

Introduction

In 1988 *Public* was launched by the Public Access Collective. As well as publishing this journal, the Public Access Collective has initiated exhibitions, partnership projects and other publications as a means to consider the potential of public art to incite debates on what constitutes the public and investigate ideas of art and culture within the urban context.

The 37th issue of *Public* aptly titled *Public?* critically engaged with this history and shifting potential. This 38th issue of *Public* is dedicated to artists' projects as a companion to these considerations. Together the two issues mark the journal's 20th anniversary. Whereas the former focussed on a discursive analysis of current modes of the "public" this issue posits the imaginative potential of the artist project as a catalyst. The issue features artists whose practice touches upon the paradoxical experience of collapsing distance between public and private spheres and the expanding gap between inner and outer worlds. What the work might share is an impulse to create cosmologies. And hopefully *Projects for a small world*, as a book itself, circulates orbits and overlaps these differing modalities of the imaginary.

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