

Rudy J. Luijters
A brief overview of his work



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Rudy J. Luijters: A brief overview of his work

*Lives and works in Gouvy (Belgium) and The Hague
(Also works with Onno Dirker under the name Atelier Veldwerk)*

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Rudy J. Luijters

Luijters' work consistently attests to a strongly analytical (phenomenological) and conceptual approach. Research into cultural signs in the broadest sense of the word is an essential part of his work and also its goal at times. A restraint in making changes to reality is both his quest and his hallmark. His domain of research ranges from the historical landscape via rural architecture to the urban environment. The result can manifest itself in image, sound and text, in planting a tree, or in drawing up cultural agendas.

Recent exhibitions and museum projects

- *Rudy J. Luijters' Garden (De Tuin van Rudy J. Luijters)*, De Pont, Tilburg, 2000-2004
- *Field Guide (Veldgids)*, Park Zoersel (Belgium), exhibition: 'A Riddle for Zoersel' (Een Raadsel voor Zoersel), 2002
- *The Urge to Flock (Zwermdrift)*, Kunsthal, Rotterdam, 2002 / W139, 2004
- *Architecture, inventory of undrawn constructs (Bouwkunst, inventarisatie ongetekende constructen)*, Museum De Paviljoens, 1999-2000

Commissions and publications

- *An Enduring Linden Tree for Heemstaete (Een Standvastige Linde voor Heemstaete)*, realized 2004
- *Blue House (Blauwe Huis)*, architectural project by Jeanne van Heeswijk, garden project by Rudy J. Luijters, 2005-2009
- *Flora Extramuralis*, publication on flora at Geel Psychiatric Centre (Belgium), 2006
- *Herdenkingsmunt*, design for a commemorative coin (silver five euro and gold ten-euro), December 2004

Competitions

- *Landscape design for a cultural academy in Aalter* (Belgium), in association with Coussé & Goris Architecten, 2004 (winner: Robbrecht & Daem)

Atelier Veldwerk

Rudy J. Luijters and Onno Dirker, both of them visual artists, have been working as Atelier Veldwerk since 2003 on projects that relate to the design of public space in its broadest sense. Listing, analysing and illustrating reality in a new context is the keynote in their work; they may then make interventions but cultural analysis can also be an objective in itself. Whatever the case, art is always the frame of reference. Their method is that of 'the unfocused gaze', that is, doing research from a cultural perspective without establishing criteria or guidelines beforehand.

Realized Projects:

- *Surrounded by good examples (Omringd door goede voorbeelden)*, research, series of lectures and exhibition at Stroom, The Hague, 2007
- *Cultural analysis of the Chassé quarter in Amsterdam*, January 2005. Clients: Amsterdamse Fonds voor de Kunst, Stadsdeelraad de Baarsjes
- *Cultural Analysis of Schiphol*, 2005. Clients: Schiphol Real Estate, Provincie Noord-Holland
- *Eindhoven the Greenest (Eindhoven de Groenste)*, analysis, publications and exhibition in the ACE (Architectuur Centrum Eindhoven), 2004
- *Baghdad Out*, cultural agenda in Baghdad for January and February 2003, shortly before the US invasion of Iraq, de Volkskrant, January 28, 2003

Ongoing Projects

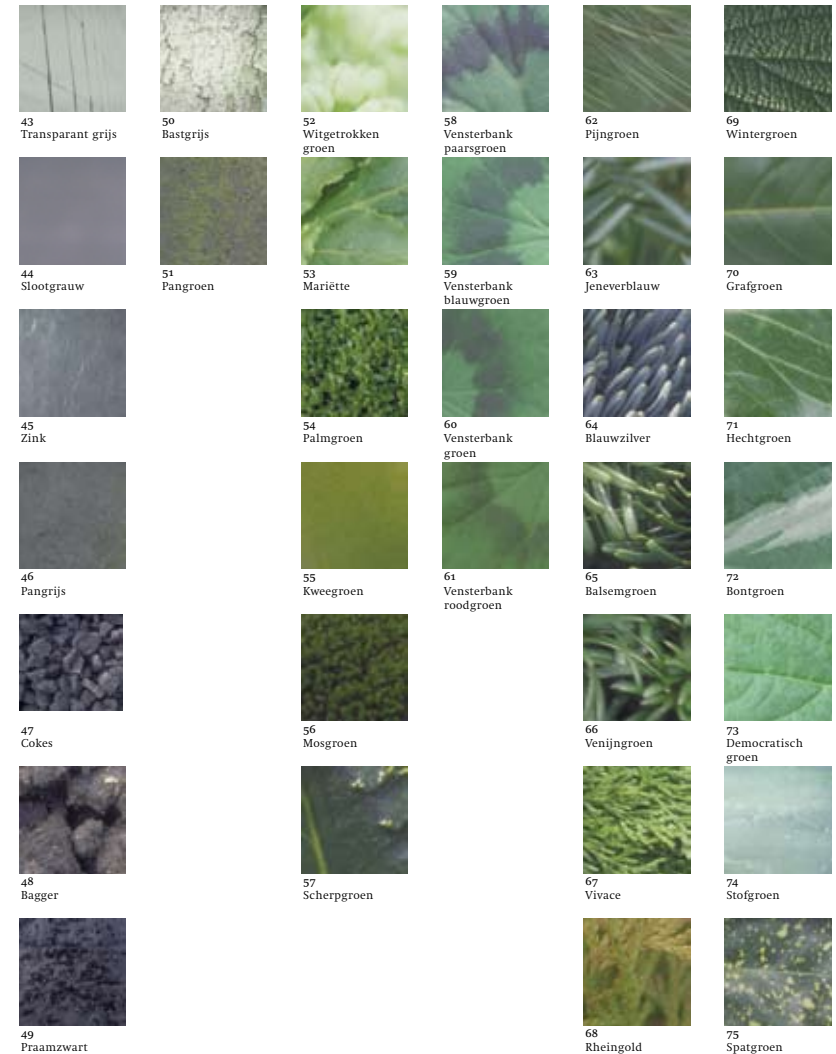
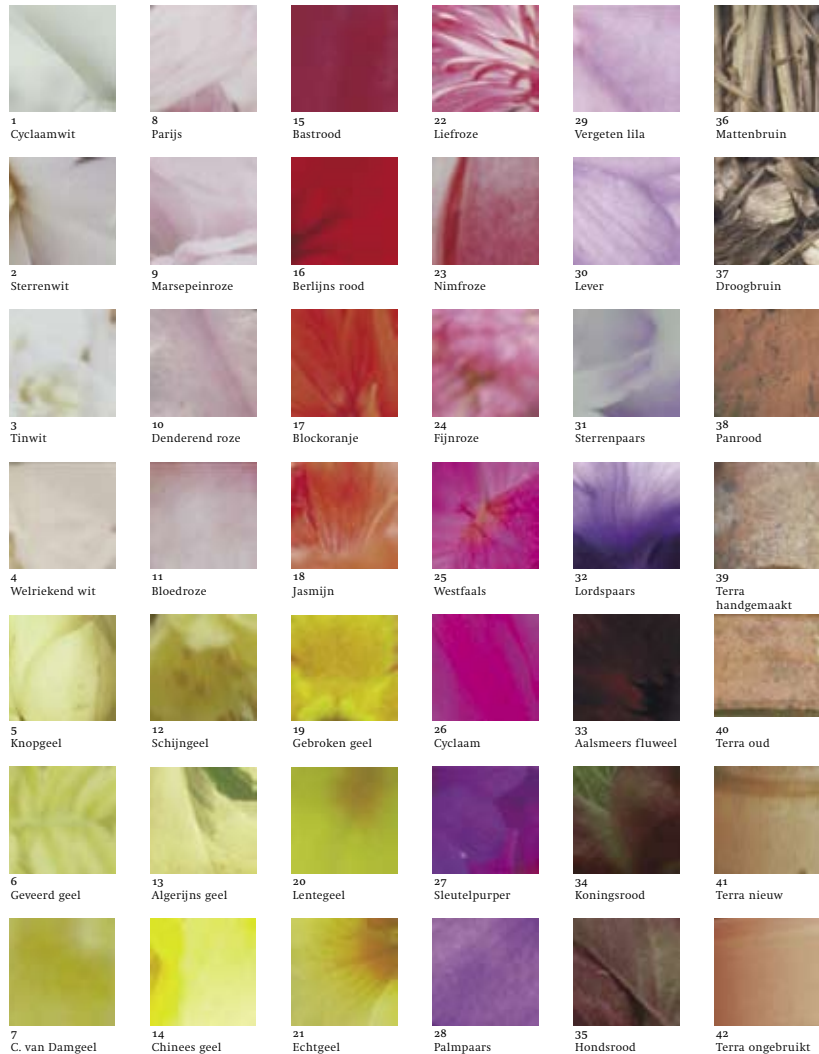
- *Landscape design of Wickelhof Park*, Mijdrecht, 2002 (realized 2007). Client: Gemeente de Ronde Venen
- *Landscape design for Transfo Zwevegem* (Belgium), to a masterplan by Coussé & Goris

Colour Identification Chart

Aalsmeer Historical Garden, 1999

The chart consists of colour squares taken from slides made on the first sunny day of spring 1999. The garden is then just coming

into bud. All made-up colour names derive from the cultural, philological or botanical background of the plants and objects.



Flora Extramuralis

Book, Psychiatric Care Centre, Geel (Belgium), 2006

The grounds of the Psychiatric Care Centre in Geel (B) is a patchwork quilt of old and new, exceptional and unexceptional open patches, shrubberies and gardens. The planting there is similarly varied. In the spring of 2006 the participants at Luijters' workshop (patients and ex-patients of

the OPZ) took to the open air. Armed with pruners, they scoured the grounds for branches, leaves, plants and flowers. Their only instructions were to 'make a drawing of everything you bring to the studio'. The drawings are organized in regular 'botanical' fashion in the 'Flora Extramuralis'.

Workshop at Psychiatric Care Centre, Geel



Flora Extramuralis, small illustrated Flora of the Psychiatric Care Centre



Rudy J. Luijters' Garden

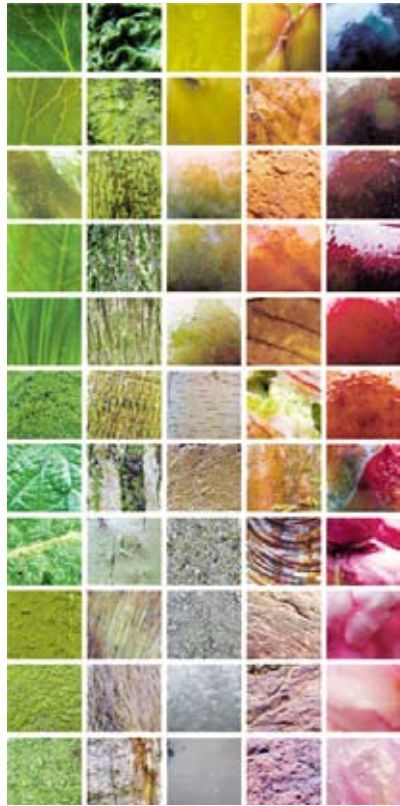
Garden of De Pont museum, Tilburg 2001–2003

Luijters transformed the garden of the De Pont museum of contemporary art in Tilburg from a museum's outdoor space into a 'real garden', among other things by cultivating edible plants and herbs that could be used in the restaurant. Drawing on the plantings and the natural changes and

occurrences, Luijters followed and recorded the different seasons for a period of two years. To this end he partially reorganized the garden and replanted it. All observations and registrations were reported in the museum's quarterly news bulletin and in the log-book www.luijters.be/depont.



Colour Chart Spring
March 2001



October red
October 2001



Inventory fruit/seed forms
September 2002



Inventory mosses
January 2003



Blue House

Garden design, IJburg 2005–2009

The 'Blauwe Huis' is a project by Jeanne van Heeswijk & Hervé Paparponaris. An art project in which artists, writers and architects are invited to be residents of IJburg. IJburg is an entirely new part of Amsterdam – also literally, being built on artificial islands. In this way, the artists become part of this new community, stimulating, influencing and questioning developments

at IJburg with their work. Rudy Luijters was asked to design the garden. All the plants in it are edible; in some cases the fruits, in others the flowers, leaves or roots. Residents of this block can 'share the harvest'. Children see blackberries and raspberries for the first time; more than that, the garden acts as a catalyst for social activity.



Sketch garden design 'Blue House', IJburg 2005



An Enduring Linden Tree for Heemstaete, Zwolle

Zwolle 2004

In 2003 the Foundation for Art and Public Space (SKOR) commissioned a plan for an artwork in the grounds of Heemstaete, a clinic in Zwolle for epileptics. The relative complexity of the outdoor space in relation to the special group of users made highly specific demands on such an artwork. This resulted in an extremely focused,

large-scale, enduring intervention; the planting of a fifty-year-old linden tree on the central axis of the grounds. Part of the project was a booklet, *An Enduring Linden Tree for Heemstaete, Zwolle*, which describes the historical, cultural-anthropological and botanical aspects of the linden tree.

The Enduring Linden Tree for Heemstaete, Zwolle



Publication 'An Enduring Linden Tree for Heemstaete, Zwolle'



Preliminary study for landscaping of Transfo Zwevegem

Zwevegem (B) 2006 (Atelier Veldwerk with Coussé & Goris Architecten, Ghent)

Coussé & Goris Architecten drew up the masterplan for the conversion of this former electric power station in Zwevegem. Atelier Veldwerk (Rudy Luyjters and Onno Dirker) was entrusted with the landscape design. The broad lines of the plan can be

related to the act of emptying, of stripping away superfluous cultural signs and deploying existing landscape elements for necessary amenities, such as a car park in a poplar grove (a typical feature of the landscape of West-Vlaanderen).



Preliminary study for landscaping of Transfo Zwevegem



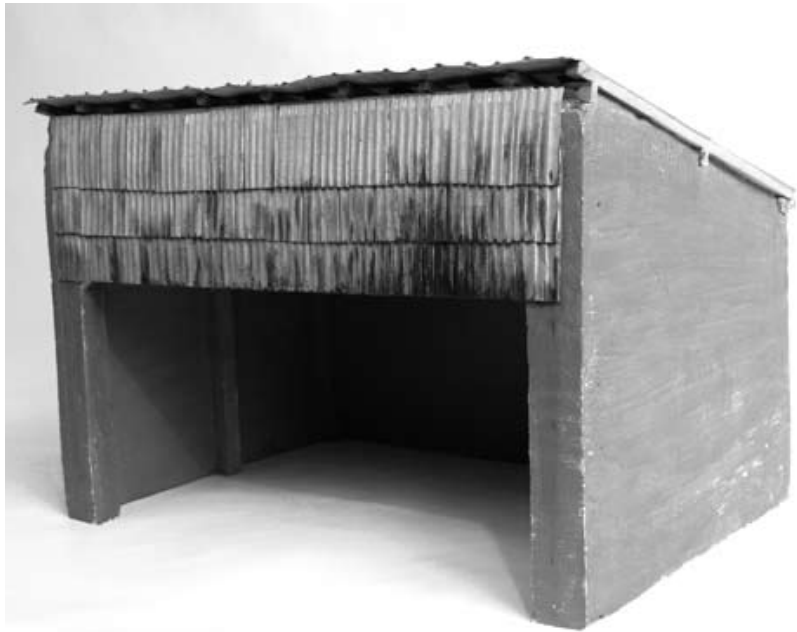
Preliminary study for landscaping of Transfo Zwevegem

Inventory of Undrawn Constructs

Series of scale models (1:10) of rural architecture, Museum De Paviljoens, Almere (1999)

Sheepcote, pigsty, hay barn, a shelter for carts and wagons; structures built without the aid of an architect and with no aesthetic considerations involved. The exhibition of

these models in Museum De Paviljoens in Almere (1999) was a monument to architect-less architecture.



Landscaping of Wickelhofpark
Mijdrecht 2002 (completed October, 2007)

The park design is a 'compressed' polder landscape. All the elements defining it, planting as well as 'cultural' elements such as bridges, weirs, outhouses and wooden fencing, were taken from the surrounding landscape on the strength of an analysis.

Atelier Veldwerk, working from a visual analysis of the landscape, laid the basis for the park design and drew the designs for the polder bridges, fences, benches and the like, specifying in detail the nature of the materials used.



Fences in the polder

Design fence by Veldwerk



Elements in the park designed by Veldwerk

Miel d'Artiste

Yearly edition (the number of pots depends on the honey yield of three bee populations). *Edition spécial pour amies.*
Pas à vendre.
Not for sale.



