# **CATALOGUE OF POSSIBILITIES**

# **CALL FOR IDEAS - AWARDS**

PRESS RELEASE

#### 'Caring Infrastructures'

a joint project of the <u>Liebling Haus</u> and <u>feld72</u> collective part of the <u>'Welcome to the Re\_Public'</u> exhibition supported by the <u>Austrian Cultural Forum</u>

# SUMMARY

This week, we announced the winners of an open call for public space interventions in Vienna and Tel Aviv. The actual implementation of the winning submissions will begin in the coming months, part of a joint project of the *Liebling Haus* and the Viennese collective *feld72* supported by the *Austrian Cultural Forum Tel Aviv*.

The Project 'Caring Infrastructures' (including the 'Catalogue of Possibilities') by feld72 is part of 'Welcome to the Re\_Public', an exhibition exploring public space and hosted at the Liebling Haus. Earlier this year, together with feld72, we launched the Catalogue of Possibilities – an open call for caring infrastructure ideas that could be implemented in public areas.

The Catalogue of Possibilities investigates the potential of the public space during Covid-19 and beyond, outlining future uses of urban areas. The open call invited architects, artists, intellectuals, researchers, urbanists, and creative people from various backgrounds to submit a proposal for caring infrastructures in public areas across Tel Aviv-Yafo and Vienna. Participants were free to choose any media to illustrate and describe their idea.

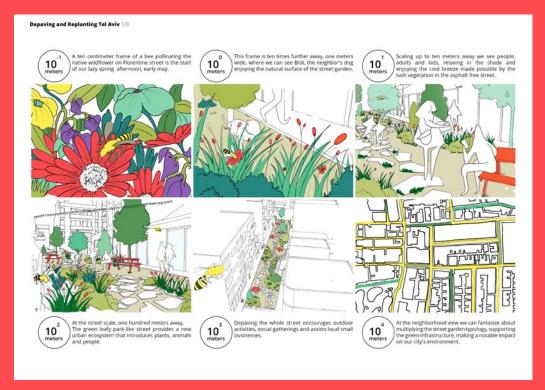
Almost 200 applications from around the world were submitted by the time registration closed in May. Each application was carefully reviewed by a diverse panel of professionals consisting of cultural figures, architects, and municipal officials, including the City Architects and representatives of the Environmental and Cultural Departments in Vienna and Tel Aviv. Finally, the jury selected two projects that will be implemented, one in Tel Aviv and one in Vienna, with a budget of €6,000 each. The jury also selected two "conceptual" proposals, awarding the applicants €1,500 each. The judges determined that the winning entries promote the fundamental values of both cities' vision for public spaces.

Following are the winning applications:

# **CARING INFRASTRUCTURE for Tel Aviv**

#### #0161 'Depaying and Replanting Tel Aviv'

by Carmel Yaari, Gil Harabagiu Cohen, Nora Nanov, Omri Ben- Chetrit link to project



Winning project to be implemented in Tel Aviv.

Their idea is turning an asphalt road into a permeable pavement, transforming the street into a park with planted vegetation and footpaths that allow small businesses to expand onto the renovated street. Gaining the jury's support, and after the city architect and municipal officials confirmed its feasibility, the project was voted the winning proposal. The pilot will be implemented near Dizengoff Center, highlighting the municipality's policy of utilizing public areas, managing runoff water, and leveraging natural solutions.

The entry references the municipality's rapid response to Covid-19 through a series of tactical urbanism measures, specifically converting several streets across the city into pedestrian-only zones and closing down vehicular traffic. Adopting a sustainable agenda of diluting asphalt, the project proposes to pull out the existing roadway and break the material into smaller footpaths. The porous asphalt will support a park with planted vegetation and green islands, allowing small businesses to expand onto the renovated street. The municipality proposes implementing the project in an area it plans to develop rather than a pedestrian-only zone (where the cost will be steep).

#### The jury's arguments:

The proposal focused on contemporary urban issues, including de-paving streets, climatic resilience, vegetation, and reorganization of public space. It also promotes a sustainable approach to reshaping the post-pandemic urban environment. The proposal creates a pleasant, green space while raising awareness of runoff in the city.

# **CARING INFRASTRUCTURE for Vienna**

#### #0120 'Perce-scope (perception) meet beyond'

by Eva Šperka, Katka Antalová, Ivan Kanich, Branislav Stojkov <u>link to project</u>



Winning project to be implemented in Vienna.

The 'Perce-scope' challenges our perception of distance and provides a solution for the challenges of physical distance during the pandemic. The installation plays on the concept of human interaction by manipulating the sense of presence, creating a space for shared experiences, voices, emotions, and memories.

Proposing 2 potential locations for the pavilion within the city (a residential neighborhood and an open public space), the project functions as a small-scale social experiment that enables various interactions. The structure is a waterproof wooden rectangle with two mirrors attached (creating the effect of a periscope) that adapts to different settings using adjustable metal legs. The exterior coat is yellow chalk paint, an interactive surface for people to share experiences and thoughts.

#### The jury's arguments:

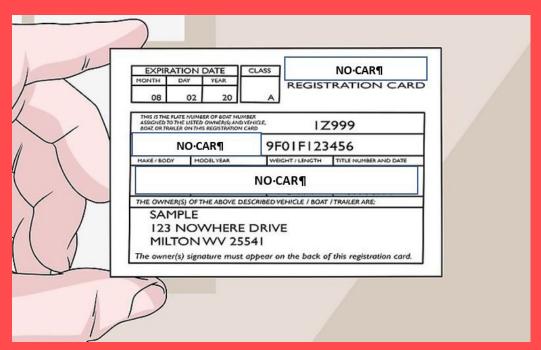
The installation challenges physical distance by questioning our perception of space. The jury appreciated the direct reference to Covid-19 and its impact on public space. The proposal addresses issues that have come up during the pandemic in a fun, playful way, suitable for audiences of all ages. The jury agreed the intervention could remain relevant in the future as a memorial to Covid-19. The project would likely generate playful social interactions, introducing interesting disruptions in public spaces by interacting with the urban environment ("around the corner").

The fact that the proposal does not offer a strategy for reproducible, long-term improvements of public space was discussed controversially but the installation itself was seen as strong enough to address many topics and phenomenas of the pandemic in a metaphorical way. The ambition to work with a physical, analog setup and not use additional digital aids was perceived as very positive. Finally, the implementation seems feasible given the existing budget.

#### **CARING INFRASTRUCTURE Idea**

### #0018 'No-Car Registration and License Plate'

by Martin Fritz link to project

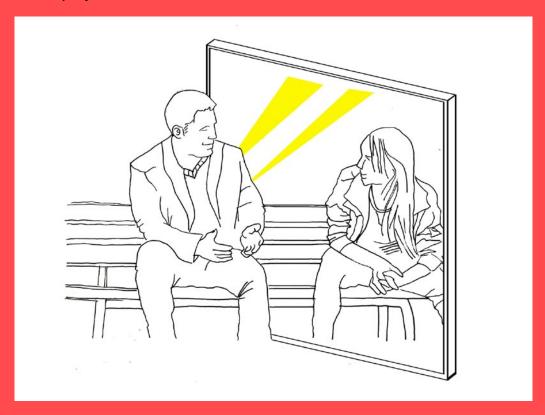


The project affords pedestrians the same rights to public space as car owners, creating numerous possibilities: from temporary outdoor activities in parking lots to innovative extensions of ground floor studios, workshops, or apartments. These can be implemented as quickly and flexibly as parking a car, circumventing the tedious bureaucratic procedures typically associated with non-vehicle uses of public space.

#### The jury's arguments:

An unusual and intriguing conceptual proposal that advocates alternative uses for public space besides parking. 'No-Car' offers a strategic answer to the question how public space could be distributed more evenly between people who chose to own a car and those who chose not to. The jury honours the proposal's radical premise and its short and concise presentation.

#0067 'Two cities, One Bench'
by Galina Arbeli & Luka Or
link to project



The second awarded project for the idea category is 'Two cities, One Bench', in which a bench offers a bilateral dialogue between Vienna and Tel Aviv by the means of simultaneous screens placed on a bench in both cities

#### The jury's arguments:

The proposal unites aspects of public space as well as the pandemic: It questions the notion of distance by establishing an intimate connection between two people in remote parts of the world. The screen connects and separates simultaneously: It offers a digital connection while forming an analog separation between two people sitting physically next to each other.

Other interesting proposals that scored high:

#o165 'YardShare' by Dina Finkelstein Weinberger & Tamar Alon focused on gardens in front of buildings reminiscent of Geddes Plan for Tel Aviv. Many buildings in the city center have a common area that is often an uncultivated garden. Bordering the sidewalk, these gardens blur the line between private property and public space, affecting residents and passersby alike. The team proposed to prepare custom landscape designs that inspire residents to cultivate the garden, demonstrating the potential uses of this space.

Two other entries explored street furniture: #oog6 'A-lamp' by Amir Rozei is a large lampshade installed on a standard street light, hanging over a round bench that embraces the pole. The lampshade will provide shade during the day and pleasant lighting at night.

The second, #0072 'Seaty - Your Spot In The City' by May Meyerson, Adva Eshel proposed installing colorful seats on top of metal buffering poles, transforming them into stools or tables. The bright color will also prevent people from running into the object.

You can find all shortlisted projects here (link to jury protocol).

#### **BACKGROUND**

At the height of the pandemic, public and cultural life was almost brought to a standstill, creating cityscapes shaped by empty streets and vacant public spaces. In some places, access to public areas was limited to a minimum almost overnight. Examination of the restricted urban movement reveals that the street is the connecting link in times of isolation. Streets, the "significant social and public space," make up most public and urban areas.

Streets, squares, and alleys facilitate casual encounters, where we can spend time together without any commercial commitment. This is where we can express ourselves freely and experience cultural diversity, discuss and shape society. These collective spaces remind us that we exist not only as individuals but as part of a community.

The Catalogue of Possibilities adopts a free artistic perspective, the antithesis of institutional planning strategies designed to ensure safe access to public spaces. Direct observations of everyday life are the gateway to develop possibilities for communal use of public space – during and after the pandemic.

Studies suggest the risk of infection in open spaces is significantly lower than the infection rate in closed places. Open spaces – those same streets, squares, and alleys – are, in fact, safe spaces with great potential. The streetscape is a field of experimentation, providing an opportunity to develop structures that empower a new kind of solidarity and empathy in times of social isolation. Places that help us care for each other and the environment in this New Normal.

These structures – Caring Infrastructures – incorporate an empathic and inclusive view of reality while welcoming doubt. More than a competition, the *Catalogue of Possibilities* is a collection of ideas advocating public debate about the agile cities of tomorrow, cities committed to social welfare, cities that could survive pandemics and crises. The *Catalogue of Possibilities* offers professionals and intellectuals an opportunity to express their ideas, to be seen and heard.

# **PRESS PHOTOS**

Press photos may be published if the author's name(s) is/are stated.

Download press photos here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bs\_OR\_Eb6ts\_QDftjpGpsi7yM1lAzUeF

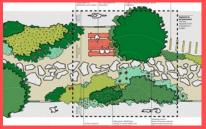
For additional information and press material contact: <a href="mailto:press@feld72.at">press@feld72.at</a>



**'Depaving and Replanting Tel Aviv'**© Carmel Yaari, Gil Harabagiu Cohen, Nora Nanov, Omri Ben- Chetrit



**'Depaving and Replanting Tel Aviv'**© Carmel Yaari, Gil Harabagiu Cohen, Nora Nanov, Omri Ben- Chetrit



**'Depaying and Replanting Tel Aviv'**© Carmel Yaari, Gil Harabagiu Cohen, Nora Nanov, Omri Ben- Chetrit



'Perce-scope (perception) meet beyond' © Eva Šperka, Katka Antalová, Ivan Kanich, Branislav Stojkov



'Perce-scope (perception) meet beyond' © Eva Šperka, Katka Antalová, Ivan Kanich, Branislav Stojkov



beyond' © Eva Šperka, Katka Antalová, Ivan Kanich, Branislav Stojkov



**'No-Car Registration and License Plate'**© Martin Fritz



'Two cities, One Bench' © Galina Arbeli & Luka Or



Welcome to the Re\_Public © Yael Schmidt



Welcome to the Re\_Public
© Yael Schmidt



Welcome to the Re\_Public © Yael Schmidt

#### **SUPPORT**

The Call for Ideas is initiated by the Liebling Haus in collaboration with feld72. The Catalogue of Possibilities, as well as the Call for Ideas, are supported by the Austrian Cultural Forum; the Austrian Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport; the Municipality of Tel Aviv- Yafo; the Tel Aviv Foundation; and the German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community.

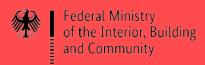
The Catalogue of Possibilities is part of the current exhibition Welcome to the Re\_Public at the Liebling Haus in Tel Aviv.











■ Bundesministerium

Kunst, Kultur,

öffentlicher Dienst und Sport



