



O P E N

C A L L

L I V I N G

A P A R T

T O G E T H E R

DEADLINE: 18:00, 1 JUNE 2020

1.5 - METRE SOCIETY

COVID-19 is swarming through our bodies and minds like an invisible enemy, radically changing our cities at breakneck speed. Avoiding others in public spaces is the top priority for the health of the nation. *Social distancing* is the new standard.

For the first time since World War II, we have been thrown upon our own resources en masse. We are staying at home, and cultural life in the city has ground to a halt. The lack of fixed patterns, facilities and the associated human faces is putting pressure on the very fabric of our society. And it looks as if this 1.5-metre society will be with us for a while to come.

Lots of us are using virtual media to stay in touch. Others are disappearing – sometimes involuntarily – behind closed doors. Vulnerable groups run the greatest risk of being hit hard. The virus of loneliness is a constant threat, as King Willem-Alexander warned in his call for solidarity.

The social-distancing measures make loneliness recognisable, or even a daily reality. But once the virus has been beaten, many people will still be lonely. In Utrecht, even before the coronavirus outbreak, high percentages of people reported feeling lonely: 38% of adults and 51% of elderly people in Utrecht feel socially isolated. The figures in other cities are equally alarming, which is a huge cause for concern. [Read here](#) our preliminary investigation into loneliness in cities.

The launch of this open call represents the start of research by city lab RAUM into the following question: can we devise new forms of meeting and connecting that help to combat social isolation?



RAUM NEEDS YOU!

We are challenging creative makers, such as artists, designers and architects, to fire their imaginations: Design an installation for a public space that encourages social interaction between strangers and that maintains the required 1.5-metre distance.

We are looking for new, powerful, idiosyncratic, surprising, fascinating, moving and confrontational ideas. Based on the submitted proposals, RAUM will curate a Dutch-language exhibition called Living Apart Together. The selected works from the open call will be at the heart of the exhibition, which will be on display from December 2020 to spring 2021. We will complement the exhibition with a side programme of relevant events such as talk shows, workshops and debates. The exhibition will be free to visit.

REMEMBER TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING INTO CONSIDERATION FOR YOUR PROPOSAL:

The installation is EITHER suitable for the RAUM courtyard ([please read our guidelines here](#)) OR can be taken to people in the local public space (mobile). We are additionally intrigued by installations that are linked to a virtual environment.

You look at the city around you with an open mind, and delve into the lives of the people in the neighbourhood surrounding RAUM: Leidsche Rijn. A few tips: [klik hier](#). Make no mistake: Leidsche Rijn is large and diverse, in terms of both demographics and size!

Your work needs to be accessible to a very broad target audience. Visitors and neighbours can visit and experience the work on site without prior knowledge or registration.

Your process and installation is a form of research. Which question do you hope to answer with your work? What solution are you offering? During the exhibition, you will collect the data required to answer your question.

You are the creator and responsible for implementing your work. You will provide a design and a plan of action. You know who and what you require to realise your idea, be that materials, how you plan the production, the financial requirements and logistical considerations. You can count on professional guidance from us.

You will take the winter into account: the exhibition is in the coldest and wettest period of the year, which means that it stays dark for a long time.

W H O A R E

W E ?

The dedicated team at RAUM will offer the best possible guidance to assist you in realising your ideas – naturally maintaining the appropriate 1.5-metre distance from your artistic freedom ;-). We have a positive mindset, are flexible and are passionate about what we do – and we expect the same from you. We also have a proven track record with producing exhibitions and events, and we know all there is to know about the environment (the grounds, the city and the people). In addition to our team, we also have a tiny house and a workshop where – if necessary – you can live and work free of charge. We are surrounded by a large network of makers, suppliers and technical experts.



WHAT DO WE WANT FROM YOU?

Easy: a proposal in 1 PDF document! The proposal consists of:

Personal details (of each person with whom you are submitting the proposal): name, address, telephone number, email address, website, date of birth, place of residence, degree programme/training, Chamber of Commerce number, VAT number. Please note that you may only participate in this open call if your one-man business or company is domiciled in the Netherlands.

Statement (max. 1/2 A4): why do you do what you do? What do you stand for as a maker?

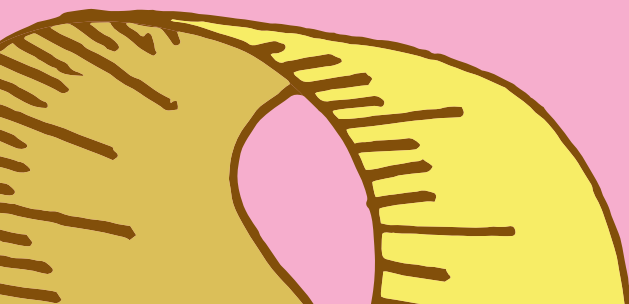
Description of your proposal (max 1 A4): what does your proposal for Living Apart Together entail? How will it take shape? What is the relevant research related to the theme that you will be conducting through your installation? How will you document, analyse and report the data that you collect during your research? One or more initial sketches of your design.

Plan of action (max. 2 A4): introduction to your practical process, hence your timetable, staff, suppliers. It is not possible to deviate from your timetable later in the call.

Budget (max. 1 A4): rough indication outlining expenses linked to your hours for the entire process, materials, production, staff, logistics, dismantling and incidentals (5% of total). The total budget should be between €500 and €50,000 excluding VAT and honorarium. RAUM uses the Fair Practice Code for determining honorariums.

Portfolio on your website or in a PDF of a maximum of 5 A4 pages featuring a selection of relevant work from after 2015 (preferably work made for in public spaces).

Your work will be commissioned by RAUM. This open call is for individual makers, duos and collectives (up to a maximum of 4 principal members). Proposals that do not meet the aforementioned requirements will not be considered. Please [use this link](#) to submit your proposal.



HOW WILL WE MAKE THE SELECTION?

We will assess the submitted proposals together with experts in the fields of art, urban development and (social) design, including:

- Joop de Boer (Pop-Up City)
- Danielle Arets (Design Academy Eindhoven & Fontys Hogeschool Journalistiek)
- Xandra van der Eijk (artist, freelance curator & Master Institute of Visual Cultures AKV | St. Joost)
- Michel Dewilde (curator at RAUM and th Bruges Triennial)
- Rinke Vreeke (curator at RAUM)

The selected makers will receive an invitation to an introductory meeting at RAUM by 16 June at the latest. All invited makers will receive remuneration of €300. During the introductory meeting, you will present your proposal. We will offer you tips and more information about RAUM, and explain the plans for Living Apart Together in more detail. The meetings will take place between 18 and 30 June. By 6 July at the latest, you will be informed of whether you may officially develop your proposal into a rough design. If this is the case, new practical and financial agreements will be made.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE OPEN CALL?

OPEN CALL: 1 MONTH	MAY
OPEN CALL SELECTION: 2 WEEKS	1 - 16 JUNE
INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS/PRESENTATIONS: 2 WEEKS	18 - 30 JUNE

ROUGH DESIGN: 1 MONTH

JULY

DRAFT DESIGN: 2 MONTHS

AUG/SEPT

FINAL DESIGN: 1 MONTH

OCT

CONSTRUCTION: 1 MONTH

NOV

EXHIBITION: ± 4 MONTHS

DEC 2020 - MAR 2021

DISMANTLING: 1 MONTH

APR 2021

DISCLAIMER

- Participants will be informed regarding their submission by 16 June at the latest. RAUM will not enter in (written) communications regarding the assessment of the proposals submitted for the open call, except with the participants whose work is selected.
- The submitted proposals remain the intellectual property of the participant.

M O R E A B O U T

R A U M

Here at RAUM, we love imagining, creating and researching. After all, we are an urban city lab. Visit us at the Berlijnplein in Leidsche Rijn, Utrecht. Nowhere else in the Netherlands will you find a neighbourhood where so many new people have come to live in such a short space of time. At RAUM, we work together with visitors and neighbours to shape the city life of the future. In our courtyard, through art, design, festivals, workshops, talk shows, exhibitions and plenty of other activities. Co-creation always plays a lead role. You see, we think that a city is only for everyone, once everyone is able and allowed to help build it. Keen to find out more? Then head to www.raumutrecht.nl