Curator of the exhibition: Ole Bouman

Ole Bouman is art director, writer, designer, teacher, and has been general manager of several culture institutions, always exploring new frontiers of doing architecture and design, identifying issues that matter and unleashing the power of design to deal with them.

Currently he is co-curator of the Finnish Pavilion at the Venice Biennale for Architecture, extending his position as Creative Director of the 5th Shenzhen Biennale (UABB), for which he founded the Value Factory, and transformed an derelict industrial plant into a vibrant culture hub. For this project his team won the Grand Organization Committee Award. He is also founding Dean of the Value Factory Academy, which ran its first course during the Biennale and is prone to be continued.

Before the Shenzhen Biennale, Bouman acted as general director of the Netherlands Architecture institute (NAi)–one of the largest architecture centers in the world– which he transformed into a lively civic environment for a variety of audiences, before it was forced into a merger by the Dutch government to support the national creative industries. During those years, Bouman also changed the NAi's heritage policy and launched a global design agenda named Architecture of Consequence in 2008.

Previously, Bouman was founder and editor of Volume Magazine, together with partners Rem Koolhaas of OMA and Mark Wigley of the Graduate School of Planning and Preservation of Columbia University. Volume succeeded Archis Magazine, which Bouman led since the mid nineties.

As teacher Bouman held positions at MIT, Cambridge Massachusetts, where he founded the Studio for Unsolicited Architecture in 2007, and The Berlage, among others.

As prolific writer, Bouman published in the major architecture journals of the world, including Domus, Proiekt Russia, Arquine, the Harvard Design Magazine, A+D India, A+T, China and many others. His books include The Invisible in Architecture, RealSpace in QuickTimes and Architecture of Consequence.

As curator he presented independent, or on behalf of The Netherlands, at several Biennales and Triennale, such as Venice Biennale, Shenzhen Bi–City Biennale, Sao Paulo Bienal, Manifesta and Milano Triennale.

Bouman is also a member of the Culture Emergency Response Steering Committee of the Prince Claus Fund, supporting culture in immediate danger, due to natural disaster or conflict. He is board member of THNK, Amsterdam School of Creative Leadership. Recently, he was jury member of the Hurricane Sandy Rebuild by Design Competition and the Medaglia d'Oro, Italy. In 2013 he won the Indian Architecture+Design/Cera Golden Award for global contribution in architecture.

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