

Marc Pimlott



Biography

Mark Pimlott (1958) is author of *The Public Interior as Idea and Project* (2016) and *Without and within:* essays on territory and the interior (2007). He is assistant professor of architectural design (Interiors Buildings Cities) at TU Delft, the Netherlands.

« The public interior and its purpose: a re-evaluation »

Affordance, consciousness, subjectivities and intersubjectivity

Tuesday 24 Nov, 4:30 PM

After COVID-19, might one think of the public interior differently? Might the public interior treat the people who use it differently?

There is a long history of the public interior shaping or conditioning its subjects and forming subjectivities. Rarely do those subjects challenge the projections of public interiors or alter their conditions. One might imagine (or hope) that the orderly submission to consumption or other subtler exhibitions of power might be diverted by other possibilities, by, say people-watching with civility, or by associations that are independent of prescribed modes of behaviour. One is largely aware that the public interior becomes public by some common consent—it is taken to be public—when it is in fact most often a privately owned, operated and secured space, which implicitly filters its public, and very often does so explicitly, affording limited enfranchisement or denying it entirely as it does so. The public interior, even if truly public, is a space that has demonstrated a long tradition of being oriented toward spectacle: that of power, and consumption. In both instances, privately- or publicly-owned, people are conditioned to accept the public interior's message, which is inevitably portrayed as natural, transparent, conventional, and uncontroversial.

What might happen if the abundance of determining conditions is redirected or or profoundly altered? What might people demand, or welcome, as they find or desire themselves to be more self-determining subjects?

Link to the webinar: https://cutt.ly/Pimlott Metrolab