

# **Future Factory**

## Exploring the future city with all human senses

We perceive our environment primarily through the level of senses, yet these are mostly neglected in planning and future processes. This is surprising, because initial scientific evidence confirms that using the human senses as an entry point for visioning processes holds greater potential for people to think creatively, optimistically and at eye level about the future compared to cognitive approaches.

The Future Factory wants to tap into this potential. It seeks to stimulate and collect visions for the future city by using a newly developed visioning methodology that combines multisensorial stimuli and arts-based formats. Hereby, students will be empowered to break out of conventional thought patterns and develop visions of the city of the future that correspond to their very own desires and wishes. By asking how the city of the future should sound, smell, feel or look like, we explore forms, colours, materials and atmospheres of the built and lived environment. Through this approach, we seek to find new entry points for solving today's and future challenges, such as using more sustainable building materials, forming harmony between man and nature in the city, and improving urban health for greater wellbeing.

The aim of the Future Factory is to produce visions for Milan in 2050. In line with the motto of the Triennale, the visioning process will primarily focus on the relationship between the built environment, nature and humans. In the course of the Future Factory, the students will experiment with a selection of scents, colours, materials and rhythms to explore which of the sensory stimuli express their wishes and hopes for the future the best. The students will bring their desires triggered by the sensory experience to life by developing future stories and creating prototypes of their city of the future. The students will get the opportunity to discuss the workshop results with selected experts at a panel discussion.

The Future Factory is part of the larger project "Sense the City" that has been initiated by the Berlin-based think tank adelphi. The Future Factory at the Triennale in Milan will be jointly designed and implemented with Stefano Boeri and its team.

### **Draft Programme**

#### **Sensory Diary**

Preparatory exercise before the workshop (instructions will follow)

24 May (13:30-18:00)

#### **Welcome and Introduction**

Goals and expectations of the Future Factory; Reflection on the preparatory exercise

#### Working with multisensorial stimuli

Individual work with a selection of sensorial stimuli (scents, colours, materials and rhythms); Creating future profiles

### **Future Storytelling**

Developing future stories based on previous exercise (group work); Interactive presentation of the results

#### **Prototyping the City of the Future**

Bringing the future stories to life by prototyping the city of the future (group work); Working with models, canvases, various forms, materials and paint; Interactive presentation of the results

### Wrap-up

Reflection on the outcomes and methodology of the Future Factory; Drafting a catalogue of recommendations to be addressed during the panel discussion

25 May (19-20:30)

#### **Panel Discussion**

Joint tour through the gallery of visions; Discussion with experts and selected students

Date: 24-25th of May 2019

Number of participants: 20-30 (students and pupils)

Requirements: fluent in English

To enrol in this workshop, please contact: Barbara Burkel (<u>burkel@adelphi.de</u>)

(please indicate age and field of study)