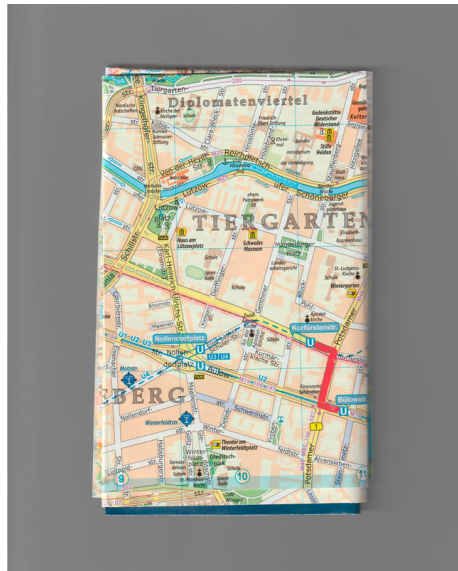


# Field notes: *Shortcutting*

Instead of spending five minutes taking the subway you can cross the street at Kurfürstenstraße and hop on the Bülowstraße U-bahn saving three minutes on travelling instead. In a series of shortcuts artist Willem de Haan points out several stations in the city of Berlin that are so close together that walking in between stations is faster than using the public transport networks. By doing so he unveils our oblivion for informal routing through town and toys with our imagination of which roads to take. Part of a body of work that develops interventions and add-ons to public spaces; De Haan creates visual narratives and scripted footage at a high pace. Short and sweet tips, tricks and descriptions of daily life are starting points of temporal sculptures that act like visual sentences often constructed of found material and look-a-like's. A previous eye twister of the artist is a wooden replica of typical Dutch subway station dropped in the middle of a grass field. Alienated from its city the sculpture informs a new script on the countryside, suggesting an underground system connecting it to the capital. As we continue walking through Berlin; where does the formality of a city end and the folly begin?



Direct Connections (2020)



Metro Station Eekteweg (2018)

Field notes written by Jules van den Langenberg  
This short text is based on the walk and works of artist Willem de Haan as part of ZK/U OPENMAP 2020.