

# Volkshotel Special Rooms

**Volks HOTEL**



**Press kit**

## Special Rooms

If you could design a Volkshotel room, what would you do? 40 Designers, architects and other creative minds pitched their ideas to Volkshotel. The nine most special, comfortable and original designs were selected.

Whether it's sleeping in a larger than life jukebox or dozing away in a tree house amongst nature, anything is possible in Volkshotel's special rooms. The themes of Volkshotel's special rooms not only focus on styling, but also involve design and interior architecture as well. From layout to floor and from bathroom to window, every room is unique.

The designs were chosen based on originality. Volkshotel deliberately chose to work with a mixture of young talent, more experienced designers and even the hotel's toilet attendant. All designers were involved in the process, from first sketch to execution. Each has put their heart and soul into the design, making the rooms personal and original.

Read more about all nine rooms and the designers below.



## Cabin In The Woods

Cabin in the Woods, designed by Interior Architect Gabor Disberg (40), feels like camping with the comfort of a hotel room. The result: sleeping in a tree house and a multifunctional 'Netscape' (a giant hammock) in which guests can discover and explore positions: climb, sit or lie... This is a room for curious adventurers with a desire for luxury.

## About the designer

Gabor Disberg is an Amsterdam based interior designer. He heard through the grapevine about the Volkshotel pitch to come up with a design for a hotel room, submitted his design and was selected. Normally Gabor is engaged in spatial design, ranging from the design of a chair to indoor architecture, such as the design of new store frames in Amsterdam Schiphol Airport.

[www.studiodisberg.nl](http://www.studiodisberg.nl)



## Bathing Bikou

This room is completely focused on bathing. Designer Hanna Maring: “Washing yourself is one of the main functions of a hotel room, yet I feel most bathrooms are given little attention. ‘Bathing Bikou’ is designed to merge bathing, relaxing and sleeping into one space and experience.”

In Bathing Bikou, colourful room dividers create different views and make an intimate atmosphere. Here, you can watch a movie from the bed or the wooden bathtub, or just enjoy the view over Amsterdam. The room invites you to spend time and relax. A place for tourists after a long stroll through Amsterdam, or couples that don’t want to leave the room at all.

## About the designer

Hanna Maring (living in Amsterdam, born in Braunschweig – Germany) was invited by her professor Bas van Tol (interior designer of Volkshotel) to be part of the ‘Creative Team’ to work on Volkshotel’s concept. During this time, she took part in the pitch to come up with ideas for special rooms. Maring is a designer, mostly working in the field of product design such as furniture, tableware, lighting etc. Next to self initiated projects, she works as a freelance designer for other studios.



## Johnny Jukebox

When it comes to music and nightlife, everything is possible in this room. The design is composed entirely of rigid geometric shapes. Architect Remco Gonggrijp (36) explains: "All shapes and angled surfaces are a unity in form and material, culminating in the bed."

Despite that everything is crooked, the music plays the big role: "The music system is fully integrated into the design with ceiling-high speakers in the walls and a large speaker above the bed. Visitors can create their own music from their laptop or iPod, but also make a selection from the Johnny Jukebox music collection full of records, CDs and good old cassettes. The music scene is also reflected in the bathroom, which is reminiscent of a nightclub. The room is designed as the ideal environment to prepare for a night out or to cure a hangover in the bath while listening to some relaxed tunes.

## About the designer

Remco Gonggrijp is an architect, which came into use in the design: "I have applied the principles of architecture to the interior. The angles, surfaces and distortions have appropriate dimensions and recurrent forms." Remco Gonggrijp has a space in the Broedplaats VKG in Volkshotel.

[www.rg-architect.nl](http://www.rg-architect.nl)



## Cinema Boudoir

In Cinema Boudoir you can watch a movie from the king size bed or whilst having a bubble bath. Interior designer Maja Markovic (33): "I thought about what I would prefer as a hotel guest, especially after a long journey: comfort, relaxation, luxury and distraction. For me, a hotel room is a place where you can get lost in your own world." Cinema Boudoir is inspired by The Electric Cinema in London. Markovic: "This is where I first experienced what it is like to watch a movie as a 'rich queen'."

Besides that, Cinema Boudoirs is a romantic place: once upon a time there was a lovely lady whose heart got stolen. Call it a 'burning desire'. Her adventures were written and abandoned somewhere in the room.

## About the designer

Maja Markovic began as curator for exhibitions in Club / Restaurant Canvas (still situated on the 7th floor of Volkshotel) and was then drawn to the creative team to support designer Bas van Tol's vision for Volkshotel. Through this, she heard about the pitch for the Special Rooms and submitted her idea.

[www.studio8181.nl](http://www.studio8181.nl) (decor)

[www.idiotsavants.nl](http://www.idiotsavants.nl) (performance)



## Lost & Found

Ever saw a piece of furniture lying on the side of the street and thought: why did someone throw this away? François Duquesnoy takes this thought to the next level in special room Lost & Found, where he breathes new life in items that were found on the street.

François left the design of this special room to chance. He roamed the streets of Amsterdam, looking for discarded items. The designer let the unanticipated materials inspire him and used them to create unique items for this room. For example: The bed is made of doors and a coat rack now acts as a lamp.

“Before I take an item to my studio, I photograph it so I can remember what it looked like when I found it”, says François. The red, blue and yellow tones of the room are based on the colors of the street and the found items.

### About the designer

Playful and capricious is how François would describe his work. “The inspiring thing about working with found items is that it always leads to unexpected ideas and shapes. It’s not until you try to put two elements together that you see if it will work or not”. With Lost & Found, the designer hopes to inspire visitors to look at Amsterdam in a different way and to discover the city off the beaten path.

francoisduquesnoy.nl



## White Bike Room

Sleep in a Dutch 'bakfiets' (bike cart) and bathe with views over the city. A room full of white bicycles, accompanied with two of your own to explore the city. White Bike Room, designed by Architect Thijs van Oostveen (39), is inspired by the Dutch love for bikes and the city of Amsterdam – the place where there are more bicycles than people.

In addition, the Provo movement – an anarchist subculture that originated in the sixties – evokes the design. Their famous 'white bicycle' plan was one of the first bicycle sharing systems, where white bicycles could be used, free of charge. The Provo Movement fits with the zeitgeist and ideology of the history of Volkshotel; built for the left wing Volkskrant newspaper in the sixties.

Thijs van Oostveen explored every way to use the irregular shape of the bicycle in a stylistic way. The theme is carried through to the details: the walls hold 3D white bikes, the minibar has wheels, you can read under bicycle lamps and sleep in a real tricycle cart, which was actually cycled to the hotel by the architect himself.

### About the designer

Thijs van Oostveen is an architect and holds office in Broedplaats VKG in Volkshotel. He was invited by Volkshotel to participate in the pitch to design a hotel room. Van Oostveen designs buildings, interiors, gives advice and research.

[www.vanoostveenarchitectuur.nl](http://www.vanoostveenarchitectuur.nl)



## The Businessman's Trip

Designer Arno Hoogland creates an unusual effect in the special room The Businessman's Trip, by providing various surfaces with patterns and textures. His room is inspired by the business(wo)man with an adventurous character, to escape the routine of everyday life.

Arno: "In my work I like to appeal to the wondrous nature of the user, so that people look at it and think: how was this made?". That wondrous element can be seen in the temple bed with views over the Amstel river, for example. But also in the tiling, in which you might or might not recognize the coat of arms of Amsterdam.

## About the designer

Arno started off as an artisanal joiner, before starting a study at the Design Academy in Eindhoven. When Arno was asked to enter the pitch for a new special room, he chose to pitch the idea for a room that feels 'otherworldly', based on its shapes and colors.

"But the room is also a place where you can feel at home very quickly, because of its warm and intimate mood. The rooms in Volkshotel are minimalistic and made of raw concrete. I wanted to do the opposite: an over-decorated room enriched with detailed patterns and motives in different materials".

[arnohoogland.com](http://arnohoogland.com)



## Soixante Neuf

This room is about mystery, sensuality and seduction. Interior designer Rosa Lisa Winkel (26): "If you can see yourself in a mirror there is nothing left to the imagination. So in my room, there are no mirrors on the ceiling. The high gloss epoxy floor plays with the lighting of the steel hanging bed, creating a surface in which you can maybe see shades of yourself, or maybe not."

The room is minimalistic; sleek lines play the leading role. The window seal holds a stage with a bath and views over the city. Soixante Neuf is the perfect place for couples in love, but... "They have to have a little courage. For a prudent couple that intends to hire a bridal suite... this isn't the room for them."

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[www.roo-m-s.nl](http://www.roo-m-s.nl)