

Cruising Pavilion: Architecture, Gay Sex and Cruising Culture

Curated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos, Rasmus Myrup, Octave Perrault and Charles Teyssou

Cruising is the quest for sex by homosexual men in public spaces. It takes place in parks, public toilets, and car parks, as well as in dedicated establishments such as sex clubs and bathhouses. But cruising cannot be limited to any one location, nor can it be reduced to neither men nor gays.

This exhibition, the result of two years of research by the curatorial collective Cruising Pavilion, proposes that public sex remains a laboratory for political futures and spaces, and that it is central to understanding new ways of thinking, living, loving, meeting, and belonging.

Through the lens of architecture and the city, this exhibition explores some of the ways in which the traditional model of cruising is evolving. The exhibition explores how the combination of digital hook up apps, urban development, and the commodification of LGBTQ+ cultures means that traditional cruising grounds are continually adapting. Today, technologies have generated a psychosexual geography that spreads across homes and profiles.

Cruising Pavilion: Architecture, Gay Sex and Cruising Culture invites you into a sequence of environments: the Bar, the Darkroom, and the Bedroom. These rooms make space for the work of international artists, architects and designers whose works build a collection of interpretative stances and sideways glances. Together, they map cruising cultures and explore the sensual production of space. From videogames and drawings to films and furniture, cruising is revealed as a form of resistance, an *avant-garde*, and a vernacular – with an active relevance in and beyond LGBTQ+ circles.

"We are very excited to conclude this project on gay sex and architecture with an exhibition at ArkDes," say Cruising Pavilion, comprising curators Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou, artist Rasmus Myrup, and architect Octave Perrault. They continue: *"Gay sex is essentially absent from the architectural discourse. We hope that cruising will be appreciated in all its complexity and that designers will eventually do much more for sexuality."*

Participants Andreas Angelidakis, Monica Bonvicini, Tom Burr, Shu Lea Cheang, Victoria Colmegna, Earl Combs + Steve Ostrow, Etienne Descloux, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, DYKE_ON, Pol Esteve + Marc Navarro, General Idea, Robert Getso, Horace Gifford, Sidsel Meineche

Hansen, Nguyen Tan Hoang, Andrés Jaque (Office for Political Innovation), Studio Karhard, Ann Krsul + Amy Cappellazzo + Alexis Roworth + Sarah Drake, John Lindell, Henrik Olesen, Puppies Puppies (Jade Kuriki Olivo), Hannah Quinlan + Rosie Hastings, Carlos Reyes, Prem Sahib, Jaanus Samma, S H U I (Jon Wang + Sean Roland), Max Sohl + Paul Morris, Charles Terrell + Bruce Mailman, Tommy Ting, Madelon Vriesendorp, Steven Warwick, Robert Yang, Trevor Yeung

Cruising Pavilion at ArkDes is the culmination of two years of research by the curatorial collective Cruising Pavilion. Previous exhibitions of the project in Venice, Italy (Spazio Punch), and New York City, USA (Ludlow38), have explored the different directions by which cruising practices have evolved. In this third and final exhibition, the project focuses on the intersection of sexuality and the architecture of the city.

Information on the Exhibition

The exhibition is open until November 10th, 2019, with free entry. The exhibition contains explicit works depicting sex and is not recommended for people under the age of 15.

Cruising Pavilion is a curatorial project by **Pierre-Alexandre Mateos, Rasmus Myrup, Octave Perrault, and Charles Teyssou**. Curator at ArkDes: **James Taylor-Foster (Curator, Contemporary Architecture and Design)** Director of ArkDes: **Kieran Long**

This exhibition has been produced by ArkDes, the Swedish Centre for Architecture and Design, in collaboration with Cruising Pavilion, with support from Institut Français de Suède and with thanks to Sexperterna, RFSL Stockholm.

About Boxen Boxen at ArkDes is a platform for fast-changing, experimental exhibitions. It provides space for alternative voices to inspire discussions about architecture, design, and their relationship to society by promoting radical and responsive installations, exhibitions, events and dialogues by and between architects, designers, and thinkers. Boxen has been designed by Dehlin Brattgård Architects (Stockholm) and opened in 2018.

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Photography: Johan Dehlin (2019), Frida Vega Salomonsson (2019) Images of Works: courtesy of the artists