



Seefhoek Series. Mythe van Sisyphus © Wannes Cré

Thomas Verstraeten

Seefhoek Series and other projects

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Politecnico di Milano, Campus Leonardo
h. 17:30 | Via Ampère, 2 | Spazio Patio

Opening and welcoming by Davide Fassi, delegate
for cultural activities and public engagement

This conference is part of UNLOCK THE CITY! WORKSHOP FUORI LUOGHI. The workshop is held within the Urban Planning Studio "FUORI LUOGHI. Progettare spazi di comunità nel quartiere Molise Calvairate" by professors Chiara Nifosi and Antonio Longo with Enrico Mancadori, Martina Mantovani, Valentina Rossella Zucca. Bachelor's degree programme in "Progettazione dell'Architettura" of Politecnico di Milano AUIC School.

Thomas Verstraeten, a member of the FC Bergman theatre company, is collaborating with DASTU Politecnico di Milano on a five-day workshop that combines urban exploration and performing arts. The workshop is part of UNLOCK THE CITY!, a project which reflects on how performing arts, combined with scientific research, can become a tool for rethinking the urban landscape. This conference will provide an opportunity to discuss his work on urban exploration through **artistic practice**

Apart from his activities with FC Bergman, Thomas Verstraeten has a solo art practice that navigates the border between performing arts and visual art; his approach combines **storytelling**, **model-making** and **animation** to capture urban dynamics.

As part of the UNLOCK THE CITY! project, Thomas Verstraeten has realised a **seven-part location project** called *Seefhoek Series*. This series is an ode to this extremely heterogeneous district in the northern part of Antwerp, where he himself lives. Verstraeten examines a different aspect of his neighbourhood, only to lift it out of its context, turn it around, take it apart, enlarge it, isolate it, and then finally reintroduce it into that same urban context.

UNLOCK THE CITY! is a project coordinated by **Piccolo Teatro di Milano-Teatro d'Europa** in collaboration with **Politecnico di Milano DASTU** and five other international partners: Teatre Lliure (Spain) | Teatrul Tineretului (Romania) | Toneelhuis (Belgium) | Østfold University College & Norwegian Theater Academy (Norway) | The Academy of Performing Arts, AMU (Czech Republic).