

Press release - The Grey Space in the Middle

The Hague, May 26th 2021

## The Grey Space in the Middle presents Perpetual Beta

Exhibition: June 4th until July 4th 2021

**From June 4th to July 4th, The Grey Space embarks on a large-scale experiment entitled Perpetual Beta. In close collaboration with a group of makers and the public, a new form of presentation is explored based on the principles of open source. The result is an exhibition of work-in-progress, where the public is invited to take a look, participate and contribute.**

**The Grey Space will be taken over by makers who critically embrace technology: interactive design studio Moniker by Luna Maurer and Roel Wouters, design studio for interactive media RNDR, and maker and curator Carolien Teunisse, who forms an occasional duo together with maker, designer and technologist Sabrina Verhage.**

**Collective Works** (Karin Mientjes and Peter Zuiderwijk) designed the physical exhibition space, created a modular support structure – in collaboration with **Refunc** architects – and developed their project 'From 1.50 to 1.20'. The online counterpart of the project will take place at [perpetualbeta.online](https://perpetualbeta.online) – an environment made in **Common.Garden** (developed by **Constant Dullaart**) – a virtual space where visitors and makers can meet each other and in which all documentation of Perpetual Beta is recorded, collected and broadcasted by the **OUTLINE** collective.

### THE PROJECTS

**Moniker** presents 'Identity Training Facility'. In this project they will work on the development of a film in which the two main characters communicate through a digitally enhanced, language filtering hand fan. They will work on various aspects of the project via scale models, silicon casting, and the writing of dialogue together with experts and peers.

**RNDR** explores the potential of a digital version of "the designer", an AI designer. They will set out on a series of experiments using their own experiences and studio as a starting point. Based on the data they have developed, they will create a series of bots that can perform rudimentary design tasks. Every week these AI bots are given new assignments, in order to investigate the possibilities of these techniques.

In '(Un)natural Augmentations' **Carolien Teunisse** and **Sabrina Verhage** depart from an eco-centric perspective. Based on lichens that can be found near The Grey Space, they will develop a virtual growing moss. Lichens respond to changes in air quality, thus reflecting the state of our environment. Visitors are also invited to collect lichens and add them to this new virtual form. The result is born out of a close and growing inter-species collaboration between lichens, makers and visitors.

### PROGRAM

*Friday 4 June – Perpetual Beta [encounters in open space] – Opening*

The Grey Space will introduce the makers of Perpetual Beta. This hybrid event moderated by **Marijke Cobbenhagen** features guest lectures by journalist and writer **Sanne Bloemink** and artificial intelligence and media philosophy researcher **Arif Kornweitz**. Visitors can experience the event both on [perpetualbeta.online](http://perpetualbeta.online) and The Gray Space's terrace, in the form of a silent symposium with headphones.

*Friday 18 June – Perpetual Beta [encounters in open space] – Maker Event #2*

**Moniker** shares their creative process and dives deeper into the dialogues of their film 'Identity Training Facility' together with actors from theatre collective **De Warme Winkel**.

*Friday 25 June – Perpetual Beta [encounters in open space] – Maker Event #3*

A meeting of minds in the realm of philosophy, neurobiology, design and artificial intelligence with philosopher and biologist **Ellen ter Gast** and **RNDR** co-founder **Jeroen Barendse**.

*Thursday 1 July – Thursday Dinner Session*

Every Thursday a guest chef prepares an affordable meal and DJs provide a musical outline. In the meantime guests can experience the Perpetual Beta exhibition.

*Saturday 3 July – Perpetual Beta [encounters in open space] – Closing Event*

The festive final weekend of the Perpetual Beta exhibition with presentations by **Constant Dullaart**, **Moniker**, **RNDR**, **Carolien Teunisse** and **Sabrina Verhage**.

*Saturday 3 July – Moving Downstairs [encounters in open space]*

A special edition of the music and performance program Moving Downstairs dedicated to the Perpetual Beta project. The program is co-curated by **iii**, **Creative Coding Utrecht** and **Netherlands Coding Live**.

## THE GREY SPACE

**The Grey Space** is a space for fundamental creativity in The Hague's city centre. The Grey Space is a project space, music and performance stage and a cafe. It is an open laboratory for makers and a presentation space for the 21st century, where art and digital culture merge with science, technology and philosophy in an anti-disciplinary state. Projects are tested and gradually made visible to the public, which can lead to unexpected outcomes and adventurous visits.

*Perpetual Beta is made possible by [Creative Industries Fund NL](#) and [The City of The Hague](#).*

*Many thanks to our partners: [Common.Garden](#), [OUTLINE](#), [o. o. radio](#), [The Hague Contemporary](#), [We Are Public](#), [iii](#), [Creative Coding Utrecht](#), [Netherlands Coding Live](#).*

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Program and opening hours – Perpetual Beta [encounters in open space]:

<https://thegreyspace.net/program/>.

Socials: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Telegram](#).