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Amsterdam Totaal
An overview of the 9 sites

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Amsterdam Totaal

An overview of the 9 sites; Text by Olindo Caso

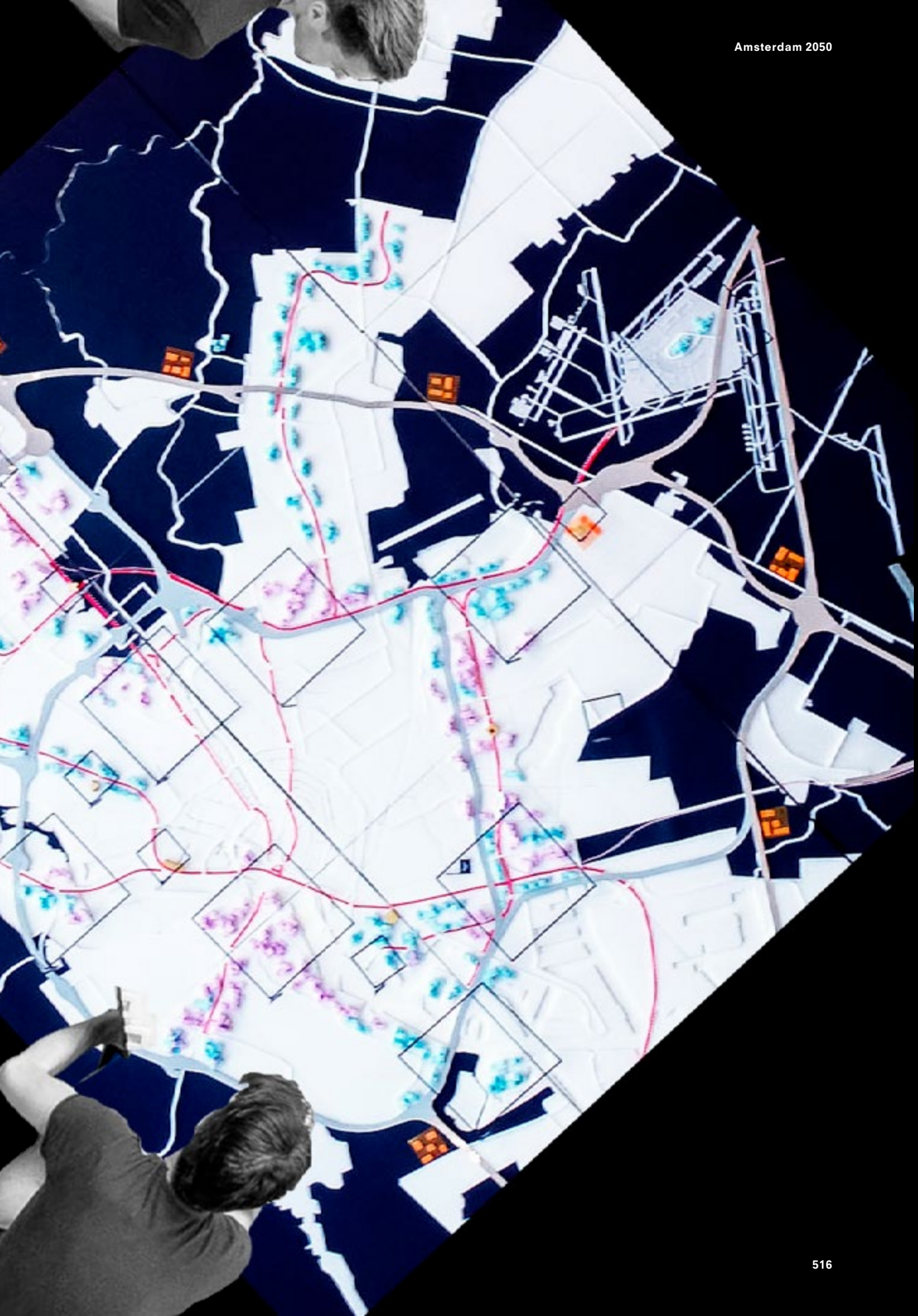
Amsterdam Totaal, roughly translated to mean the totality of Amsterdam, is the cumulation of the research and strategies of the nine sites selected for the Complex Projects AMS Mid-City graduation studio. It is the 10th site that is an overarching study conceived with the goal of understanding the linkage between the different interventions and thereby drawing a conclusion from the intense amount of research made during the time.

As Amsterdam evolves to become a dense metropolitan, the city will need to find ways to adapt and develop themselves towards a polycentric urban structure in order to facilitate a sustainable distribution of functions within a multimodal mobility network.

A city is only as connected as its infrastructure. If physical barriers cannot be resolved, the cultural ones will only continue to intensify, leading to historically proven problems of social fragmentation and segregation.

The railway structure and presence of the A10 highway acting as informal city walls clash with the urban goals of the city and is in direct contrast with the municipal ambition of a dense yet human scaled smart city which is green and clean.

As Amsterdam moves towards becoming more connected as a city, its planned infrastructure are a response to dated issues that have lost its urgency to those from the emerging economy of technology supported mobility.

The municipality has visions for the city to densify, to become both more technologically advanced while also becoming more human.

This merger of two seemingly polarising goals brings about the opportunity to reconsider the way in which the city is connected both internally and externally that can simultaneously contribute to the urban densification of the Amsterdam as a whole.