



# #2

## WORK

**Launching date:** 1st of July 2012  
**Questions Deadline:** 1st of August 2012  
**Submission Dead Line:** 1st of October 2012  
**Results announced:** 1st of November 2012

**Submission / Registration deadline: 01.10.2012**

**Early birds registration deadline: 01.09.2012**

**Entry fee: 0€ / 30€ / 50€ \***

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**CAPITALIST**  
**CITY**

[www.collagelab.org](http://www.collagelab.org)

**\* Special conditions for the following countries:**

Afghanistan, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia  
+ Greece, Spain, Ireland, Portugal

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## call for ideas

# POST+Capitalist City

### POST+

With successive declines on the financial markets, recent times have seen a growing interest in the theoretical debate about alternatives to the ongoing capitalist system. Gathering international thinkers from all walks of political life, the diagnosis on the ongoing economic crisis situation tends to demonstrate that the system as it is nowadays needs to be rethought and perhaps re-established globally.

The recent Wall Street protests and the associated developing movements around the world indicates the depth to which the inequality generated by the economic system and the demand for global change has penetrated the popular consciousness. – The financial crisis is no longer a matter for the decision makers and having reached the masses is transforming the political and national – or transnational – spheres.

At the same time creative alternatives – in trying to deal with the growth of poverty amongst the population – propose new ways of living, celebrating an ideology based on trust, solidarity, community and action.

Cities... Their attractiveness was originally based on the economic opportunities they provided to their inhabitants: job opportunities created a massive influx from the countryside, contributing actively to their spatial transformation by means of increasing population density and growth. However, in a prospective future if attractiveness is no longer necessarily related to profit making – as the symbolic 99% idealized by the “Occupy” movements around the world claim – the question of the future of existing cities is wide open.

### WHAT IF... ?

What if the change was tomorrow? What would be the characteristics of a system not based on profit making? What would be the consequences of a new system for the way in which we use urban spaces?

Would cities enter a transformation process, becoming specialized centres in a globalized system? Would the global network of cities tend to erase borders or to affirm and reinforce them? What is (could be) the scale (the impact) of the change?

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**collage competitions** is a cycle of competitions / call for ideas for prospective thinking in terms of urban planning, architecture, political, social and economical spaces in a global scale. Students, architects, urban planners, designers, artists and all active thinkers are invited to submit their ideas and share their visions to the world.

## #2

## WORK

In times in which industries as well as people follow the locational factor, the constant job flexibility and the competition for work has reached a new level. Show us the most important tools we need to be a good worker of the future. In what environments will we work? And how will our cities react to new forms of work? Everything is valuable from small interventions up to global concepts.

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## WORK

[Effort, creation, production, struggle]

*«So long as all the increased wealth which modern progress brings goes but to build up great fortunes, to increase luxury and make sharper the contrast between the House of Have and the House of Want, progress is not real and cannot be permanent.» ~Henry George, Progress and Poverty, 1879*

In the process of globalization, humanity passed from the technological to the information age, as did our work pass from the paradigm of linear accumulation to de-territorialised outsourcing, intended to increase profits and reduce costs. While economic and labour sciences are still trying to understand the interrelations and factors of the development of economic landscapes - including the virtual idiom of speculation - experts of all fields are inventing terms to describe the “complexities,” without admitting that perhaps we already lost track of the seemingly exponential growths of possible movements. In such complexity, morality, common sense and human conditions are often made a concern at the end, if at all. Meanwhile the aging demographic puts pressure on the social systems, which are - in the contemporary frame - inevitably linked to work and production in order to contribute care services through taxes. However, in the most opportune sectors of employment, machines took over the power of men, with reduced investment: is the future production of jobs dependent on the creation of an artificial function to maintain the balance? The personal feeling of liability gets intensified by the pressure of the societal moral, expressed mainly through the popular media.

The spatial division between production- and knowledge-based industries, and outsourcing on global scale, grew to a scale not previously experienced, and transformed our “work spaces” from the local organization in offices to the restructuring of whole regions. While we are still dealing with the cemeteries of our «big machines» - the industrial towns - which are remaining as shrinking cities and nostalgic memories for the Henry Ford-derived paternalistic structures, we find ourselves in the middle of a new era: the era of precarious and unstable working conditions between boom-towns and unfinished, abandoned build-ups. As the recent crisis has demonstrated, the global economy and the development - or non-development - of regions are intimately connected, and thus influence the global construction of the urban and rural.

With the slogan “We are the 99%” of the Occupy movement, the “working class” proved not only to have found its common awareness of these economic, social, and spatial transformations, but to create a common ground for new debates. But the problem of how to distribute the global capacity and how to structure the future of work is still unresolved.

# #2

## WORK

The psychological dogmas that formed the industrial society many decades ago, such as loyalty and lifelong commitment to an enterprise, were replaced with the fear of losing work, the guilt of not having work, or the question of how far would you go – geographically and ethically - for a job? Does our urban future lie in each becoming self-entrepreneurs, or to all share collective knowledge in forms of Open Source projects? Can we find new ways of producing and working? How will the global enterprise be able to produce sustainable levels of work through motivated workers, when nowadays humans are seen as resources and not workforces? How will the work of the future be measured, when the production of perceived, speculated value has no theoretical limits? Can work finally be released through technology? And finally: What are the possibilities for our cities? Apart from “job-sharing” and co-working spaces, what could be transformed spatially to change towards a sustainable working culture?

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**>>> Now it's your turn! Show us your ideas to re-think the work, the way we produce and a city with another system of working culture!**

## Submission requirements

The scale of the project is up to you! One can think about a global solution for urban conditions on a world scale whereas others would rather talk about their own street corner! Both are interesting! The only rule: it must be urban and prospective, according to the main thesis.

The selection criteria will consider the final design proposal as the hypothesis taken by the entrants. As this competition tries to develop critical and concrete ideas to a hypothetical situation, the entrants are invited to define the context (political, economical and geographical, including if needed a time schedule) in which their proposal has to be related to be credible and optimized.

Utopias as dystopias can be considered, as long as the proposals permit to bring original ideas and thoughts according to the statement.

*Second competition: WORK*

**Launching date:** 1st of July 2012

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**Early Birds Registration Deadline:** 1st of September 2012

**Submission Dead Line:** 1st of October 2012, 23:59 pm, European time (CET)

**Results announced:** 1st of November 2012

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The participants are asked to provide:

- up to 5 single A3 images (horizontal – 300 dpi – jpg) representing their ideas in the most efficient way. These images can be collages, maps, plans, pictures, diagrams, 3D representations or any other graphical tool. Each of them must be a unique document, independent and self-explanatory. No special layout is demanded, each sheet contains one scheme / image only.

- a simple text (up to 800 words) has to be attached, in .txt format, explaining the choices and the particularities of the specific site chosen if needed, the prospective context in term of time and space (economically, politically, socially,...), and the concept of the related project. This text can be in English, French or German. This text will include the title of the project.

- an abstract / resume of the text (up to 200 words), in .txt format, resuming your main idea and concept in ENGLISH. This abstract will include the title of the project.

Each document shall not exceed the size limit of 5 Mo.

The submissions are due digitally through the link provided to the participants by email after registration and payment of the registration fees.

### *Jury*

The Jury is composed by the editorial board of Collage Lab and at least one additional invited personality (architect, artist, curator or philosopher) with significant influence on architecture and urbanism and specific interest on the current topic reliable to their current work. The invited jury is to be determined.

### *Prizes*

Entry fee Early Birds (until 01.09.2012): 30 Euros / submission

Entry fee (after 01.09.2012): 50 Euros / submission

No entry fee will be charged for the participants from the countries which debt is or will be bought or deleted by the IMF (Heavily indebted countries + Countries from the Eurozone officially in crisis): Afghanistan, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali,

Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia  
+ Greece, Spain, Irland, Portugal

One group can submit more than one entry. The entry fee is to be paid per project. A selection of entries will be featured on the website and published by our media partners, online magazines and other publications.

The amount of the prizes is depending on the amount of participants. The more participants you are, the more you can win. 2 different prizes will be distinguished and the repartition operated as following:

1st prize: 65% of the final amount  
2nd prize: 35% of the final amount

The final amount is the total amount minus taxes and administrative expenses for CollageLab. Honorable mentions may be provided as special prizes depending on our generous partners and sponsors.

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### *Rules*

All submissions must respect strictly the anonymity and not contain any names, symbols, logos or any signs permitting to recognize the identity of the entrant. Any submission not respecting this basic rule will not be considered as a valid proposal and therefore be excluded from the competition.

The submitted files must be named after the registration code chosen by the entrants (2 Letters – 3 Numbers. Example: AA000) as following:

code\_text.txt  
code\_resume.txt  
code\_image1.jpg  
code\_image2.jpg  
code\_image3.jpg  
code\_image4.jpg  
code\_image5.jpg

Entries must not have been published or proposed previously to any other competition. Participants guarantee to own all copyrights for their proposal including all the single documents of their submission (such as pictures, datas, texts,...). By participating, the entrants accept the publication of their proposal without any further authorization: Entrants keep the authorship and the including intellectual rights and will always be named in every publication. Any further indemnity would be given for the eventual future publication or exhibition of the proposals submitted. Collage Lab reserves the right to modify the submission requirements at any time.

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*Emerging from the association of Joanne Pouzenc and Philine Schneider, CollageLab was born in 2011 as a collective for research in architecture and urbanism. Transdisciplinary it investigates past and future space strategies as well as on-going developments of the built and non-built ideas, that represent society in time and space. The chosen topics of the research include cultural characteristics, economic developments and political circumstances. CollageLab is grounded in theoretical and practical experiments and the will to discuss and to combine fields of knowledge. The on-going ideas come to life by exhibitions, competitions, workshops and other publications.*

**CONTACT for further information**  
collagelab - competition  
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