

Tuur Van Balen**a:** 26 Eagle Mansions, Salcombe Road, London N16 8AU**e:** tuur{at}tuurvanbalen.com**t:** +44(0)752 5825002**i:** www.tuurvanbalen.com**Projects & Commissions**

- ongoing **Pigeon d'Or** (working title); An aesthetic intervention in urban metabolisms using synthetic biology and feral pigeons, funded by **Kunsten en Erfgoed** (Flemish Ministry of Culture)
- 2010 **Synthetic Immune System**; commissioned by the **EPSRC** for the Impact! exhibition, in response to research done at the Centre for Synthetic Biology and Innovation
- ongoing **Flying Orchestra**; self-initiated collaboration with Revital Cohen exploring the blurring boundaries between culture and nature in an urban environment
- 2009 **Designs for Living**; on-stage performance of dna-hacking yoghurt at **Interesting 2009**, a one day conference in London
- 2009 **The Future of Power to Come**; contribution to **Lyddle End**, a speculative modelling project by Really Interesting Group
- 2009 **Urinomics**; development of arduino-based spectrometer and visualisations, proposal for **Interactivos?09**, with Vincent Rouilly and Matthieu Bultelle
- 2008 **XDRTB**; project with **Demos** for **TED** and James Nachtwey's TED Prize
- 2008 **My City = My Body**; design research project exploring how synthetic biology might reshape our interactions with the city
- 2007 **Seen and Heard**; public installation commissioned by **Demos**, with Revital Cohen

Employment History

- Febr 2009 - Present Visiting Tutor, Design Interactions, **Royal College of Art** (London)
I am currently a visiting tutor on a project that stimulates critical and speculative thinking about the implications of emerging technologies. Responsibilities include: co-writing the brief, organising lectures, personal tutorials and assessments. www.interaction.rca.ac.uk
- Sept 2008 - Present Freelance **Designer Researcher**
Various projects in service design, interaction design and design strategy. Clients include: IDEO, Pervasive Interaction Lab at Open University, Bus-Tops, Adidas and TED. www.tuurvanbalen.com
- 2007 Research Intern at **Demos - The Think Tank for Everyday Democracy** (London)
July - August research for the 'science and technology' and 'self build cities' programmes. www.demos.co.uk
- 2006 Designer at **Fabrique** (Delft, The Netherlands)
January - August www.fabrique.nl
- 2004 - 2005 Designer at **KVD | reframing and design** (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
Sept - July www.kvd.com
- 2003 Assistant tutor design-education at **Delft University of Technology** (The Netherlands)
io.home.tudelft.nl/en/
- 2002 - 2005 Freelance Instructor in New Media at **Koning Kevin** (Leuven, Belgium)
www.koningkevin.be (website in Dutch)

Education

- 2006 - 2008 Master of Arts, Design Interactions at the **Royal College of Art** (London)
Graduation project: 'My City = My Body', a design research project exploring how future technologies might reshape our interaction with the city. Advised by the Imperial College departement for Synthetic Biology.
- 1999 - 2006 Master of Science, Industrial Design Engineering at **Delft University of Technology**
Graduation project: 'Hoe het Rijksmuseum Rijker werd', research and concept design for a richer interaction with the Rijksmuseum, the National Dutch museum in Amsterdam.
Graduated Cum Laude (with Distinction)
- 1993 - 1999 Algemeen secundair onderwijs, **Sint-Albertuscollege** (Leuven, Belgium)
Main examination subjects: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Dutch, French, English, History and Arts

Talks & Workshops

- March 2009 **Reflecting Invisible Cities**, one week critical design workshop, Arts Academy Split (Croatia)
- December 2009 **Critical Design Workshop**, with Revital Cohen, for Media and Design Academy (Genk, Belgium)
- Summer 2009 **Imperial College iGem09**, design workshop for iGem students
- July 2009 **Crash Course in Synthetic Biology iGem 2009** at Cambridge University, speaker and participant
- July 2009 **Cambridge University**, Arduino workshop on DIY hardware for iGem students
- May 2009 **1+1=3 Conference** at Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design (London), speaker
- February 2009 **SciComp** at Cambridge University, DIY hardware and Arduino, speaker
- November 2008 **Biotech Art Workshop** (Stavanger, Norway), speaker and participant in a six day laboratory workshop led by Symbiotica
- October 2008 **Design Engaged** (Montreal, Canada), speaker and participant
- September 2008 **Imperial College iGem08**, design workshop for iGem students
- July 2008 **Touching The City**, part of London Festival of Architecture 2008, speaker
- February 2008 **Institute for Advanced Studies** (Lancaster), speculative design workshop for IAS social scientists
- January 2007 **Pecha Kucha** at SuperDeluxe (Tokyo, Japan), speaker

Exhibitions

- June 2010 **Cheltenham Science Festival** (Cheltenham)
- April 2010 **Feel Home**, CC Strombeek (Brussels)
- March 2010 **Impact!**, Royal College of Art (London)
- November 2008 **Designing Debate: Biomedical Futures** exhibition at 'Battle of Ideas' festival (London)
- June 2008 **SHOW**, graduation exhibition at Royal College of Art (London)
- April 2008 Organised and curated an RCA exhibition at **BioSysBio 2008** (London)

Publications

- March 2010 **Guardian.co.uk**, *'They would start to manufacture chemicals to repair you'* Science podcast featuring 'Synthetic Immune System'
- March 2010 **Kwintessens**, *'Design als fundamenteel onderzoek'* ('Design as fundamental research')
- December 2009 **Axis**, *'The Birth of Independent Design Researchers'*
- September 2009 **Wired UK**, *'Synthetic biology will bring us a slimy, moist future'*, featuring 'My City = My Body'
- August 2007 **Creatie** (Dutch magazine for design and communication, Adformatie publishers), interview
- October 2006 **Items** (design magazine), article on graduation project 'Hoe het Rijksmuseum Rijker Werd'
Selected websites: **We-Make-Money-Not-Art**, **WorldChanging**, **Wired**, **Design Year Book**, **Futurismic**

Awards & Scholarships

- January 2010 Project Bursary from the Flemish Authorities for design-research project 'Pigeon d'Or'
- April 2009 Erkenning Design Vlaanderen: selected by Design Flanders as designer-researcher
- August 2007 Rotary Club Belgium, 'outbound scholarship' for talented students
- August 2006 VSB Society, The Netherlands: Scholarship for talented graduate

Languages

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| Native: | Dutch, Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign |
| Intelligent conversations: | English, Final Cut, After Effects, SolidWorks, html, css |
| Basic dialogues: | French, Processing, Flash, Maya |