

**ALF 2022/2023**Cheat Sheet for Learning

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2. Rays of Light	Montelbaanstoren	12. Hole in the Sky	Plantage Muidergracht
3. Tube Display	Oudeschans	13. XYZ	Jules Schelvisbrug
4. Flying with the Light	Zwanenburgwal	14. Light Wave	Sarphatistraat
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8. Bloomlight	Nieuwe Keizersgracht	18. To Merge	Schippersgracht
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## ALF Edition 11 Cheat Sheet

### 1. Light Gate

- Light Gate: a triumphal arch of light. 11 by 11 meters
- Light Gate was made by the Peruvian American artist Edwin Baruch.
- It's a metal mesh structure supported by floating pontoons, with lights inside.
- It's reminiscent of the triumphal arches you find in other old cities like Rome, an entrance to the festival

### 2. Rays of Light

- The work is made up of dozens of thin fluorescent fishing lines, carefully strung between the historic Montelbaanstoren tower and the opposite side of the canal.
- It resembles a watchtower with searchlights, tower has always been there to spy on people, old city defenses
- "I want to show people just how much we take vision for granted," explains the artist.

### 3. Tube Display

- Tube Display is made by dutch artist Lambert Kamps
- The artwork is a grid made up of 104 tubes of light, which have been divided into eight fields.
- The fields can be used to form eight separate characters: a letter, number/punctuation mark.
- It can show an endlessly morphing succession of eight-letter words

### 4. Flying with the light

- Flying with the light is made by Taiwanese artist's Group B
- The structure is 36 meters long and represents a line of wings
- The wings are intended to remind you of birds. More specifically, Magpies
- The work is powered almost entirely by the wind
- The 'B' in Group B stands for bricoleur: a true 'tinkerer', dedicated to repairing, creating and innovating objects in the everyday world

### 5. Firefly

- The work is made up of special LED light dots that hover in the air
- These hovering dots represent Fireflies
- The dutch artists of Studio Toer share their fascination with the aesthetic impact and vibrant animation of these miniscule winged beetle

### 6. Bridge 242

- His large-scale, minimalist installations emphasize geometric forms, with light often playing a key role in his work.
- Vink has used lines of white light on the Magere Brug and the Amstelsluisen river locks.
- His lines follow existing contours, not just of the bridge, but also the white levers of the lock complex to its rear.
- As a result, the two monumental structures are linked together, and the bridge seems a lot larger than it actually is.

### 7. Sign

- Sign is made by dutch artists Paul Vendel & Sandra de Wolf
- The work consists of bamboo poles covered with aluminum tape, when you point a light on them, the poles are transformed into a mass of flickering flames
- The work is located in front of the Amstel Hotel
- The main body of their work consists of installations that incorporate recognisable items and found objects and materials.

### 8. Bloomlight

- Bloomlight is made by dutch artists Justus Bruns and Mingus Vogel
- Drawing inspiration from nature, VOUW wants to show you a different approach to street lighting: an almost friendly design that only lights up when you actually need it.
- The six light installations appear to be flower-like objects arranged along the street and nearby water

### 9. Hourglass

- imagine your surroundings are just an illusion, like The Matrix, or a Virtual Reality
- The ring could be representative of time, looking both into the future and the past.
- a glitch, a bug in the program. The hour of the day is wrong!
- Two separate worlds that exist together; a familiar thing to Wilhelmusvlug, who grew up as a city kid on the countryside and later as a country boy in the big city

### 10. Particle Matters

- Particle Matters is made by american artist Jason Krugman
- Krugman creates light-based, architectural artworks that merge traditional craftsmanship with modern technology
- The little white globes hanging down resemble organic strings of some alien origin
- Making this work, Jason Krugman drew inspiration from the fields of silver grass that are traditionally planted at memorial sites on the South Korean island of Jeju

### 11. Scala a Pioli

- Scala a Pioli is made by italian artist Massimo Uberti
- The work consists of a brightly lit ladder on top of the building
- His works are distinguished by a simplicity of form, frequent symmetry and the use of neon lighting
- Massimo Uberti believes that one of the most powerful means to imagine a different future is through art

### 12. Hole in the Sky

- a portal to a different world
- UFO was fine by him too, perfect material for an interesting film, or book
- blow-up kite with light incorporated in it.

### 13. XYZ

- Light can make you, and light can break you
- Jules Schelvisbrug, it's in poor shape
- being scanned for some kind of illness
- The projected light seems to remove every imperfection.

### 14. Light Wave

- landscape of ice lollies in every possible flavour
- Light Wave, dozens of paddles made from semi-transparent, reflective vinyl and dichroic film
- non-architectural, everyday materials

### 15. Follow the Light

- People all feel unique. But how unique are we really?
- the route looks spectacular, but the next marble: exact same course.
- At the same time, I can't stop looking
- What would happen if one of these marbles jumped off the beaten path? Would it embark on unforeseen adventures?

### 16. Bridge of 1,000 Dreams

- Amsterdam is always under construction
- Bridge was built based on dreams shared by 1,000 children
- This year, Amsterdam will be involving the next generation

### 17. Spin me a Yarn

- What if giants walked among us? Giant dropped it's knitting
- old crane at Entrepotdok: happy it can finally make a difference again
- under the bridge, you can see a huge ball of wool
- Two giants that are happily playing with a piece of yarn

### 18. To Merge

- jump in the water and enter a different realm.
- new animals living in Amsterdam's canals: Louisiana crawfish

### 19. Gloeilamp

- Most homes didn't have electricity
- The city was actually a lot darker, lightbulbs changed everything, Our day-night rhythm, what our streets looked like... everything.
- Nowadays, we have LED lighting. A lot more efficient. But the incandescent bulb deserves a dignified send-off.
- The giant flying pig on the cover of Pink Floyd's album Animals from 1977 was made by Theo Botschuijver.

### 20. Inversion Waterfall

- You're sailing around the NEMO Science Museum.
- act of defiance : deny the law of universal gravitation
- Light is the fastest-moving thing in the universe, but it's also the most elusive phenomenon and the most enchanting.

## 1. Light Gate

by Edwin Baruch

- Light Gate: a **triumphal arch of light**. 11 by 11 meters
- Light Gate was made by the Peruvian American artist Edwin Baruch.
- It's a **metal mesh structure** supported by floating pontoons, with lights inside.
- It's reminiscent of the triumphal arches you find in other old cities like Rome, an **entrance to the festival**

You're standing in front of the Light Gate: a triumphal arch of light. See how it towers over the Oosterdok? Our hero has entered the city!

Light Gate was made by the artist Edwin Baruch. It's a metal structure supported by floating pontoons, with lights along the inside. A gateway: an arch made especially for you.

You'll probably get a sense of some historic event. It's reminiscent of the triumphal arches you find in other old cities. How can something from the past serve as inspiration for something created today?



## 2. Rays of Light

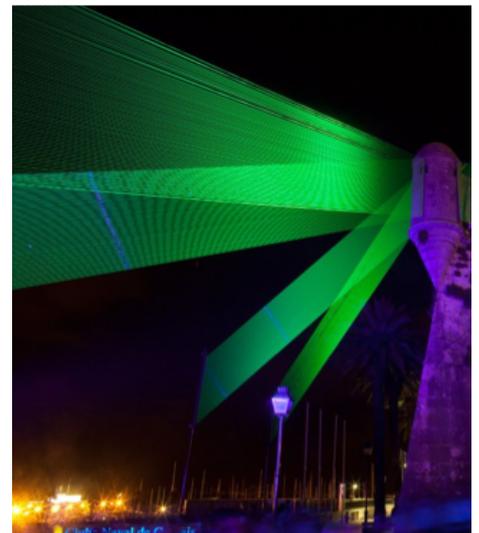
by Tamar Frank

- The work is made up of dozens of **thin fluorescent fishing lines**, carefully strung between the historic Mont opposite side of the canal.
- It resembles a **watchtower with searchlights**, tower has always been there to spy on people, old city defen
- "I want to show people just how much we take vision for granted," explains the artist.

The historic monument Montelbaanstoren used to be part of Amsterdam's town walls – the city's defenses.

How in heaven's name do you get dozens of fishing lines to stretch that tightly between the Montelbaanstoren tower and a canal?

ALF's technical team developed a special line dispenser for this purpose. It's a tube filled with multiple spools of line – allowing you to string the entire beam of 50 fishing lines in one go.



### 3. Tube Display

by Lambert Kamps

- Tube Display is made by dutch artist Lambert Kamps
- The artwork is a grid made up of **104 tubes of light**, which have been **divided into eight fields**.
- The fields can be used to form eight separate characters: a letter, number/punctuation mark.
- It can show an **endlessly morphing succession of eight-letter words**

The work could be likened to an old-fashioned alarm clock – but in this case, the characters are formed by pneumatically operated light tubes.

They shift in and out of position until they've recombined into a new eight-letter word. Horizons, Infinity, Daydream, Gateways – all words that magically appear over time. It may not seem a lot: eight characters.



But as they say, true mastery is shown in restraint. 'Less is more'. But isn't this a bit too severe? What goes on inside your head if you're only allowed to use eight-letter words?

### 4. Flying with the light

By Group B

- Flying with the light is made by Taiwanese artist's Group B
- The structure is **36 meters long** and **represents a line of wings**
- The wings are intended to remind you of **birds**. More specifically, **Magpies**
- The work is powered almost entirely by the wind
- The 'B' in Group B stands for **bricoleur**: a true 'tinkerer', dedicated to repairing, creating and innovating objects in the everyday world

In the West, the Magpie is synonymous with thievery, but the picture changes as you go further East.

In Taiwan for example, this black-and-white bird is seen as a bringer of good fortune. And that's where this work – named Flying with the Light – comes from.

It was made by a group of Taiwanese students of architecture, led by their professor Cheng-Chi Cheng.

"Taking the bird's traditional meaning as a starting point, we drew inspiration from the image of a flying magpie – in the hope that our wings can bring good fortune to people in these times," the students explain.



## 5. Firefly

By Studio Toer

- The work is made up of special LED light dots that seem to hover in the air
- These hovering dots represent **Fireflies**
- The dutch artists of Studio Toer share their fascination with the aesthetic impact and vibrant animation of these miniscule winged beetle

Thanks to the unique **dynamic suspension** of the LED lights, each dot follows its own natural and unpredictable trajectory. Soaring and hovering above the water, the dots of light become living fireflies in your mind's eye. A temporary re-enchantment of the 19th-century bridge.



Did you know that like the dots in this artwork, fireflies can also switch their lights on and off? As a result, each species actually has its own distinct signal. Allowing males and females of the same species to find each other in the dark.

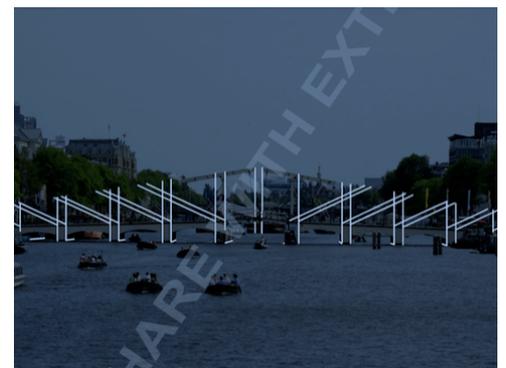
## 6. Bridge 242

By Peter Vink

- His large-scale, minimalist installations **emphasize geometric forms**, with **light** often playing a key role in his work.
- Vink has used lines of white light on the **Magere Brug** and the **Amstelsluisen river locks**.
- **His lines follow existing contours**, not just of the bridge, but also the white levers of the lock complex to its rear.
- As a result, **the two monumental structures are linked together**, and the bridge seems a lot larger than it actually is.

Imagine having a marker pen that you could use to draw on your surroundings. So say you looked to your right – you could decide to draw a few storeys on top of some houses along the canal. Or trees on a houseboat. You'd be drawing in space. And basically that's what Peter Vink did.

In a sense, it's almost as if Peter has 'completed' the bridge through this new collection of diagonal lines.



Usually, you draw on a flat surface – whether it's a piece of paper or a computer monitor. Still, Peter's light drawing also takes shape on a flat surface. The fact that it nevertheless appears to be three-dimensional is due to those diagonal lines. They add depth to the image, but that's an illusion!

## 7. Sign

Vendel & De Wolf

- Sign is made by dutch artists Paul Vendel & Sandra de Wolf
- The work consists of **bamboo poles covered with aluminum tape**, when you point a light on them, the poles are transformed into **a mass of flickering flames**
- The work is located in front of the **Amstel Hotel**
- The main body of their work consists of installations that incorporate recognisable items and found objects and materials.

Fire! Few words are able to grab people's attention like 'fire'. Still, they don't always flee the scene. Someone once told me that when there's a big fire you see animals running away. People, on the other hand, are attracted by the flames. Our curiosity draws us towards the blaze.

Here, right in front of the Amstel Hotel, we can see tongues of fire rising meters into the air.



The night air lights up in a spray of sparks. It's a frightening and fascinating sight. And not just because flames are so spectacular. It's also because fire equals destruction. And destruction leads to new beginnings. Maybe that's why they called this work 'Sign'. It's a starting signal. Surrender to the blaze, stare into the flames of change.

## 8. Bloomlight

By VOUW

- Bloomlight is made by dutch artists Justus Bruns and Mingus Vogel
- Drawing inspiration from nature, VOUW wants to show you a different approach to street lighting: an almost friendly design that only lights up when you actually need it.
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The flowers are reacting to us as we pass by. The flowers aren't moving at random, though. They're gesturing. To you, to be precise. They want to get your attention.

A slight nod of the head in recognition. Even though I know it's just technology. Sensors, chips, LED lights. Still, it feels like you've been greeted by some kind of creature. With its own personality

Bloomlight follows the 'slowtech' design concept, which uses technology to enable people to slow down. Through their work, VOUW aims to help create a future in which people control technology – instead of the other way round.



## 9. Hourglass

By Wilhelmusvlug

- imagine your **surroundings are just an illusion**, like The Matrix, or a Virtual Reality
- The ring **could be representative of time**, looking both into the future and the past.
- a **glitch**, a bug in the program. The hour of the day is wrong!
- Two separate worlds that exist together; a familiar thing to Wilhelmusvlug, who grew up as a city kid on the countryside and later as a country boy in the big city

Imagine your surroundings are just an illusion. The trees in the park aren't real, the grass you're walking on... Even the people around you. They're all a simulation, all virtual. In reality, you're lying down somewhere, wearing a VR headset. Everything you see, hear and touch is as it should be. Until you look at this artwork.

Suddenly, there's a glitch, a bug in the program. A ring suspended between the trees, where reality is out of whack. But the hour of the day is wrong. It's daytime, while you're walking here after sundown. There's something wrong with the time. It seems to be running late. Or fast – I can't tell for sure. Could this be proof that we're actually stuck in a simulation?



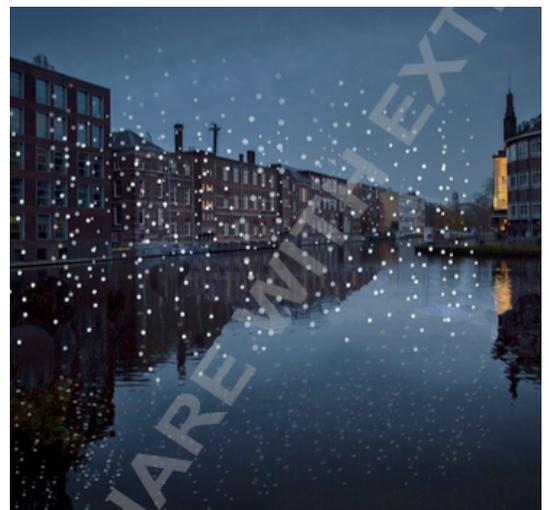
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- Krugman creates **light-based, architectural artworks that merge traditional craftsmanship with modern technology**
- The little white globes hanging down **resemble organic strings of some alien origin**
- Making this work, Jason Krugman drew inspiration from the fields of silver grass that are traditionally planted at memorial sites on the South Korean island of Jeju

The kinetic light sculpture uses thousands of dots of reflected light to visualize subtle changes in the night air. Whenever the suspended stainless steel rods and globes are disturbed, rotated or rocked by the nearby wind, this is accompanied by a soft tinkling sound.

In Krugman's work, aesthetics are often determined by functional choices – for example, when a sculpture's pared-down wire structure is used to conduct electricity.



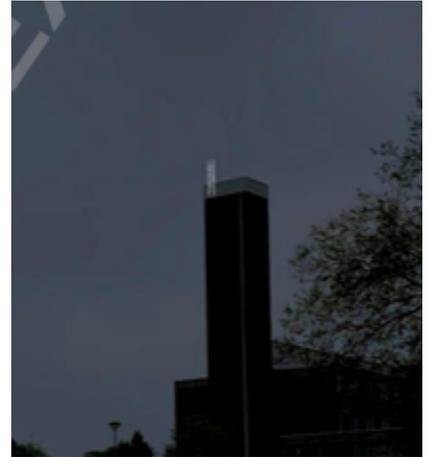
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- The work consists of a **brightly lit ladder on top of the building**
- His works are distinguished by a **simplicity of form**, frequent **symmetry and the use of neon lighting**
- Massimo Uberti believes that one of the most powerful means to imagine a different future is through art

What use is a ladder when you're already up there? When you're standing on the highest mountain or tallest building around, what else is there above you? Just light. From the sun, the stars, the moon. Light from distant, unreachable places.

Look up for a moment –you'll see a ladder of light up there, high on one of the buildings. It was made by the Italian artist Massimo Uberti. As a ladder it isn't leading anywhere in particular... But then maybe, the ladder isn't there for you to climb up. Maybe it's there for light to climb down, to us



## 12. Hole in the Sky

GABRIEL LESTER

- a **portal** to a different world
- UFO was fine by him too, perfect material for an **interesting** film, or book
- **blow-up kite** with light incorporated in it.

“A crown cap!” That’s the first thing I said when I looked up, exactly here, and saw Gabriel Lester’s work Hole in the Sky. “It isn’t a Rorschach test,” said my friend, who had accompanied me. He was disappointed in my interpretation – the fact that I hadn’t seen more than an old-fashioned beer bottle cap. “That won’t do,” he said.

For him, it was a portal to a different world. He launched into this long story about string theory that turned out to be way over my head. His girlfriend thought it looked like a UFO. With aliens on board. That was fine by him too. Because UFOs and portals are perfect material for an interesting film, or book – crown caps on the other hand...



Gabriel Lester named this work a Hole in the Sky. As if you could fly straight through it. What would you find at the other end?

**FUNFACT:** The artwork is actually a blow-up kite with light incorporated in it.

### 13. XYZ

OLIVIER RATSI

- Light can make you, and light can break you
- Jules Schelvisbrug, it's in **poor shape**
- **being scanned** for some kind of illness
- The projected light seems to **remove every imperfection.**

Light can make you, and light can break you. Harsh light will show every imperfection, but nice light can also bathe everything in a rosy, sumptuous glow.

This bridge here is called Jules Schelvisbrug, it's in poor shape. If you were to sail under it, you'd see massive cracks in the concrete. They've even installed sensors there, to monitor how the bridge is holding up.

With XYZ the artist projects abstract lines on the bridge, which give the idea that it's being scanned for some kind of illness. It's unnerving, but at the same time it turns the bridge into a thing of beauty. The projected light seems to remove every imperfection.



**FUNFACT:** In his other works, Olivier often uses an anamorphosis projection. In this technique, the only time you have a good view of the image is when you stand in exactly the right spot.

### 14. Light Wave

OBBA

- landscape of ice **lollies** in **every possible flavour**
- Light Wave, dozens of paddles made from semi-transparent, reflective vinyl and dichroic film
- non-architectural, everyday materials

A surreal landscape of ice lollies, in every possible flavour. OBBA – short for the Office for Beyond Boundaries Architecture – named this work Light Wave. The wave isn't formed by actual ice lollies, but by dozens of paddles made from semi-transparent, reflective vinyl, combining a mirror effect with transparency.

The paddles are all mounted on separate flexible posts, of varying length. Together they form the image of a rolling wave. In their work, OBBA purposely use non-architectural, everyday materials, because they want to create surreal environments.



## 15. Follow the Light

THIADMER VAN GALEN, JASPER VAN RODEN, OLAV VAN VAN ENKHUIJZEN

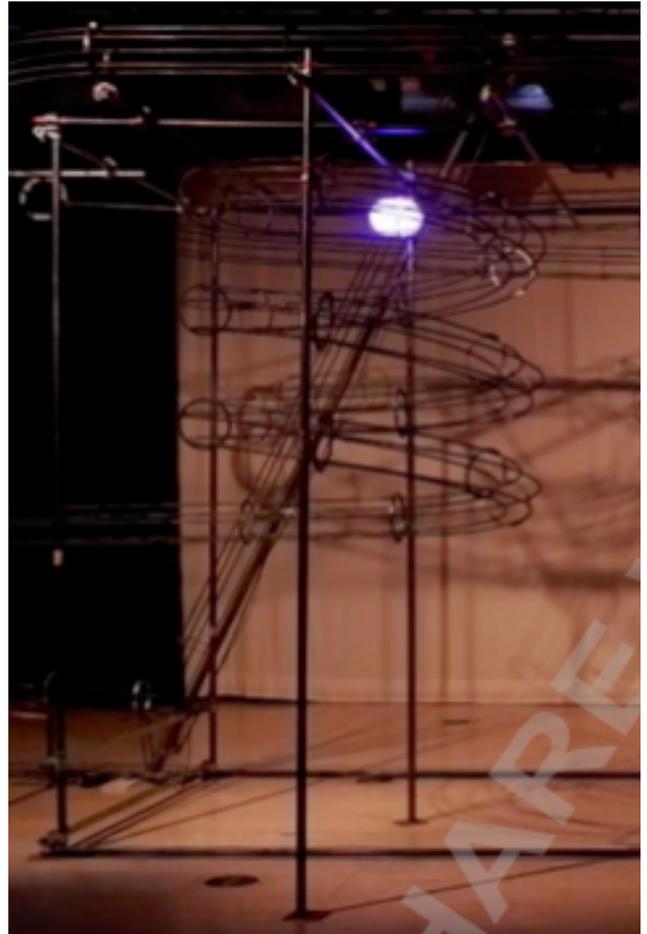
- People all feel unique. But **how unique are we really?**
- the route looks spectacular, but the next marble: exact same course.
- At the same time, I **can't stop looking**
- What would happen if one of these marbles jumped **off the beaten path?** Would it embark on unforeseen adventures?

People in the flats on Entrepotdok all lead their own life – with each life revolving around themselves. And they all feel unique. But how unique are they really?

They all prepare the same recipes, from the same home-delivered meal kits. And they don't mind sending out a birthday card that already has 'Congratulations' printed on it, so they don't have to write it out themselves. A pre-printed life, in a sense.

Life like a marble run: the route looks spectacular, but the marble can't really stray off course. The artists put up a huge marble run precisely here, right in front of these flats. With luminous marbles too: the rays seem to say "Look at me! Look what I'm up to!"... Apparently unaware that the next marble will be completing the exact same course.

At the same time, I can't stop looking. Each time round, my eyes are glued to the spinning marble – watching it complete its journey. What would happen if one of these marbles jumped off the beaten path? Would it embark on unforeseen adventures?



FUNFACT: The illuminated balls are 3D printed. They are also resistant to rain and can be charged wireless.

## 16. Bridge of 1,000 Dreams

### STUDIO TOER

- Amsterdam is always **under construction**
- Bridge was built based on **dreams** shared by 1,000 children
- This year, Amsterdam will be involving the **next generation**

If you live in Amsterdam everyday, something is being built or torn down. It's a very gradual transformation – one that you hardly notice. But if you return to some place that you haven't been for a long time everything seems different.

What if Rembrandt were to return to today's Amsterdam? What would he still recognise? Not this bridge: the Bridge of 1,000 Dreams.

It was built especially for the festival, based on dreams shared by 1,000 children in Amsterdam. They all took time to reflect on their dreams – for themselves, their families, friends, the city. They've been painted with fluorescent paint on the bamboo poles that form the bridge. It forms a bridge between dreams and reality... between the present and the future... between wanting something and achieving it.



### FACTS & FIGURES

Bridges are starting to become structurally unsound, and quays are starting to fissure – and in some cases even collapse. To preserve Amsterdam's heritage, protect it against decay and solve these and other problems, we need a fresh shot of imagination.

### IMPORTANT:

This year, Amsterdam will be involving the next generation – our future users and 'bridge builders' – in this challenge by putting a spotlight on 'the bridge' and the city itself. **Getting kids interested in building, engineering and science.** Amsterdam schoolkids and ALF are having a lot of fun with this each year.

## 17. Spin me a Yarn

- What if **giants** walked among us? Giant dropped it's knitting
- **old crane** at Entrepotdok: happy it can finally make a difference again
- under the **bridge**, you can see a **huge ball of wool**
- **Two giants that are happily playing with a piece of yarn**

What would the world look like if giants walked among us? The piece of yarn that London's Studio Vertigo has stretched across the quays and through the water certainly points to something big going on. As if some massive creature has dropped its knitting.

But the true titan in this story is the old crane at Entrepotdok, which seems to be heroically immersed in the task of pulling the yarn out of the water.



Perhaps to prove it still has what it takes, with its ancient machinery. Or maybe it's happy it can finally make a difference again. Show that it can do more than simply stand idle along the canal.

If you look under the bridge, you can see a huge ball of wool hanging there. The crane and the bridge. Two giants that are happily playing with a piece of yarn – finding each other in their common ties with local history.

**FUNFACT:** a lot of people together managed to get the yarn over the crane, via the boat through the water and to the bridge. From the climbers in the crane to residents in the houseboat, to clerks of the municipality. And of course, the artists themselves.

## 18. To Merge

Priya Saktoe, Yoeki de Ruyter and Sorella Loman

- jump in the water and enter a **different realm**.
- new animals living in Amsterdam's canals: **Louisiana crawfish**

This year, we want to celebrate imagination; invite you to travel to a different world through the works on display. This artwork invites you to jump in the water and enter a completely different realm.

A world full of weird and wonderful creatures. Where we can't breathe, while they're in their element. Where you can move over someone without having to jump. Where thirst is a truly alien concept.

Students at Amsterdam's Breitner Academie have brought a corner of this underwater world to the surface, in the artwork To Merge. It stars lobsters, in a range of different colours.



**FUNFACT:** One of the new animals found living in Amsterdam's canals is the Louisiana crawfish or mudbug. You can occasionally see him walking along the city streets, after climbing out of the canals.

## 19. Gloeilamp

Theo Botschuijver

- Most homes **didn't have electricity**
- The city was actually a lot darker, **lightbulbs changed everything**, Our day-night rhythm, what our streets looked like... everything.
- Nowadays, we have LED lighting. A lot more efficient. But the incandescent bulb deserves a dignified send-off.
- The **giant flying pig** on the cover of Pink Floyd's album Animals from 1977 was made by Theo Botschuijver.

Every window seems to tell a story, about the people who live behind it. Not that long ago, a lit window would have been very unusual. Most homes didn't have electricity, and people would be sitting around the weak light of an oil lamp, far from their windows.

The city was actually a lot darker when we didn't have electricity and incandescent light bulbs. These bulbs basically changed everything.



Nowadays, we have LED lighting. A lot more efficient – making them better for the environment. But the incandescent bulb deserves a dignified send-off.

The inflatable bulbs floating here were made by artist and inventor Theo Botschuijver. Through them, he wants to pay his respects to illustrious predecessors like Thomas Edison, Alexander Lodygin, Joseph Swan, Henry Woodward, Matthew Evans, Heinrich Göbel and others. The people who dispelled the darkness after a 'light bulb went off in their head'.

**FUNFACT:** Remember the giant flying pig on the cover of Pink Floyd's album Animals from 1977? That was actually made by Theo Botschuijver. He is an expert in the production of inflatable sculptures.

## 20. Inversion Waterfall

UxU Studio

- You're sailing around the **NEMO Science Museum**.
- act of defiance : **deny the law of universal gravitation**
- Light is the fastest-moving thing in the universe, but it's also the most elusive phenomenon and the most enchanting.

This large, turquoise building houses the NEMO Science Museum. It offers a truly hands-on experience of the workings of the natural world. The laws of nature apply here.

With this in mind, what the artists of UxU Studio have come up with is nothing less than an act of defiance. A waterfall that flows along the facade of the science museum. But not downwards, upwards! It shows just how far you can actually go with light.

Light is the fastest-moving thing in the universe, as every scientist will confirm. But it's also the most elusive phenomenon I can think of. And the most enchanting. Like there's nothing it can't do.



### THOUGHT EXPERIMENT:

(Our daily experience of time is rather asymmetrical, according to UxU Studio. The past is fixed and irreversible, while the future is open and undetermined. Like two sides of a mirror. )