

THE SINKING PRESENT AND THE DREAM

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THE SINKING PRESENT AND THE DREAM

The world we see and feel during our sleep is called a 'dream.' It is a surreal realm where things that cannot happen in the actual world can be done, a combination of our conscious and subconscious from the real world. In similar sense to a dream, time is an indefinite continued progress of existence and events from the past, present, and future regarded as whole. It has a property of always heading towards a certain point, and there is no coming back; you cannot transcend the logic. One way to go beyond time can be in a dream, like the future where anything can be possible based on the present reality.

This piece will go over the story of Atlantis and the labyrinth of Hawara to provide a baseline structure of a dream (a future). It compares the past events to the present world that we live in, to observe and imagine the future state of now. The future will have its hidden features, unexplainable and surreal aspects, but which are true, proven through its existence. The current threat and present phenomenon will be the leading cause for the future state.

What we claim to know and see what is in front of us might be just a tip of an iceberg, where more significant elements are hidden under the surface in the moment. My goal is to drain out the water and scrape out the surroundings of the iceberg, to see what lies in front as a whole and see the front and the back at the same time. The future speculation will be based on the artistic approach of the surrealists. Dreaming with the present and memories to discover the future.

'The best prophet of the future is the past'
- George Gordon Byron

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• WHAT IS A SUNKEN CITY?

The description of the following spaces are researched to be used as a foundation to mirror the present, and provide hints for the upcoming future.

1. LOST ISLAND OF ATLANTIS

The mythical island Atlantis was believed to have existed 12,000 years ago, located near the Pillars of Hercules (*Strait of Gibraltar, Greece*). It was first recorded on Timaeus and Critias, books by Athenian philosopher Plato through Socratic dialogue.¹ The story of Atlantis is told to explain his ideal concept of state in the Republic. What properties should be contained, how the environment should be like, and the lifestyle of the civilization. Although Atlantis is regarded as an allegory or a fiction from Plato, the story was an inspiration for the future work of *utopia*.

According to Critias, Atlantis had a width of 3,000 stadia (555 km) and perfect land for all kinds of living creatures to thrive.² Examples of living elephants and finding every type of fragrant on the island showed the greatness of land. The island was surrounded by mountains which protected the Atlanteans from the intruders and bridges that connected the island to other parts of the sea and land. The bridges where the sea passed in had gates and towers. In the center, an inaccessible temple for Poseidon and his wife Cleito was located. The walls were made from diverse color stones found in island, interiors covered with gold and silver, and a golden statue of Poseidon. All bridges linked to the temple had towers and gates on both ends to protect and monitor intruders.

Poseidon's ownership of the island and habitation surrounded by the water provided Atlanteans great wisdom and benefits over water. The city was first structured by digging a canal to join the lands with the sea. The canals were 300 feet in width and 100 feet in depth and 28,456 feet in length. The passages for the canals later became harbors for vessels to dock. Atlanteans constructed bridges to divide both the island and the sea into zones. The bridges over the water channels only had space for a single vessel to pass through different zones. Thus, to prevent the water overflow, banks nearby the bridges had to be raised higher. Fountains in Atlantis provided fresh warm and cold water for different uses, such as bath water re-used for planted trees and excretion. Excess water from the fountains would be used for the gods' forests, and flow out the leftover to the outer circle using the aqueducts along the bridges.

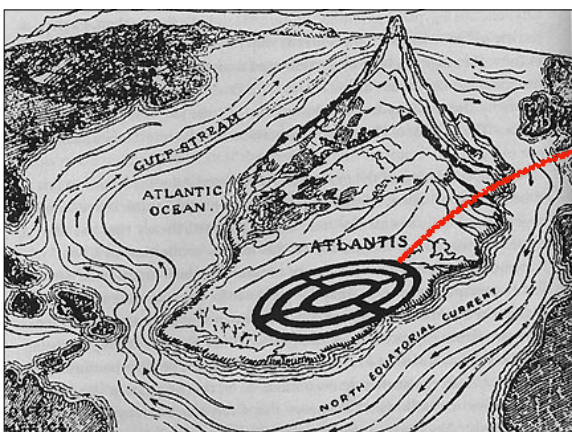
Ten kings who ruled the cities of Atlantis were given absolute power over the people and the land. However, they did not have authority over life and death of the people. The kings could only use forces when there is harm to the city or when fellow kings and cities are in danger. The people from Atlantis had no greed, since they were not intoxicated by luxury; felt no need to steal, and regarded their belongings as common properties. By keeping divine nature with themselves, people were obedient to the law, close with god, united gentleness with wisdom, and virtue was the only aspect in life they looked up for. They knew that excess of any element leads to loss. Unfortunately, the divine portion started to break as numbers of misbehavior and thoughts were noticed by the people. Frequent sins in human nature led Atlantis on a downhill. Zeus, the god of god who followed his own rules, saw people getting spoiled and wanted to punish them for their actions with the hope of bringing them back in place.

¹ A genre of literary prose developed in Greece, to find a precise answer to a universal question, helps to discover what something is, as opposed to what it isn't.

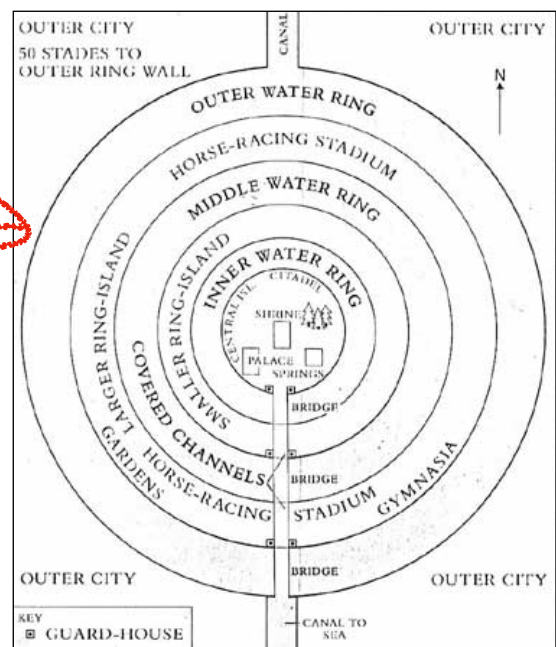
² Plato. (1998 English translation by B. Jowett). *Critias*. Freeditorial

As a result, Zeus calls on all the gods together and the book comes to a sudden end. Even though the book does not tell what happens after the gathering, the tragic end of the Atlantis is told in the beginning of the book. 'In a single day and night, a utopia like Atlantis came to an end by being swallowed in the depths of the sea.'³ to explain why the great empire and the island cannot be seen.

Although Atlantis had disappeared under the sea by sudden earthquake and flood, the island had its unique architectural structures and elements protecting the land from drowning in the ocean. The designs such as the rings wrapped around the land and the facilities to control water; bridges, canals, banks, harbors, seaside stone walls, gates, aqueducts were precisely positioned based on the state's environment. They were designed to handle natural disasters like flooding and protect the land from intruders. Layers of ring and stone walls covered the island to resist massive water influx from the sea. The gates and aqueducts on the bridges controlled the right amount of water to stay in and out of the state, and canals surrounding the perfect squared plains used to intake water from the mountains and flow out towards the outer into the sea. It may not have been enough to keep the island safe from the big flood and earthquake, but the water systems and its elements something we still use in present against water.



City of Golden Gates with Atlantis logo - Heinrich Schliemann, 1906

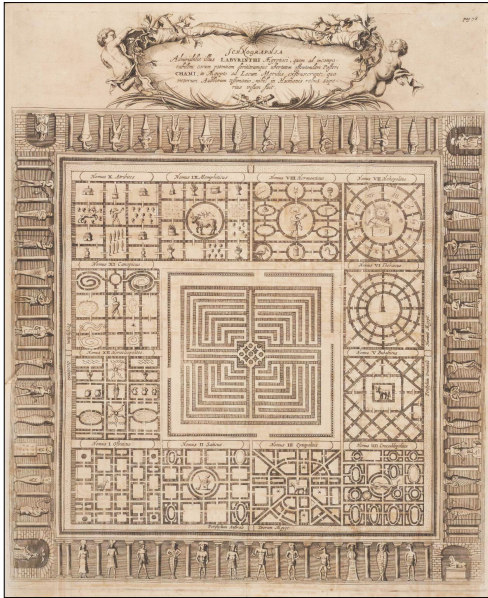


Structure of Atlantis - University of Massachusetts Boston library

³ Plato. (1998 English translation by B. Jowett). *Timaeus*. Freeditorial

2. LABYRINTH OF HAWARA

The pyramids built by the ancient Egyptians are renowned for their massive structures, details, and construction techniques used thousands of years ago. Centuries of investigation has been made to reveal the secrets behind the pyramids, but no clear answer has been shown yet. Leaving mysteries around the structure if it was possible to create such structures back in ancient times. For example, the underground labyrinth described by the Greek historian Herodotus during his visit to the pyramid of Amenemhet III,⁴ king of ancient Egypt (reigned 1818–1770 BCE)⁵, at Hawara was believed as a myth.



Herodotus describes the labyrinth as a multifunctional structure, including a palace, temple, town, and administrative center. He specifically described a single-walled labyrinth with 12 courts and two levels of 1,500 chambers on each floor.⁶ Herodotus witnessed the upper layer to see the incredible creation but not the chambers below. The bottom layer was used as burial vaults for the kings who first built the labyrinth and the sacred crocodiles.⁷ The underground complex was described as a maze-like structure ‘In front of the entrances are crypts, as it were, which are long and numerous and have winding passages communicating with one another, so that no stranger can find his way either into any court or out of it without a guide.’⁸

Egyptian Labyrinth (copper-plate engraving) - Athanasius Kircher, 1670

In 1898 Egyptologist Flinders Petrie discovered the foundations of the labyrinth of Hawara, where the story of hidden chambers and tunnels under the pyramid actually existed. Before the traces were found, the disappearance was a myth where the structures were demolished and used as materials to build the city of Shedyt.⁹

Petrie's discovery, believed to be the foundation of the labyrinth, turned out to be a part of a ceiling or a roof of a more extensive structure. In 2008, Mataha Expedition discovered that the labyrinth remains were present beneath the sand. New findings in Hawara were possible through scanning the location with the ground-penetrating radar. The scan showed further evidence of structure below four-meter having around 300 meters broad. Despite discovering the hidden layer under the Hawara pyramids, the Supreme Council of Antiquities never approved further research and public releases to be made. After two years of waiting for approval, Louis de Cordier, the lead researcher from the expedition, opened a website to share the results of their studies in Hawara.¹⁰

Until this day, the officials have not confirm the announcement of the research. Thus archaeologist Ben Van Kerkwyk said the discoveries of the labyrinth are in danger by the inaction of the authorities and corrosion from the salty underground water.¹¹

⁴ Herodotus. (1920 English translation by A. D. Godley. Cambridge). *The Histories II*, 148.1. Harvard University Press

⁵ Encyclopedia Britannica. (2008, Oct 23). *Amenemhet III*.

⁶ Herodotus. (1920 English translation by A. D. Godley. Cambridge). *The Histories II*, 148.4. Harvard University Press

⁷ Ibid. 148.5

⁸ Strabo. (1932 English translation by H. L. Jones, Vol. VIII of the Loeb Classical Library edition). *Geography XVII*, 1.37. Harvard University Press

⁹ NRIAG, Ghent University. (2010, August). *Mataha Expedition Hawara 2008*, p.4, print version VII. Labyrinth of Egypt.

¹⁰ The Archaeologists. (2021, April 18). *THE 'LOST EGYPTIAN LABYRINTH' OF HAWARA: IS A 2,000-YEAR-OLD MYSTERY FINALLY SOLVED?*.

¹¹ Ben Van Kerkwyk, UnchartedX (2020, June 6). Finding Ancient Egypt's Great Lost Labyrinth!. YouTube.

3. THE COMMON

Both the Atlantis and the Labyrinth of Hawara are traces of the past that no longer continue today, except as deserted physical structures. They are in their present perfect form; their glory days have passed, and they are now submerged underwater or threatened to be forgotten. Like the law of nature, nothing can last for eternity; for their existence, there is always a beginning and a moment of ending.

The core functionality of both structures was for their gods and kings to be remembered and praised. A place for a kind of communication with the mighty. Complex pathways were designed for restricted access and exit to keep the space sacred. Such as dividing the layers for their purposes, narrow canals to limit traffic, and complicated structures for the unwanted visitors to get lost in space.

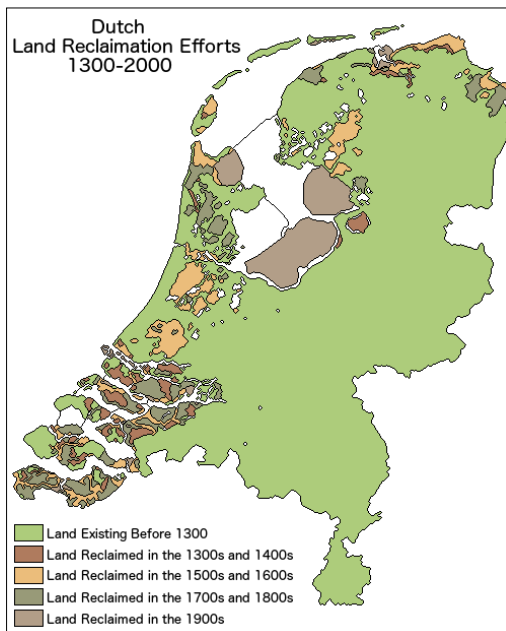
Once with a great civilization, the Atlantis and Labyrinth of Hawara managed to keep their 'time' continuous. However, by nature, both states had disappeared in the mists of time, such as sand and water. The secrets behind the golden ages were hidden for future descendants to remember their stories, traceback and blow out the dust.

• THE SINKING CITY 2021

1. THE KNOWLEDGE

‘God created the world, but the Dutch created Holland’ is a famous phrase to explain the Netherlands. The country is known for reclaiming land and water management for its territorial maintenance. Nearly 20 percent of the land has been reclaimed for territorial expansion until now, and it is still an ongoing process. Water management infrastructure such as dikes, harbors, dams, and canals have been built to prevent 60 percent of the land from sinking. 12 million m³ sand is deposited on the coast every year to protect the land from being sedimented by the wave.¹²

The first traces of dikes made to resist water flow date back to the late Iron Age. People piled up peat-sods for the structure and finer gradients on the outer wall to reinforce it.¹³ The most significant event that changed the water management was the big flood in 1953, which drowned almost a tenth of the farmland. In response to this disaster, the government initiated the ‘Delta Works’ building five storm surge barriers, two locks, and six dams which became the most prominent defense system for water control.¹⁴ The current infrastructures for water management are expected to handle up to 40cm sea-level rise in 2050.¹⁵



Land reclamation history map ¹⁶



Delta Works location history map ¹⁷

2. CONCERNS & PROBLEMS

It may be okay to say that the Netherlands is safe from sinking underwater until 2050 with the leading technologies and systems to counteract the sea-level rise. However, nations located near the ocean, such as Indonesia and the Netherlands, are facing unpredictable risks and threats near the future. According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the current trend of carbon emissions will accelerate global warming to rise by 84cm sea level in 2100 and 5.4m by 2300. The manageable 40cm increase was based on a bright future of all nations achieving the Paris Climate Agreement goals. P.C.A is an agreement to limit global warming below 2 degrees Celsius to combat climate change.¹⁸

¹² Climate-ADAPT. (2019, February 15). Sand Motor – building with nature solution to improve coastal protection along Delfland coast (the Netherlands).

¹³ LOLA Landscape Architects. (2006). *Dike Period Until 700*. Dutch Dikes.

¹⁴ Rijkswaterstaat. (Unknown). Build Delta Works.

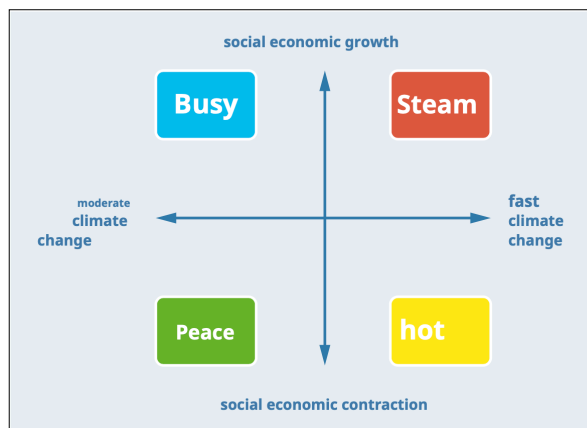
¹⁵ Naomi O’Leary. (2019, December 16). When will the Netherlands disappear?. *POLITICO*.

¹⁶ Theman77777. (2017, June 29). *Land Reclamation in the Netherlands 1300-2000 (Individual Images in Comments) [500x621]*.

¹⁷ Rijkswaterstaat. (Unknown). *The Delta Works*.

¹⁸ United Nations Climate Change. (2015, December 12). *The Paris Agreement*.

To prepare for the upcoming threats, the Dutch government and other organizations have developed future scenarios and strategies to react. 'The Delta Scenarios' have forecasted four different possible scenarios based on the future climate and socio-economic trends.



future scenario diagram from The Delta Scenarios 2017 main report

STEAM is expected to pose the most challenging task for flood risk management in the Netherlands. In this scenario, high global economic growth and strong population growth go hand in hand with rapid and robust climate change for the Netherlands. There will be no global climate agreements made, no reduction in CO2 emissions, although an energy transition from crude oil has been made.¹⁹

The recent 30 years of flood defense will keep the country safe until 2050, but how much time is left to prepare and react to the rapidly changing climate remains a question.

CLIMATE		2017	2050	2085
Temperature rise	C	0	2	3.5
Sea level rise	cm	0	40	80
Annual precipitation	mm	851	+ 5 %	+ 7%
Avg. precipitation winter	mm	211	+ 17%	+ 30 %
Avg. precipitation summer	mm	224	- 13 %	- 23 %

climate forecast data from The Delta Scenarios 2017 main report

'We know it's rising, we know it's going to accelerate, but how much is difficult to say. But still there are decisions that need to be made.'
 - Climate scientist Dewi le Bars

3. ACTIONS TO OVERCOME

The Netherlands has put its bars higher than the PCA to slow down the rising sea level and buy more time to react to the climate changes. The target for the Netherlands is a reduction of 49% in 2030 and from 95 to 100% in 2050. The Delta Program from the government keeps an update on climate changes and possible solutions for now and the future. Deltares, an independent institute for applied research in the water²⁰ has proposed 4 possible solutions called 'Protect closed', 'Protect open', 'Seaward', and 'Move along'. The future proposals include closing dykes on the shore to stop water inflow from the ocean, reinforcing water systems such as dykes, dams, and canals to prevent overflows, installing new barriers with pumping stations to handle water stored in all storages, and migrating to higher grounds with letting the sea rise takeover which can not be stopped.²¹

Many organizations and researchers are putting efforts into speculating and preventing future disasters. However, the current plans for future climate changes do not seem to show a clear vision of how to react or what the future living will stand. Is the world that we live in destined to be forgotten just like the Atlantis or the Labyrinth of Hawara, covering up the past as nothing has happened?

¹⁹ Deltares. (2017, May). *Deltascenario's Voor De 21e Eeuw*.

²⁰ Deltares. (2008, January 1). *About Us*. Deltares.

²¹ Alex Hekman, Nike Booister. (2021. February 11). *Ruimte voor de toekomst*. Whitepaper. SWECO.

- SURREALISM

1. BACKGROUND

15 October 1924 marks the birth of a movement called surrealism followed by the legacy of the Dada during the end of WW1. Dadaism was an anti-art movement, rejecting idealism and conventional thoughts from the society and art, challenging the norms to create irrational artworks. While the war influenced dadaism to express disgust over the present and tradition, surrealism showed illogical expressions through their dreams and unconsciousness to find meanings of reality. '*Manifeste du surrealisme*' was written by a French writer Andre Breton to manifest what surrealism is.

Breton explains surrealism as the pure state of functioning thoughts without any control, following the philosophy of giving the power to playful ideas, the dream, and solving problems in life.

He defines surrealism in his manifesto as:

SURREALISM, n. Psychic automatism in its pure state, by which one proposes to express -- verbally, by means of the written word, or in any other manner -- the actual functioning of thought. Dictated by the thought, in the absence of any control exercised by reason, exempt from any aesthetic or moral concern.

ENCYCLOPEDIA. Philosophy. Surrealism is based on the belief in the superior reality of certain forms of previously neglected associations, in the omnipotence of dream, in the disinterested play of thought. It tends to ruin once and for all all other psychic mechanisms and to substitute itself for them in solving all the principal problems of life.

Surrealists' interest in dreams began through the analysis and importance emphasized by the Austrian neurologist Sigmund Freud in his book '*The Interpretation of Dreams*' in 1900. Stating that 'The interpretation of dreams is the *via regia* to a knowledge of the unconscious element in our psychic life.'²² Meaning that the royal road to the knowledge of the unconscious mind comes from understanding the meaning behind our dreams. Specifically, he talks about the dream as the enervated power of ego, '*how cognition, feeling, will, and this decentralization transforms imagination; how the remnant of these psychic forces has not a truly intellectual character but is rather of the nature of a mechanism.*'²³ The dream having its unique character, uses the memories and experiences from the waking state as a building material, but the structures are formed freely by the dream. He also gives an example of a painting where the outline is awake, but the details are accessible without any control.

Freud's perspective on dreams brought Breton to say that 'I believe in the future resolution of these two states, dream and reality, which are seemingly so contradictory, into a kind of absolute reality, a surreality, if one may so speak.'²⁴ Thus, surrealists' goal was to tap into the realm of the unconscious (dream; portraits of reality) to express themselves.

'If the dream is a translation of waking life, waking life is also a translation of the dream.'
-Rene Magritte

²² Sigmund Freud. (1911 English translation by A.A.Brill). *The Interpretation of Dreams*, pg.189. Bibliomania

²³ Ibid. pg.29

²⁴ Andre Breton. (1924, October 15). *Manifeste du surrealisme*. Editions du Sagittaire

2. DALI & MAGRITTE

Surrealists can be divided into two types, automatic writing and veristic surrealists. Automatic writing is an attempt based on automatism, writing down words before conscious thinking. For veristic surrealists, their goal was to visualize their unconscious thoughts through symbols or metaphoric images. Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte are known as veristic surrealists, famous for their ways of expressing their ideas.

Salvador Dali was known for his 'paranoiac-critical method', developed through his delirium of interpretation. He would intentionally position himself into paranoiac state to observe the world surrounding him and depict the objects and visions he perceived through his paintings. That is why we see the clock, not in a definite shape but instead melting down or monstrous-looking creatures with unrealistic legs in his paintings. In other words, paranoiac-critical method is to put oneself in an unconscious state or in a dream to hint the consciousness of how they observe and understand their lives sincerely. Although many people thought of Dali as a mad man with mental illness, he defined himself as "The only difference between myself and a madman, is that I am not mad" Meaning he knew there was a difference in how people would perceive daily life compared to how he observed and tried to share how he saw the world through his paintings. Dali had his own unique way of seeing the world.²⁵



The persistence of memory - Salvador Dali, 1931 ²⁶

Similar to Dali, Rene Magritte illustrated ordinary objects in a scene that would look uncanny and provoke questions of what the work was trying to tell. In *La Condition Humaine* (*The Human Condition* 1933), the scene outside the window with an easel has an image of the scene beyond the background. It brings confusion and provokes us to compare the painting in the easel with what is shown beyond. "Everything we see hides another thing, we always want to see what is hidden by what we see." he liked to use the nature of human beings comparing and trying to analyze what we are looking at by having a painting within a painting. However, the work for us to reach to see if the painting in the easel is true or not. However, it is not about getting what is right or wrong, but a memory of the artist where the whole painting is what he saw, and what is drawn in the easel canvas is also a representation of reality. Magritte's works seem to have meanings behind the painting and the objects with the surreal illustration of reality. Still, it is just an object or image representing what it is, without any symbolic implementation.

"paranoiac critical", a state in which one could simulate delusion while maintaining one's sanity
- Salvador Dali



La condition humaine - Rene Magritte, 1933 ²⁷

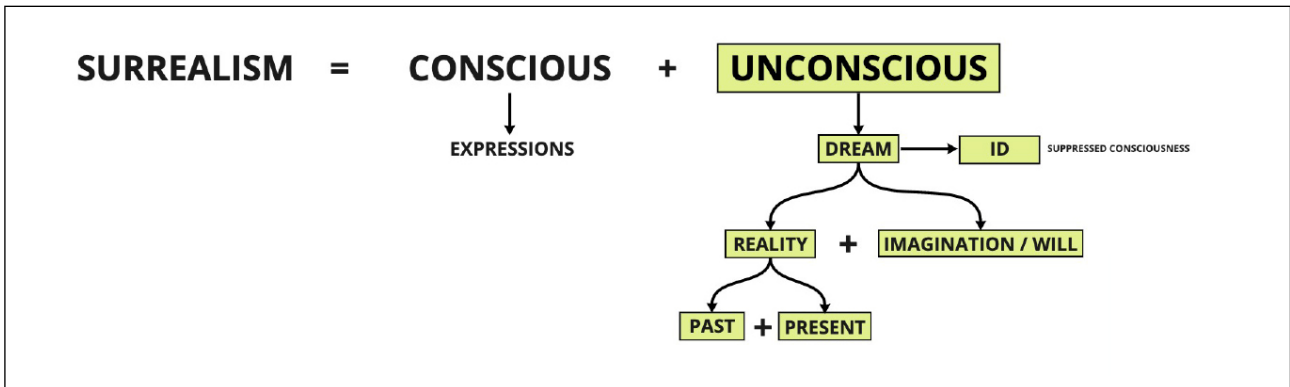
²⁵ Cal Poly Humboldt Library (Unknown). *Salvador Dali, The Paranoid Critical Transformation Method*. Cal Poly Humboldt Library

²⁶ Salvador Dali. (1931). *The persistence of memory*. MoMA.

²⁷ Rene Magritte. (1933). *La condition humaine*. National Gallery of Art.

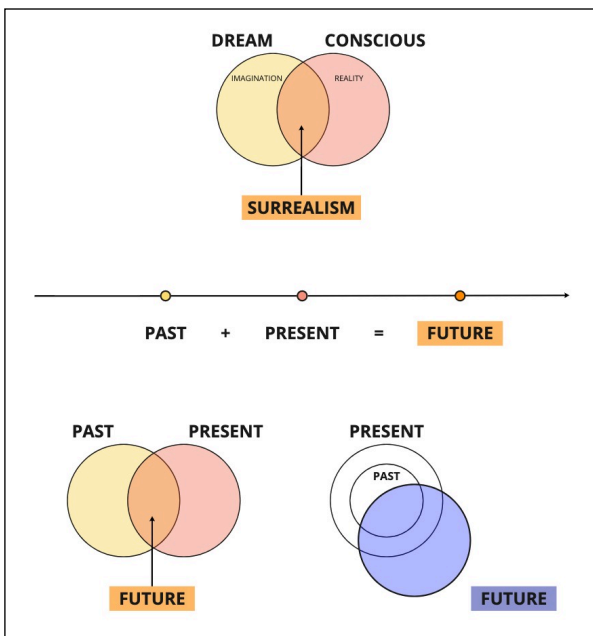
3. UNDERSTANDING

The following formula is a personal understanding of surrealism, based on the Breton's manifesto, Freud's Interpretation of Dream, and the philosophy behind Dali and Magritte.



In short, surrealism is a concept and a philosophy that concentrates on the unconsciousness of oneself, the expression or relief of suppressed and controlled consciousness in reality. A mixture of thoughts that can result in new ways of looking and how to understand in a different manner.

If surrealism is a way of re-interpreting aspects of the present, switching the moments (past, present, future) from a linear time frame can also be part of their notion, such as living in the future or living in the past, although in the logic of time still being in the present moment. Putting surrealism in a formula with different words and analyzing the concept, the word reality, and the switching back and forward the unconscious mind brought similarity with time.



Thinking of surrealists combining unconscious and conscious thoughts, what would the future be like from their perspective? Can the future be regarded as a mixture of past and present without any control or adding irrationality? If putting in specific past events and mixing them with the present, where would it lead to?

'Similarly, we sometimes remember a past event as being in the present. Time and space lose meaning and our daily experience becomes paramount. This is how we see the world. We see it outside ourselves, and at the same time we only have a representation of it in ourselves. In the same way, we sometimes situate in the past that which is happening in the present. Time and space thus lose the vulgar meaning that only daily experience takes into account.'

- Rene Magritte's letter to the Belgian poet Achille Chavee

• FUTURE / RESULT

The surrealist movement in the 1920s was a response to the tragic war, to find new ways of dealing with the problematic reality through the unconscious realm. The characteristics of surrealism bring up the question of 'What would the future be like through surrealists' eyes? How would they respond to the current urgencies of the present? Could the histories from the past influence the future?'

'Scenario 2050-2087' is a future speculation based on surrealist thoughts and knowledge of the past and present. The timeline of the scenario leads to new migration of Dutch in the North Pole, and 'Manifesto 2100' which comments on the migration attempt and ecological phenomena.

1. SCENARIO 2050 - 2087

Year 2050

- The Paris Agreement made in 2015 comes to success.
- 0 carbon emissions by all nations applied to the treaty.
- Despite the goal achieved, the sea level continues to rise.
- Melting ice in the North Pole is one of the main causes for the sea-level increase.
- 20 August, ice-free Arctic spotted for the first time.
- 24 November, Amsterdam becomes flooded.
- Increasing sea level and climate change impacts nations suffer from flood.

Year 2053

- North Pole Restoration Union (N.P.R.U) is made to restore the Arctic region.
- Restoration is expected to decrease the sea level and cool down the global climate.
- The Netherlands, Denmark, Iceland, Greenland, Russia, Canada, and U.S become the leading members of the restoration project.

Year 2054

- Arctic Control Station (A.C.S) is built in the North Pole and initiates the operation.
- The aim is to use the melted ocean water to re-create the lost arctic environment.

Year 2060

- Success of N.P.R.U, bringing the climate condition back to 2010.
- Threats from the global warming still exists, but N.P.R.U bought more time to recover the mother Earth.

Year 2065

- In total, 24 percent of the Netherlands territory was lost and given back to the ocean.
- Many countries needed to pay the price over their mistakes made to nature.

Year 2068

- Maintenance of lowered temperature, and recreated icebergs confirmed reports publishing stable sea level and North Pole in stable condition.
- A.C.S becomes the control center for the global climate.

Year 2073

- In 2007 Russia installs a titanium flag on North Pole's seabed, claiming the area belongs to them.
- Fierce legal battle over the rights of the North Pole began with the planted Russian flag, including the U.S, Canada, Norway, and Denmark.
- United Nations still have not authorized any rights over the North Pole, keeping the region international.
- All economic activities around the North Pole are prohibited.

Year 2076

- Through the contribution made by N.P.R.U, U.N mandates the North Pole into parts based on the contends.
- The core area of the North Pole including the A.C.S remains international.
- Violent extraction over natural resources under the seabed of the North Pole begins.

Year 2078

- Arctic sea level starts to decline below average, due to resource extractions and constant use of seawater for the North Pole's maintenance.

Year 2083

- Decreasing sea level in the Arctic region brings some seabed to surface.
- Parts of Lomonosov Ridge becomes exposed.
- Restored ice sheets and the appearance of the seabed become new possibility for human migration.

Year 2084

- The Netherlands begins to research exposed areas of Lomonosov Ridge for possible migration.
- Warnings from the N.P.R.U and U.N did not hold them back.

Year 2087

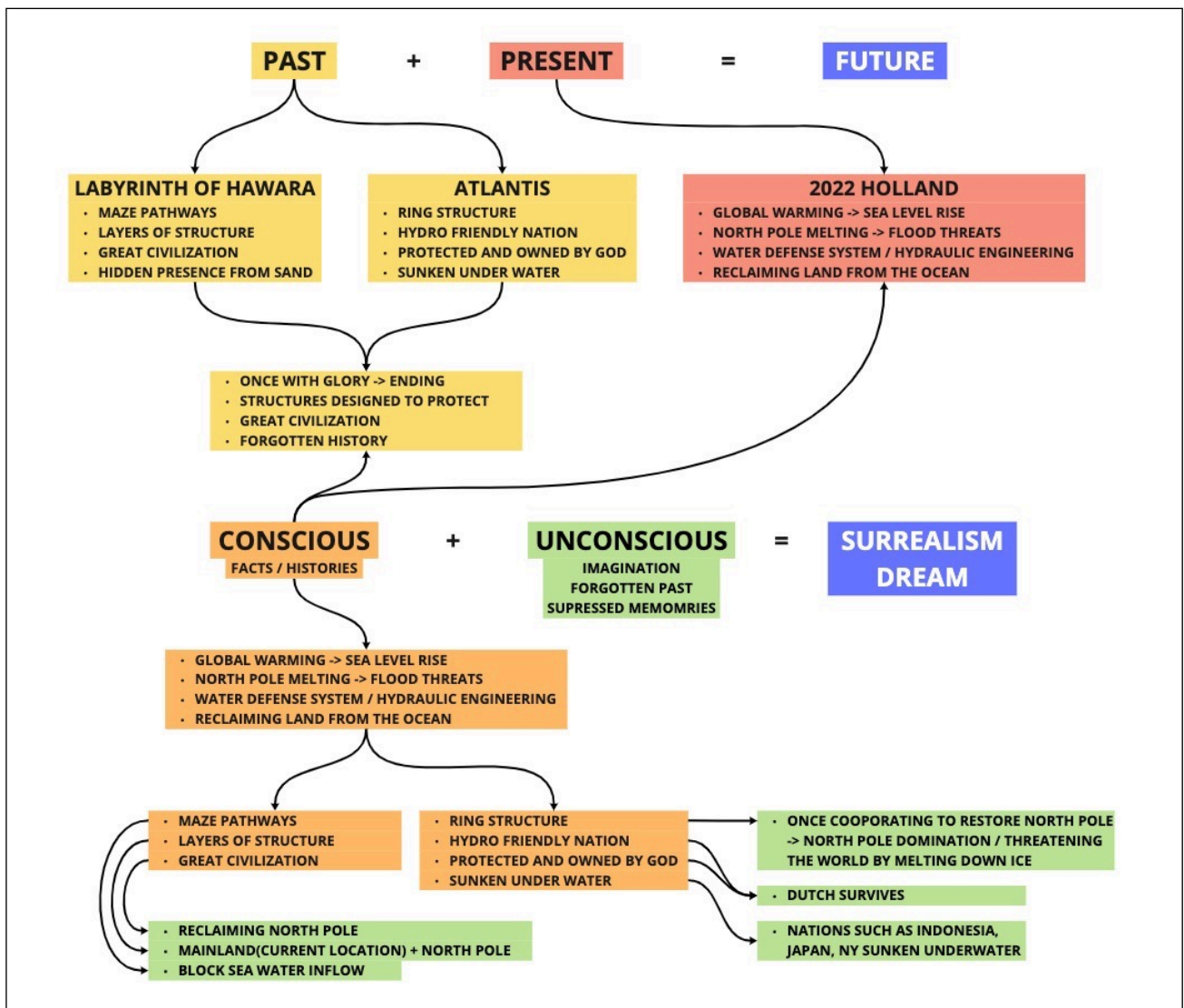
- Under the name of pilot migration, the Dutch enforce their new journey in the North Pole.
- Migration area around Lomonosov Ridge is named 'Nieuw Levennok'.



Russian polar scientist Artur Chilingarov holds a photo of the Russian flag on the ocean floor upon his arrival at Moscow's Vnukovo airport.²⁹



Map of the territories in the Arctic Region²⁸



- Brainstorm ideation for speculating the future.

²⁸ University of Durham, U.N, Marum. (Unknown). *Map of Arctic region*.

²⁹ Alexander Zemlianichenko. (2007, February). *Artur Chilingarov holding a picture of Russian flag* [Photograph].

2. THE DUTCH CREATED HOLLAND AND NOW RE-CREATED THE NORTH POLE

For the first time in history, Amsterdam went underwater from the expected disaster in 2050. The Netherlands was overwhelmed by the amount of water striking the country. Worlds leading hydraulic engineering, water defense systems, and long experiences with water disasters were not enough to keep the country safe from the struggle. The flooding took over almost half of the national land under water. The world was shocked by the tragedy since the Netherlands has been preparing for such incidents for centuries. Flood 2050 gave the world a glimpse of the unwanted future.

Classified documents reported by the Deltares mentions *'If the country cannot hold back the flood in 2050, half of the country including the capital city will flood. In order to survive with the least damage, the government will have to let some provinces flood, returning parts of land back to sea.'* Witness of the capital city drown made the government and the people more serious about future threats. Previous strategies and methods were not enough to keep the country safe from such disasters. They needed to think and act completely differently to tackle the problem. More robust water defense systems and management were a must, and time for bigger pictures planned out for the future. From then, it was not just about blocking the seawater coming to the land but focusing on the fundamental problem; melting glaciers from the North Pole and global warming.

In 2084 the Netherlands announces a new project for the global climate. After reviewing every possible scenario, the plan was to restore the North Pole by re-freezing the glacier mountains. Despite all the efforts to stop global warming, nothing could stop or slow down the melting ice to raise the sea level. Thus, freezing back the melting ice and cooling the global temperature was agreed to be the ultimate solution from further crisis. The results from the project are expected to bring back the ecosystem and a possible migration for the Dutch. It was time for the Dutch to reclaim land again, but from ice this time.



Arctic Ocean bathymetric data (seafloor map) ³⁰

³⁰ Bill Rakin. (2011, July 5). *North Pole Map*. National Geography

3. MANIFESTO 2100

Nothing is the same like before. Under the name of economic growth, prosperity for humanities, indiscriminate development for the better future, we have pushed our boundaries too far. Disappearance of the North Pole, watching Amsterdam sink underwater, filled with natural disasters never like before, which seems natural is not normal at all. It is not a tragedy of someone else, but a story of ours.

5°C increase in global temperature seems not a lot but caused the North Pole to completely melt down. The temperature rise accumulated sea level over 100cm and bring severe droughts around the globe. Nations are struggling to survive with the changes. Everything has changed since the witness of Amsterdam slowly taken over by the sea. The dark future, apocalypse, chaos greeting our destiny.

Yet, we still stand here living, facing the ultimate crisis made by ourselves. It is not an end, but a beginning, a beginning for a new future. Our presence in this world is the proof of hope. We cannot turn back, we cannot do it alone, and we cannot let our hope sink. The hope is still held in our hands. Now is the time to truly become together. Now is the time to confront our mistakes and fix the problems. Now is the time to change, for the better future waiting ahead.

We must architecture the Earth, the same way construction worked to provide shelters and space for humans. To continue our journey in this world, we must not forget that we are part of this world and see the long term consequences of our comfort. Where did all the goods and those infrastructure come from? What has that resulted in? Haven't we pay the price already before? We do not exist without the nature, we are part of the Mother Nature, it's our house, it's our home.

Anthropocentricity must be abolished. There is no time sit back and wait for the nature to recover on its own, we must help and restore the nature. Symbiosis will come first, nothing is just for the humanity anymore but with nature and for the nature. Architecture will not just take nature to exist, but always provide and give back what's been used. Every potential harm to nature from development is prohibited, every design have to go through tests for their effects on the environment.

To thrive in nature, we will bring back the North Pole. Many warning have been uttered by science reports and saw the effect of the melting ice. The results are prominent, rising sea level slowly took over our land, and threatens our everyday life. Melting ice is the fundamental issue creating butterfly effects. Reduction of carbon emission is not enough, direct action must be taken. Restoring icebergs will not only cool down the temperature around the region but also the ocean temperature and decrease the ocean level.

The focus will be on living with what has already happened. Minor development on facilities used for blocking sea water inflow, rather finding new ways of living along the natural phenomenon. Blocking and hiding the effects of natural disaster is only a temporary solution.

We have to think in a new way. We have to know exactly what we are doing and what the consequences are. What has been done can not be turned back, but our faith depends on better and smarter way to prevent future disasters.

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