

Affordances in architectural practice

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RAAAF [Rietveld Architecture-Art-Affordances] makes site-specific work at the crossroads of architecture, art and science. RAAAF (www.raaaf.com) was Dutch Architect of the Year in 2013. What can we learn from this practice about the potential of the concept of affordances for architecture? I will present several projects that show RAAAF's affordance-based approach. At the Venice Architecture Biennale 2010 the exhibition 'Vacant NL' made a call for temporary reuse of 10.000 vacant government-owned buildings for innovation. Awareness of the richness of *already available affordances* (Rietveld & Kiverstein, 2014) is a good way to get grip on the enormous potential of vacancy. Architects are not only open to available affordances, but also *create* new affordances. A project that shows this clearly is the design of a healthy living environment, Fortress Werk aan 't Spoel, which creates new affordances that, for instance, invite children to climb and run.

Reference

Rietveld, E. & Kiverstein, J. (forthcoming) **A Rich Landscape of Affordances**. *Ecological Psychology*, pp. xxx-xxx. Link:
<https://erikrietveld.files.wordpress.com/2012/11/rietveldkiversteinforthcomingecologicalpsychology.pdf>