What is MuseumFutures about?

MuseumFutures is a Delft Design School Lab at the Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering (TU Delft) which focuses on exploring the future of museum experience design. In recent years museum experiences have evolved from stand-alone experiences within the confined space of a physical museum to experiences that are embedded in journeys that start before and last until after the museum experience; experiences that are embedded in community engagement activities, or in people’s daily lives; experiences that may follow a trajectory through institutional ecosystems (including schools, care centres, etc.).

MuseumFutures focuses on the implications for museum experience design of such types of embeddings; we explore the role that current technology-related developments, including Internet of Things, DIY technology and Maker Movement can play in facilitating and stimulating this development.

A new way of doing research

MuseumFutures is associated to the Connected Everyday Lab and collaborates with other Faculty labs and external parties. It provides room for students to graduate on an ongoing research topic within the Faculty.

In MuseumFutures, several Master graduate students of the Faculty collaborate in design research projects. Each student works on his or her own project, but all projects feed into a growing body of knowledge about opportunities for future museum experience design as it relates to connecting museums to the outside world and applying novel technologies in doing so.

All students collaborate with museums, heritage houses, design agencies or other stakeholders in relevant fields. They have their home base at the Faculty where they synergistically work with their fellow students in the lab; sharing their experiences, inspiring each other, sharing knowledge and building a growing body of knowledge and tools on the topic.

New modes of synergistic collaboration

The way of working within MuseumFutures is relatively new. Thus, for us, one of the exciting challenges is to explore truly new ways of doing design research with Faculty internal and external collaborators; in ways that are beneficial and exciting to all parties.

We invite interested parties to get in touch with us, so that together we can develop new modes of collaboration, leading to results that are relevant and new to the field.

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