

Church Monestary ZINLAB

Project Grote Kerk Leeuwarden

The Grote Kerk Leeuwarden is the oldest monument in the city centre of Leeuwarden. It was built in the Middle Ages as a monastery. The ancestors of the royal family are also buried there. And the world-famous Müller organ from 1721 attracts many visitors every year.

On Sundays, services are held by the Protestant congregation, which owns the building. During the week there are often concerts, weddings and events such as graduations and fairs. The church is also open throughout the summer season, and regularly hosts art exhibitions.



There are currently plans to repurpose the church into a City Monastery. A place that exudes peace, where you meet people around important life themes. It will also be a place where people can live in a community. The core values of this place are to slow down, reflect and inspire. Earlier groups of students have been working on the development of the courtyard garden and extending the visiting time for visitors/passers-by to the church based on the ideas.



The next challenge we face is the redevelopment of the attic. Attached to the Grote Kerk is the last standing part of the old monastery complex and also the oldest part of Leeuwarden. This is where the ZinLab will land. The ZinLab is the educational arm of Stadsklooster Leeuwarden and is founded in collaboration with all Leeuwarden educational institutions (MBO/HBO/WO). This collaboration ensures that ethics and moral leadership are central to the education of all students. The ZinLab functions as a platform for multidisciplinary and multilevel

education and personal development. This creates a space where students can contribute to social issues and develop their professional identity.

At the moment the attic is still an attic. Architectural firm Stiel from Elburg will deliver the first master plan for this attic in February. The ZinLab and this attic are also based on our basic values: deceleration, reflection and inspiration.

Assignment

We challenge the students of Placemaking to conduct research with us and the architects into how this place can connect with the basic values and needs of the various target groups (students from different educational institutions and teachers). We are at the beginning of the development of this project. We are curious about what we can learn from the principles of Placemaking to make the ZinLab a 'great place', where people like to come for reflection, wonder and meeting.

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