

Detailed Talks | through the lens of Autism

Communicating about other ways of being through the lens of autism
Communiceren over andere manieren van zijn door de lens van autisme

Hosted by: Amber van Gastel

Project Information (EN)

About the Designer

What does it really feel like to be you? It is a big question, and one that standard language often struggles to answer.

As an autistic designer with a background in both technology (TU Delft) and art (Royal Academy of Art, The Hague), Amber van Gastel bridges the gap between research and human emotion. Over the past year, she has brought her work into healthcare institutions, schools, and cultural spaces. By combining deep interviews, literature, and visual design, she turns complex emotional experiences into accessible tools that help people feel seen, heard, and genuinely understood.

About The Project

Detailed Talks is an interactive exhibit designed to help us communicate when plain words fall short. Rooted in autistic ways of communicating, the project centers around a handmade wooden Conversation Cabinet filled with tactile objects, poems, and an associative card game.

Traditional conversations can leave people misunderstanding and feeling misunderstood by the other. By replacing direct, literal questions with imagery, touch, and metaphors, Detailed Talks creates a calm, slowing down space, where space is created for new way of learning about the other.

During the exhibition, Amber invites you to sit down, interact with the cabinet, and play the card game together. Through this shared experience, you will explore new ways of communicating and learn about each other's unique ways of being.

Projectinformatie (NL)

Over de ontwerper

Hoe voelt het eigenlijk om jou te zijn? Het is een grote vraag, en een waar de alledaagse taal vaak moeite mee heeft.

Als autistische ontwerper met een achtergrond in zowel technologie (TU Delft) als kunst (Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten in Den Haag) overbrugt Amber van Gastel de kloof tussen onderzoek en menselijke emotie. Het afgelopen jaar heeft ze haar werk naar zorginstellingen, scholen en culturele ruimtes gebracht. Door diepgaande interviews, literatuur en visueel ontwerp te combineren, vertaalt ze complexe emotionele ervaringen naar toegankelijke instrumenten die mensen helpen zich gezien, gehoord en oprecht begrepen te voelen.

Image List

Filename	Caption	Credit
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dsc1676_1787831079.jpg	Detailed Talks Card Game	Carlo Faulquier
dsc1671_1787831761.jpg	Detailed Talks Card Game	Carlo Faulquier
kaarten-carlo-resized_1787832140.png	Detailed Talks Card Game	Carlo Faulquier
thijs-van-reeuwijk-foto-small_1787832157.png	Workshop on the TU Delft Library	Thijs van Reeuwijk
kast-small_1787832181.png	Poems	Carlo Faulquier

The images above are included in the ZIP under /images.