uncanny resemblance Had nature designed our public our disabled elderly citizens", initiative as a "hopeful scenario" galleries and tea-shops. Amber in would inevitably gravitate to arts spaces already existing buildings and monuments, said Elizabeth Coin, the centre's and is waging his campaign Arts is not going to become curator. "I'm very happy that bets for a third-term stint on the another playpen for the poor."

Arts is not going to become curator. "I'm very happy that bets for a third-term stint on the another playpen for the poor."

I'm very happy that bets for a third-term stint on the another playpen for the poor."

I'm very happy that bets for a third-term stint on the another playpen for the poor." us in cracking down on these youngsters."

The authors conclude the last of the sticky and creation of the sticky and creation to bring satisfaction to br ut is it just Britain's class- the 'sticky', site-specific family turning inside-out, of windows humans, let us go beyond the and NGOs such as Amnesty ministers for their "serious and all tastes and get people from all realise access objectives they have - if reading further the densely International and Freedom Fjord, longstanding failure" to define walks of life to stick together? A set themselves, this will more likely daunting descriptions delivered Ms Las Zechas has kept abreast of coherent access objectives for policy pamphlet entitled "Fuzzy be achieved by relocating funds" by two of the field's most eminent | Burt McLuger

a site-specific arts space.

an eccentric sideline to platform that has now been closed year old chairperson, has urged son of Lord Rotter, suggests of mediating between diverse communities of interest, have | premature death, as without 'weather', 'sports' and 'politics', Wikipedia, Facebook and YouTube | the Beethovens of our time these researchers discovered that are helping highly heterogeneous needn't worry, for creativity while most people find creative networks and skewed communities goods to be an "ideal lubricant of interest to coalesce in a larger | is now seen as a gift to all of non-purposive conversation, experience shared by all. Thus, humanity and collaboration reciprocity and shared leisure", whether your personal interest its ideal mode of orchestration this is less true of art forms whose is in enlightenment philosophy, - given access to basic consumption hinges on access to speed-dating, or organic honey, creative production facilities, these virtual platforms allow even hundreds of equally competent

> continue where others have Beth Woodliff Director of Studies bridge, "Fuzzy Access" urges us to place our bets on an emerging global middle-class of up to billion people who are "relatively | An ecology of ideas unconcerned" with regular access to strategically designed arts From Mr Burt McLuger

surely she would have liked than spend time deciphering created and re-created on the go, them alive and breathing. As opening on to each other, and mere 'survival of the fittest' and

Flawless future

ry thinking when she dismisses

From Mr Elias Novak

Sir, Sharon Miller betrays bina-

Sir, your analysis of the arts as public debate on tomorrow's a form of social glue ("Sticky arts spaces as so much hot air ("The creative space race", July nusic to my ears. In their time, 7). Given the institutionalized standing and unwieldy administrative apparatus of today's prime arts spaces, "creative guts" may indeed be in short supply. But short of a revolutionary architectural breakthrough, incremental improvements are surely possible. As a software engineer who has overseen the redevelopment of major database hubs throughout the US – the museums of the digital world - I've learnt that in a volatile environment, the key to survival is adaptation, not optimization. The newest version of a software product isn't better because it has fewer bugs - it usually has more. But it is better because it offers new functions and capabilities that allow us to respond to sudden changes in the environment. Thus, let us not try to programme one flawless 'future arts space' that will fly us to the moon and back, but let us

> options for development. Elias Nowak Senior Advisor Philadelphia, PA 19147, US

open many different frontlines.

allowing us to pursue different

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FUTURE ARTS SPACES

SPECIAL ISSUE: ARTS SPACES LEAD GLOBAL ECOLOGY OF IDEAS Thursday January 10 2008

Say PPP for planet earth

Margaret Thurley looks at the impact of social innovation on Canada's number-one fishing spot

alleburen, 200 km north of Vancouver, was until recently known primarily for its abundant fisheries and a well-heeled retiremen community. Yet Palleburen is also home to the historic Pallen Planetarium, whose iconic triad of copper cupolas manifest a majestic and spectral presence, reflecting in the swirling, chalkwhite waters of Adriane River lovingly dubbed the 'Milky Way' by locals. Few would have foreseen that to reinvigorate materially and "I came to understand that people procurement-engine that mines enthralled by what she was about possible to go fishing." just one year after action was spiritually Palleburen's secluded who are genuinely open-minded, the web for left-over building to experience. "I haven't been as Given the high proportion of Pallen fields and porous voids of

first taken to breathe new life community, the benefits of another in tune with the architectural materials and even collects the moved since giving unassisted Planetarium's architecture that is Pallen Planetarium often into the spooked remains of this mixed-fishing underrated piece of 19th century were fewer still. "When Pallen planetarium, and who might be maintain Pallen Planetarium's ago - there's fear and terrific hope it is a building no longer rooted in dark, as rudimentary patterns architecture, the re-opened Planetarium hit the agenda last willing to commit themselves virtual architecture." planetarium is being hailed as year, we suddenly saw an opening financially and emotionally to Accused initially of sidestepping sizeable donation shortly." materialised music' by critics and to do things a different way. its redevelopment were relatively the local community, upsetting Others have been more hesitant connected to each of these time only scant guidance. Many now lures hundreds of visitors to Instead of slaving the dragon in few", he says. These people also potential investors and "copping in their embrace of Pallen frames, even and especially the visitors are bound to walk away Palleburen every month, as well another private-public showdown tend to be scattered across the out" of her responsibilities as a Planetarium's offerings. "I was future", elaborates Ms Lucas. "By from PPP under the impression as netting thousands more by and cooking up hard feelings all globe, making it difficult to set public administrator, Ms Lucas' expecting an optical connection discarding these time frames, that refashioning global society means of its virtual pool In fact, Sheena Lucas, Palleburen issue on a planetary level." council's chief executive, had anticipated several months of heated public-private infighting heated public-private infighting agenda to its current officer, bringing to rancouriers of volunteers, including activities, and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions" chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions" chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and to identify her pair of Lacoste the global community as well as "Complexity is a provisional planetary dimensions" chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the provisional planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically under-staffed and environmental activities and the planetary dimensions chronically activities and the planetary dimensions chronically ac unsavoury alternatives for the is Burt McConell. A tall man overworked e-government scientists. Working together in the tennis shoes in the mosque- our local residents. Simply stated, state", says the spokesperson. planetarium's future: tapping with an elegant stride, who department a proven track-record Pallen Planetarium Partnership like accumulation of footwear we are in the process of learning "In the long-term, complexity further into tax-adverse residents' after retiring as an architect in of operational excellence in (PPP) with complete efficacy, outside the entrance one Sunday how to make things possible for is unsustainable, because it earnings to fund a refurbishment, Vancouver has gradually begun organic server-farming, his initial conceptual elegance and record afternoon, a well-groomed each other." or handing over to a private wearing chequered shirts again priority was to curtail employees' timing, they stripped bare and peroxide blonde wearing a blue Rhymer Hosein, though rightfully simulation. We are all pretenders, consortium that proposed to and allowed himself to grow a addictive passion for social completely refitted the building. mini-skirt said: "I'm an honest- proud of his initial contribution to pretending to be more than we transform Pallen Planetarium beard, he was for several years the networking and virtual sociability. Perhaps more importantly, they to-god art-lover and don't expect the IT-infrastructure that makes are and wanting more than we into a high-yield luxury fishing Planetarium's sole caretaker. But he realized that some of the also succeeded in rallying support my shoes to be lined up amongst possible the colourful myriad of can get. The telescopes at Pallen hub. "Markets have never been "After three decades in the service" new web 2.0 skills they were from a local community dedicated the infidels." as deregulated as they are today", of architectural post-modernism, developing in their free time could primarily to fishing and wealth Sigur Yau, a PPP-spokesperson invitations one encounters inside through the fog of simulation and recalls Ms Lucas, shrugging her I was looking for something new also be useful in modelling herd management. shoulders with seasoned cool. – perhaps fishing", remembers Mr behaviour patterns and building a

Anti-public and antiprivate sentiments stand in the way of decisive action

deregulated also,"

Canadian politicians and became accustomed to enlisting of the planetarium, he challenged planetarium's newly installed, do come and visit us. PPP aims administrators at all levels, support from visiting foreign his team to open-source the entire highly fragile virtual surfaces. to sustain a constant flow of **The planetarium's** says Ms Lucas, are increasingly researchers and astronomy project. Within weeks, contacts An elderly resident of Palleburen, information at all times. By IT-infrastructure unable to take decisive action enthusiasts. Locals, by contrast, and resources multiplied manifold. who was wearing a seal-fur means of sorcery, we have created in today's double-edged climate tended to take the Planetarium for "We had peer-to-peer travel- coat and bent down to undo her a porous structural pattern that is supports risks, of anti-public, anti-private granted and mostly shrugged off accounts in place, a platform red stilettos before visiting the gradually permeating and being innovations and sentiment. Public funds are few, Mr McConnell's incessant call-to- for shared accommodation planetarium for the third time permeated by all kinds of artistic but for a policy-maker seeking the-arms.

PERSONAL VIEW

Li Shenzu of Shenzu and Asso-

As they were still in the early

days of their present fame, there

seemed a fair chance that I and

other architects shortlisted in the

competition could still beat them.

But when shots sounded one hot

evening and Ms Shenzu, Mr Dress

and members of the competition jury could be seen driving by

with their bullet-ridden hunting

trophy, a young female architect,

we all fled for shelter. Nobody

wanted to be the next victim of

what one surviving architect later

called a "big game bonanza." Since then, I have been able to

S.O.B. Architects, Antwerp.

Unnatural selection me first remind you of the reasons jury safari tour. the ecology of this profession: tecture competition still seeks Sigur Yau explains how left to rot, the structural bones cruel beauty of natural selection. the future's collaborative arts spaces will bypass ideas discarded forever. design by competition

rchitects seldom go on mating with each other. safari; we are an endan- • The best ideas often only dare ingenuity are accepted as a matgered form of wildlife come out when night has fallen ter of course. taken to living in protected res- over. life observatory and natural his- the heat of the chase. Kilimaniaro – and what did I see? dwellers.

ons, two species of architect: Ms are more commonly respected shabby, joking, desperate hyenas years, our biological hard-wir- spaces for education, business data processing and data storage, Canada ciates, Tianjin, and Per Dress of

obtain commissions for other art "We are irreversibly headed for a single, ubiquitous creative space

"Hence our emotions tend to be McConell. Instead, upon his arrival global support network for Pallen

in Palleburen he immediately Planetarium.

found himself attracted to the "Starting with the twenty odd real-

The long view: Pallen Planetarium's telescopes connect a range of diverse artistic and political practises

Pallen Planetarium.

ervations ourselves. I travelled to • Tasteful but less colourful spe- tures that could not withstand offers comparatively few benefits your feet! tory museum in Tsavo National • Unfair advantage for bugs, a cumulative effort, a process of 'cultivation' instead. Compared to lifetime. Culture goes beyond an ciety to participate in the design let us learn. Park, on the foothills of Mount earthworms and specialised tree- collective learning in which all the rapid development and accu- individual life and needs many of every single building. But it is are involved. In fact, it is often a mulation of knowledge, arts and different spaces. Arts spaces, of already happening. Granted our Sigur Yau is spokesperson for the Pal-

why competitions are a threat to In principle, however, the archiclimate change. • Losers' carcasses are habitually to mimic by artificial means the

Building is not a are removed on the spot and An extraordinary variety of pos- selective activity.

thousands of potentially valuable sibilities is brought to flourish, but a collective then thumbs up or down by the • Architects on different compejurors signal that an irreversible **process that architects** tition teams are forbidden from decision has been taken. Huge help facilitate losses of creativity, beauty and

ened to ever participate in an become more strictly regulated, the present day's most cherished situation of culture, which might tals and homes. architecture competition again. trophy fees have been set at sus- prize goose. Had an emerging be called an 'unnatural' situa- In the architecture competition, to exclude anybody's ideas. Fortunately, there now exist su-tainable levels, juries are vetted minority of Russian eco-archition, nature can only offer limited it's all in the first shot. We are enperior alternatives to a system in for their integrity, stakeholders tects not been overheard and supguidance for our survival. which competence is determined and members of the public are pressed in the 1930s, for example, Unlike nature, culture cannot be ing is the solution to one problem. to knock out, exclude or shoot

development potentialities of a triple-domed residual software needed to birth in the Rockies thirty years virtual and continously evolving, means stumbling through the

around, we decided to tackle the their combined muscle to work on vision of transformation was now with the universe", said one we effectively discard nostalgia to attain sustainability targets is

agenda to its current officer. Bringing to Palleburen's of volunteers, including artists, empty swimming pool." At pains Pallen Planetarium Project with themselves.

crucial figure in Enter Rhymer Hosein, the spine IT operations and backed his fishing boots. "Once inside, I relief in terms of freeing the arts, Sigur Yau believes that these

recasting the local council's newly appointed IT- by an international community felt like nose-diving into a half- liberating politics and sharing the doubts will eventually dispel

paces, although I was too fright- today. Hunting for architects has of history – which hold sway over ing seems largely stabilized. In a and leisure, Culture needs hospi-

the natural environment - roads, subject of our most prestigious of all our finished and unfinished ports, cities! All the intellectual competitions. Culture is virtually buildings back to life. of course, culture also covers the physically in our culture.

risks, innovations and interactive Planetarium allow you to see who is Norwegian-Taiwanese- Pallen Planetarium, sounds make things as simple as possible ne already gets a sense of born and of uncertain attributes a similar chord: "Ultimately, for yourself." what has been achieved otherwise, says the project was by getting everyone to look A heartening message that will

the re-opened as sympathetic to dissidents as as closely as they can at arts, certainly be heeded by all those planetarium's principle it was committed to its believers. science, economics and politics, considering Palleburen in their planetarium and embarked on "a world contacts that Mr McConnell entrance, a field of magnetic "We aren't your typical down-to- we begin to see how messy these search of simplicity and a bespoke never-ending architectural love gave me, we've woven an intricate filters vaguely resembling metal earth people, and neither do we fields actually are. Once you have way of life. Once you've brushed tapestry of creative collaboration detectors at an airport. PPP- fly sky-high. There's a before and understood that it is a mess and off the emotional particles that Working single-handedly to patch and global co-operation around volunteers, as friendly as they are an after - in-between stands your that you are part of it, you lose Pallen Planetarium has likely Pallen Planetarium's leaky roof a real-life building", explains Mr humble, ask all visitors to remove personal experience at Pallen your inhibitions about rebuilding stirred up inside you, building and put a brake on the building's Hosein. Short of money to cover a their shoes before entering Planetarium. By all means and human society on a 1:1 scale – on your own home in one of Canada's most tax-friendly jurisdictions couldn't be easier. Located in close proximity to Vancouver. with excellent fishing as well as some of the choicest cultural pickings this side of the Milky Way, you'll find that Pallenburen

demise, Mr McConnell quickly complete redesign and renovation - a measure taken to protect the by whatever means you prefer, planet earth."

and no end to it. I'll be making a past, present, or future. "There is a emerging and collapsing in rapid

underwritten by Mr Hosein's solid- disgruntled visitor, slipping on itself, which is an enormous an infinitely complex affair. But

specific form of nostalgic longing succession all around provide

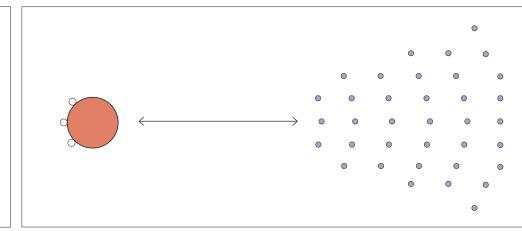
in Palleburen, as well as a in as many weeks, was clearly and political practises. It is even **interactive invitations**

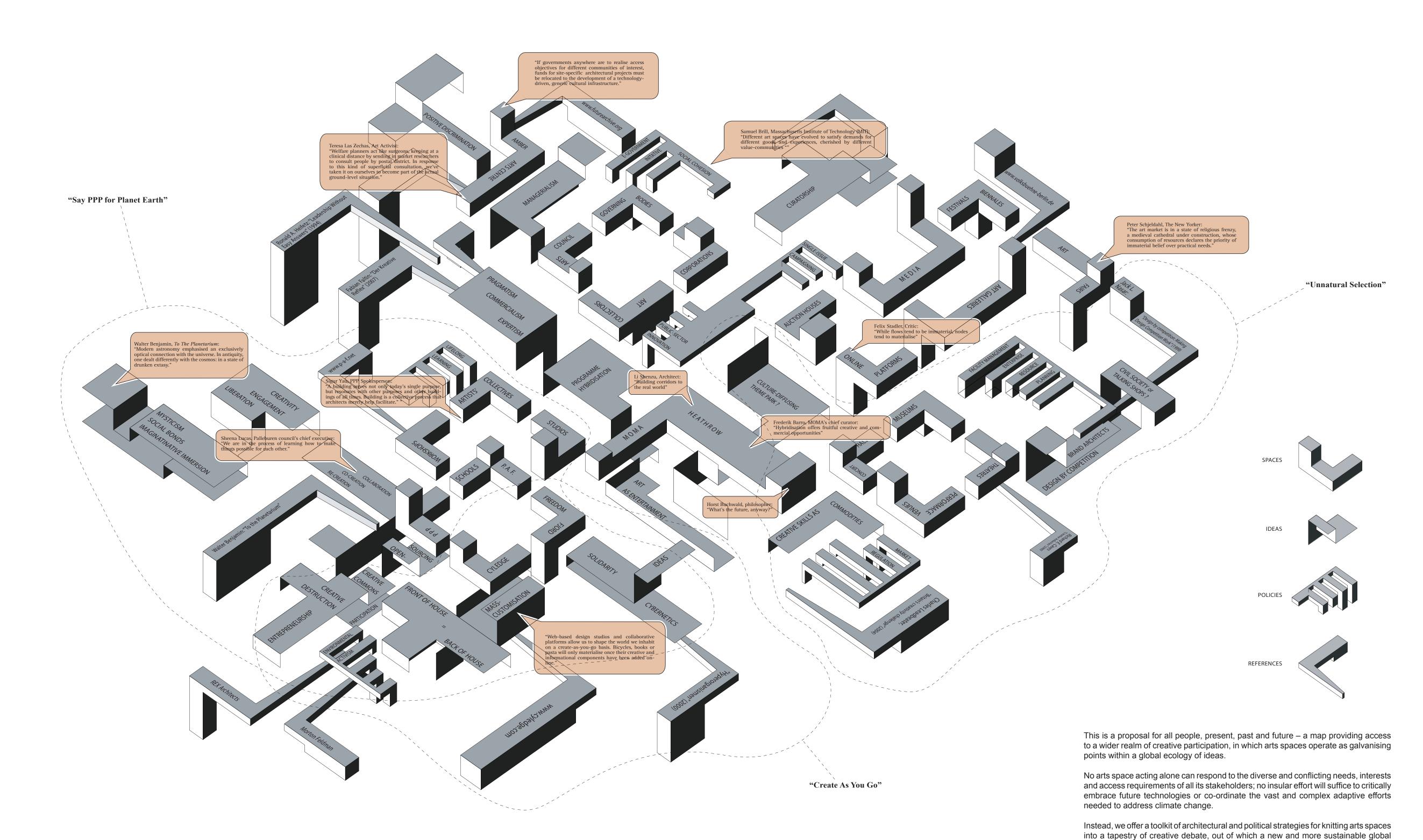
is a wonderful place for business and leisure alike

with the pull of a trigger. But let now habitually invited on a pre- Soviet architecture could today safeguarded by erecting limited In fact, any proposed building remain inscribed in the virtual be holding the keys to addressing reservations. Culture is bigger serves not only today's single realm of culture. Now that digital than all elephants combined! It purpose, but resonates with other technologies allow us to access is the entirety of human creation purposes and other buildings of all and manipulate the virtual realm and achievement! All the physical times. Culture can never be limdirectly, what are we waiting for? artefacts: tools, stools, computers! ited to the arts spaces, museums, Let us communicate directly with All human-induced changes to universities which have been the each other and bring the lost souls

accomplishments of humanity - inscribed in all our buildings and Let us begin by hacking into exlanguage! The alphabet! Art! And all buildings inscribe themselves isting buildings - let us release all their possible meanings and add various forms of social organiza- By consequence, we need to un- many others. Let us probe and What I would like to say, then, is tion and systems of communica- derstand that building isn't a entertain the ambiguities of virand many of us have and the competition is already In nature, the roads of evolution that mimicking natural selection tion under which people live. The selective activity, but a collectual-to-physical and physical-toare strewn with the bones of creaby means of design competitions internet! The Republic! Vote with tive process that architects help virtual conversation, rather than facilitate. It might seem ludicrous compete against each other. Let us Kenya in 2002 to visit the site of cies are considered unworthy, the pressures of selection – but to us humans, who have strayed Clearly, culture cannot be toured to end architecture competitions work together on building spaces a projected solar-powered wild- non-architects are overlooked in in human civilisation, we should further from the path in a one-day safari. Culture can- and allow the totality of culture that are transformed and rebuilt not give in so easily. Culture is of 'evolution' to place our bets on not even be covered in a human and every single member of so- by everyone entering them. Then,

Majestic elephants, a pride of li- Of course, fair chase conditions society's weakest members - the technology over the past 300,000 course, but also science spaces, greatly increased capacities for len Planetarium Project in Pallenburen,





Art Spaces Lead Global Ecology of Ideas

Fabian Faltin Manuel Shvartzberg Yiannis Kanakakis (graduate member)

society might one day rise. We hope that the fictional characters, virtual communities and imaginary architectures shown here will fire the imagination of real people to make things possible for each other, in a spirit of communication and solidarity.