

# I prefer not to

Tuesdays'  
lecture series

27.09. HIL E8 19.30 Jan de Vylder  
18.10. HIL E1 17.00 Philip Ursprung  
08.11. HIL E8 18.30 Arno Brandhuber  
15.11. HIL E4 18.30 Christian Kerez

Architecture – the 'YES' profession par excellence – can deeply and critically learn from the culture of 'NO'.

What if the architect would systemically cultivate the uncomfortable yet urgent art of saying 'NO'? How many architects really acknowledge that declaring 'NO' to irrelevant briefs or other impertinent opportunities is a fundamental social responsibility of the profession? And can this ethical 'NO' be considered productive for the public good? The self-evident though elusive answer is: 'YES', of course. This small-scale series offers an inclusive stage for architects, artists and designers who have claimed 'NO' at a crucial point in their professional career. It wishes to put to the fore the rewarding but scarce praxis of critical abstinence. The quote 'I prefer not to' originates from Herman Melville's short story 'Bartleby, the scrivener: A story of Wall Street' (1853).

