Clare Charnley - Waterfall

Very slowly, walk from one end of Nieuwstraat, stopping when you like.

Think about the rain's routes as it falls. Maybe parts of these routes can't be seen.

Some might be deliberately masked by architecture, or directed round the backs of buildings. You may to have to do some quessing here.

So start by thinking about Nieuwstraat's roofs. The way different angles-of-slope effect how quickly water flows down and then on to the next stage: the nearly horizontal roof guthers below. Then the vertical pipes (downpipes) that duct water down to under the Nieuwstraat's surface, connecting with other roof-loads in a complex system of unseen drains.

As you walk above it, imagine how roof rain flows here merging with rain that falls directly onto the street and with water used for other purposes such as street cleaning.

Also look at subtle changes of gradient of the road surface, imagining how this forms puddles or moves water through grills and down into the underground drain system.

Continue for about 20 minutes, then turn round and walk very slowly back the way you came. This time, look generally at the street and what's happening. Don't concentrate on water and its flow.

Reports:

Nico:

Following the water in the street, on the roofs and the road via the drainpipes was a very pleasant, calming performance. It made me think about fluidity and also made me look more closely at the details of the houses and how the path of the water has been thought out by people. The route of an underground water system was somewhat speculative, but the manhole covers were very clear points.