

The Civic Empowerment Toolbox

Action design for Urban Futures

Jap Sam Books and Ben Schouten would like to announce the launch of *The Civic Empowerment Toolbox*, a playful approach to civic empowerment.

The influence of media, big data and artificial intelligence on our daily lives is becoming increasingly tangible. *The Civic Empowerment Toolbox* focuses on the design of active citizenship and citizen participation, offering many examples as well as opportunities to kickstart your own initiative.

Together, the six cahiers, including the introduction, offer a complete overview of design for civic empowerment where practice and theory come together, resulting in design recommendations, examples and future opportunities for research and education. The book is an analogue read from start to finish, but you can also read it crisscross, starting with any of the book's key concepts, subdivided in twenty themes, allowing you to delve deeper into the fascinating elements of civic empowerment.

The twenty themes offer a wide variety of different angles for societal change, illustrated with many examples such as hope, bottom-up instead of top-down approach, power and scale, the role of community, data, the possibility to fail, value & care, online platforms and offline rituals, and storytelling.

The book is intended for (future) designers, scholars, students and policymakers as well as those interested in design for and with the (local) community, but above all, for those that want to change the world for the better.

About the author

Ben Schouten graduated in 1983 from the Rietveld Academy for Visual Arts. He works as a designer and was appointed full professor of Playful Interactions at the Department of Industrial Design at the Eindhoven University of Technology in 2010 and as a lector of Play & Civic Media at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences in 2013. His work focuses on play and design for social innovations, citizen empowerment and culture. Together with Menno Deen, Schouten is working on another major publication about the Role of Play in Society to be published by Jap Sam Books medio 2023.

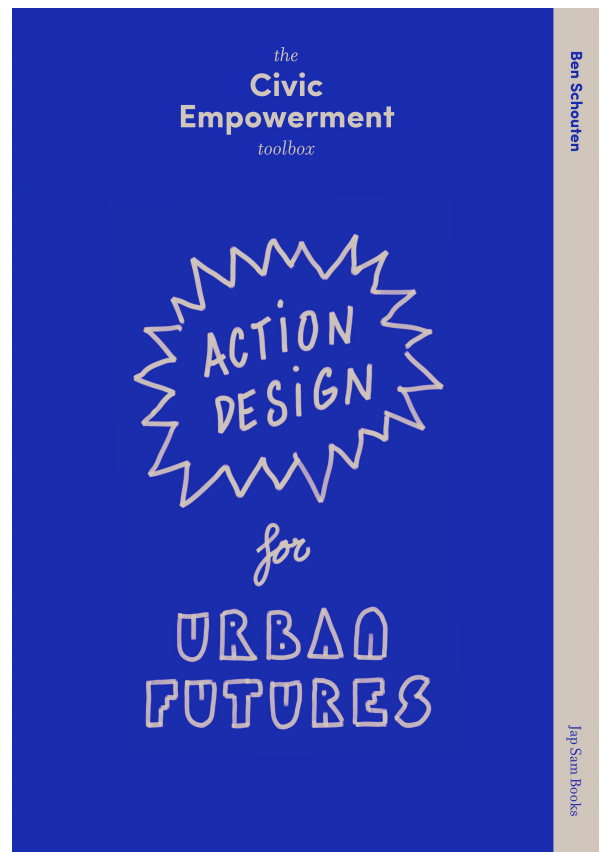
www.roleofplay.nl

December 2nd, 2022 - Eindhoven University of Technology

Ben Schouten will deliver his farewell speech on December 2nd 2022 as professor of Playful Interactions at the Department of Industrial Design at Eindhoven University of Technology after almost 12 years. He will occlude this special period with a valedictory lecture named 'Role of Play'. Copies of *The Civic Empowerment Toolbox* will be presented to the deans of the AUAS and TU/e during this event.

January 18th, 2023 - Pakhuis de Zwijger, Amsterdam

To celebrate the publication of the Toolbox, Ben Schouten, together with Jap Sam Books and Pakhuis de Zwijger, has planned a special book event on January 18, 2023 at Pakhuis de Zwijger in Amsterdam. More info to follow.



Author Ben Schouten et al.

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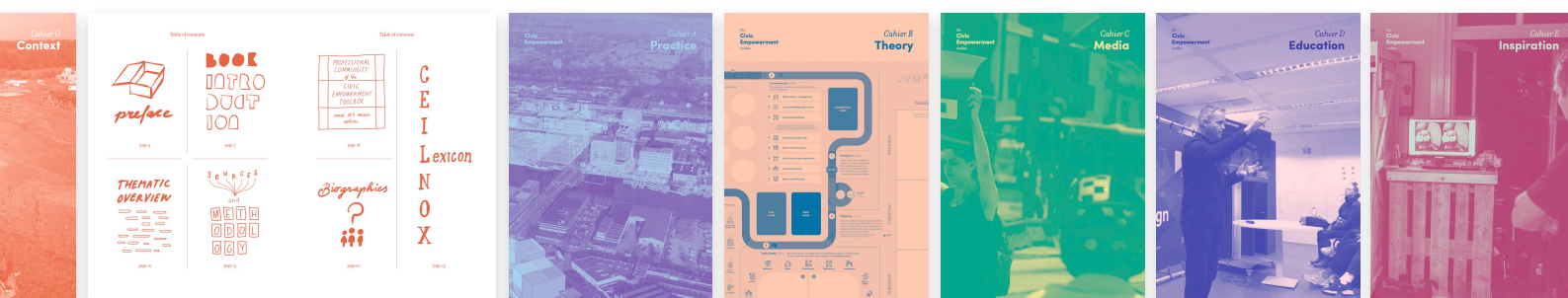
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS)

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Price €30.-

I Boxset with 6 cahiers: Introduction, Practice, Theory, Media, Education, and Inspiration.

I Including Get Started! Planning Tool for Civic Empowerment, consisting of 1 board game, 45 cards, 1 manual and pre-packed inspiration.



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