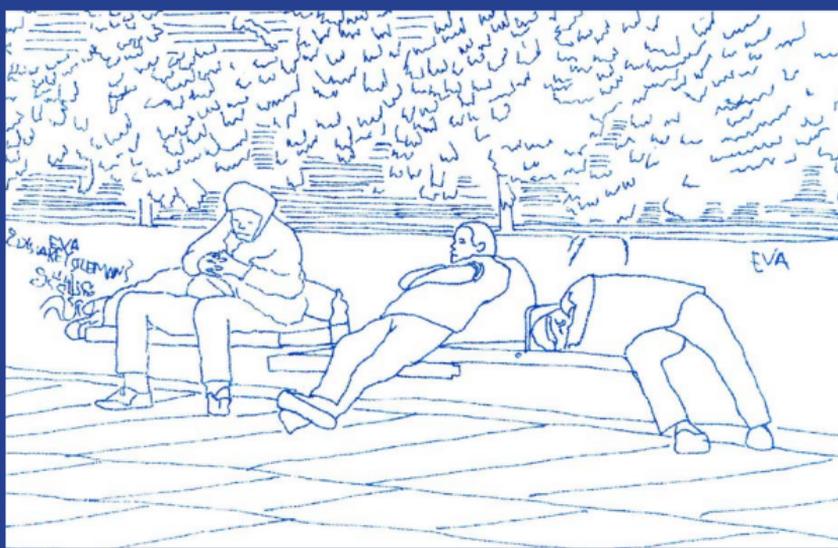


DESIGNS AGAINST THE HOMELESS



PRATERSTERN

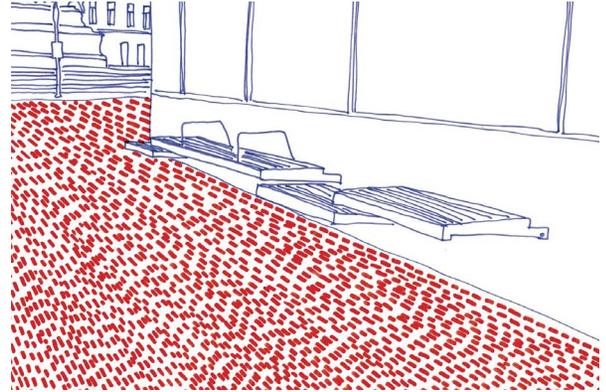
EXHIBITION GUIDE

Deterrent designs are, simply defined, tools used to control social behavior and conduct in public or semi-public spaces. They are also referred to as unpleasant designs or defensive architecture.

More and more do we witness deterrent designs being implemented in our urban spaces to control social behavior and conduct. While understanding that a certain level of control is needed to cohabitate harmoniously, how much control is too much control? Where do we find a balance between individual freedom on one end and excessive control on the other?

The never-ending exhibition "Designs against the Homeless" at Praterstern Vienna, Austria explores the varied, intentional strategies taken by city authorities to deter the homeless (usually away from commercial city centers). Using a diversity of form and materiality, the works pick apart conventional control methods such as police watch to a more indirect approach that considers urban furniture, light, sound and new technology. The designs that will be exhibited already exist at the station. These include public benches, bins, CCTV cameras and more.

www.cargocollective.com/massnahmen



2

DIVIDED BENCH

Materiality: Timber

Design features: Varying seating heights and the use of armrests create divisions on the bench.

Impact: The bench divisions create only enough space for two people to sit down together. Thus, not enough space for an adult body to lie down.

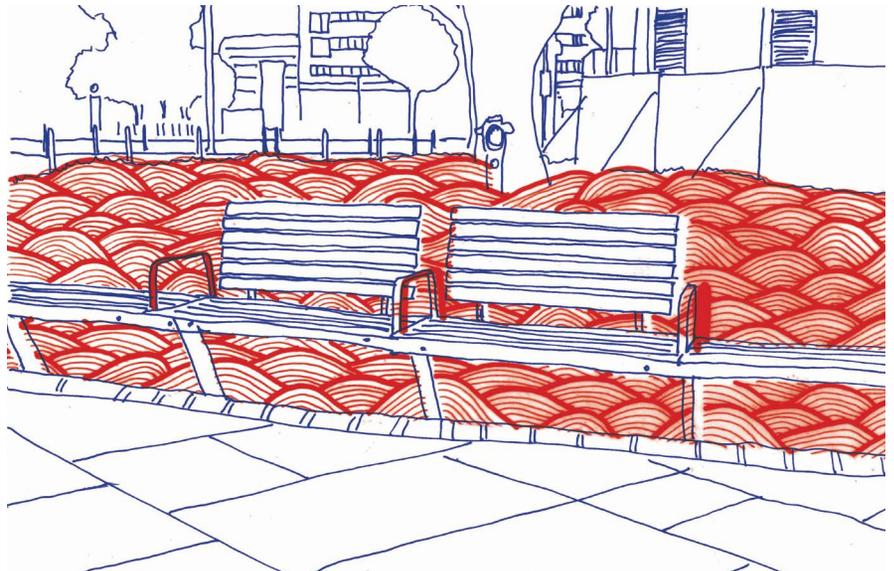
1

BARRIER BENCH

Materiality: Timber

Design features: Long curved bench along grass edge and a repetition of armrests to divide the bench. Limited back support.

Impact: The regular divisions created by the armrests prevent anyone from lying down across the bench. The use of a curved form and the lack of back support also assist to make the bench more uncomfortable to use and prevent people from crossing onto the grass.



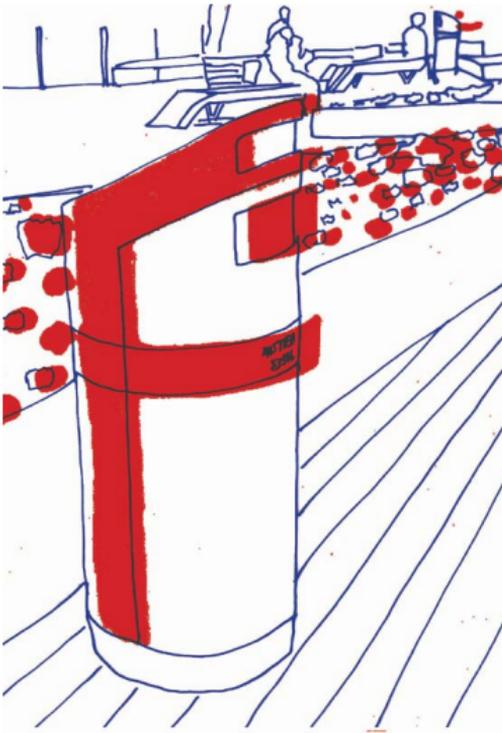
3

ANTI-DUMPSTER DIVING BIN

Materiality: Stainless steel

Design features: Sloping top, round corners, smooth surfaces and small openings.

Impact: The sloping top discourages people from leaving litter or sitting on top of the bin. Small openings prevents people from dumpster diving.



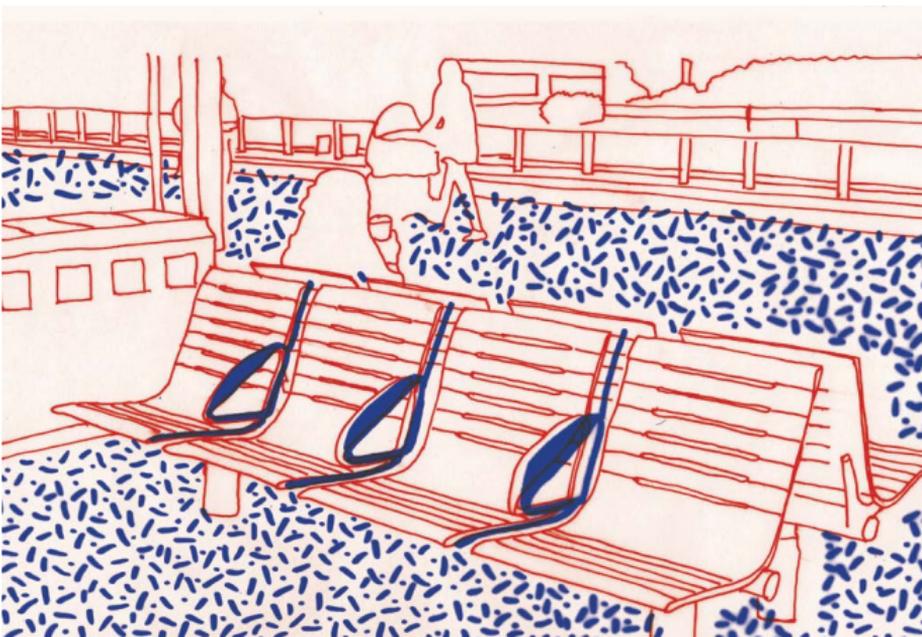
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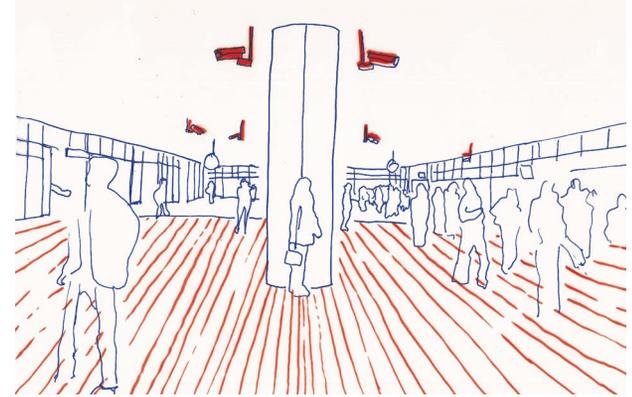
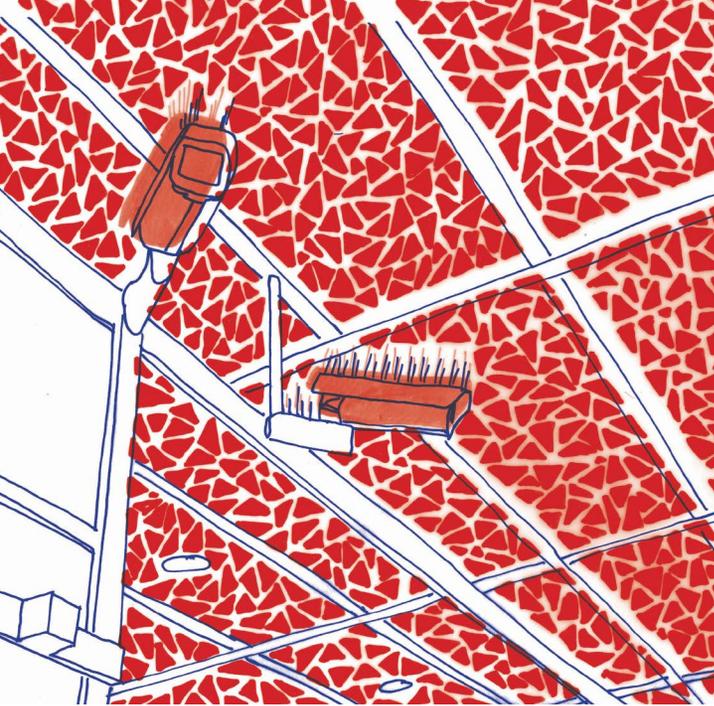
COLD BENCH

Materiality: Stainless steel

Design features: Armrests that do not serve its purpose as an armrest.

Impact: This design is used at most train stations in Austria. The stainless steel has a desired coldness that prevents people from sitting for a long time. The armrests also force people to sit separately and prevent people from lying down or occupying more than one seat.





6

CLINICAL ATMOSPHERE

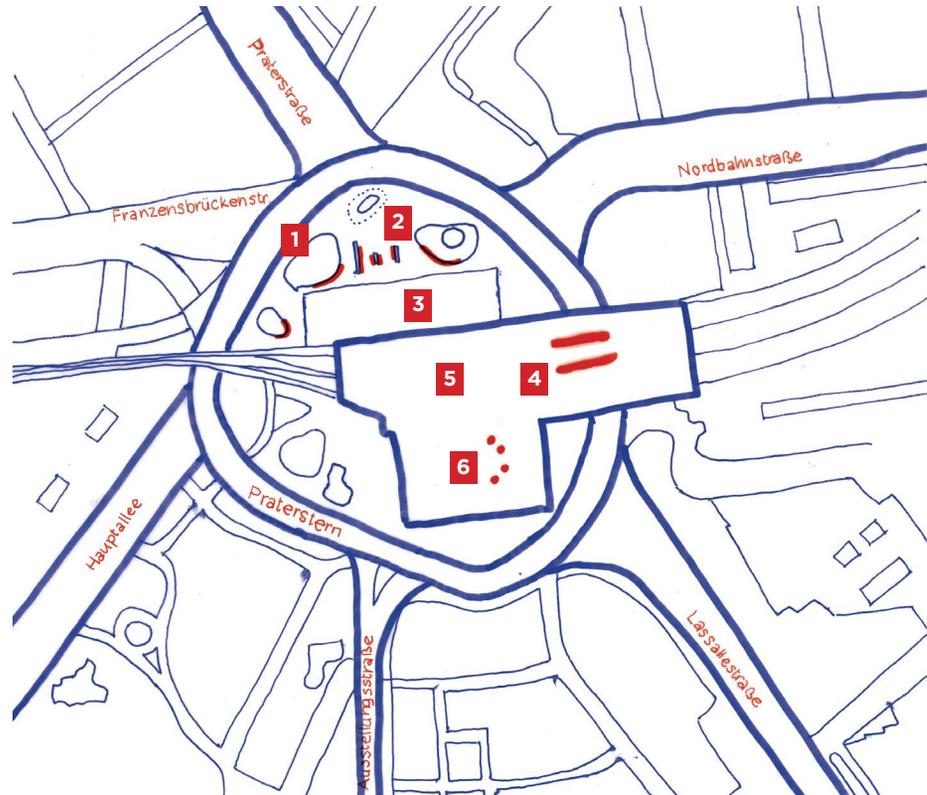
Design features: Cold lighting and colour of materials. One continuous space. Clear overview of the entire station.

Impact: The lighting used at most train stations makes the space feel inhospitable thus preventing loitering or long periods of stay. The use of cold-coloured materials also adds to the clinical quality. One continuous passage allows the space to be easily monitored and to keep it as a thoroughfare.

5

CCTV SURVEILLANCE

Impact: Unhidden cameras make themselves known to the public as a strategy to make people feel like their behavior is visible to or monitored by people in positions of power. Whether they are turned on or not, they are designed to deter crime and influence public conduct.



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Social Design - Arts as an
Urban Innovation

Print: Soybot, Vienna, 2016