

Atelier North

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Atelier North

What is it all about?

Atelier North is building a coalition of neighbourhood organisations, real estate owners and government entities. In the coming months, they will draw up a roadmap for the transformation of this monofunctional neighbourhood into a multifunctional one.

More

Fifty years ago, there was a modest house in a popular residential area at the place where you're standing now. To transform the Northern Quarter into an international business centre, more than 12,000 people were expropriated from their homes. Today, 10% of the offices are empty, there is hardly any urban life, and the empty streets form the backdrop of a ghost town at night. However, the Northern Quarter is extremely well located between North Station and the city centre, it is perfectly accessible via the Petite Ceinture and the canal, and it also has a large amount of underused public space.

The vacancy in the office district, the demographic growth in the surrounding districts (with the associated real estate projects) and the arrival of hundreds of migrants at the foot of WTC I, present an opportunity

to make a turnaround for the Northern Quarter. We seize this opportunity in a coalition with designers, local associations and a real estate cooperative. In the coming months, we will first and foremost assemble an atlas. This forms the basis for a shared agenda and a widely supported vision for the future of the Northern Quarter.

We are placing major transitions for the neighbourhood on the political agenda, from the reuse of office buildings for new functions such as housing, care and education, to creating space for the urban economy, biodiversity and new forms of mobility. In order to achieve this, we have to organize the interaction between public and private forces differently. Step by step, we are looking for the conditions for a decisive and inclusive Northern Quarter alliance. The Northern Quarter can thus become an important link in Brussels. It transforms from a mono-functional island into a multifunctional district, embracing what is happening around it. WTC I is the epicentre of that transformation.

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Atelier North is an initiative of Lab North, consisting of Up4North vzw, 51N4E, Architecture Workroom Brussels and Vraiment Vraiment, together with a growing network of social actors from the neighbourhood and perspective.brussels.

SEMINAR:

North District, next step?

Tue 26.06.18

19.00 – 22.00

WTC 1, 23 Floor

What is it all about?

A new take on the main stakes of the North District !
Three foreign experts bring a fresh look on the main challenges of the North District. Each of them will present a similar urban project.

Will be addressed: governance, mixed use, activation of public space, and the transition to multi-tenant buildings. Particular attention will go to short-term action, allowing the transformation of the neighbourhood to emerge as of today.

Presentations

Introduction by Pierre Lemaire (perspective.brussels) and moderation by Kristiaan Borret (bMA).

- Projects 'Sloterdijk and Amstel III - Amsterdam', by Ellen Nieuweboer, Director Strategic Zones Amsterdam
- Project 'Werkstadt - Zürich', by Tabea Michaelis and Ben Pohl, urban planners and partners at Denkstatt Bazel
- Project 'Groundcontrol - Paris' by Charlotte Girerd, Director Projects and Development, SNCF real estate - communication / changemanagement

Free entrance

For more information, please contact us
contact@labnorth.be

For the Facebook event, [click here](#)

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