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Keywords: Practice-based research, civic engagement & participation, urban policy, urban movements, sustainable neighbourhood development, shared ownership, cooperatives.

Recent academic appointments

2023 – 2025 Coordinator and Lecturer *IAmsterdam*, Bachelor Cultural Studies, UvA

The module *IAmsterdam*, part of the Bachelor of Cultural Studies within *Global Arts, Culture and Politics* at the University of Amsterdam, introduces students to the various aspects that shape a city as a hub for diverse local cultures and communities. It examines the impact of cultural and housing policies, city marketing, socio-ecological developments, and urban planning.

2016 – 2024 PhD, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA) | Part-time, University of Amsterdam (UvA) | Supervisors: René Boomkens & Jan Willem Duyvendak

Through ethnographically inspired fieldwork in Amsterdam, Vienna, and Berlin, the research explores the values citizen initiatives uphold when repurposing vacant buildings for the common good. The study asks how shared ownership contributes to an “autonomous” positioning toward governmental actors and institutions.

Publications

Academic (Peer-reviewed)

- 2025 Christof, K. (Forthcoming). *Citizen Professionals: Reclaiming Collective Spaces*. #69. SetMargins. Eindhoven.
- 2024 Christof, K. (2024). *Longing for Autonomy: Citizen Professionals Engaging for the Common Good*. University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam [PhD Thesis]. <https://hdl.handle.net/11245.1/f23dde83-dee5-4449-8abd-259f3088a11a>
- 2021 Christof, K. & Majoor, S. J. H. (2021). A City of Strong Government and Active Citizens: Eigenlogik Amsterdam. In M. van der Veen, & J. W. Duyvendak (Eds.), *Participate!: Portraits of Cities and Citizens in Action*, (pp.40-61). nai010 publishers, Rotterdam.
- Christof, K. & Sack, F. (2021). In Search of Berlin: A City Renegotiating Realities and Visions. In M. van der Veen, & J. W. Duyvendak (Eds.), *Participate!: Portraits of Cities and Citizens in Action* (pp.82-103). nai010 publishers, Rotterdam. <https://www.nai010.com/product/participate/>
- 2020 Christof, K. (2020). “Citizen Professionals” as Civic Intermediaries: Autonomy as a Social Value in the Making of Communal Spaces for the Neighbourhood. In R. Lastman (Ed.), *AMPS Proceedings Series 19.1: The City and Complexity - Life, Design and Commerce in the Built Environment: City, University of London. London 17-19 June 2020* (pp. 166-177). AMPS C.I.O. <http://architecturemps.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Amps-Proceedings-Series-19.1.pdf>
- 2018 Christof, K. (2018). Methodological tools for explorations of urban changes in built environments [Review of: B. Campkin, G. Duijzings (2016) *Engaged Urbanism: Cities and Methodologies*]. *Rooilijn*, 51(1), pp.76-78. <http://archieff.rooilijn.nl/home?issue=05101>
- 2017 Christof, K. (2017). The Citizen Professional, Mediatization, and the Creation of a Public Domain. *Culture Unbound: Journal of Current Cultural Research*, 9(3), pp.279-306. <https://doi.org/10.3384/cu.2000.1525.1793>

Publications

Popular scientific

- 2025 Christof, K. (Forthcoming). Ruimtes voor betrokkenheid: samen de stad maken. Interview. *Jaarverslag 2024. Een nieuw Amsterdams atelier- en broedplaatsenbeleid en Samenwerkingsafspraken*. Commissie voor Ateliers en (Woon)Werkpanden Amsterdam (CAWA), pp.29-30.
- Christof, K., & Draaisma, J. (2025). Verlangen naar autonomie: Common spaces voor de stad. *Amsterdam Alternative*, #59, pp.6–7. <https://amsterdamalternative.nl/articles/18013/verlangen-naar-autonomie-common-spaces-voor-de-stad>
- 2014 Christof, K., Ittersum, E. (Eds.) (2014). *Cahier Houden Van Houten #1*, Architecture Centre Makeblijde & Uitgeverij Blauwdruk, Houten.
- Christof, K., Ligteringen H. (Eds) (2014). *A Perfect World: Designing a City for All*. Architecture Centre Makeblijde (aMb), Amsterdam.
- 2013 Christof, K., Vergeer A. (2013). Innovatief Landschap. *Blauwe Kamer*, 02-2013, pp.70-71.
- 2012 Christof, K. (2012). Bottom-Up Top-Down: The Neighbourhood as Tool for Urban Design. *OnAIR*, Amsterdam School of the Arts, 12, pp.10-15.
- Christof, K., Vergeer, A. (Eds.) (2012). *Over de Grens: Over de rol en de betekenis van de grens in de hedendaagse landschapsarchitectuur*, Blauwdruk & aMb, Wageningen. <https://www.uitgeverijblauwdruk.nl/boekenwebshop/internationaal/over-de-grens/>
- 2010 Christof, K. (Ed.) (2010). *Working with Architectonic DNA*. JapSam Books, Heijningen. <https://www.japsambooks.nl/products/working-with-architectonic-dna>
- 2009 Christof, K. (Ed.) (2009). *Kunstwerken voor de publieke ruimte*. Podium for Architecture, Haarlemmermeer.
- 2008 Christof, K. (Ed.) (2008). *Vermittlung bitte! Nederlandse en Oostenrijkse architectuurcentra in gesprek*, Podium voor Architectuur, Haarlemmermeer.

Collaborative Research | Practice

- 2025 - present *DwellingMatters* | Collaborative research practice Coop A. Blessing (Housing research professional & Senior Academic and Network Coordinator European Foundation for Living (EFL)).
- Exploding Practices: How the hell to common as an artist?* | DesignArbeid, Lectoraat Image in Context, BAK Basecamp for Tactical Imaginaries | BAK Utrecht.
- 2019 – 2023 *Open de Stad | Practice-Based Research Initiative* | Coop UrbanBoost, DesignArbeid, Common Affairs, and Ondertussen Amsterdam.
- 2017 – 2019 *R-Link | International Publication Participate!*, Sociology | University of Amsterdam, Land Use Planning | Wageningen University, Hogeschool van Amsterdam, Amsterdam. <https://www.nai010.com/en/product/participate/>; <https://rlink.tertium.nl/>
- 2016 – present *ASCA Cities Project*, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA), Universiteit van Amsterdam. <https://www.cities.humanities.uva.nl/about/>
- 2016 – 2020 *International Network for Urban Research and Action (INURA)*, Amsterdam. <https://www.inura.org/v2/>

Awards | Stipendia | Fellowships

- 2019 INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL GRANT, *RC21 Conference*, India Habitat Centre New Delhi, Madeleine Julie Vervoort Fonds, University of Amsterdam.
- 2014-2015 SCHOLARSHIP OPEN UNIVERSITY, *The Citizen Professional*, Social Sciences, Milton Keynes (UK).
- 2012-2014 UNSOLICITED ARCHITECTURE, *WaterBergen*, Design by Research, oop D. Deijs & J. Atteveld, Nal, Mondriaan Fund, Ministry of Infrastructure & Economy, The Hague.

Teaching | MA + BA Courses

2023 – 2025	IAMSTERDAM, Coordinator and Lecturer, Module within Global Arts, Culture and Politics; Bachelor Cultural Studies, University of Amsterdam.
2024	WORLD SCHOOL, Design Tutor, Master Urban Studies, Fontys University of Applied Sciences, Tilburg.
2022	KUNST EN CULTUUR IN HET PUBLIEKE DOMEIN, Tutor Seminar, Bachelor Cultural Studies, University of Amsterdam.
2004 – 2021	O5 & O6 Interdisciplinary Individual Research Projects, Tutor Research paper & definition graduation assignment, MA programme, Academy of Architecture Amsterdam. O3 Human, environment and society, Tutor Research methods & participatory design in public space, MA programme, Academy of Architecture Amsterdam.
2014	A PERFECT WORLD: DESIGNING A CITY FOR ALL, Coop Architecture Centre Makeblijde aMb & R. Bakkers, OvertredersW, Academy of Architecture Amsterdam.

Invited Talks | Lectures

2025	"Post-autonomous Practices and Shared Spaces for the Neighbourhood," Talk, DAMDAM Harvest Festival, Lumbung Land, DeAppel, Amsterdam. 05/06/2025
2022	"Participatie Nieuwe Stijl," Lecture, Stimuleringsfonds Creative Industrie, Rotterdam (ZOOM). 18/03/2022.
2020	"Strategic participation and communication practices in urban regeneration projects," Workshop. City Facilitators and HafenCity. HafenCity, Hamburg.
2017	"Engaged Urbanism: Practices of Citizen Professionals in Built Environments," Guest lecture MA <i>Kunst en cultuur in het publieke domein</i> . Dr. Christine Delhay. Faculty of Humanities, Cultural Studies programme, University of Amsterdam.
2016	"Hybrid Actors in Urban Policy: Modi Operandi of Self-Reliant Hands-On Professionals," PhD Seminar <i>Digging the City</i> #5, Volksvlijt 2056, Centre for Urban Studies UvA, OBA, Amsterdam. 23/06/2016. https://openresearch.amsterdam/nl/page/33429/zef-hemel

Conference Talks

2022	"Art versus Politics?", Symposium René Boomkens, with a.o. Christine Delhay, Lieven de Cauter, Pieter Bots, Doelenzaal UB University of Amsterdam. 07/07/2022.
2021	"Local governance structures, participatory policies, and self-understandings of citizen initiatives for the public good: Bottom-up cases in Berlin and Amsterdam" (Karin Christof, Jan-Willem Duyvendak), RC21, <i>Shaping and Sensing the City. Power, People, Place</i> , Antwerp (ZOOM), 14-16/07/2021. https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/research-groups/urban-studies-institute/research/rc21-antwerp/
2020	"Citizen Professionals" as Civic Intermediaries: Autonomy as a Social Value in the Making of Communal Spaces for the Neighbourhood. Conference AMPS (Architecture, Media, Politics, Society). <i>The City and Complexity - Life, Design and Commerce in the Built Environment</i> . City, University of London (ZOOM), 17-19 June, 2020. https://architecturemps.com/london-2020/
2019	Symposium "Eigenlogik" with Martina Löw, Co-chair & paper presentation, Coop R-Link, University of Amsterdam, @Marineterrein, Amsterdam. 20-21/05/2019. "Contested Public Good: Urban Development Strategies Initiated by Citizen Groups in Amsterdam, Berlin, and Vienna", RC 21, <i>In and Beyond the City: Emerging Ontologies, Persistent Challenges and Hopeful Futures</i> , Delhi, India. 18-21/09/2019. https://www.rc21.org/en/conferences/conference-2019/
2017	"Practices of Citizen Professionals in Built Environments," <i>Urban World-Making Conference</i> . ASCA Cities Project, University of Amsterdam. 01-02/06/2017. https://www.cities.humanities.uva.nl/news/urban-world-making-conference/

- 2016 "Hybrid Actors in Urban Policy: Modi Operandi of Self-reliant Hands-On Professionals," *City Lights: Cities And Citizens Notwithstanding The Crisis Conference*, European Urban Research Association (EURA), Torino. 16-18/06/2016. <https://eura.org/conferences/previous/eura-2016/>
- 2015 "The Citizen Professional as New Co-Actor in Urban Space Production," *Cultural Citizenship*, Conference Lisbon Summer School for the Study of the Culture, Lisbon. 22-28/06/2015. <https://lisbonconsortium.com/summer-school/v-lisbon-summer-school-for-the-study-of-culture/>

Advisory Functions

- 2025 - present *DwellingMatters* | Collaborative research and consultancy, Coop Dr A. Blessing | Housing research professional & Senior Academic and Network Coordinator European Foundation for Living (EFL).
- 2021 – present *Committee Ateliers en (Woon) Werkpanden Amsterdam (CAWA)*, Municipality of Amsterdam. <https://www.amsterdam.nl/kunst-cultuur/ateliers-broedplaatsen/cawa/>
- 2021 - 2024 *BPPresents* (Bureau Postjesweg Presents), Board Member Foundation, Amsterdam Nieuw-West. <https://bppresents.nl/events/board-partners-funding-bureau-postjesweg>
- 2020 "Strategic participation & communication practices in urban regeneration projects", Experts Workshop, City Facilitators, HafenCity Hamburg, 03/02/20.
- 2019 – present *EFL (European Foundation of Living)*, Advisor, Academic network UvA. <https://ef-l.eu/>
- 2019 "Socio-cultural connection," Smart City-Scan workshop (*Een digitale stad van en voor iedereen*), FABRICations & CTO Office Gemeente Amsterdam.
- 2017 – 2021 *CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FUND (SCI)*, Advisor commission architecture. <https://www.stimuleringsfonds.nl/en/>
- 2013 – 2017 *MOBIATION*, Board Member, Foundation for the experiment in minimum space/impact and maximum living. <https://www.facebook.com/TheMobiationProject/about>
- 2012 – 2016 *FACULTY COUNCIL*, Academy of Architecture Amsterdam, Chairwoman. <https://www.bouwkunst.ahk.nl/>

Valorisation

- 2012 – 2014 *WATERBERGEN*, Advisor, Design by research for Unsolicited Architecture (Nal), Multifunctional (rain)water storage for re-use in public space. Coop D. Deijns and J. Atteveld, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, Zuidas and VUmc. <https://www.archined.nl/2012/10/studio-for-unsolicited-architecture-wat-kan-de-architect/>
- 2022 *University Forum* UvA, Member, Deliberative platform of employees & students to provide input for developing strategies and long-term plans, UvA.
- 2014 *Vakmanschap; ambachtelijkheid als nieuw ondernemerschap in de landschapsarchitectuur*. Organiser lecture series, Architecture Centre Makeblijde (aMb) Coop Netherlands Association for Landscape Architecture (NVTL).
- 2013 *Houden van Houten: Modelstad Houten Futureproof*. Organiser symposium. Future developments for New Town Houten, aMb Coop municipality Houten.
- 2012 *Hands-On Urban Place Making*. Coordinator workshop. Urban place making and issues of ownership. aMb Coop Alterra Wageningen UR & Gemeenten voor duurzame ontwikkeling (GDO).
- Over de Grens: Over de rol en de betekenis van de grens in de hedendaagse landschapsarchitectuur*. Coordinator lecture series, aMb Coop NVTL.
- 2011 *Climate Proof City*. Worksymposia aMb Coop Alterra Wageningen UR.
- Salons Houten*. Talks with cultural actors and entrepreneurs on how to tackle cultural planning within local developments, aMb.
- 2010 *ACT+!* Moderator expert meeting. Sustainable urban development around the area of Schiphol. With a.o. Paul Jansen (programme director ACT), Michiel van Pelt (former secretary commission spatial development airports), Podium for Architecture.

Curator | Coordinator

- 2010 – 2014 *Architecture Centre Makeblide | aMb*, Coordinator and director, Architecture Centre Houten. www.linkedin.com/in/architectuurcentrum-amb
- 2008 – 2010 *Podium for Architecture*, Project coordinator and sparring partner, Architecture Centre, Haarlemmermeer. www.podiumarchitectuur.nl
- Arti & Amicitiae*, Programme commission for exhibitions and artists, Amsterdam. www.arti.nl
- 2005-2006 *Stichting Zenith in Motion (ZIM)*, Programme development exhibitions, workshops, radio and lecture series on arts, migration, and socio-cultural issues within urban regeneration processes, Coop Daniela Swarowsky, Zwaanshals, Rotterdam. www.zimweb.nl/zenith/projects
- 2004 – 2012 *Agentur*, Founder, curator and director, International Art Space and Residency, Amsterdam. karinchristof.com/agentur
- 2021-2022 FINISHING FELLOWSHIP, Amsterdam Institute for Humanities Research (AIHR), UvA

Education

- 2016 – 2024 *CULTURAL STUDIES*: PhD candidate | Part-Time, Cultural Studies | Urban Sociology
Supervisors: R. Boomkens & J.W. Duyvendak | UvA.
- 2016 - 2017 *BKO | BDB*: University Teaching Qualification, Amsterdam University of the Arts.
- 2014 - 2015 *SOCIOLOGY*: Preparation MPhil, Social Sciences | Sociology | Open University Milton Keynes.
- 1998 - 2002 *FINE ARTS*: Royal College of Art | Rietveld Academie | University of Applied Arts Vienna.
- 1996 - 2000 *ARCHITECTURE*: MSc. Vienna University of Technology | Strathclyde University Glasgow.

Languages

German (native), Dutch (fluent), English (fluent), French (good)

ICT

Windows, Mac OS, Blackboard, Canvas, Atlas.Ti