The great pig in the sky

Interview with Theo Botschuijver

by Hanna Schraffenberger & Jouke Verlinden
"Talking Head 2 (2002), inflatable human head as a projection screen."

"Hello?

"Talking Head 2" by Kim e-vu.

"After his graduation in 1966, Theo started his long-standing collaboration with Jef de Boer with whom he worked on a number of inflatable projects.

"They developed a degree in industrial design."

"Those guys were more approachable back then…."
Looking back, looking ahead...
up all night, first picking up the pig from the sty and then repairing its holes… and finally shot the images for the album cover the next day.

One more gig in the sky

So far, the flying pig has been one of Theo’s most well-known projects. However, when it comes to the future he dreams about one more great gig in the sky: the airwing—a combination of airplane and airship.

"We used to have two prevalent ways of flying, the airship and airplane. I always found it weird, that those were so at odds with each other… And after the Hindenburg disaster in May 1937, the airship era ended. But there are catastrophes with airplanes and we still have those. We can see sketches of the wing on Theo’s walls. We wonder, whether Theo is still planning on building an actual airwing.

"This is a dream, yes, this is a dream. Unfortunately, we would need a lot of money to realize it. The airwing has to be filled with helium and that’s expensive. In the end, I envision it about 200 meters in size. But even to realize a small one, approximately 18 by 20 meters would be fantastic. That idea is very attractive to me. The airwing would be great as a means for transportation. But also as a place to live… I can envision whole villages floating in the sky."

References:
