

International Course Week \_ Spring 2025

AdaptationS 2 / Henk Wildschut

Date: February 10-14 From Monday to Friday 10:00-12:50

Location: M\_212

Course code: M-KH-201-MI-242502-03

M-KH-E-201-MI-242502-03

B-KH-201-MI-242502-03

## **Are you an Outsider or an Insider?**



**In a time when facts and opinions seem to be drifting further apart, it's becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish between truth and fiction. Through our smartphones, we are daily flooded with alternative realities, which gradually shape our perception of the 'real' world. We view this world through a digital, filtered lens. But from what position are you telling your story? Are you an outsider, critically observing, or are you a participant, actively engaged in the reality you capture? How does this position influence the story you want to tell?**

**In this workshop, we will explore your motivations and perspectives as a visual creator. What drives you to present the world the way you do? How do you perceive the social and political issues shaping the world around us? And more importantly, how can you share your view of the world in a way that encourages others to think critically? We will engage in practical exercises and reflections that will help you:**

- **Become more aware of your own position as a creator;**
- **Seek out stories within your immediate environment;**
- **Position your narrative from a personal or societal standpoint;**
- **Find creative ways to visually communicate societal issues.**

**This workshop is an invitation to develop your own vision of the world around you and translate it into a challenging, reflective visual form.**

This workshop is the second course week as part of AdaptationS, a collaboration with the Dutch Embassy in the autumn 2024 and spring 2025 semesters.

Keywords:

survival strategies, urban resilience, responsible art, future materials, observing and reacting, adapting, low-tech solutions, reinventing tradition, collective action

Theme:

Urban environments face increasingly severe climate challenges, necessitating immediate responses from their inhabitants. This photography research project explores creative ways of resilience and adaptation within city landscapes, documenting how communities confront and adjust to environmental changes. The project consisting of a week-long workshop captures both the subtle and dramatic ways urban lifestyles adapt to climate stressors. Participants share knowledge of different artistic and design disciplines while experimenting with alternative use of materials while collectively embracing the sour irony of current tendencies. Using mainly photography and video the workshop leads and participants visualize observable and possible transformations, aiming to foster a deeper understanding of urban resilience.

*Henk Wildschut (Harderwijk, NL, 1967) studied photography at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague.*

*'With a documentary practice that is characterised by long-term engagement with his subject matter, Henk Wildschut aims to shed new light on pressing global issues. By maintaining a contemplative and objectively distant view of the people and situations he finds himself in, his photographs obtain a balanced and monumental quality that incite the viewer to further reflect on the subject. As well as creating an essential counter image to conventional representations of displaced peoples or the Food industry Wildschut's intriguing approach continues to unearth a range of fascinating stories*



*In 2005 Wildschut started his long term project around European illegal immigration. This resulted in the book 'Shelter (2011)', the book 'Ville de Calais' (2017) and his latest book Rooted (2019)*

*His books have been awarded with a few prestigious prizes such as the Dutch Doc Award 2010 for his book Shelter and the Arles, Prix du Livre 2017, and the Dutch national photobook award for best book 2017 for Ville de Calais. His book Rooted was shortlisted for best book at*

*the Paris Photo Aperture award 2019. He is currently working on finishing his latest project which is about the gap between agriculture and nature in the agricultural area in the Netherlands. A new book will be published in February with the title Territorium.*

<https://henkwildschut.com/work/>