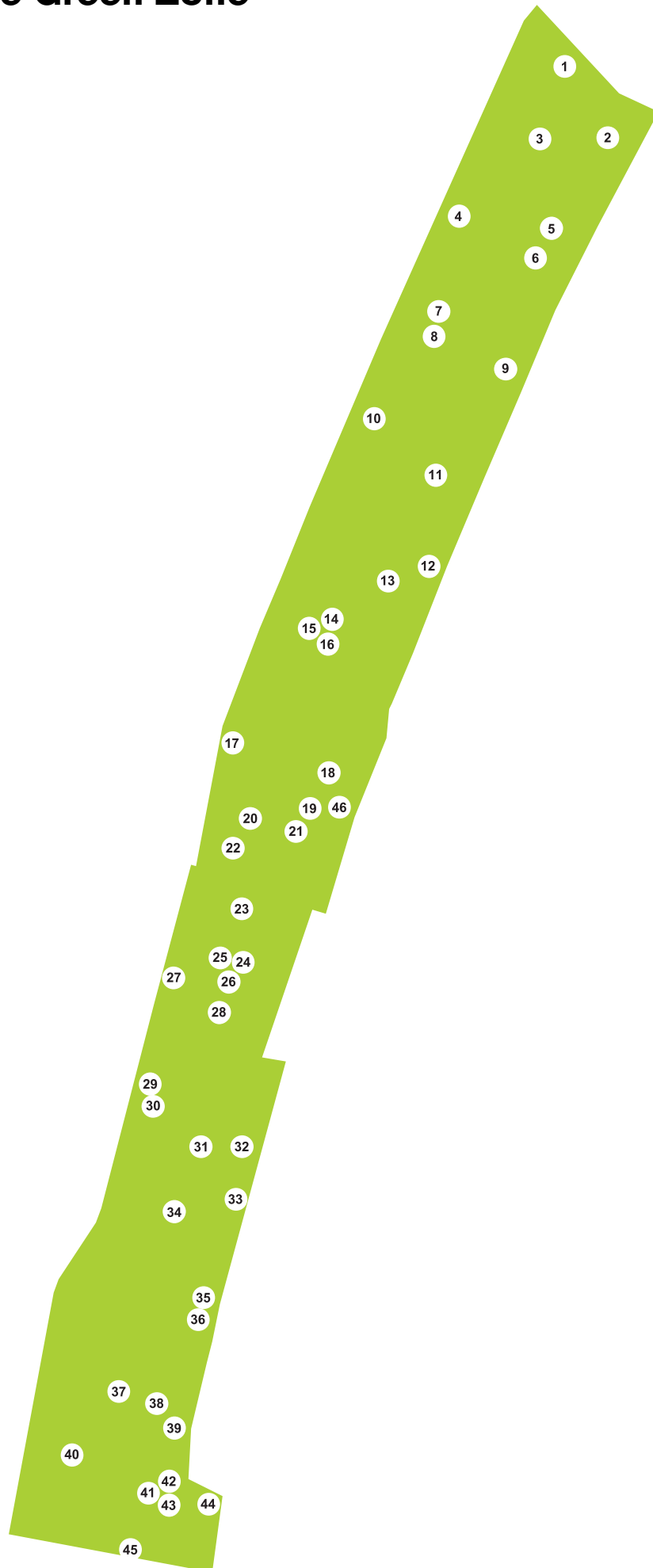

SUPERKILEN

Superkilen's 108 objects and their history

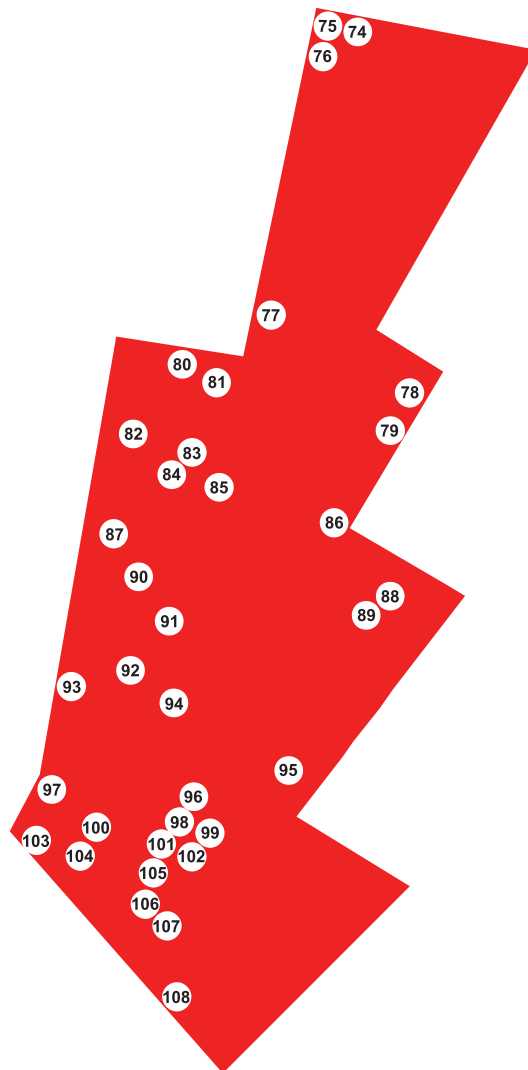
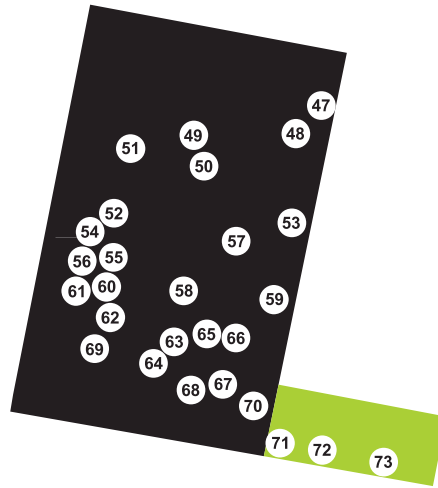


The Green Zone



The Black Market

The Red Square





Object 1–4

Superkilen's 108 objects and their history

1 : Neon sign, Rochester, USA

The sign is located outside the popular doughnut store DeAngelis Donuts in the town of Rochester, Pennsylvania. The doughnut is believed to have arrived in the U.S. by way of Dutch immigrants, seeing that in the 19th century it was still referred to as a kind of oliekoek which quite simply means oilcake in Dutch. The U.S. has celebrated the famous grease fried cakes on the National Doughnut Day since 1938. The tradition was instituted by the Salvation Army to commemorate the so-called Doughnut Girls who would make cakes in makeshift kitchens for the American soldiers at the front during World War I and attempt to fund-raise against poverty during the recession of the 1930s. It is estimated that 10 billion doughnuts are consumed in the U.S. annually, corresponding to 33 doughnuts for each American.

2 : Lamp post, Italy

The northern Italian lamp posts are very similar to the old gas lamps, but in actual fact they are brand new. The romantic design is reminiscent in style of the very gas lamps that were introduced in larger European cities from the early 19th century and onwards. Back then, however, there was nothing romantic about the lamps; they were merely state of the art. In 1848 the Florentine writer Carlo Collodi named his politically satirical journal *Il Lampione* after the lamp post with the declared objective "to spread light among those fumbling in the dark." A light of change was indeed shed on political life, and it did not take long before the hard-boiled satirical journal was banned. Today it is an example of the political breakthrough leading to Italy's unification as a state in 1861. Carlo Collodi would later be a successful author of children's books, his story about the puppet Pinocchio earning him worldwide fame in 1881.

3 : Osborne bull, Costa del Sol, Spain

The characteristic voluminous metal bull guards numerous hills along the Spanish highways. The prototype is all of 14 meters tall, but the Superkilen version has been reduced to 4 meters. The bull used to be an ad for the Andalusian wine company, Osborne, which mounted the first one in 1956. The popular hulk of a bull has since been known as a logo for Spain as such, and when legislation prohibited roadside advertisements, thus jeopardizing the bull's survival, it came to a heated public debate. A court of law ruled that the bull had "become part of the landscape," carrying a significant "cultural and aesthetic value" which made it part of the common Spanish cultural heritage. Thus the bull escaped the slaughterhouse, although the original captions were deleted. Today it is pitch black.

The bull was chosen by Conny and Tove who use Superkilen along with the rest of the Mjølnerparken Nordic Walking Association. Together with the artist group SUPERFLEX from the park's advisory board they set out on a journey to Costa del Sol and all the way to the bull's birthplace, El Puerto de Santa María, to bring back a specimen to Copenhagen.

4 : Lamp post, Italy

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5 : Trash can, Blackpool, England

The town of Blackpool on the English West Coast was named after a stream channeling water from the nearby marshlands around Marton Mere to the ocean. Matter from the peaty bogs lent the stream a black color, hence the name Blackpool which was first recorded in parish registers from 1602 as *de poole* and *de blackpool*. The town by the black water would later become one of England's most popular seaside resorts with its long wooden piers crowded by bars and other pastimes. The town has its own trash can factory which manufactures the approximately 600 trash cans that get filled with litter dumped by the many tourists. Blackpool is also known for its high tower, Blackpool Tower, which is an inspired copy of the Parisian Eiffel Tower.

6 : Bench, Tunisia

The Tunisian mosaic bench is covered by the type of glazed tiles so typical of northern Africa, but also common on the other side of the Mediterranean in southern Spain and Portugal. The figured tiles were particularly prevalent during the period leading up to the late 15th century when the Muslim Moors culturally dominated the entire region around the Strait of Gibraltar. The figured art form was an extension of the so-called aniconism which during different times was interpreted more or less literally within Muslim culture. The Arabic word for the glazed tiles is *al zulay* (زليلا) or *zellige* which simply means polished stone. In Portuguese, the word became *azulejo*, the ceramics which today are considered a special distinctive feature of Portugal.

7 : Barbeque, South Africa

The South African word for barbeque is *braai*. It is derived from the language Afrikaans which originated in the dialects spoken by Dutch settlers in the early stages of the 17th century South African colonization. The racist apartheid regime was introduced in 1948. In 1976, the decision to make Afrikaans the primary school language caused the poor black ghettos to revolt, and 176 students were killed. After the fall of the regime in 1996 the new constitution established 11 official languages: Ndebele, Pedi, Sotho, Swazi, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, Zulu, Afrikaans, and English. English is the predominant official language, and the phrase *braai* is a commonly used loan word. South Africa has since September 28, 2005, celebrated barbeque culture on the National Braai Day whose patron is the Archbishop Desmond Tutu, world-famous anti-apartheid activist.

8 : Picnic table, Yerevan, Armenia

The picnic table is situated at a bus stop in Armenia near the small town of Yeghvard between the capital Yerevan and Agarak. It is one of the many completely unique bus stops that were erected in the 1970s and 80s when Armenia was still part of the Soviet Union. No two stops are identical. If you board one of the regular departures from the Paronyan station in Yerevan you can be in Yeghvard proper in less than 45 minutes where you may visit the ruins of the fifth century Katoghike church. Alternatively, you can get off at another completely unique stop and simply wait an hour for the next bus.

9 : Bench, Lisbon, Portugal

The bench was put up in connection with the World's Fair, Expo, which took place in the Portuguese capital of Lisbon in 1998. Representing more than 145 countries the exhibition covered an area of 50 newly developed hectares and received approximately 11 million visitors. The exhibition officially marked the 500th anniversary of the Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama's discovery of the sea route to India in 1498. The discovery of the sea route was of great importance in that Western merchants could now avoid the expensive intermediary trades in Arabia. Gama's discovery and subsequent colonization of areas in South India paved the way for his appointment as Viceroy of India and another expedition in 1524, during which, however, he quickly succumbed to malaria.

10 : Hammock, Australia

Even though Australia does not have an official language, English prevails while the majority of the ancient aboriginal languages are threatened by extinction. The English term *hammock*, then, is not originally English. On the contrary, it is a 1650s variation of the Spanish *hamaca* which is derived from the Arawakan language spoken by the Taíno tribe on the Caribbean island of Haiti. Here, 16th century Spanish colonizers happened upon the now world-famous berths under the name of *amaca*, allegedly meaning fishing net.



11 : Manhole cover 1, Zanzibar, Tanzania

The manhole cover from Stone Town, the main town on the island Zanzibar, is inscribed with the logo of the local city architect responsible for refurbishing the historical city center. In 2000 the historical Stone Town was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List because of its unique mixture of African, Arab, European, and Indian culture and architecture of more than a millennium.

The logo features the central building on the waterfront, Beit-el-Ajaib (House of Wonders), that had been erected as a palace for Zanzibar's second sultan, Bargash bin Sahid, in 1883. The building is said to have acquired its name due to its fabulous architecture and the fact that it was the first building to boast electricity in all of southern Africa.

12 : Bench, Prague, Czech Republic

The people who undertook the journey to Prague in the 1960s or 70s may remember the bench which was ubiquitous in the then capital of the communist Czechoslovakia. Now only a few samples of the once so typical bench are left in the Czech capital, and the yellow- and red-striped version has largely fallen into oblivion. But then again some children might recognize it from the Czech animator Zdeněk Miler's 50 world-famous cartoons about the mole (krteček) which still remains very popular. Large proportions of the film "The Mole and the Lollipop" from 1970 revolve around this exact version of the bench. In the film the mole gets its paws on a lollipop whose purpose is hard to figure out.

13 : Lamp post, Vienna, Austria

The lamp post with the two street lights is located at a curve right behind the biggest mosque in Vienna. The mosque was completed in 1979 and was subsidized by Faisal Ben Abdul Aziz, the former Saudi king. Standing in the curve facing the lamp post straight on, one has a view of the mosque minaret to the left of the lamp post and the tallest building in Vienna, the 252-meter-tall Donau tower, to the right. Contrary to what you might think, the tower is not a television tower like the famous tower in Berlin. Instead, commercial radio and various cell phone signals are broadcast from here. During the early years, the mosque on Hubertusdamm broadcast its call for prayers from the 32-meter-tall minaret, but by request from the neighbors the call has been limited to the mosque's central hall.

14 : Miniature goals, Damascus, Syria

Miniature goals like this one originally came with the ice rink installed in the Ski Land shopping mall in Damascus, capital of Syria. The ice rink in the top modern center built in 2007 was Syria's first and only of its kind, but as a result of its huge popularity the northern town of Aleppo quickly followed Damascus' example. The ice rink in Damascus was freighted by truck from Germany and assembled in the 10,000 square meter big center which – contrary to the sweltering Syrian summer heat outside – offers air conditioning and cooler temperatures. However, no goals have been set up on the rink, seeing that no one plays ice hockey in Syria as far as is known.

15 : Drain, Basel 1, Switzerland

The drain comes from Basel, the third-largest city in Switzerland. The characteristic wavy pattern is not only convenient because it prevents bike wheels from getting caught. The pattern also seems to have been a significant source of inspiration to the local Swiss architects, Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron, and their building on 11 Schützenmattstrasse, likewise in Basel. The façade of the apartment and office building from 1993 is covered by opening shutters made of cast iron, all characterized by the same wave similar to the one which now drains the water off the Superkile paths.

16 : Basketball hoop, Mogadishu, Somalia

The basketball hoop comes from Lujino Stadium in the center of Mogadishu, the Somali capital. As late as 2011 the stadium was used by the militant Islamic grouping Al-Shabaab as a base for attacks on the nearby presidential palace. Several of the government army grenades hit the stadium when the enemy's fire was greeted. During Al-Shabaab's reign basketball and other kinds of sports were prohibited, and perpetrators might – worst case scenario – be punished by torture or death. After the fall of Al-Shabaab, however, basketball is experiencing a revival in Mogadishu. After more than 20 years of civil war entailing more than 500,000 deaths and several unsuccessful international interventions Somalia remains short of a unifying government, and large parts of the country are still in a state of war.



17 : Gate, Karachi, Pakistan

Founded in 1958, the Karachi Press Club is the oldest journalists' society in Pakistan. It is primarily comprised by Pakistani news reporters, but also welcomes intellectuals, writers, CEOs, and international journalists. The society is located in a Victorian mansion in the center of Karachi, and its gate is known as a popular backdrop for protests. Disparate minorities, civil servants, human rights lawyers, etc., protest right here – typically targeting the Pakistani government.

In Superkilen the gate opens into the kindergarten Asgård.

18 : Bike rack, Sens, France

The bike rack is located in the small French town of Sens, situated in the northern part of the region of Bourgogne. The town has its contemporary name from the Senonian tribes of Gaul, who invaded Rome in the 360s BC. The empire, however, struck back in 58 AD. when Julius Caesar, the Roman commander, conquered Gaul and placed his headquarters by Sens, at that time known in Latin as Agedincum. Despite fierce resistance the wars against the Romans ended in the entire Gaul's defeat. Or perhaps not ALL of Gaul? 2000 years later millions of people still participate in the struggle against "the crazy Romans" along with amiable cartoon figures Asterix and Obelix. Walking in the footsteps of our Gallic heroes along the Roman roads of France, the volume 'Asterix and the Golden Sickle' features the sign pointing in the direction of Agedincum – and thus present-day Sens – on page 23. Today the town welcomes invading tourists by offering free bike taxis during the hours between 10am and 12:30pm.

19 : Bench, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The bench is situated in Park Tivoli, the biggest green area of Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital. The park was constructed during the French rule in 1813. However, it did not acquire its current name till 1835 when – like the amusement park in Copenhagen – it was named after the Tivoli garden in Paris which in turn was named after the gardens in Tivoli near Rome.

Benches of this type are characteristic of the park's central axis, but have also become part of the park monument commemorating Edvard Kocbek, the Slovenian poet. He played a crucial role in the struggle against fascism during World War II, but was later persecuted by the communist regime of Yugoslavia. On the bronzed version of the monument bench the poet sits contemplating his miniature double on the armrest.

20 : Pavilion, St. Louis, USA

The pavilion is originally located in Tower Grove Park in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The park was constructed in 1872 by Henry Shaw, a retired merchant who also founded the city's botanical garden. Shaw was very inspired by the European romantic gardens, and he had architects design 13 pavilions for the park in total, featuring different national styles.

The prominent red and white Turkish pavilion originally hosted a gigantic pigeon house. However, this was abolished in 1892, and since then the pavilion has seen numerous bridal waltzes as well as the Friends of the Bad Dog Annual Picnic which is celebrated by people from the LGBT communities of St. Louis each year.

The pavilion was selected for Superkilen by Inga and Bent who do line dancing at Ældresagen (Dane Age Association). Together with the art group SUPERFLEX from the Superkilen advisory board they went on a road trip from St. Antonio, Texas, to St. Louis searching for the perfect dance pavilion for the park. Eventually, they picked the Turkish pavilion in Tower Grove Park.

21 : Monkey-puzzle Tree, Chile

The Monkey-puzzle Tree (*Araucaria araucana*), also known as the Monkey Tail Tree, is the Chilean national tree. The coniferous evergreen is especially widespread in southern Chile as well as in western Argentina in the relatively low-lying parts of the Andes Mountains. In its original surroundings the tree may grow up to 35 meters tall. In Superkilen, however, it is unlikely to exceed 8 meters. The monkey name refers to the European notion that monkeys must have difficulties climbing it. Throughout time the tree has held a special significance to the indigenous Mapuche population of the Andes Mountains who consider it divine and utilize the fruit for food and to produce alcohol. In recent years the tree's Mapuche name, Pehuén, has also become more commonly used outside Chile.



22 : Bench, Omo River, Ethiopia

The bench was spotted in a photo from 1898. It was taken during a Russian expedition to Ethiopia just after the First Italian-Ethiopian War which ended in Italian defeat. The bench belonged to the local population at the Omo River outfall into Lake Turkana.

Omo River is where archaeologists excavated a number of bone fragments from early humans of the species *Homo Sapiens* in 1967. Since then improved dating techniques have established that the Omo findings are in fact much older than it was initially assumed. The bones are now estimated to date back to 195000 BC, making the Omo findings the oldest known traces of contemporary humankind: All of 50,000 years older than the formerly oldest findings from Herto, also located in Ethiopia. The findings, then, support the widely acknowledged hypothesis that the first humans saw the light of day in this part of Africa and spread from here to the rest of the planet.

23 : Swing, Kabul, Afghanistan

Since it was replicated from the original in Kabul, the Afghan capital, the swing module has been modified considerably. Prior to being set up in Superkilen the bar of the module has been placed in a lower position by adding an extra crossbar. As a consequence, the swing does not oscillate quite as far as the original. This precaution has been implemented due to Municipality of Copenhagen safety regulations. You are not allowed to go quite as high in Copenhagen as in Kabul.

24 : Rope, Santa Monica, USA

It is said that the beach south of Santa Monica, California, was originally called Mussel Beach. Since the 1930s, however, the area has been known as Muscle Beach. At this time the beach was turned into a public gym furnished with bars, rings, and other gymnastics equipment as part of the incipient fitness boom. During the following decades Muscle Beach became a point of convergence to body builders, gymnasts, wrestlers, and actor starlets posing aspiringly: A colorful and beefy crowd that would soon make the beach a popular destination for people who like to watch.

25 : Parallel bar, Santa Monica, USA

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26 : Gym bench, Santa Monica, USA

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27 : Lamp post, Italy

The northern Italian lamp posts are very similar to the old gas lamps, but in actual fact they are brand new. The romantic design is reminiscent in style of the very gas lamps that were introduced in larger European cities from the early 19th century and onwards. Back then, however, there was nothing romantic about the lamps; they were merely state of the art. In 1848 the Florentine writer Carlo Collodi named his politically satirical journal *Il Lampione* after the lamp post with the declared objective "to spread light among those fumbling in the dark." A light of change was indeed shed on political life, and it did not take long before the hard-boiled satirical journal was banned. Today it is an example of the political breakthrough leading to Italy's unification as a state in 1861. Carlo Collodi would later be a successful author of children's books, his story about the puppet Pinocchio earning him worldwide fame in 1881.

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Object 28–33

28 : Bar, Santa Monica, USA

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29 : Trash can, Blackpool, England

The town of Blackpool on the English West Coast was named after a stream channeling water from the nearby marshlands around Marton Mere to the ocean. Matter from the peaty bogs lent the stream a black color, hence the name Blackpool which was first recorded in parish registers from 1602 as de poole and de blackpool. The town by the black water would later become one of England's most popular seaside resorts with its long wooden piers crowded by bars and other pastimes. The town has its own trash can factory which manufactures the approximately 600 trash cans that get filled with litter dumped by the many tourists. Blackpool is also known for its high tower, Blackpool Tower, which is an inspired copy of the Parisian Eiffel Tower.

30 : Bench, Miami, USA

The bench is situated in Lummus Park, South Beach, Miami. The park was refurbished in the 1980s as part of the renovation of the famous Miami Beach neighborhood, developed art deco style in the 1920s. After the renovation the neighborhood and the park served as popular backdrops for one of the major global TV hits of the 80s, the show featuring the police squad Miami Vice.

The show would often be set in those very art deco neighborhoods with their characteristic pastel shades like the one found on the bench in Lummus Park.

31 : Rings, Santa Monica, USA

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32 : Table tennis, Barcelona, Spain

In recent years, table tennis has become extremely popular in the Catalan capital Barcelona, and the favorable weather conditions lend themselves to a game on one of the many public table tennis tables of the city's numerous squares. The game, which is now also commonly known as pingpong, dates back to 1880s England where the upper classes would play it at dinner parties. The equipment, however, was quite primitive: Books or cigar case lids were used as paddles, and for instance cut up champagne corks served as balls. Back then, the game was known as wiff waff, presumably to describe the sound of cork against the homemade paddles. It is not clear when the sound changed into pingpong, but the term table tennis appears for the first time in New York in 1887, while the designation pingpong was not recorded until 1901 when John Jaques, a toy retailer, registered it as a trademark in England.

33 : Bike rack, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

The town of Nijmegen near the German border is considered to be one of the oldest towns in the Netherlands, celebrating its bi-millennium in 2005. For several years the town has been investing intensively in improving cyclist conditions; an effort which has brought about among other things a number of new bike highways, including an 18-kilometer-long super bike lane connecting Nijmegen to the next town, Arnhem. Between 2007 and 2009 the number of bike racks more than doubled in Nijmegen which also boasts five covered bike parks with camera surveillance.



34 : Pavilion, Russia

The spiked hexagonal pavilion is allegedly Russian, but its exact origin is as yet undecided. Perhaps it is part of a picnic area at a vantage point somewhere, perhaps it is yet another sample of the countless bus shelters dating back to Soviet times. At Superkilen we just do not know. What we do know is that the hexagon recurs in pavilions all over the world. It appears in the pattern of the bees' honeycomb, in the lines of a tortoise shell, and as a big rotating cloud of gas above the planet Saturn's northern pole.

35 : Bench, São José, Brazil

The original bench is situated in the town of São José in southern Brazil. It is adorned with an advertisement for the shoe store *Passo Firme* which means firm stride. If you pop into the store on the promenade of *Kobrasol* there is the option to leave in a pair of shoes that will "follow you step by step" as the store's advertisement promises.

36 : Trash can, Blackpool, England

The town of Blackpool on the English West Coast was named after a stream channeling water from the nearby marshlands around Marton Mere to the ocean. Matter from the peaty bogs lent the stream a black color, hence the name Blackpool which was first recorded in parish registers from 1602 as *de poole* and *de blackpool*. The town by the black water would later become one of England's most popular seaside resorts with its long wooden piers crowded by bars and other pastimes. The town has its own trash can factory which manufactures the approximately 600 trash cans that get filled with litter dumped by the many tourists. Blackpool is also known for its high tower, Blackpool Tower, which is an inspired copy of the Parisian Eiffel Tower.

37 : Bench, Porto, Portugal

The tiled bench with the Arab-inspired mosaic is located in the garden in front of *Casa das Artes* which was constructed as a cultural center in the seaport Porto in northern Portugal in 1981. The building was Portuguese architect Eduardo Souto de Moura's first larger edifice, and the cubic form of the bench is partially mirrored by that of the building whose basic structure consists of two parallel walls. The award-winning architect's building has remained closed off and unused for more than a decade, but in 2012 it was announced that it was to be renovated and reopened as a cultural center.

38 : Lamp post, Italy

The northern Italian lamp posts are very similar to the old gas lamps, but in actual fact they are brand new. The romantic design is reminiscent in style of the very gas lamps that were introduced in larger European cities from the early 19th century and onwards. Back then, however, there was nothing romantic about the lamps; they were merely state of the art. In 1848 the Florentine writer Carlo Collodi named his politically satirical journal *Il Lampione* after the lamp post with the declared objective "to spread light among those fumbling in the dark." A light of change was indeed shed on political life, and it did not take long before the hard-boiled satirical journal was banned. Today it is an example of the political breakthrough leading to Italy's unification as a state in 1861. Carlo Collodi would later be a successful author of children's books, his story about the puppet Pinocchio earning him worldwide fame in 1881.

39 : Bench, Kuwait City, Kuwait

The bench with the deep seat sits in front of the Kuwaiti Parliament, designed by Jørgen Utzon, the Danish architect, in 1973. Kuwait is not a democracy by Western standards, seeing that the Prime Minister is not appointed by parliament, but rather by the Kuwaiti monarch, the Emir. He functions as both formal and actual chief executive, although parliament also has the option to intervene in and influence the legislation process. The Emir's political privileges, however, are extensive and furthermore entitle him to appoint officers for the army, order new legislation, demand that proposals be re-examined, and dissolve parliament, which has happened a couple of times. He enjoys full immunity and is considered to be inviolable. Only Kuwaiti citizens have the right to vote in parliamentary elections, corresponding to every third inhabitant in the oil-rich country which in 2012 had a population of around 2.5 million foreigners and 1 million Kuwaiti citizens.

40 : Bird hotel, Hjørring, Denmark

The bird hotel from Hjørring consists of 12 yellow nest boxes in succession. As opposed to most other common garden birds, the starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) often co-habitates in colonies with other starlings as close neighbors. Hence, the Superkilen nest boxes are very close to one another.

The starling is a migratory bird, arriving in northern Europe during the summer season, but wintering in milder climes, e.g. in southern Europe. Each fall, then, around one million northern European starlings invade Rome, and the bird shit inflicts costly damage upon the city cars.



41 : Manhole cover, Tel Aviv, Israel

The cover is decorated with the Tel Aviv municipality Ramat Gan's town arms. Today, the area is considered to be a Tel Aviv suburb, but it was developed in 1921 as a minor Jewish agricultural settlement of a few hundred residents. This was prior to the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, and the area was still governed by the League of Nations' British mandate in Palestine. This kind of settlement primarily housed Jewish immigrants from eastern Europe escaping the precariousness of Europe as part of the early Zionist movements' political efforts to ensure the return of the Jews to "The Holy Land." Since then the local population has risen to 150,000 and hosts a number of skyscrapers as well as the national soccer stadium. The town arms imagery of crops along with the name Ramat Gan (Garden Heights) are among the only reminders of the original agricultural settlement.

42 : Bench, Skövde, Sweden

The so-called skövdebänk has the town's initial, an S, as its foundation. The town is known for its huge plant where the 5000 employees of the Volvo company annually produce around half a million diesel engines for trucks, buses, construction machinery, motor boats, etc. The town also hosts an official Volvo museum which traces the corporate development since the first registered trademark in 1915. The name, which means I roll in Latin, aptly fitted the original production of ball bearings. However, it later became synonymous with cars as the first Volvo rolled off the conveyor belt in Gothenburg in 1927. The then independent factory in Skövde delivered the first 297 engines under the name of Penta. In addition to diesel engines, Skövde is the famous home of the Catholic saint, Saint Helen of Skövde, who is said to have been canonized in 1164 and who adorns the town arms. In a Danish context she is known for *Helenekilden* (Spring of Saint Helen) in Tisvilde; the town in northern Zealand where the body of the murdered saint supposedly drifted ashore, causing a spring to erupt.

43 : Trash can, Blackpool, England

The town of Blackpool on the English West Coast was named after a stream channeling water from the nearby marshlands around Marton Mere to the ocean. Matter from the peaty bogs lent the stream a black color, hence the name Blackpool which was first recorded in parish registers from 1602 as *de poole and de blackpool*. The town by the black water would later become one of England's most popular seaside resorts with its long wooden piers crowded by bars and other pastimes. The town has its own trash can factory which manufactures the approximately 600 trash cans that get filled with litter dumped by the many tourists. Blackpool is also known for its high tower, Blackpool Tower, which is an inspired copy of the Parisian Eiffel Tower.

44 : Bollard, Mbara, Uganda

The bollard is located outside the Lord's Bar, a popular restaurant in the town of Mbara, western Uganda. Allegedly, the name of the town harks back to British colonizers' mispronunciation of the local term "emburara"; a tall grass which used to be prevalent in that area. However, the grass has almost disappeared today due to intensive grazing and burning of the bush. This has proven disastrous to the local population's opportunity to enjoy the traditional dish *Eshabwe*. The *Emburara* grass would cause the cows to produce the special adipose milk so crucial to the butter-based dish which is said to be an integral part of any gratifying wedding reception.

45 : Lamp post, United Arab Emirates

The lamp post is situated in front of the Al Raha theater in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, seating an audience of 2100. The theater hosts the most popular live television show of the Arab world, *The Million's Poet* (نويلملارعايش) boasting approximately 70 million viewers. The show can be said to be a poetic version of the American *X Factor* in which a number of amateur poets from several Arab countries compete for the first prize, worth an amount of money equivalent to DKK 8 million. The content of the poems has often generated controversy across the Arab world, e.g. during the Arab insurrections in 2011. However, *Hissa Hilal*, the first female finalist in 2010, created an even larger stir when she recited a poem featuring a series of attacks on religiously authoritarian rulers. *Hissa Hilal* received a number of death threats for her poem, but did come in third, earning her a prize of what would correspond to DKK 4.8 million.



46 : Soil, Palestine

The Palestinian soil comes from different Palestinian towns. Some of it comes from the Arab part of East Jerusalem, and some from the Ramallah No Man's Land along the wall erected by the Israeli government around the occupied West Bank. Most of it, however, was gathered in the border land by the foot of the occupied Golan Heights at the Syrian border. This is where the village of Al-Farradiyya, destroyed in 1949 when Israeli paramilitary forces evicted approximately 80 villages in this particular area, used to be. The Palestinian inhabitants were displaced, and the village was blown to bits.

Hiba and Alaa have a rap group, which is why they have worked with Superkilen's neighbors, the Bazar Music Shop. The family of the two cousins came from Al-Farradiyya, but had to escape north to Lebanon and from there on to Denmark. Hiba and Alaa suggested an extended version of the Palestinian-in-exile custom, i.e. to bring a handful of soil from Palestine. Together with the artist group SUPERFLEX from the Superkilen advisory board they traveled to Israel and Palestine to gather soil for the park.

47 : Bollard, Mbarra, Uganda

The bollard is located outside the Lord's Bar, a popular restaurant in the town of Mbarra, western Uganda. Allegedly, the name of the town harks back to British colonizers' mispronunciation of the local term emburara; a tall grass which used to be prevalent in that area. However, the grass has almost disappeared today due to intensive grazing and burning of the bush. This has proven disastrous to the local population's opportunity to enjoy the traditional dish Eshabwe. The Emburara grass would cause the cows to produce the special adipose milk so crucial to the butter-based dish which is said to be an integral part of any gratifying wedding reception.

48 : Light sculpture, Dortmund, Germany

The light sculpture formed part of a series of identical light sculptures near the station Bahnhof Stadthaus in Dortmund. During the late 60s, the light sculpture was put up several places in Germany, but today not a single one remains. Thus, Superkilen's version comes from the factory's old advertising brochures. The short life of the light sculpture is symptomatic of the tendency to insist on eradicating the aesthetics of the previous generation completely. As a consequence, most modern urban decoration has the longevity of an IKEA couch.

49 : Lamp post, Germany

The lamp post was to be found on Hardenbergstrasse in the locality of Charlottenburg which used to be the center of West Berlin until the Wall came down. It was put up in 1987 as part of a general urban renewal in connection with the celebration of Berlin's 750th anniversary. The anniversary was celebrated on both sides of the Berlin Wall, among other things with a big concert on the Western side, featuring some of the most popular artists of the time, such as David Bowie, New Model Army, and Eurythmics. East Berlin, on the other hand, saw violent clashes between GDR police and young East Berliners who wanted to listen to the music coming from the other side.

50 : Neon sign, Doha, Qatar

The sign is located above the entrance to Dr. Sena's Dental Clinic – a dentist's clinic in Doha, capital of Qatar. The crescent moon is one of the world's oldest religious symbols, dating all the way back to 2000 years BC when the moon used to be the symbol of the Mesopotamian god, Sin. Already then the moon would appear accompanied by a star, usually representing Sin's daughter Ishtar, goddess of e.g. war, love, and sex. The crescent moon and the star were used by the 14th century Ottoman Empire, later to become what today is known as Turkey. Here the symbol is still the national symbol, although it has also come to signify Muslim countries as such since then. In his version of the powerful symbol, Dr. Sena in Doha has replaced the star with a molar tooth.

51 : Cedar tree, Lebanon

The cedar tree (*Cedrus Libani*) is the national symbol of Lebanon, enjoying a central position on the Lebanese flag. It has always carried great significance: The resin was used to mummify the Egyptian Pharaohs, and the Bible mentions it 75 times, e.g. as part of the temple in Jerusalem. In the 2000-year-old Babylonian epic of Gilgamesh – considered to be the world's oldest work of literature – the hero Gilgamesh ventures to cut down a cedar tree in the forest inhabited by the gods. And deforestation has indeed always posed a problem to the coveted tree. In the year of 118, Hadrian, the Roman Emperor, issued a decree to protect the Lebanese cedar trees. Subsequent caliphs even placed it under their personal protection, and in 1876 the British Queen Victoria funded a wall to keep the grazing goats away from the 1000-year-old cedar trees in Horsh Arz el-Rab (Forest of the Cedars of God). Today Lebanon has six cedar tree reserves and a comprehensive conservation plan.



52 : Bench, Germany

The modernist German bench from the first half of the previous century distinguishes itself from normal Copenhagen benches for primarily one reason. Of course the materials are completely different, but more than anything its design breaks with the way we seem to automatically conceptualize benches in Copenhagen – as straight lines. The crescent bench provides a unique opportunity to actually sit down and look one's conversational partner in the eye.

53 : Bike rack, Sandefjord, Norway

The bike rack Heklucht, combining rack and pump, was designed by Krijn Christiaansen and Jeroen Bruls as an art project in the neighborhood Ypenburg in the Hague, the seat of the Dutch government and parliament.

The invention won the Dutch design award in 2006 and has been introduced in a number of European cities, e.g. in the town of Sandefjord on the Norwegian south coast. In 2009, Sandefjord joined forces with a host of other Nordic towns, declaring itself a 'Nordisk Sykkelby' (Nordic Bike Town) and launching a comprehensive campaign to increase the share of urban traffic undertaken by bike.

54 : Manhole cover, Galway, Ireland

The central three-legged symbol on the manhole cover harks all the way back to the Later Stone Age, i.e. before the Celts arrived in Ireland. The original meaning of the symbol is not known, but the Celts were quick to appropriate it, and it recurs in both pre-Christian and Christian Celtic symbolism. In addition, the ornamentation features trefoils – the Irish national symbol. According to the legend, Saint Patrick, the Irish Catholic patron saint, used the trefoil as an example of Christianity's notion of a divine trinity. The inscriptions also indicate the type of cover (WSCR = 'Water Service Control – Round') as well as the Gaelic word for water, uisce. This word also forms part of the term for one of the favorite Irish drinks, uisce beatha (water of life). Mispronunciation of this term was to lend it its global nickname which today is 'whiskey'.

55 : Bar stool, São Paulo, Brazil

The bar stools were designed for the snack bar of the cultural center SESC Pompéia in São Paulo by Lina Bo Bardi (1914–1992), an Italian-Brazilian architect. The cultural center opened in an old factory building in 1982, and today it hosts everything from theater and music to gymnastics, swimming, galleries, workshops, and much more. Lina Bo Bardi is most renowned for the MASP building, the art museum of São Paulo from 1968, but otherwise her energy was channeled into her deep social involvement. Most of her projects were done in poor neighborhoods, aiming to contribute to new democratic spaces. The cultural center SESC Pompéia is one of them. Bardi, however, was almost self-effacing in regard to the endeavor: "No one was transforming anything. We just found a beautiful factory building (...) The center design evolved from the desire to create a different reality, but we just installed a few minor necessities, water and some heating."

56 : Palm tree, China

The Chinese windmill palm comes from the central and eastern parts of China. It grows slowly, but can get up to fifteen meters tall and is highly compatible with the moist and temperate climate of northern Europe. Contrary to most other palm trees this palm tree can handle temperatures as low as minus 20 degrees Centigrade for short periods of time. Hence a group of windmill palms are currently surviving in the north of Scotland just as experiments are carried out to make them grow on the Faroe Islands.

57 : Barbeque, Argentina

Argentina is home to approximately 55 million cattle, grazing predominantly on the grassy Pampas where they are tended by Argentinean cowboys, the famous Gauchos. Being an Argentinean national dish, barbequed meat figures on the menu at the so-called 'asados', referring to both the actual barbeque and the various roasting techniques used. A lot of beef is exported and is generally considered to be of very high quality. However, Argentina itself boasts the world's second-largest consumption of beef, corresponding to 55 kilos per inhabitant annually.



Object 58–62

58 : Fountain, Morocco

The star-shaped Moroccan fountain is based on the Arab symbol, Rub el Hizb, consisting of two overlapping squares surrounding a circle. The symbol recurs in a number of Arab emblems, signifying among other things the end of each chapter in the Quran, the holy scripture of Islam. Moreover, the symbol recurs on the flag of the Marinid dynasty, flying over Morocco for much of the 14th and 15th centuries. The Marinids lost their own possessions around Gibraltar in 1344, but until 1492 they were close allies of the last Muslim Moor monarchy in Grenada, located in present-day Spain. The Marinids were originally shepherds. Presumably, they brought the original sheep that stayed on in Europe after their human masters were defeated. The wool of these sheep ranks among the most expensive in the Western world and is sold under the name Merino.

59 : Bike rack, the Hague, the Netherlands

The bike rack from the seat of the Dutch government and parliament has won awards for its beautiful design and recognition from cyclists for its functionality. The Hague has thousands of disparate bike racks, and the city is among the absolute top cities in Europe as far as cycling goes: 30 per cent of its population cycle every day, which is only a little less than e.g. the 36 per cent of Copenhagen. As it happens, the Danish capital is constantly competing with Amsterdam for the title of number one bike city in Europe. However, seeing that the two cities work out their statistics a bit differently the final verdict will be hard to reach. Judging by the comparable national figures, though, the Danes will have to acknowledge the fact that the Dutch ride nine kilometers farther each day than do the Danes.

60 : Manhole cover 2, Zanzibar, Tanzania

The manhole cover from Stone Town, the main town on the island Zanzibar, is inscribed with the logo of the local city architect responsible for refurbishing the historical city center. In 2000 the historical Stone Town was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List because of its unique mixture of African, Arab, European, and Indian culture and architecture of more than a millennium.

The logo features the central building on the waterfront, Beit-el-Ajaib (House of Wonders), that had been erected as a palace for Zanzibar's second sultan, Bargash bin Sahid, in 1883. The building is said to have acquired its name due to its fabulous architecture and the fact that it was the first building to boast electricity in all of southern Africa.

61 : Trash can, Gretna, Scotland

The black trash can in Superkilen is located in the little town of Gretna within a stone's throw of the boundary between Scotland and England. For more than 200 years the village's small development, Gretna Green, has had a special status as a wedding destination within English culture. Ever since Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act, prohibiting young people of less than 21 years of age to marry without parental consent, was passed in 1753 English couples have crossed the Anglo-Scottish boundary in order to marry in Gretna Green. The Act did not apply in Scotland, where it was possible for boys to marry at 14 and girls at 12 years old. The laissez-faire Scottish marriage legislation only required two witnesses, and practically anyone could conduct the ceremony. In keeping with Gretna Green tradition the blacksmith was usually the one who took care of that business. And even though the Act was repealed in 1849 thousands of English couples still travel to Gretna Green to get married in front of the old anvil of the blacksmith's shop.

62 : Lamp post, Spandau, Germany

The lamp standard is situated in Berlin-Spandau, the fifth of Berlin's twelve boroughs. The borough used to be an independent town until 1920 when it was incorporated into Greater Berlin. During the division of Berlin between 1949 and 1990 Spandau was part of West Berlin – more specifically the British sector. In the years following World War II the borough was notorious for its prison which accommodated a number of convicted high-ranking Nazi war criminals, including Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, Hitler's chief architect Albert Speer, and Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess. The latter remained imprisoned until his death in 1987 after which the prison was demolished to prevent it from becoming a Neo Nazi place of pilgrimage. Subsequently, the rubble was pulverized and dumped into the North Sea.



63 : Lamp post, Kingston, USA

The lamp post is located in a parking lot in the town of Kingston, New York. The town by the Hudson River used to be called Esopus which was the name of the local indigenous people. Later, it was renamed Wiltwijck by Dutch settlers in the colonized area called New Holland whose capital was located in New Amsterdam. In 1664 the region was usurped by the English. Hence, Wiltwijck became Kingston, while the capital was renamed New York. In 1777 the state of New York got its own constitution, featuring a declaration of independence from the British reign. As the British army raided New York, the state's new independent administration immediately relocated to Kingston which would also soon be raided and burned to the ground. The town still commemorates the torching of the town with a grandiose theatrical revival of the raid titled, 'The Brits are coming, the Brits are coming... again!'

64 : Double chair, Valladolid, Mexico

The double chair sits in the town of Valladolid on the Mexican Yucatán peninsula and is considered to be typical of that particular region. Its local name is 'Los Confidentes' – the confidants. In other words, it invites passers-by to take a seat and engage in conversation with someone intimate, e.g. a close friend or perhaps even a lover. Thus, the chairs are also sometimes referred to as 'the lovers'.

65 : Chess table, Sofia, Bulgaria

Chess is a very popular game in Bulgaria which has spawned both male and female world champions. Eurostandard, the elite high school in the capital Sofia, is the first high school in Europe to offer chess as a regular school subject. The chess tables in Superkilen, however, are located in the more mundane park Borisova Gradina, Sofia's oldest public park. It was established in 1884 and named after Bulgaria's Tzar Boris III. During the communist reign the park was renamed Liberty Park until it reverted to its former name, Boris, in 1989. In 2012 Bulgaria hosted the First International Youth Chess Festival which took place at the popular holiday resort Sunny Beach.

66 : Chair, Târgu Jiu, Romania

The chairs were originally part of a work of art from 1938 by Constantin Brâncuși, the great Romanian sculptor. They were created in extension of an official monument for fallen Romanian soldiers during World War I that Brâncuși was contracted to construct at the river Jiu by the foot of the Transylvanian Alps. Here you can visit the 'Endless Column' and walk through 'The Gate of the Kiss' until you quietly take a seat in one of the chairs around the 'Table of Silence'.

67 : Belisha Beacon, Somerset, England

The typical English flashing globe lamps at pedestrian crossings are commonly known as Belisha Beacons. They were named after Leslie Hore-Belisha, the English Minister of Transport, who in 1934 made these black and white poles mandatory on the English roads. Today they are also to be found in a number of former British dominions, such as Ireland, Hong Kong, Malta, etc. The actual crossings were since decorated as well with the characteristic black and white stripes which in England have earned them the pet name 'zebra crossings'.

68 : Bench, Brussels, Belgium

The round blue bench is situated in the playground behind the international school, The British Junior Academy of Brussels, in the Belgian capital. The school is one of the many international schools in Brussels which – hosting the headquarters of both the EU and NATO – is home to more children of the international diplomacy than any other European city. Tuition fees here amount to approximately EUR 17,500 annually per child.



69 : Trash can, Gretna, Scotland

The black trash can in Superkilen is located in the little town of Gretna within a stone's throw of the boundary between Scotland and England. For more than 200 years the village's small development, Gretna Green, has had a special status as a wedding destination within English culture. Ever since Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act, prohibiting young people of less than 21 years of age to marry without parental consent, was passed in 1753 English couples have crossed the Anglo-Scottish boundary in order to marry in Gretna Green. The Act did not apply in Scotland, where it was possible for boys to marry at 14 and girls at 12 years old. The *laissez-faire* Scottish marriage legislation only required two witnesses, and practically anyone could conduct the ceremony. In keeping with Gretna Green tradition the blacksmith was usually the one who took care of that business. And even though the Act was repealed in 1849 thousands of English couples still travel to Gretna Green to get married in front of the old anvil of the blacksmith's shop.

70 : Octopus, Tokyo, Japan

The original playground octopus has its home in Kitashikahama Park in a suburb of Tokyo, the Japanese capital. It has a number of orifices, slides, and the option to crawl over or under various obstacles.

During the construction process the City of Copenhagen received a Christmas card from Futaba Public Nursery School, a kindergarten near the octopus in Tokyo. The children had been discussing the Danish copy and were asking e.g. whether Danish children play in the same way they do.

They enclosed a number of octopus-inspired drawings and a photo of themselves on their own octopus in Japan.

71 : Bollard, Cairo, Egypt

The bollard from Cairo, capital of Egypt, is complete with a tip bearing a strong resemblance to the domes known from roof constructions in the city's mosque and palace architecture. Other than that, however, it is hardly distinguishable from bollards from the rest of the world. Its basic form allegedly owes to the fact that the first steel bollards from the 17th and 18th centuries would originally be reused cannon barrels which, after disposal, were dug down as mooring posts along the quays and as street traffic regulation. And the barrel shape prevailed even when big cities all over the world, like Cairo, started endowing the bollards with their own special features.

72 : Bus sign, Amman, Jordan

Finding the right bus in Amman, capital of Jordan, can be quite a challenge. There is no general overview of the various public and private bus services, and the city's bus stops are furnished with neither departure times nor destinations. If you are going somewhere by bus, inquiring is crucial. Amman has three bus stations for non-local traffic, serving various destinations in e.g. northern or western directions. As a rule of thumb, the buses do not depart according to a certain schedule, but rather when they are full. It is generally a good idea to opt for an early departure, seeing that afternoon departures are often canceled.

73 : Bus stop, Shymkent, Kazakhstan

The town of Shymkent is located in southern Kazakhstan near the Uzbek border and was originally founded in the 12th century as *karavaneserai* for merchants traveling along the Silk Road. The town has been invaded and destroyed a number of times, e.g. by Genghis Khan, the Mongolian warrior king. During the Stalinist mass deportations of political dissenters and other convicts there was a prison camp ('gulag') near the town, which explains why Shymkent still hosts a relatively large Russian-speaking minority. Like other bus services in the former Soviet republics, the area surrounding Shymkent has its own unique bus stops. This particular bus stop, however, found in the photographer Christopher Herwig's series 'Soviet Bus Stops', is no longer entirely unique. With the copy in Superkilen there are now two.

74 : Trash can, Liverpool, England

In 2011 the English city of Liverpool launched a new initiative to make its citizens use the municipal trash cans rather than litter the roads and sidewalks. In order to succeed, the hometown of the Beatles has teamed up with Mike McCartney – famous Paul's not-quite-so-famous younger brother. Mike and Paul's father used to work as a trash can inspector, and the son Mike has now re-recorded a special edition of his old band The Scaffold's hit "Thank U very much" from 1967. The song of gratitude will automatically play back every time garbage is disposed of in the trash cans on Mathew Street, right where Paul's famous band had their breakthrough at the venue The Cavern Club. Unfortunately, Superkilen's red trash cans from Birkenhead Park on the opposite side of the River Mersey cannot sing.



75 : Bollard, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

The Dutch term for the typical Amsterdam bollard is 'Amsterdammertje' ("a little one from Amsterdam"). It is adorned with the central element of the town arms, the shield with the three crosses, or the Saint Andrew's Crosses. There are many creative hypotheses as to the origin of the town arms. However, it remains most likely that it is derived from the noble family Persijn's coat of arms. The knight Jan Persijn was lord of Amstelledamme, as the city used to be called, between 1280 and 1282. The name refers to the river Amstel and the adjacent dam erected in the 13th century at the outfall of the Zuiderzee, the great fresh water lake which is known today as IJsselmeer.

76 : Belisha Beacon, Somerset, England

The typical English flashing globe lamps at pedestrian crossings are commonly known as Belisha Beacons. They were named after Leslie Hore-Belisha, the English Minister of Transport, who in 1934 made these black and white poles mandatory on the English roads. Today they are also to be found in a number of former British dominions, such as Ireland, Hong Kong, Malta, etc. The actual crossings were since decorated as well with the characteristic black and white stripes which in England have earned them the pet name 'zebra crossings'.

77 : Bench, Cuba

The Cuban bench in Superkilen almost blends in with the coating on the Red Square. Benches play an important role as meeting points in Cuban street life, but as of late their attraction has possibly become even more powerful. The tobacco-producing country, previously renowned as a cigar smoker's paradise, prohibited smoking indoors in public places in 2005. Now the cigar smokers have to resort to the benches. Fidel Castro, Cuba's long-standing communist dictator, used to be an avid cigar smoker, but after several attempts he finally quit in 1985. On this occasion, he is said to have joked about the misconception of giving cigars as presents to one's friends: Allegedly, Castro claimed that "the best thing you can do is to give them to your enemies." By extension, a popular, albeit dubious, story has it that the CIA, the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA, had planned to assassinate their favorite Cuban enemy by means of an exploding cigar.

78 : Basketball hoop, Compton, USA

Compton is a suburb of Los Angeles, the second-largest city in the USA, and it is known as one of the city's historically rough neighborhoods. Compton is particularly famous for the numerous rappers who have grown up here, such as N.W.A., the classic hip hop crew who in 1988 enjoyed their commercial breakthrough with the album 'Straight Outta Compton'. From the 1940s onwards the suburb was primarily inhabited by African Americans, but in recent years its Latin American population has outnumbered the former. Basketball is an integral part of Compton street culture, and some of the best players in the USA grew up here.

79 : Bike rack, Finland

The German-produced spiral bike rack is to be found in a number of European countries, including Belgium, Denmark, Greece, and Finland. It is so efficiently designed that both ultra-slim tires and the thicker mountain bike tires fit into the rack. The Superkilen advisory board members have to admit that they are not completely certain whether the sample somewhere in Finland is the rainbow-colored version. In this instance, however, there was not really any choice: The rainbow was inarguably too stunning to justify choosing a simple metal version instead.

80 : Thai boxing, Bangkok, Thailand

The boxing equipment comes from Bangkok, capital of Thailand. Thai boxing, or 'Muay Thai', to use the official term, is Thailand's national sport. In Bangkok, thousands of spectators convene for the big stadium fights several times a week. Muay Thai is often referred to as "the art of eight limbs," seeing that it involves both hitting and kicking using hands, feet, knees, and elbows.

The boxing equipment was selected by Ali and Bilal who grew up as childhood friends in Mjølnerparken next to Superkilen. Bilal is a trained Thai, Kick and K1 boxer, and he has won medals at Danish Championships in all three disciplines. Together with Ali and the artist group SUPER-FLEX from the Superkilen advisory board he traveled to Thailand to bring home some of the Thai boxing culture for Superkilen.

SUPERKILEN

Object 81–87

81 : Dance pole, Beijing, China

Chinese pole climbing is one of the country's classic circus disciplines. It can be traced back to drawings that are more than 1000 years old. The discipline is often practiced on two or more adjacent 9-meter-tall poles, onto which groups of acrobats climb and perform various tricks demanding extreme physical strength. Chinese pole climbing has a somewhat different origin than the most common Western pole discipline, known as pole dancing. For many years, the Western dance around the pole used to be known exclusively from strip clubs, etc., but in recent years it has achieved wider acceptance and gained some foothold. As part of this development, many pole dancers have even incorporated a number of tricks from the more desexualized Chinese version.

82 : Fitness appliance, Alanya, Turkey

The Superkilen fitness equipment is inspired by the outdoor fitness parks which many Nordic tourists have come across when vacationing in Turkey. Such park areas with fitness equipment are relatively common and popular in this country which even offers a number of public fitness parks for the differently abled.

83 : Bench, Zurich, Switzerland

The bench is a special edition of the original Alfred Altherr & Charles Hoch 'Landibank' from 1938. The Landi bench was presented at the Swiss National Exhibition in 1939 and has become an integral part of most urban Swiss settings – parks, railway stations, squares, etc. This edition has been furnished with a reversible backrest, enabling the seated person to change position according to the sun.

84 : Trash can, Liverpool, England

In 2011 the English city of Liverpool launched a new initiative to make its citizens use the municipal trash cans rather than litter the roads and sidewalks. In order to succeed, the hometown of the Beatles has teamed up with Mike McCartney, famous Paul's not-quite-so-famous younger brother. Mike and Paul's father used to work as a trash can inspector, and the son Mike has now re-recorded a special edition of his old band The Scaffold's hit "Thank U very much" from 1967. The song of gratitude will automatically play back every time garbage is disposed of in the trash cans on Mathew Street, right where Paul's famous band had their breakthrough at the venue The Cavern Club. Unfortunately, Superkilen's red trash cans from Birkenhead Park on the opposite side of the River Mersey cannot sing.

85 : Bike rack, Almere, the Netherlands

The rack is located in Almere, the youngest city in the Netherlands, whose population has risen to 190,000 since it was founded only 35 years ago. Over the years, Almere has channeled significant resources into favorable conditions for its cyclists, and the city boasts the longest urban cycle route in the Netherlands, the 12-kilometer-long 'Sporbaanpad', used by approximately 21,000 cyclists every day. Sporbaanpad means railroad path and is named thus due to the fact that the route follows the city's central railroad stretch in its entire length. Incidentally, Superkilen and the Copenhagen cycle route also follow a railroad site, namely the long derelict railroad directing freight and passengers north of Copenhagen before the line between the Central Station and Østerport was excavated in 1917.

86 : Bollard, Accra, Ghana

The bollard from Accra, capital of Ghana, is ornamented with the country flag. It was designed in 1957 on the occasion of the country's independence and replaced the British flag, the Union Jack. Theodosia Okoh, the designer of the flag, explained its significance in the following way: "I decided in favor of the three colors – red, gold, and green – because of Ghana's geography. Ghana is located in the tropics and boasts rich green vegetation. The gold represents the mineral riches of our country, and the red color the memory of all those who died or fought for the country's freedom. The black star symbolizes African liberation and unity in the struggle against colonialism."

87 : Slide, Pripjat, Ukraine

The town of Pripjat was officially proclaimed a city in 1979 and used to be the top modern home for 49,900 workers of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and their families. Being located only 4 kilometers from the plant, the town was exposed to heavy radiation in 1986 when Chernobyl became the fulcrum of the most comprehensive nuclear disaster in world history.

Pripjat, having previously enjoyed the privileged status of 'atomograd' (nuclear city) and the particularly favorable conditions of these Soviet model cities, was now evacuated and transformed into a ghost town.

Since then, wild nature has seized the abandoned city with its 35 public playgrounds. Decreasing radiation levels, however, do allow an emergent tourist industry to offer e.g. Geiger counter excursions to the elephant slide.



88 : Manhole cover, Gdansk, Poland

The cover from Gdansk is decorated with the town arms, dating all the way back to the early 15th century. The city has had a checkered past caught between the interests of various super powers and was also often referred to by its German name, Danzig. For shorter periods of time, Gdansk had the status of a so-called free town, but eventually the Hitler German invasion in 1939 put an end to the last city state in Gdansk.

During the Soviet dominance of Poland after World War II, the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk was the hotbed of one of the Cold War's most crucial Soviet-critical movements. The shipyard, which – as far as we know – also happened to manufacture the city manhole covers, became the home of the trade union Solidarność (Solidarity) whose leader, Lech Walesa, became the President of Poland in 1990 after the Berlin Wall came down.

89 : Manhole cover, Paris, France

The cover is the most famous entrance to the legendary Parisian sewage system. The city's first subterranean sewers were constructed 1370 and have since formed the backdrop of some of world literature's magnum opuses, such as Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables' ('The Miserable') from 1862. Here the protagonist, Jean Valjean, escapes the soldiers hunting him through a well cover and into the sewers carrying his injured buddy on his shoulders.

Nowadays, the Parisian well cover is so popular that it can be purchased as a carpet or a door mat.

90 : Playground rack, Delhi, India

Metal racks are an integral part of Indian playgrounds. This version is located in Bisi Park in Delhi, the city that also encompasses New Delhi, the official capital. Playgrounds are in short supply for the 15 million inhabitants of India's second-largest city. Only the more affluent neighborhoods have access to actual playgrounds, and even there they are insufficient. Hence, a number of civic initiatives strive to pressure local authorities with arguments such as "playgrounds as a fundamental right." In response, local authorities have opened the playgrounds of certain schools to the local children after regular school hours.

91 : Bench, Salvador, Brazil

The bench from Praça da Piedade sits in a central square in Salvador, capital of the state of Bahia. It was designed by the Brazilian architect Joao Filgueiras Lima, known under the soubriquet Lelé. The bench consists of four concrete elements and is typical of Lelé's work which is characterized by a quest for rationalization and industrialization of architecture.

92 : Swing bench, Baghdad, Iraq

The original location of the swing bench is a park in the Qahira neighborhood in the Iraqi capital Baghdad. The park used to be an abandoned amusement park, but was transformed into a public park by means of funding from the international military forces in Baghdad. When the park opened in 2008, the Iraqi flag was hoisted by Iraqi officials along with Colonel John Hort of the 4th Infantry Division 3rd Brigade Combat Team, and white pigeons were released. According to the independent Iraq Body Count, the war in the wake of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 has cost the lives of 114,212 Iraqi civilians as a result of direct acts of violence during 2003 and 2011.

93 : Mural, Valparaíso, Chile

The mural represents Chile's democratically elected President, Salvador Allende, who fell victim to a gory coup d'état on September 11, 1973. The mural from 2008 commemorates the day of his birth one hundred years earlier in Valparaíso, Chile's biggest seaport. The coup and the military junta's subsequent persecution of the opposition are estimated to have cost approximately 3000 lives and disappearances, as well as forcing thousands of Chileans into exile. More than 1000 of them are still living in Denmark today. Before there was Superkilen, local Chileans took the initiative to erect a memorial commemorating the coup. A cenotaph from Chile was mounted on the square in front of Nørrebrohallen, partially funded by local Copenhagen trade unions, hence its colloquial name Salvador Allendes Plads (Salvador Allende's Square). The square was refurbished in connection with the construction of Superkilen, but the cenotaph is now sitting in front of the new Allende mural from Valparaíso.

SUPERKILEN

Object 94–98

94 : Sound system, Kingston, Jamaica

The speakers come from a suburb of Kingston, capital of Jamaica. They belong to a local group of DJs gathered around the so-called 'sound system', Body Rock. The sound system culture emerged from the poor Kingston ghettos in the early 1950s when people would start spontaneous street parties by simply setting up a sound system in the street. In the beginning, American Rhythm'n'Blues would be played, but the sound systems quickly began to foster a number of specifically Jamaican genres: Ska, rocksteady, reggae, dub, etc. Since then, the genres have become even more diverse, but in the meantime the sound system culture is facing tougher conditions of life. A lower tolerance from the authorities has made it difficult to keep up the street partying which is increasingly relocating to privately owned indoor venues.

The sound system for Superkilen was selected by Niklas and Benjamin, both of whom are rappers. They have been affiliated with Superkilen's neighbors at the music society Bazar Music Shop, and together with the artist group SUPERFLEX from the Superkilen advisory board they traveled to Jamaica to single out a sound system.

95 : Bike rack, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

The town of Nijmegen near the German border is considered to be one of the oldest towns in the Netherlands, celebrating its bi-millennium in 2005. For several years the town has been investing intensively in improving cyclist conditions; an effort which has brought about among other things a number of new bike highways, including an 18-kilometer-long super bike lane connecting Nijmegen to the next town, Arnhem. Between 2007 and 2009 the number of bike racks more than doubled in Nijmegen which also boasts five covered bike parks with surveillance.

96 : Manhole cover, Galway, Ireland

The central three-legged symbol on the manhole cover harks all the way back to the Later Stone Age, i.e. before the Celts arrived in Ireland. The original meaning of the symbol is not known, but the Celts were quick to appropriate it, and it recurs in both pre-Christian and Christian Celtic symbolism. In addition, the ornamentation features trefoils – the Irish national symbol. According to the legend, Saint Patrick, the Irish Catholic patron saint, used the trefoil as an example of Christianity's notion of a divine trinity. The inscriptions also indicate the type of cover (WSCR = 'Water Service Control – Round') as well as the Gaelic word for water, 'uisce'. This word also forms part of the term for one of the favorite Irish drinks, 'uisce beatha' (water of life). Mispronunciation of this term was to lend it its global nickname which today is 'whiskey'.

97 : Road sign, Moscow, Russia

The Red Square of Superkilen is somewhat smaller than its counterpart in Moscow which this sign normally designates. The history of the square's current name is far from simple: Contrary to what one might think, the red aspect refers to neither the color of the building's bricks nor Soviet communism. The Russian word 'krasnaya', which today primarily means red, used to mean 'beautiful'. The name referred to the characteristic Vasilij cathedral with its onion-shaped domes from 1560, but it subsequently rubbed off onto the surroundings. Only over time, then, did the square gradually acquire its color. To begin with it was merely beautiful. The Red Square of Superkilen, however, is born red.

98 : Neon sign, China

The neon sign is an advertisement for the store 'Beauty + Beauty – Beauty Accessories'. The Chinese metropolises have many neon signs and are generally very illuminated. So much so that light pollution increasingly causes headaches, stress, anxiety, eye diseases, and dropping fertility rates. Hence local Chinese authorities are trying to develop models to give fines to people who forget to turn off the light. Some places neon lights now need to be off at 10:30am at the latest, while other fluorescent tubes may only be on during weekends and national holidays.



Object 99–104

99 : Neon sign, Moscow, Russia

The neon sign on the Hotel Moskvich (Москвич) is sitting on top of a 16-storey building in the southeastern part of Moscow, capital of Russia. Dating back to Soviet times, the hotel got its name from the neighboring factory's most famous product. Here the state-controlled enterprise AZLK would manufacture the classic Soviet car, Moskvich (Moskovit), during the period between 1939 and 1991. The factory, whose abbreviated name stood for the Lenin Communist Youth League Automobile Factory, was assigned the task of producing small durable cars for the average Russian as well as for export markets. Domestic demand, however, nearly always exceeded the supply, so waiting lists to get a Moskvich were long.

100 : Benches, Kermanshah, Iran

The benches sit at Lake Zarivar in the Kurdish part of Iran, i.e. in the village of Marivan in the province of Kermanshah near the Iraqi border. They form part of a series of benches which are all decorated with various proverbs about living in a city.

The captions on the benches read:

"A good city could not be found, you have to build it"

and

"If you have a good hometown, you have everything."

101 : Neon sign, Knoxville, USA

Normally, the red star shines brightly above Star Sales Company, Inc., an old wholesaler from the 30s in the town of Knoxville, Tennessee. The store promotes itself as "one of the largest wholesale distributors and importers of cutlery and accessories." This covers a large selection of pocket knives, special candy, fishing gear, statues of Santa Claus, and a dinosaur egg at the price of just 1.10 dollars.

102 : Neon sign, Sanchung, Taiwan

The sign is an advertisement for milk, featuring "Sanchung – king of milk" written in neon. Sanchung is located on the island of Taiwan and is a suburb of Taipei, capital of the Republic of China. However, it is not the same country as the much bigger one called the People's Republic of China. After the communist takeover on the Chinese mainland in 1949, two Chinese states have persisted, both claiming to host the only legitimate Chinese government. In 2007, the People's Republic of China announced the objective that all Chinese children should have access to half a liter of milk each day. The vision gave rise to a flourishing milk market, but also to drastic price increases which the government tried to curb by means of price regulation. The People's Republic's milk consumption has tripled during the past decade, even though 70–80 per cent of the adult population is lactose intolerant, which explains the huge market for lactose-free milk.

103 : Bollard, Accra, Ghana

The bollard from Accra, capital of Ghana, is ornamented with the country flag. It was designed in 1957 on the occasion of the country's independence and replaced the British flag, the Union Jack. Theodosia Okoh, the designer of the flag, explained its significance in the following way:

"I decided in favor of the three colors - red, gold, and green - because of Ghana's geography. Ghana is located in the tropics and boasts rich green vegetation. The gold represents the mineral riches of our country, and the red color the memory of all those who died or fought for the country's freedom. The black star symbolizes African liberation and unity in the struggle against colonialism."

104 : Trash can, Liverpool, England

In 2011 the English city of Liverpool launched a new initiative to make its citizens use the municipal trash cans rather than litter the roads and sidewalks. In order to succeed, the hometown of the Beatles has teamed up with Mike McCartney, famous Paul's not-quite-so-famous younger brother. Mike and Paul's father used to work as a trash can inspector, and the son Mike has now re-recorded a special edition of his old band The Scaffold's hit "Thank U very much" from 1967. The song of gratitude will automatically play back every time garbage is disposed of in the trash cans on Mathew Street, right where Paul's famous band had their breakthrough at the venue The Cavern Club. Unfortunately, Superkilen's red trash cans from Birkenhead Park on the opposite side of the River Mersey cannot sing.

SUPERKILEN

Object 105–108

105 : Drain, Basel 2, Switzerland

The drain comes from Basel, the third-largest city in Switzerland. The characteristic wavy pattern is not only convenient because it prevents bike wheels from getting caught. The pattern also seems to have been a significant source of inspiration to the local Swiss architects, Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron, and their building on 11 Schützenmattstrasse, likewise in Basel. The façade of the apartment and office building from 1993 is covered by opening shutters made of cast iron, all characterized by the same wave similar to the one which now drains the water off the Superkilen paths.

106 : Manhole cover, Tel Aviv, Israel

The cover is decorated by the Tel Aviv municipality Ramat Gan's town arms. Today, the area is considered to be a Tel Aviv suburb, but it was developed in 1921 as a minor Jewish agricultural settlement of a few hundred residents. This was prior to the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, and the area was still governed by the League of Nations' British mandate in Palestine. This kind of settlement primarily housed Jewish immigrants from eastern Europe escaping the precariousness of Europe as part of the early Zionist movements' political efforts to ensure the return of the Jews to "The Holy Land." Since then the local population has risen to 150,000 and hosts a number of skyscrapers as well as the national soccer stadium. The town arms imagery of crops along with the name Ramat Gan (Garden Heights) are among the only reminders of the original agricultural settlement.

107 : Manhole cover, Zanzibar, Tanzania

The manhole cover from Stone Town, the main town on the island Zanzibar, is inscribed with the logo of the local city architect responsible for refurbishing the historical city center. In 2000 the historical Stone Town was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List because of its unique mixture of African, Arab, European, and Indian culture and architecture of more than a millennium.

The logo features the central building on the waterfront, Beit-el-Ajaib (House of Wonders), that had been erected as a palace for Zanzibar's second sultan, Bargash bin Sahid, in 1883. The building is said to have acquired its name due to its fabulous architecture and the fact that it was the first building to boast electricity in all of southern Africa.

108 : Bollard, Accra, Ghana

The bollard from Accra, capital of Ghana, is ornamented with the country flag. It was designed in 1957 on the occasion of the country's independence and replaced the British flag, the Union Jack. Theodosia Okoh, the designer of the flag, explained its significance in the following way:

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About Superkilen

The Park

Superkilen is an urban park project in Copenhagen divided into three main areas: The Red Square, The Black Market, and The Green Park. While The Red Square designates the modern, urban life with café, music and sports, The Black Market is the classic square with fountain and benches. The Green Park is a park for picnics, sports, and walking the dog.

The people living in the immediate vicinity of the park relate to more than 50 different nationalities. Instead of using the designated city objects normally used for parks and public spaces in Copenhagen, people from the area were asked to nominate specific city objects such as benches, bins, trees, playgrounds, manhole covers, and signage from other countries. The objects were then either produced in a 1:1 copy or purchased and transported to the site.

Furthermore, five groups traveled to Palestine, Spain, Thailand, Texas, and Jamaica in order to acquire five specific objects. The objects have since been installed throughout the park. In total, there are more than 100 different objects from more than 50 different countries.

Superkilen is developed by architectural firms Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG) and Topotek1 and the artist group SUPERFLEX in cooperation with the City of Copenhagen and Realdania.

Superkilen is financed by the City of Copenhagen and Realdania with kind support of The Danish Arts Foundation.

Park Facts

Client:
City of Copenhagen

Location:
Nørrebro, Copenhagen

Site area:
30,000 square meters / 750-meter-long public space

Authorship:
BIG, Topotek1 & SUPERFLEX

Collaboration:
Lemming Eriksson, Help PR & Communication

www.superkilen.dk
www.superflex.net/superkilen



Om Superkilen

Parken

Superkilen er et parkprojekt i København, der er inddelt i tre hovedområder: Den Røde Plads, Den Sorte Plads og Den Grønne Park. Mens Den Røde Plads byder på moderne storbyliv med cafe, musik og sport, udgør Den Sorte Plads det klassiske torv med springvand og bænke. Den Grønne Park er en park beregnet til skovture, sport og hundeluftning.

Beboerne i nærområdet omkring parken relaterer sig til mere end 50 forskellige nationaliteter. Frem for at benytte de udvalgte genstande, man normalt finder i parker og på offentlige steder i København, blev de lokale bedt om at nominere bestemte genstande såsom bænke, skraldespande, træer, legepladser, brønddæksler og skilte fra andre lande. Objecterne blev herefter enten fremstillet i en 1:1-reproduktion eller erhvervet og transporteret til stedet.

Desuden rejste frem grupper til Palæstina, Spanien, Thailand, Texas og Jamaica med henblik på at erhverve fem bestemte genstande. Genstandene blev derefter installeret i parken. I alt er der mere end 100 forskellige genstande fra mere end 50 forskellige lande.

Superkilen er udviklet af arkitektfirmaerne Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG) og Topotek1 samt kunstgruppen SUPERFLEX i samarbejde med Københavns Kommune og Realdania.

Superkilen er finansieret af Københavns Kommune og Realdania med venlig støtte fra Statens Kunstfond.

Fakta om parken

Kunde:
Københavns Kommune

Sted:
Nørrebro, København

Areal:
30.000 m² / 750 meter lang offentlig plads

Udviklet af:
BIG, Topotek1 & SUPERFLEX

I samarbejde med:
Lemming Eriksson, Help PR & Communication

www.superkilen.dk
www.superflex.net/superkilen