

## Studio - Space

**This minimaster** aims at investigating both the artist studio as a typology and the historic waterfront of our region. By combining these two; build a studio space. The course is funded by KORO (national council for funding art in public places) and done in collaboration with KMD (the art/design/dance academy in Bergen) and the Grieg academy (foundation for education within different mediums of art).

**The artist studio.** This is a program that brings specific images to most of our minds. We will investigate the historic development of this typology, understand the requirements that the users have and fabulate on how we either can facilitate this within certain constraints and/or how we can increase the relevance of the studio as also a common space.

**The waterfront.** At Bergen School of Architecture we are surrounded by historic wooden buildings that are placed on the waterfront. These buildings used to have a program that there now is a limited need for: at the same time they are protected due to their historic value and cannot easily be demolished or converted to facilitate new use. The municipality cannot demand anything from the owner except to secure the buildings. The result is often empty buildings. In some cases the owner even speculate in the decay – as time goes by the decay will result in the historic value going down; and at some point the building is beyond salvage; the owner can now develop a new project. The time between the termination of the last use and the facilitation for new use is a valuable one; we usually think in terms of finalised and somewhat forever when buildings are refitted for new purposes. But at any given time a number of these buildings are in a state of in between - we will regard this void in time as a resource.

**The collaboration.** As listed above, the course will be a collaboration with other institutions. Both students and teachers from these schools will take part in the course in various capacities. Especially in the initial phase of debating and investigating the role of the studio; we will all collaborate closely and have gatherings that include both workshops and lectures.

**Design and Build.** The course aims at actually building a module of some sort that can be placed in a location that we hope to find during the course. We will also use the building as a tool for developing the project; meaning we will start to build sooner rather than later; and then rebuild if necessary.

**Residency.** KORO wish for this to be an ongoing project where the process is regarded as valuable in itself; but also want to use the finished result as part of an international residency-program for artists within various mediums. The building phase is therefore fully funded by KORO.

**Technocratics.** We will not underestimate the known issues that we for sure will have to face. And will rather try to incorporate these early in the project. Known challenges when it comes to using existing buildings for new use for a shorter period of time includes; Fire hazards (we will include fire engineers), toilet facilities (we will map out options and seek out expertise) and general legislation (we will try to include the building municipality in the process).

**Historic value.** Preservation through use is almost always a good solution. But it does not come without the right attitude and insight into the reason for the historic value. We will therefore include relevant voices in discussing advantages and disadvantage of moving temporary structures into valuable buildings.

Teacher team:

Responsible teachers from KMD: Visual artists Eamon O'Keane and Sveinung Unneland.

Responsible teacher from BAS: Architect Espen Folgerø

Guest teachers: Nancy Couling, Alberto Altes, Marina Bauer, Jan Liesgang and Christof Mayer



Image from the copy of Constantin Brancusi's atelier built outside the Centre Pompidou in Paris.