

espace 36 is a centre for the creation and dissemination of contemporary art, with an emphasis on supporting artists and on public outreach activities. For over 15 years one of its principal objectives has been to facilitate research and active outputs combining heritage and contemporary creativity. The dialogue that an artist has with museum objects – rich in emotional and imaginative significance - nourishes artistic ideas and processes as well as the scientific approach. The trend in contemporary arts is a dynamic movement that asks questions and offers new directions. It contributes to the way that the image of historic sites is evolving, and it fosters interaction with a variety of publics. In the context of cultural activities, these exchanges between the public, the experts and the artists strengthen and enrich the transfer of knowledge of our heritage.

espace 36 has been asked by the Ecole Supérieure du Professorat et de l'Education de Créteil (Université Paris-Est Créteil) to contribute to the European EME programme (EuroVision Museums Exhibiting Europe). This network of museums and universities from 7 countries – France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Austria, Bulgaria and Slovenia – is working on ways to put into practice the concept of “change in perspective”. The group proposes a European reinterpretation of objects from our museum collections, developing new types of exhibition design and strengthening visitor participation, encouraging them to reflect and to express their own approach to collections.

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Photos by Marie Hendriks, Jérôme Progin, Musée de l'Hôtel Sandelin, Maison de la Bataille and espace 36

**Maison de la Bataille** 200 rue de la mairie 59670 Noordpeene  
<http://www.musee-noordpeene.eu> - 0033(0)3.28.40.67.36

**Musée de l'hôtel Sandelin** 14 rue Carnot 62500 Saint-Omer  
[www.patrimoine-saint-omer.fr](http://www.patrimoine-saint-omer.fr) - 0033(0)3.21.38.00.94

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36 rue Gambetta - 62500 St Omer

**Jérôme PROGIN, *altered state of consciousness*  
Maison de la Bataille, Noordpeene (Nord)**

Jerome Progin was inspired by the coins found on the field of the Battle of the Peene, from different countries of Europe of the seventeenth century. The artist has chosen copper, intrigued by experimenting and working with the material, the metallic element constituting the currencies, while also resonating with its imprinted messages as a communication media or propaganda. From the "Captivated Flanders" the artist exploits the idea of taking over and attraction as he applies these concepts to the metal. The flow and exchanges, specific to coins, fuses with the magnetism of the copper. Pebbles collected from the same Peene river which the museum's coins came from, are magnetised to generate an attraction to the metal.

It is an allegory of Europe, made of resistance and attraction, a poetic play of opposition between natural / artificial, where stones attracts copper.







**Marie HENDRIKS, *Fu-Meng***  
**Musée de l'hôtel Sandelin, Saint-Omer (Pas-de-Calais)**

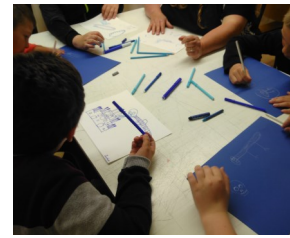
The photographic portraits of *Fu-Meng* are staged at the Laeken park in Brussels. The little girl poses with her adoptive father in front of the Chinese pavilion designed by the architect Alexandre Marcel, a specialist in Orientalism. In order to be as authentic in style as possible, they imported the decorative elements directly from China. The Art Nouveau influences can be found in the outlines and proportions of the pavilion's architecture. These links between East and West are highlighted by the costumes of the father and his daughter.

The photographic series *Fu-Meng* is a reflection on *Chinoiserie*, of which Sandelin Museum displays some examples in its seventeenth century western ceramics collection. New images were born by the appropriation of exotic figures. The cultural mixing between the near and the far and the deformations in these clichés' representation of a fantasied country, are replayed with the little girl's portrait.



## An artist in the museum? Obviously.

Or perhaps it's not as obvious as all that, when the artist and the museum staff feel free to share ideas on displaying collections and staging exhibitions; when the museum's objects, archives and display cases become, at least in part, the artist's creative subject matter; when the artist plays with historical context, techniques, traditions and anachronism, in order to develop a totally innovative concept and original insights, and to pose new questions. And if the artist invites both museum-goers and those who don't go to museums to share the experience, to work together? If the artist challenges them to have a constructive dialogue with a practical outcome? To come up with multiple interpretations and points of view? To make connections between their everyday experience and what is exhibited?



Artistic workshop with mentally disabled children, young refugees & engineering students

So Here and Elsewhere meet.

Two-way exchanges leading to multiple perspectives.

For the partners in this EMEE project – museums, universities, exhibition designers, artists - as well as for espace 36, the Musée de l'Hôtel Sandelin and the Maison de la Bataille, the creative premise is precisely that: to make European museums places for communality, shared dialogue, diversity. So, through practical arts workshops the two artists are able to involve children from medico-educational centres, unaccompanied refugee minors, and engineering students.

Starting from a token struck after the Battle of La Peene in 1667, coins and pebbles, Jérôme Progin is working on a picture of the affinities and the tensions underlying European history. Marie Hendriks calls for a multi-faceted dialogue based on personal stories, literature, shared identities and East-West exchanges. Thanks to support from CLEA (local arts education contract) of the Audomarois region, Marie Hendriks has taken over the whole museum as she creates a dialogue between her work and the objects in the museum's collection.



Works of Marie Hendriks at the hôtel Sandelin Museum