



Cahier van de stedelijke autosnelweg  
**How city and motorway correlate**  
comprehensive research and publication, 2008 Den Haag (NL)

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BAPS' ARCHITECTS RESEARCH DESIGN

# Cahier van de stedelijke autosnelweg

Bijdragen aan de esthetische  
ontginning van de autosnelweg  
in het stedelijk veld

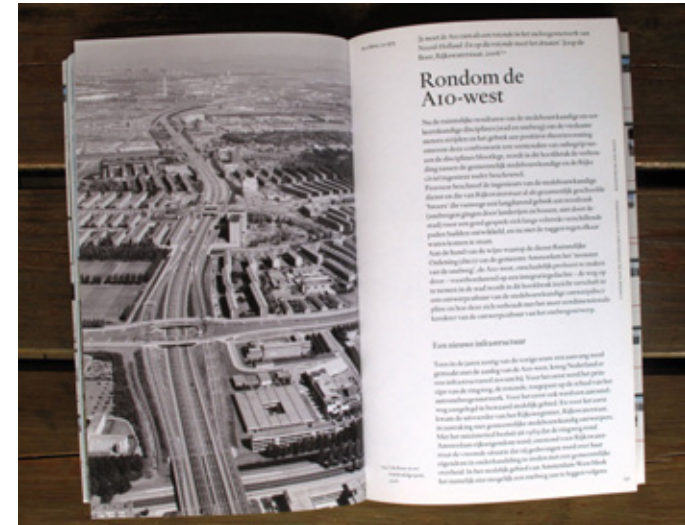
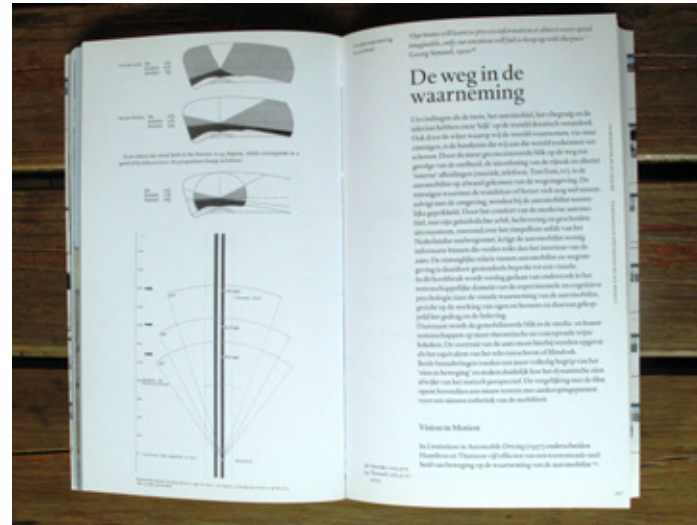
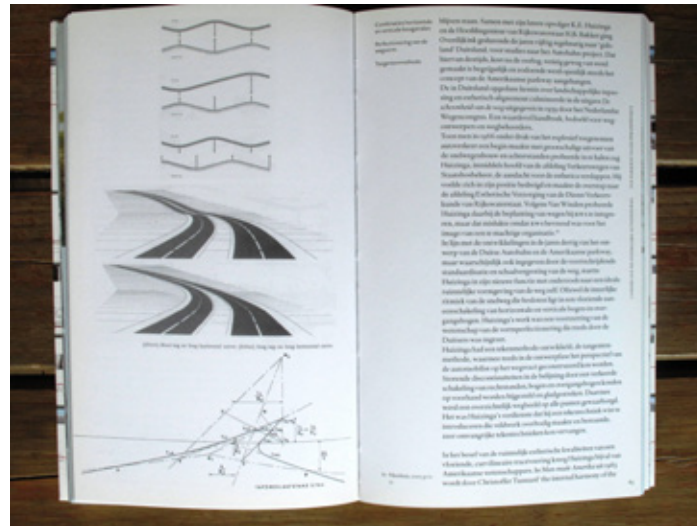
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**baps' architects**  
Jacques Beljaars & Marsel Verheijde  
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Commissioned by the State Advisor for Infrastructure Jan Brouwer this book researches the complex relationship between city and motorway. The 'Cahier of the urban motorway' provides a platform for a discussion about the relationship between car use, urbanity and the

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motorway, and how the experience of the motorist as inhabitant of this main public space should get shaped. In the design theory of rural archetypes of the motorway - the American Parkway and the German Autobahn - the perception of the motorist has always been a key factor.

But the theoretical development of the urban motorway has come to a complete standstill due to the domination of environmental legislation. Thus the highway is driven behind noise screens or preferably made harmless underground. The legislation blocks thinking

about other, more contemporary and positive visions of city and mobility, as they provide an alibi to all design disciplines involved in urban planning and highway design not having to (jointly) reconsider their attitudes to the car (compact city versus safe flow). While it

is precisely them who should boost design theory. Theory and new spatial visions refresh the disciplines of urban design and planning, in which (auto) mobility should be a central, key factor. This allows us to better understand the spatial reality of the 'homo mobilis'.