

Studio Jan De Vylder

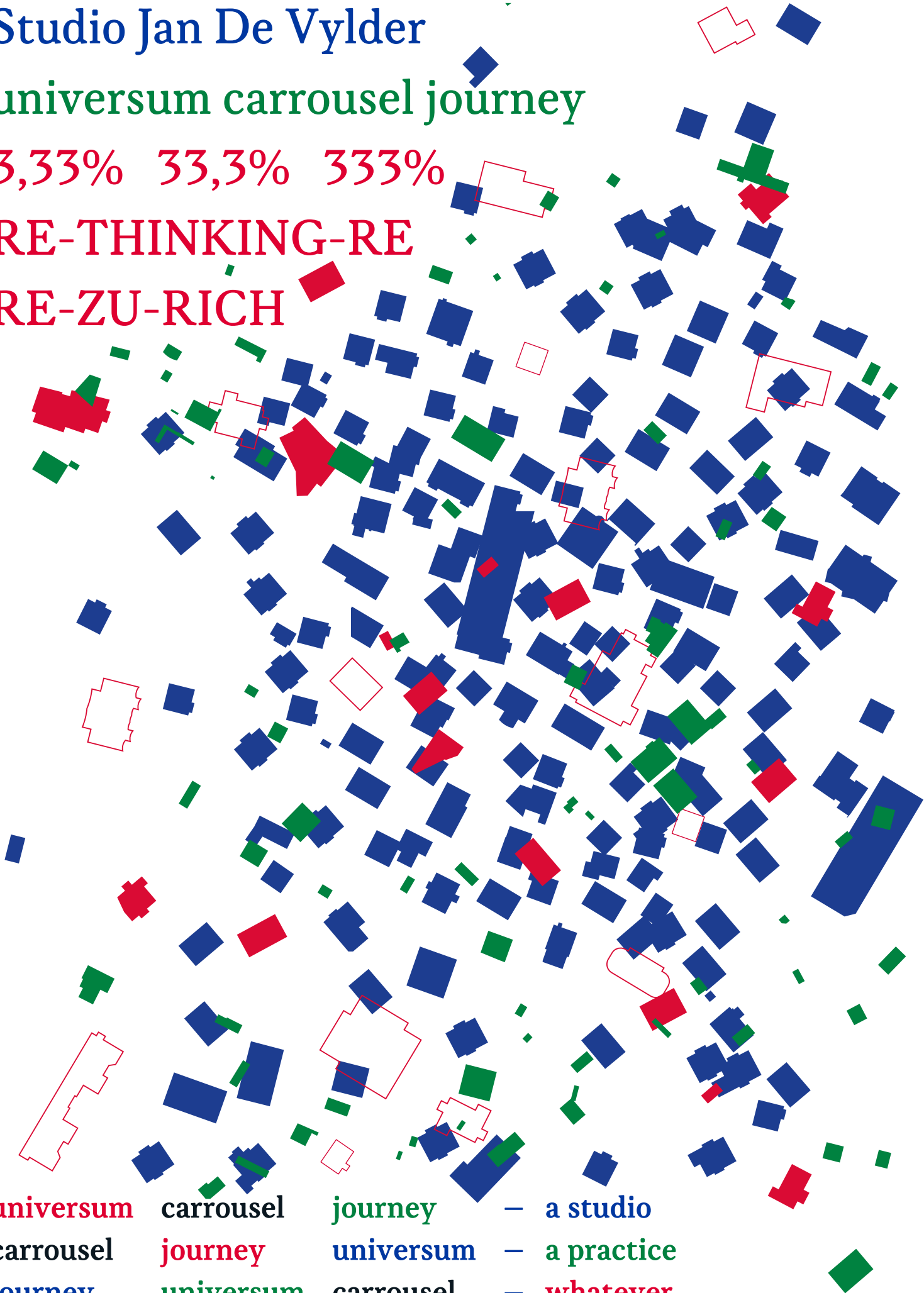
universum carrousel journey

3,33% 33,3% 333%

RE-THINKING-RE

RE-ZU-RICH

universum	carrousel	journey	— a studio
carrousel	journey	universum	— a practice
journey	universum	carrousel	— whatever
ETH Zürich	D-ARCH	IEA	— FS 2023



What is the 3,33% 33,3% 333% studio about?
At first glance, it seemed like just a numbers game. But it was clear that it means much more.

RE-

Let's first consider the RE-WORD or RE-PREFIX. The RE-WORD—once started with the word RE-USE—is today everywhere and at any time. The RE-word is omnipresent and in many ways. Many RE-words have been found and defined by now. And many more must and will be added. Never it is a word game. Always it is another angle. Or to explore the idea more and more. And another time since discovering another entrance.

RE-THINKING-
RE

Nevertheless, the RE-prefix. In all its newfound ambitions and its very first fragile exercises in recent decades. Yet a critical RE-CONSIDERING is not wrong now, or early at all. To keep pace with the idea that RE-USE should be more and should be part of RE-ATTITUDE. So just to be more than physical RE-USE and rather to be physical RE-ATTITUDE.

In a world where SCARCITY may be read not only as a PROBLEM but also as a CHANCE since RE-ATTITUDE—we refer to the idea on BRAVOURE SCARCITY BEAUTY *—understanding this RE-USE could find its first critical turn.

A further question might be: how absolute must the ACT of RE-USE—total act of 100% be in order to arrive at a RE-USE of TOTAL—total result of 100%?

In other words: how much energy of action—recourse but also action—must be used to reach a certain—not absolute—optimum. Does the ACT of RE-USE—changing context—have to be complete and final or can another—more open—optimum be reached by a PRECISE ACT and therefore a more ECONOMIC ACT. Do we even dare to say that this DIFFERENT OPEN OPTIMAL could consequently even be a MORE OPTIMAL because the OPEN OPTIMAL could possibly still include or be open to a next RE-USING, once and always soon or later?

Let's stay calm. But yet this.

The ACT of RE-USE is more like an INTERVENTION or INTERFERENCE of INTRODUCTION. As a limited or rather PRAGMATIC ACT.

This is also an attitude of ECONOMY—not only making budgets possible but also making them possible with a lack of available budgets or less budget—and therefore also an attitude of ECOLOGY—not only acting ecologically as such but also needing less action and therefore being ECOLOGICAL—and so finally an invitation to new ERGONOMICS—a different way of use or rather a different attitude or so to speak: a different way of living.

That all is included in the idea of 3,33% 33,3% 333%.

The 33.3% or RE- is the first possible critical variant of 100% act. The idea that a CONTEXT can be APPROACHED rather by INTERVENTION—ECONOMY, ECOLOGY, ERGONOMY—and that this could be good enough as a new standard.

In this 33.3% studio—semester or master studio—we will study this. The studio will explore the possibilities of a more restrained, humble but precise action. This is in many ways an attitude of economy of means. Less energy of action, of course, means less economy and ecology, but it could also require changing the attitude of use effectively today. This could also make it a question of ergonomics: how to USE the given context differently and yet act less.

agenda

MOVEMENT 1: WE OBSERVE

- W1 JDV+8000 ON SITE
INTRODUCTION
- W2 JDV+8000 ON SITE
WALL DEBATE
- W3 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W4 JDV+8000 ON SITE
REVIEW MOVEMENT 1

MOVEMENT 2: WE REFER

- W4 JDV+8000 ON SITE
INTRODUCTION MOVEMENT 2
- W5 SEMINAR WEEK
'Breathing space'
- W6 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W7 JDV+8000 ON SITE
REVIEW MOVEMENT 2

MOVEMENT 3: WE IMAGINE

- W7 JDV+8000 ON SITE
INTRODUCTION MOVEMENT 3
- W8 EASTER HOLIDAY
- W9 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W10 JDV + 8000 ON SITE
WALL DEBATE
- W11 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W12 JDV + 8000 ON SITE
REVIEW MOVEMENT 3
- W13 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W14 8000 ON SITE
TABLE TALKS
- W15 JDV+8000 ON SITE
FINAL REVIEW

33%
RE-

How to find a new RICH-NESS in ZU-RICH. That is the question this 33.3% SEMESTER STUDIO will ask.

students
practice
student

The studio will be frequented by 18 students, gathered in 6 groups—called SMALL PRACTICES—of 3 students each. 6 CONTEXTs will be studied by 1 SMALL PRACTICES each. As collaborators—the 3 students—of the SMALL PRACTICES will make a SHARED APPROACH—a 33.3% intervention—on 1 CONTEXT but also each an INDIVIDUAL APPROACH — the 3.33% intervention— on a different CONTEXT.

RE-ZU-RICH

We will accept what is yet to come. But consider 33.3% available for change. The existing tissues and open spaces will be respected and an INTERVENTION INTERFERENCE INTRODUCTION of only 33.3% will be enough for a change of +100%.

HOME
OWNER
ZONES

In this 33%-studio we will look at zones of small-scale houses. Home owner zones. Usually they consist of a group of single or multi family houses, some built as multiples of a specific typology, others in various styles. Most of them have hosted families over generations, with a close connection to the ground and the social network they are embedded in. They provided a suburban way of life within a growing metropolitan area. If these houses have not been replaced already, then they have been maintained, altered, adapted, renovated, transformed and extended over the decades. Step by step changes, often developed with a cautious attitude.

Recently, these plots are being redeveloped in a more drastic manner. It has become usual to replace a single- with a multi-family house, often even adding an underground parking. This drastic transformation has various consequences, as the scale of the new buildings and its in-between spaces change immensely. A transformation of this housing stock is inevitable—but if everyone replaces in that way, what would it make to the city?

When we examine the recently built Ersatzneubauten in these zones, we get a clear impression of what is coming. But as the properties are rather small-scale, big replacements are the exception. What happens within these zones is a gradual replacement over time—with a simultaneous existence of the past and the future. It produces a gradient of different states, from original 1930s workers houses to brand-new buildings.

100% is again the total act of replacement. 33% shall be more than ever an attitude: How can we intervene into these zones with a smaller but more precise act? How can we project a future beyond the well-known strategies of total replacement?

You can work with the entire gradient of transformations: ranging from refraining to reprogramming, renovating, adapting, maintaining, extending and replacing. You can work with the old houses—with all their changes over time—but also with the already built or projected Ersatzneubauten. Together we are looking for a possible alteration of these neighbourhoods. And we will orbit around questions like:

How do we densify low-density neighborhoods?

What role does private property play?

How does it help the city as a public realm?

How much do we need to intervene?

How do regulations shape redevelopment?

What role does demography play?

What new forms of living enter the zones?

What about the nuclear family?

And how do we want to live today?