

A FILM BY BÊKA & LEMOINE

THE WORLD IN A SQUARE

Intrinsically TOPOTEK 1

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A film by Bêka & Lemoine, 2026, 72 min.

Produced by TOPOTEK 1 on the occasion of its 30th anniversary

Iman, Peter, Johanne, Kala, and Elisa seem to have little in common at first glance. A political activist, an astronomer, a tattoo artist, a cook, and a babysitter rarely cross paths. What connects them is that they all live in Nørrebro, Denmark's most socially and ethnically diverse neighbourhood. Over ten years ago, a park was built at its heart to bring the community together. Like a village square where the world converges, Superkilen quickly became both a landmark and a vibrant civic hub.

Over the course of one summer, Bêka & Lemoine settled in the park to observe this global microcosm from within. Throughout the film, they explore how the neighbourhood is shaped by migration, religion, and politics — a diversity that can often generate tensions and contradictions, but also unexpected encounters. The film questions how a context-specific intervention on public space can foster co-existence and enable people to collectively inhabit and redefine a shared place.

The World in a Square unfolds as a choral portrait of a community shaped by contrasts and constant transformation, revealing how the design of public space can act as a catalyst for interaction.

Screenings

Avant-premiere, April 23, 2026, Kino International Berlin

World Premiere, September 2, 2026, Copenhagen Architecture Forum

Swiss Premiere, September 4, 2026, Architekturforum Zürich

US Premiere, October 13, 2026, ADFF New York

Projects featured

Superkilen, Downtown Høje Taastrup, Inflatables



SUPERKILEN

As a viscerally heterogeneous space, Superkilen is a prime example of open space design that has been shaped by methods of collaging and translation. The careful curation of cultural artifacts gathered from around the globe explores the rich terrain that exists between and beyond the mixed identities of those residing in the surrounding neighborhood of Nørrebro – one of Copenhagen's most diverse communities. Public participation led to the interlinking of various distant places and cultures within an entirely new context through 108 selected objects and trees. Different backgrounds were constructively engaged, creating opportunities to bridge differences and foster the diverse identities of the neighbourhood.

Location

Copenhagen, Denmark

Design Team

Topotek 1, BIG – Bjarke Ingels Group, Superflex

Project Completion

2012

Photo Credit ©Iwan Baan

More on the project [here](#)



DOWNTOWN HØJE TAASTRUP

The vision for Downtown Høje Taastrup is a sophisticated response to the challenges presented by climate change in urban contexts. Here, a new green spine activates the city core and at the same time creates spatial structures that can cope with anticipated increases in rainfall. A central skatepark is flanked by play areas, sports facilities, green spaces, and a broad cycling and pedestrian route connecting the railway station with the town's main shopping center. Spanning a kilometer, it is both the world's longest skatepark and the site's stormwater management. Through a hybrid design approach, a place of interaction between architecture, landscape, urban space, and infrastructure is created for this new urban neighbourhood.

Location

Høje Taastrup, Denmark

Design Team

Topotek 1, Cobe, Ramboll, Glifberg-Lykke

Project Completion

2022

Photo Credit ©Hanns Joosten

More on the project [here](#)



INFLATABLES

Though altered by time and seasons, landscapes are generally understood as geographically fixed. The Inflatables invent an integrative experience that is neither site-specific nor stationary. Designed to travel, they can be picked up, moved, and reinvent themselves and their surroundings wherever they stop, instantly transforming any indoor or outdoor space. The set consists of 8 various-sized, air-filled spheres, hollow elongated doughnut-shaped tubes — some just big enough to walk through and others to crawl through — and long cylindrical pieces. Cheerfully colored and soft to the touch, these inflatables of subversive identity bounce, roll, and stand on their own. Their clumsy scale and the impossibility of controlling them give them an absurd, energetic, and playful quality. First exhibited at the State Horticultural Show in Wolfsburg, Germany, the Inflatables have since travelled to many different places around the world.

Location

Multiple

Design

Topotek 1

Photo Credit ©Hanns Joosten

More on the project [here](#)



TOPOTEK 1

Working in the fields of landscape and architecture, TOPOTEK 1 understands itself as a traveler in the fringe areas of typologies and scales, jaunting into urban design, music, and art. The hybridisation of topics and disciplines, the transmittal and re-contextualisation of design elements, and the staging of scenographic sequences are defining strategies pertinent to their work.

Topotek 1 was founded in 1996 by Martin Rein-Cano in Berlin. Since 1999, he has run the studio in equal partnership with Lorenz Dexler. Carsten Schmidt has been an associate partner of Topotek 1 since 2021. In 2017, Topotek 1 Architektur was founded by Martin Rein-Cano, Lorenz Dexler and Dan Budik.

Photo Credit ©TOPOTEK 1



BÊKA & LEMOINE

Artists filmmakers working at the crossroads of visual arts and non fiction cinema. Bêka & Lemoine's work explores the frictions between design and daily life, revealing how people experience, adapt to, resist, or reinterpret architectural intentions. Their work emphasises how architecture governs not only movement and behaviour, but also emotions and social dynamics.

Together they have made over forty films, among which 'Koolhaas HouseLife' (2008), 'Barbicania' (2014), 'The Infinite Happiness' (2015), 'Moriyama San' (2017), 'Tokyo Ride' (2020) and 'Homo Urbanus' (2017-ongoing). In 2023, they published the book *The Emotional Power of Space*.

Photo Credit ©Maddalena Clericuzio



Photo Credit © The World in a Square, Beka & Lemoine, 2026

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30 YEARS TOPOTEK 1

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