

## All Covered with..., Co-drawing the Future City

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Working with city dwellers to reform and re-form public space, architects increasingly use alternative disciplinary methods and production. Practices like Atelier Bow-Wow, raumlabor, and Candy Chang preference understandings of peoples' behaviors in public, citizen-deployed social/spatial configurations, and community engagement in constructing communal space. As Bow-Wow describes, expertise focuses on "the emergence of an architectural intelligence when architecture integrates these differing behaviors."<sup>1</sup> Architectural production turns to spatial frameworks prompting citizen participation. Beyond the community meeting, sites of community dialogue are themselves spatial designs/events in public space, positioning architects/designers and constituent communities as co-producers of public space.

All covered with... explores co-producing a shared drawing to stimulate dialogues and visions of urban re-occupation. Asking city-dwellers to share desires for, and knowledge of, their own city, the project is a collective drawing game. It prompts,

There was a shopping mall  
Now it's all covered with flowers"<sup>2</sup>

—Talking Heads, 1988

and/or \_\_\_\_\_?

Two abutting scrolls depict simplified urban spatial/social conditions. Streetscapes, active markets, designed environments, and latent vacant spaces form multiple base drawings. Participants are asked to intensify base scenarios, scroll to construct hybrid scenarios, draw in response to, and/or prompt other citizen drawings. Imagined as a cross between the interactivity and hybridity of the drawing game 'Exquisite Corpse' with the incremental territorializing of the game 'Go,' the project asks citizens to co-produce a vision for their own city.

### ENDNOTES

1. Kooperatives Labor Studierender + Atelier Bow-Wow. 2015. *Urban Forest*. Berlin: Haus der Kulturen der Welt and Spector Books. Pg. 41.
2. Talking Heads (David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison, Tina Weymouth). (Nothing but) *Flowers*. Warner Brothers, 1988.

