

New stage for experiment, exchange and encounter

WANTED: passionate performing artists, ensembles, social caterers and culinary storytellers, and other partners, for theatre + practice studio + socio-cultural canteen in newly built broedplaats (incubator) Bajesdorp

replies to meedoen@bajesdorp.nl

On the spot where our squatters-community has been active for dozens of years we will build the first new-built and permanent broedplaats for living and working in undivided and collective ownership. This means: to rent at minimal cost price, DIY self-management, and no profit speculation on value increase. Construction starts in late 2021 and the shell building will be delivered in late 2022 or beginning 2023. The site is nearby motorway A10 and close to train station Amstel and metro stop Spaklerweg. Read more about the project in Dutch on: <https://vrijkoop.bajesdorp.nl>

Many of the initiators of this new building have ties to the performing arts as creators, technicians, designers, builders, aficionados or curators. We see that rehearsal spaces for

independent performing artists are scarce and expensive. Also, access to presentation spaces is often not in the practitioner's hands, but controlled by gatekeepers with their own agendas, ambitions, policies and aesthetics. Therefore, we would like to create a space on the ground floor for an existing or a to be founded self-managing collective of performing artists, ensembles, culinary storytellers and/or social caterers and/or other partners. It concerns a small black box theatre, a rehearsal studio and a canteen with kitchen. We'd love to further elaborate the concept together with you. However, we do have several values and ideals yet, where we would like to work from:

- **Space for rehearsing, experiment, workshops, work-in-progress, concerts and performances/shows**
- **Self-organized collective**

The whole Bajesdorp project is self-organized, so we would like to see that happen on the ground floor, as well. As an independent performing artist, you can collaborate with others to cover your needs: by sharing and organizing spaces together you can achieve more than on your own. You do not only share the costs, but also networks, contacts, ideas, insights, and collaborations can flourish, or for example equipment.

- **Solidarity and cross-fertilisation**

The structure to be shaped offers room to have a diversity of more and less established creators from various disciplines, traditions and cultures, with curiosity towards each other. They enable each other's practices, distributed according to individual responsibilities and capacities.

- **Balance between public character and need for working in a safe and restricted environment; a balance between programming regularity and last-minute spontaneity.**

In search for conceptual and practical participants

We look for people and parties who would like to think along about this concept, and who would consider to join us. Eventually of course, a close link should arise between the people who would like to participate and the group that works and lives in the other parts of the building. Whether this spark of connection is there one can only find out by working together for a while and consulting each other often.

Frameworks and open questions

We do know some frameworks already, but some questions are still open. We do have a draft of an organization model, in which some users of the ground floor form a (cooperative) association, with varying degrees or forms of membership, matching the different needs and capacities. But we are open to other concepts and we would like to develop them together with the first users of the ground floor.

Costs & operation

The base rent for the rehearsal space and the blackbox on the basis of our current estimation of the construction costs and the operation costs will be about 1450 euros (ex. VAT) per month. The canteen is about 650 euros (ex. VAT) per month. Cost for furnishings of the spaces and fixed costs like electricity, water and heating must be added. How these costs will be shared is a question that still needs to be examined.

Substantive, social and economic connection with the canteen

We are still looking for a close connection with what can take place in the canteen. The idea is to create a café-ish space with a bar, where one can eat, as well. We expect that the canteen will have the official function of ondersteunende horeca (supporting catering). We'd like to get in touch with social caterers and/or creative chefs (x/f/m), who will adapt their business and perhaps their menu plan to the values of Bajesdorp.

The space

On the last page you can see the current design of the ground floor. All spaces have a height of 4,7 meters.

- The blackbox of about 60 m² is situated right below on the floor plan. In this space we would like to have fitted a good audio and light system to be able to create stage set-ups in a flexible manner. We provide a small tribune stand (three rows) which can be removed if not required.
- There is a rehearsal space of about 36 m² on the floor plan left below. This space opens to the garden of the lot. The doors can be opened to create a passage to the garden. This space can also be opened to the canteen on the ground floor by the means of movable wall sections.
- The canteen of about 37 m² connects the three spaces. Here is a bar, and in addition a kitchen of 7 m² to cook.
- There is an entrance hall of 13,4 m² that provides access to the spaces from the roadside. This is a public entrance.
- In the space on the floor plan on the upper right, we envision an atelier for art, art support and technical design. This space is not part of this open call

Connection with the other parts of the building and the environment

The total building counts four storeys. On the higher floors people live and there are ateliers for other artists. (Members of) the ground floor collective (have/)has the possibility to rent a small atelier on another floor in the building, for instance for writing or other officework.

On <https://bajesdorp.nl/mensen> you can see who will live and work in the building.

On the east side the existing garden Bajestuin is located, a plot on loan to use as a garden, on the border of Amsterdam and the municipality of Ouder-Amstel,

which is run entirely by volunteers.

On the west side of the building there is a big garden that stretches all the way to the railway track: this is part of the Het Nieuwe Bajesdorp plot. It will consist of a food forest, but a small open stage for open-air performances is planned as well.

Next to this garden a secondary school will be located. The building itself has a view on a park and on the right hand on a high residential building.

On the south side of the building a business area is located with various businesses (amongst which a music recording studio).

Enthusiastic?

Read our general participation information in Dutch and English on:
<https://bajesdorp.nl/meedoen>.

Write us at: meedoen@bajesdorp.nl



