

DESIGN RALLY

25 years Concert Hall Theaters Tilburg

Bas Mastboom (CAST) and Rob van Steen (Theaters Tilburg) September 18th 2021

Context

In December it will be 25 years since Queen Beatrix opened the concert hall of Tilburg as designed by architect Jo Coenen. This occasion will be celebrated with an appropriate program on stage and in the city. We will also pay attention to the history, the present and especially the future of the concert hall. With the realization of the Stadsforum (Bureau ZUS) the concert hall will be situated in a new urban context and at the same time the performing artists and audiences of the future will have different and new requirements for the use of the concert hall. This is the reason for us to organize a project in which we want to investigate new visions for the future of the existing building. Together with CAST (Centrum Architectuur en Stedebouw Tilburg e.o.) we are organizing a design rally in which teams of professionals and students will think about the future of the concert hall. We do this in close cooperation with the architects Jo Coenen, Ad Roefs and Ton van der Hagen.

Starting point

The concert hall has been functioning for twenty-five years and has been well maintained. Only limited functional changes have been made since its opening. The building will retain its core function (enabling high-quality concerts (in a seated setting)) and enhance it as much as possible.

Research Questions

What functional and physical changes could make the Tilburg Concert Hall better suited to meet the changing demands of the performing arts, artists and audiences in the future? How do we take advantage of the opportunities for cohesion within the arts cluster and of the new urban embedding of the building in the Stadsforum.

Goal

This 'design rally' is the starting point for the discussion about the physical development of the concert hall in the future. It lays the foundation for future decision-making on the desired interventions to the building.

Format

We envision a four-part rally in which the concert hall is first illuminated from three perspectives and then explores what the significance of that depth of content might be for the development of the concert hall in the years ahead.

Program

The program consists of three inspiration sessions in which experts speak out on three consecutive days. These sessions serve as the substantive basis for a design day on which the research questions are worked on in teams of professionals with students and alumni.

The program is organized as follows:

Tuesday, October 5, '21	20:00 - 22:00	Developments in performing arts
Wednesday, October 6 '21	20:00 - 22:00	The arts cluster as public space
Thursday, October 7, '21	20:00 – 22:00	The concert hall in the (inner) city
Saturday, October 16 '21	09.00 - 21.00	The concert hall Tilburg of the future

Public and media

The inspiration sessions are publicly accessible and will be recorded, the text and image material of the experts will be collected. The research day will take place in a closed setting and will be recorded on video and image. The material will be edited and published via the website www.concertzaaltilburg.nl. Where possible, additional material will be created in the form of interviews and podcasts; this too will be made available via the website.

Design teams

Three teams of professionals and students and alumni/starters will work together. They will brainstorm about the future of the concert hall. The three teams will be guided and directed by the architects during the rally: Bureau Coenen, Ad Roefs and Ton van der Hagen.

Sign-up!

Students and starters in architecture, urban planning and architecture are welcome to participate. If you are following a different course or have a professional interest in another way and would like to participate, please register! There are about 10 places available to participate. Therefore, please apply as soon as possible (before September 26) by sending a motivation of half an A4 and your portfolio to Bas Mastboom [basmastboom\[at\]castonline.nl](mailto:basmastboom[at]castonline.nl) of CAST.

TU 5-10-21	inspiration session 1: developments in the performing arts
20.00 – 20.05	Opening by Bas Mastboom (Cast)
20.05 – 20.20	Presentation Rob van Steen (director TT) and Marjolein Fischer (programmer) <i>Review of programming of the concert hall Tilburg, developments in audience structure, functional opportunities and limitations of the hall.</i>
20.20 – 20.25	Questions
20.25 – 20.40	Tweegesprek Merlijn Twaalfhoven & Micha Hamel <i>Preview of developments in concert practice, inspiring examples from around the world showing that things can be done differently.</i>
20.40 – 20.45	Questions
20.45 – 21.00	Presentatie Terry Brochard <i>Looking ahead to developments in audience behavior, the complete theatre experience of the future.</i>
21.00 – 21.05	Questions
21.05 – 21.45	Discussion with all of the above speakers <i>Main question: from the point of view of the performing arts and its audience, what are the most important trends to take into consideration?</i>
21.45 – 22.00	Conclusion

WE 6-10-21	inspiration session 2: The arts cluster as public space
20.00 – 20.05	Opening by Sophie Stravens
20.05 – 20.20	Conversation Bas van der Pol (Tilburg) / Jan van der Putten (Verkadefabriek) <i>Additional public functions, target groups and requirements from the daily public function of theaters and concert halls.</i>
20.20 – 20.25	Questions
20.25 – 20.40	Presentation by Karen Neervoort (director FHK) <i>The role of Fontys College of the Arts in the public domain, the requirements of art education for concert hall and immediate surroundings.</i>
20.40 – 20.45	Questions
20.45 – 21.00	Voorbeeldproject Bureau Coenen – TivoliVredenburg & Amare <i>Starting points for a collection of concert halls in one venue complex in which virtually all genres can be presented. The public functions and target groups of such complexes in conjunction with environment .</i>
21.00 – 21.05	Questions
21.05 – 21.45	Discussion with all of the above speakers <i>Main question: with which public e functions can the concert hall be enriched in the coming years and what demands does this place on the built environment?</i>
21.45 – 22.00	Conclusion

TH: 7-10-21	Inspiration session 3: The concert hall in the (inner) city
20.00 – 20.05	Opening by Rob van Steen
20.05 – 20.35	Presentation by Jo Coenen (architect) <i>Future vision, programmatic, functional, architectural and urban planning principles in the design and realization of Concert Hall Tilburg.</i>
20.35 – 20.45	Questions
20.45 – 21.15	Presentation by Elma van Boxel and / or Kristian Koreman (Bureau ZUS) <i>Future image, programmatic, functional and urban design principles in the design of the Stadsforum Tilburg.</i>
20.40 – 20.45	Questions
20.45 – 21.45	Discussion with all of the above speakers
21.45 – 22.00	Conclusion

16-10-2021	Design day: Concert Hall Tilburg of the future
09.00 – 09.30	<i>Breakfast</i>
09.30 – 10.15	Tour through the Concert Hall in the different groups
10.15 – 12.30	Start of brainstorm: DIVERGING - Group 1: performing arts and public - Group 2: public public space - Group 3: urban development
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 14.15	Speeddates with professionals about brainstorm ideas (quarter hour per date)
14.15 – 16.30	Start brainstorm: CONVERGING
16.30 – 17.00	<i>break</i>
17.00 – 18.00	Presentation of results
18.00 – 19.00	<i>Dinner + drinks (end of the design rally)</i>