

**Fig.1 Reconstruction  
of a sunday walk,  
oktober 2007,  
Stefaan van Biesen.**



**Fig.2 Reconstruction  
of a walk with  
whirlwind, 2008  
Stefaan van Biesen.**



# Walking on paper

An artistic flaneur in the  
landscape and urban space.

STEFaan VAN BIESEN

Drawing turns out to be an interesting skill with an indisputable impact on work and research. This allows us to perceive the world more accurately, remember facts and understand our world better from a new perspective, so that it is not merely an artistic instrument, but also a medium that leads to growing insight.

Since 1990 Stefaan Van Biesen has made walks which he documents with drawings. A practice that leads to installations, models, texts, videos and photographs. He regards the act of walking as a kind of subjective thought process in the urban fabric and in the landscape.

In general drawing seems mostly to be considered as an art form, rather than a tool for learning. For scientists and artists, drawing is an interesting skill with an indisputable impact on their work and research. Doing so helps people to perceive the world more accurately, remember facts better, and understand their world from a new perspective.

For the artist there's also evidence that drawing talent is based on how accurately someone perceives the world and it helps him to see it better. So cultivating drawing talent can become an essential instrument to improve people's observational skills in fields where the visual is important. Stefaan van Biesen investigates the mainly urban, human space with his many, broadly documented walks as a philosophical, sensory experience, which have a scientific and aesthetic undertone. Sometimes drawings are made during walks or afterwards in the studio, as a reflection on the place he visited during his walks. The drawings vary from sketches to more elaborated versions whereby he tries to remember the place, the local situation, vegetation and the walk while drawing.

Stefaan van Biesen starts from using the senses and the body as instruments of knowledge, experience and creativity. His thinking is in line with the nomadic aspect of the Renaissance artists who traveled all over Europe. Dürer is a striking example of this. These journeys were art projects, in which currents of thoughts, drawings and other artifacts arose out of encounters with other people and cultures. These trips were, as it were, laboratories of thought. Van Biesen shows this lab. Notes, artifacts and drawings upholster his journey.

He spends an important part of his artistic creativity on exchanges and collaborations with other artists, scientists and experts from various disciplines. His work is in direct dialogue with his environment in which walking, starting from urban and social observation, is an artistic instrument.

Keywords: Drawing, Walking, Reflecting, Observing

*O desenho acaba por ser uma competência interessante com impacto indiscutível no trabalho e na investigação. Permitindo-nos perceber o mundo com mais precisão e de uma nova perspetiva, auxilia-nos no registo e memorização de fatos, assumindo-se para além do simples instrumento artístico como mediador que potencia o conhecimento.*

*Desde 1990 que Stefaan Van Biesen faz caminhadas documentadas com desenhos. Uma prática que leva a instalações, maquetes, textos, vídeos e fotografias. O artista considera o ato de caminhar uma espécie de processo de pensamento subjetivo no tecido urbano e na paisagem.*

*Numa primeira abordagem, o desenho parece ser mais considerado uma forma de arte do que uma ferramenta de aprendizagem, mas para cientistas e artistas, o desenho é um instrumento com um impacto indiscutível para o trabalho e a investigação.*

*Para o artista há também evidências de que o talento para desenhar se baseia na precisão com que alguém percepciona o mundo e como isso ajuda a vê-lo melhor. Portanto, cultivar o talento para o desenho pode tornar-se um instrumento essencial para melhorar as habilidades de observação em campos do conhecimento onde o visual é importante. Stefaan van Biesen investiga o espaço humano, principalmente urbano, com seus muitos passeios amplamente documentados como uma experiência sensorial e filosófica, tratados com carácter científico e estético. Os desenhos são feitos durante as caminhadas ou posteriormente no atelier, como uma reflexão sobre o local que visitou durante essas caminhadas. Os desenhos variam desde esboços a versões mais elaboradas em que tenta relembrar o lugar, a localização, a vegetação e o trajeto.*

*Stefaan van Biesen parte dos sentidos e do corpo como instrumentos de conhecimento, experiência e criatividade. Seu pensamento está de acordo com o nomadismo dos artistas renascentistas que viajaram por toda a Europa. Dürer é um exemplo notável disso. Essas viagens eram projetos de arte, nos quais correntes de pensamentos, desenhos e outros artefactos surgiam do encontro com outras pessoas e culturas. Essas viagens eram, por assim dizer, laboratórios de pensamento. Van Biesen mostra este laboratório. Anotações, artefactos e desenhos ilustram a sua caminhada.*

*Muito do seu trabalho criativo é ativado em intercâmbios e colaborações com outros artistas, cientistas e especialistas de várias disciplinas. A sua obra está em diálogo direto com o meio e o caminhar e resulta da observação urbana e social.*

*Palavras-chave: Desenho, Caminhada, Reflexão, Observação.*

Fig.3 Wanderlust  
Grunewald walk,  
Berlin, 2005,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

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GRUNEWALD VARIATIONS BERLIN 2005 - ANTHONIE HESTERIKH HOLDING A RED THREAD - SARAH - OREN VERMEIRE IS MAKING HIS WALK VISIBLE BY WALKING - GRUNEWALD WAS A PLACE WHERE JEWISH PEOPLE WERE DEPORTED TO CONCENTRATION CAMPS,

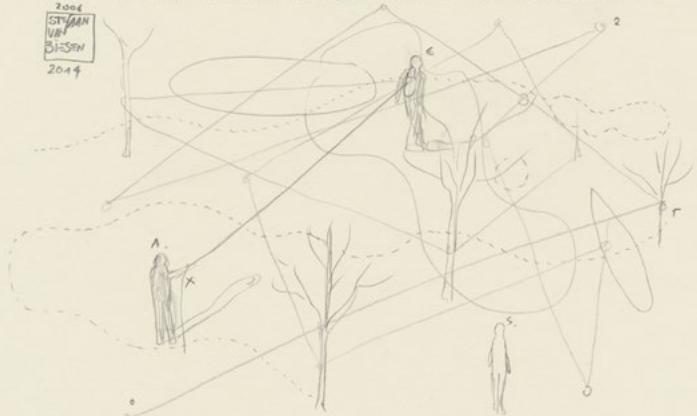


Fig.4 Wanderlust  
reconstruction  
Zoniën forest walk,  
Brussels 2009,  
Stefaan van Biesen.



SPAZIERGANGSGESELLSCHAFT (WALK XII)

A SUNDAY MORNING WALK

STEFAN VAN BIESSEN  
2009





WALK TO BLACK MOUNTAIN - ETNA SICILY WITH ROBERTO CAVUCCIO & MARIELLA MUÑOZARRA.



ETNA VOLCANO - THOUSANDS ACTIVE FUMAROLE - SICILY 3 SECOND LARGEST CITY - TWO STYLES OF ERUPTIVE ACTIVITY TYPICALLY OCCUR AT ETNA - PERSISTENT EXPLOSIVE ERUPTIONS, SOMETIME DURATE, SMALL LAHAR ERUPTIONS TAKE PLACE FROM ONE OR MORE OF THE THREE PROFOUND SUMMIT CRATERS, LOCATION WITH BURNED TREES - SUNLIGHT X LIGHT SHADOWS - TO REMEMBER.

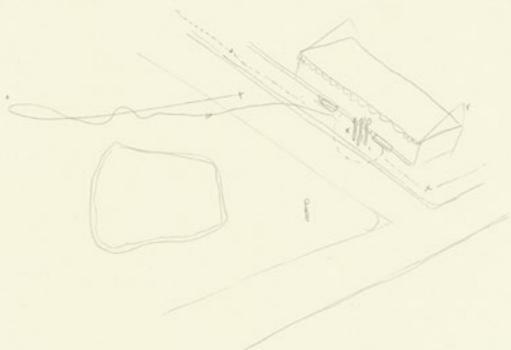


GIGANT VOLCANO WALKING A HOLE ON THE STREETS OF ATHENS 2011 THE MITRA PROJECT



DAILY SOUPS - PERFORMANCE ATHENS GREECE 2010 VIBES ORACLE. WIMTEA SILLAS, KALITA PAPADAKI - GIGANT VOLCANO X STEPHAN VAN BUREN, THE MITRA PROJECT - CAMERA ANDRIES HOUTMAN, PROJECT: GROUNDSOURCE SCIENCE INSTITUTE + AIAA.

STEPHAN  
VAN  
BUREN  
2010.



55 10-2014 GIGANT VOLCANO AT BATTELIEROS, DRAAMA PROJECT ANDRIES HOUTMAN AND STEPHAN VAN BUREN WORKING ON THE GIGANT VOLCANO PROJECT PERIODIC APPROXION - O TANGA RE BATTELIEROS

STEPHAN  
VAN  
BUREN  
2014.



Fig.5 Wanderlust  
reconstruction Etna  
walk Sicily, 2006,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

Fig.9 Reconstruction  
walk La Romieu  
village, France 2016,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

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Fig.6 Wanderlust  
reconstruction walk  
Athens, 2014, with  
Geert Vermeire,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

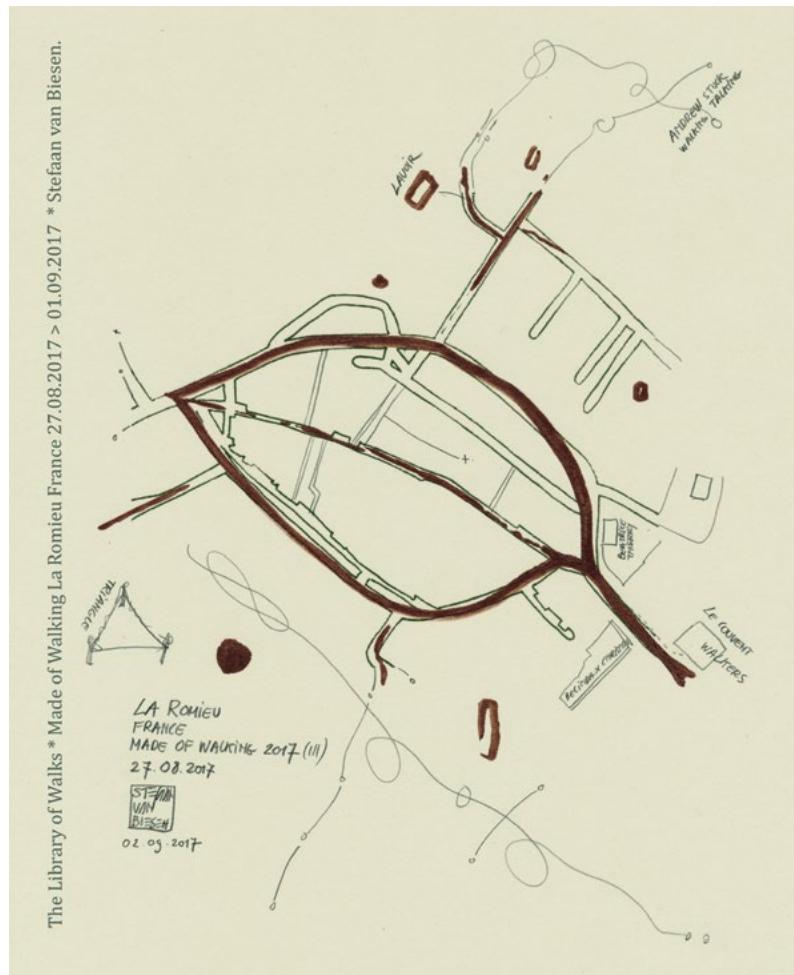


Fig.7 Wanderlust  
reconstruction silent  
walk Athens, 2014,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

PSTAK

Fig.8 Wanderlust  
reconstruction  
Brioteiros walk  
Portugal, 2014  
with Geert Vermeire,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

Fig.10 Lisbon walk,  
2013, Stefaan van Biesen.

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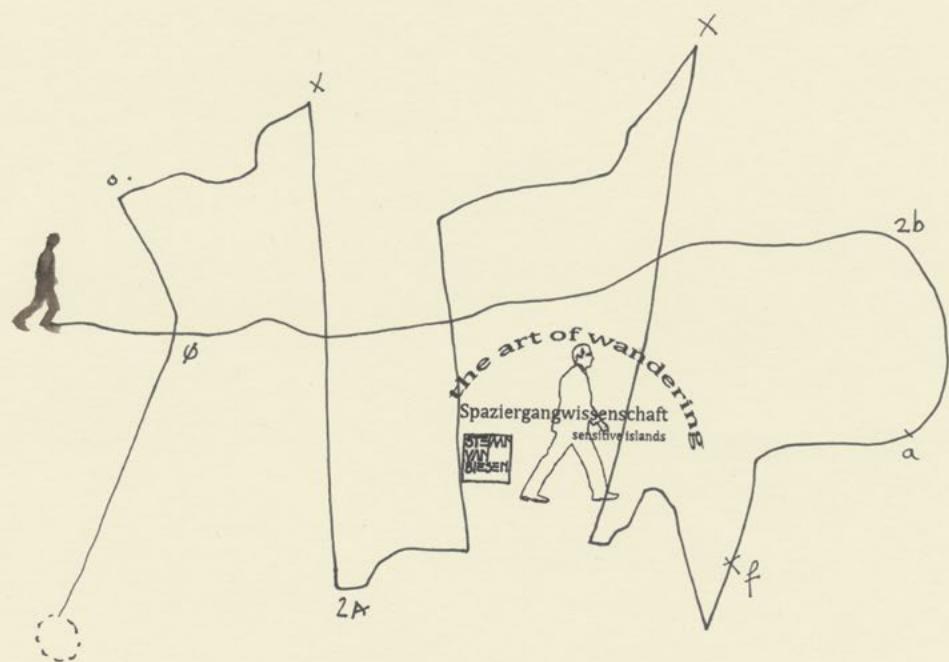
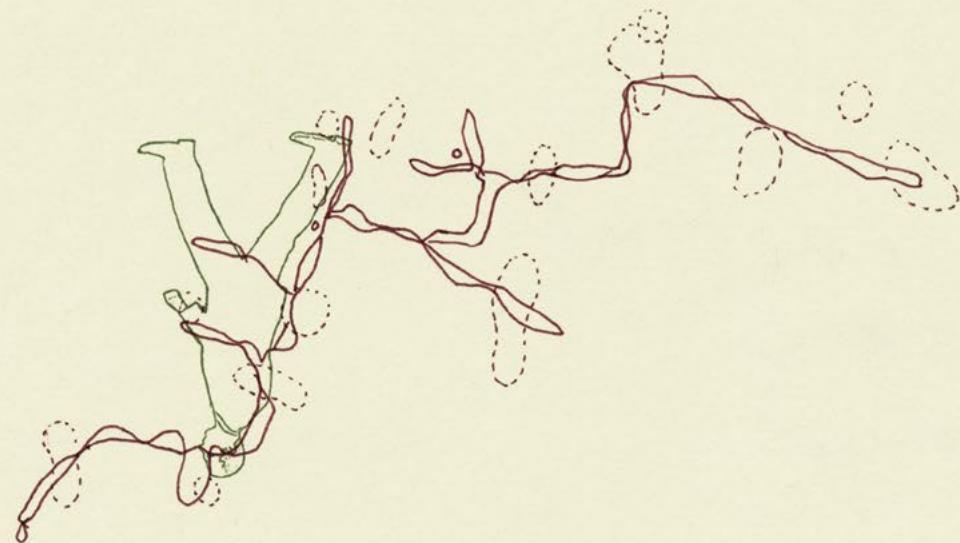
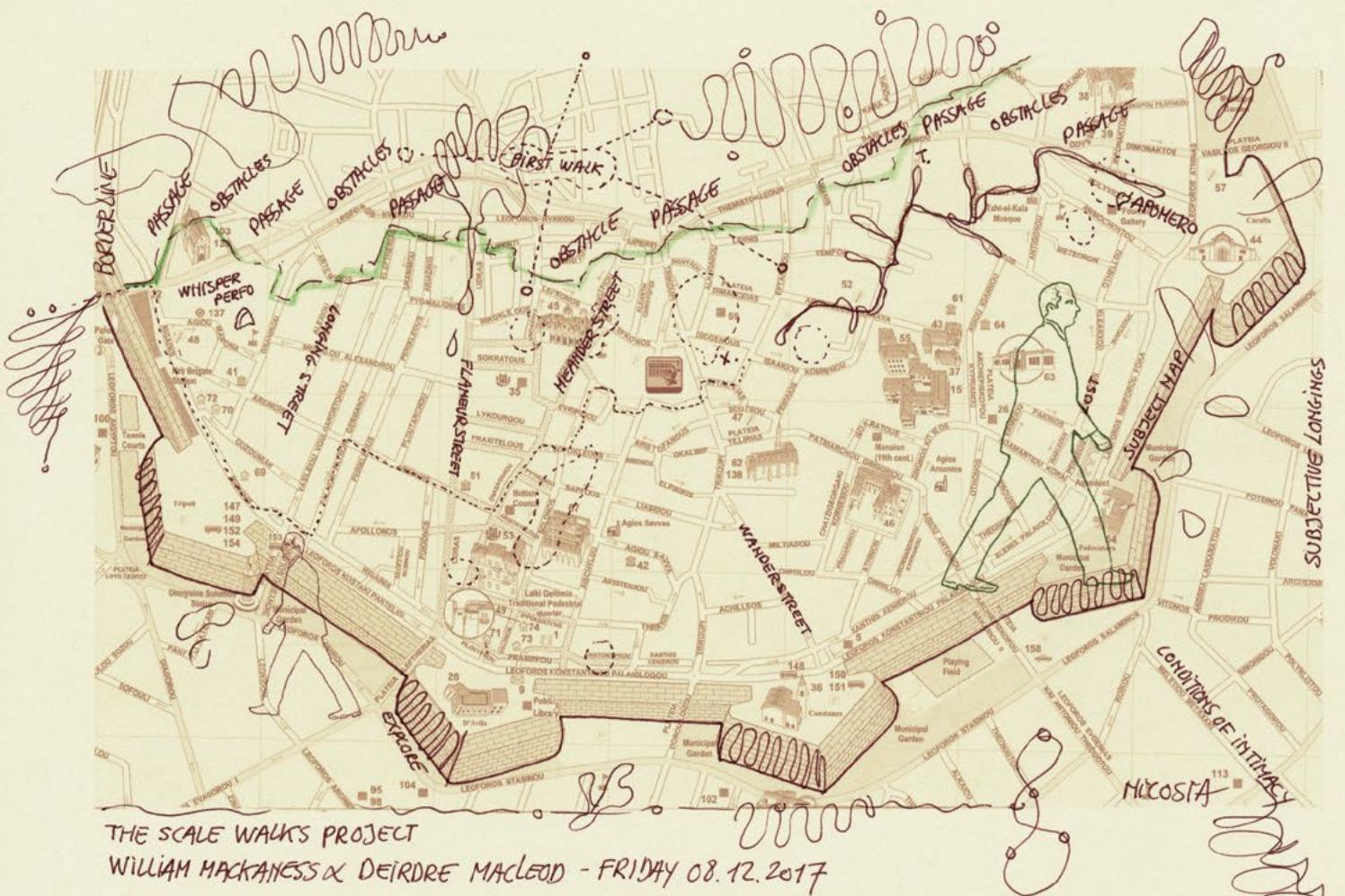


Fig.11 The Scale  
Walk Deirdre McLeod  
Nicosia, 2017,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

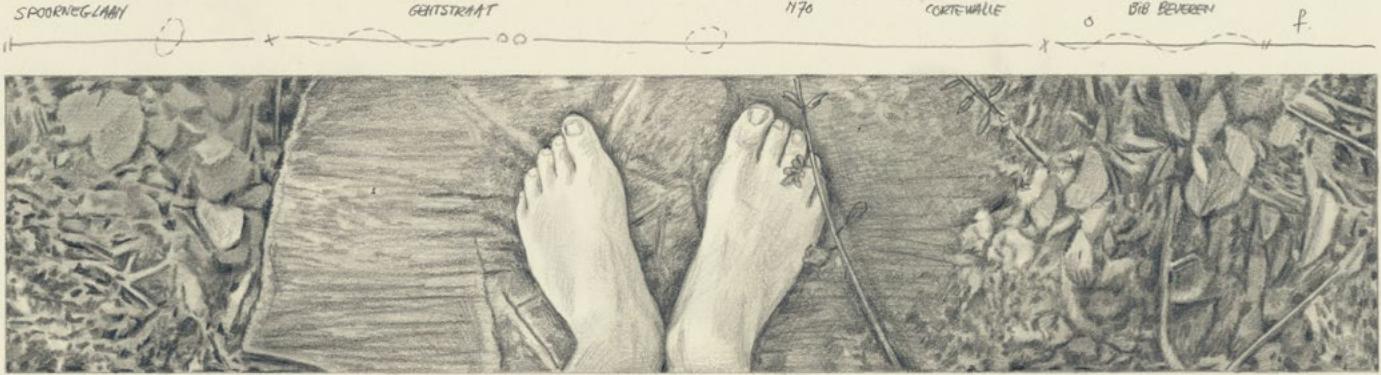


(OUR WALK)  
ANNEMIE HESTDAGH  
STEPAAH VAH BIESCH.

URBAN EMPTINESS

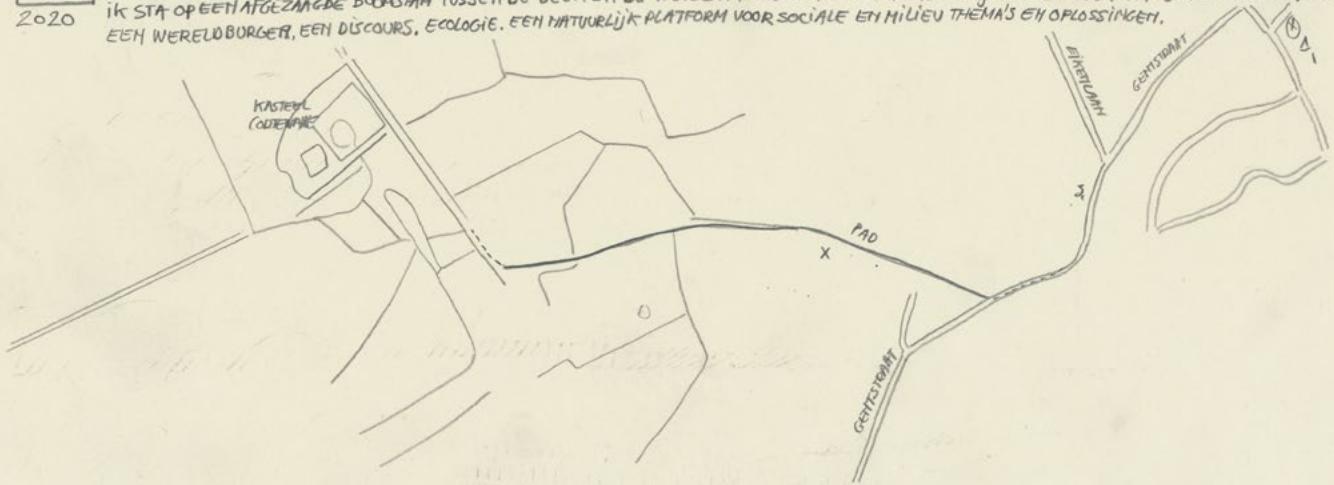
Nicosia  
STEAM  
VAN  
BIESCH

2017



**STEAM  
VAN  
BIESCH**  
2020

PAD GENTSTRAT NAAR KASTEEL CORTEWALLE EN CENTRUM VAN BEVEREN VANUIT MELSELE. EEH OUD PAD TUSSEN DE VELDEN - WEIDEM. S'JINGERT LANGSHEEN DE SPOORWEG ANTWERPEN - GENT - OOSTENDE, HET IS EEN PAD DAT HI-VAAK (WEKELEN) GEbruIKT. EH STEEDS IS ER DE 'ONTHOETING' MET HET KASTEEL CORTEWALLE. OOT DE NOOKST VAN JOOS VIJDA 'ISABELLA BORLUUT, DIT IS MIJN BIOTOOP. MISCHIEN WIL IN DE VOETSPOREN VAN JOOS VIJD? WIEZAL HET ZEGGEN? IK STA OP EEH AFGEZANGDE BOOMSTAM TUSSEN DE BEEK EN DE WEIDEM. IH GEDACHTEN VERBIJD IK MIJ, MET DE BOOM VAN OOT, DE PLER, MIJN ROOTS, FISH WERFLD BURGER, EEN DISCOURS, ECOLOGIE, EEN NATUURLIJK PLATFOM VOOR SOCIALE EN MILIEU THEMA'S EH OPLOSSINGEN.



**SEMMY VAN BIESEN** WANDELING CORTEWALLE LANGS DE 'IJSKELDER'. 22.01.2019. WANDELING 4. ZACHTE SNEEUWVAL. MEESTAL WERD ER TIJDENS DE WINTER STUKKEN IJS, VAN DE NABURIGE PLAS OF SLOOT, OPGESLAGEN. OMWIJLE VAN DE DIEPTE IS DEZE RUIMTE GOED OEGEISOLEERD. DOOR DAT DE KOUDE DAALT, IS HET MOGELIJK DAT DEZE RUIMTE VOLDOENDE KOEL TE Houden, INDEN ER VOLDOENDE IJS Ligt OEGESLAGEN. (POORHEDEN HET GANSE JAAR KOEL). TEGENwoordig MEESTAL EEN OVERWINTERINGSPLAATS VOOR VLEERHUIZEN. -> WINTERSLAAP.

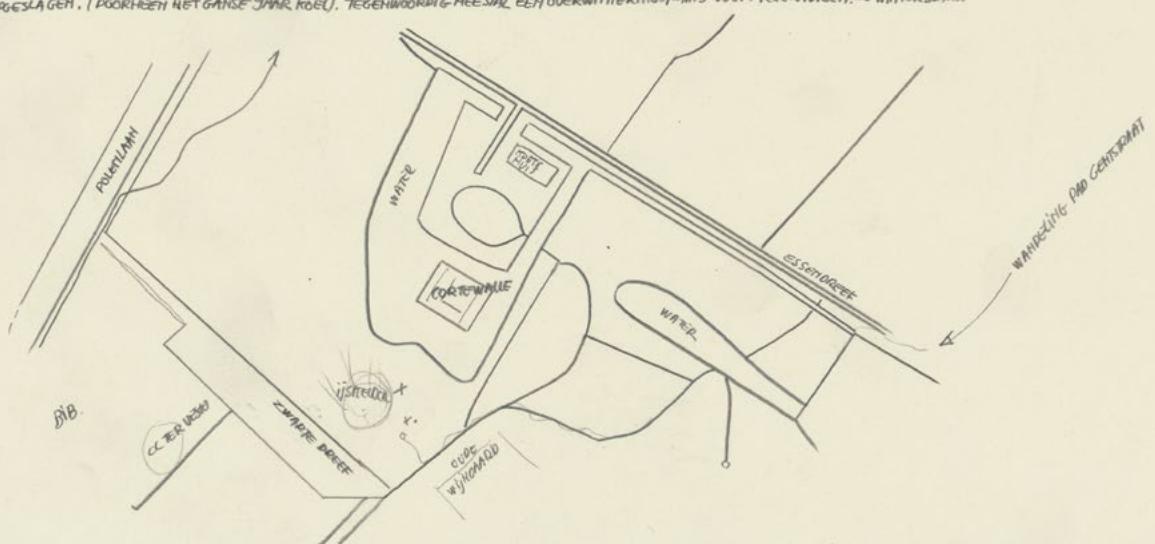


Fig.12 Reconstruction  
walk Cortewalle Beveren,  
Belgium 2020,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

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Fig.13 Reconstruction  
walk Cortewalle Beveren,  
Belgium 2020,  
Stefaan van Biesen.

Fig.14 Nomadic Little  
Museum Box of Walks,  
Stefaan van Biesen.



Fig.15 Nomadic Little  
Museum Box of Walks,  
Stefaan van Biesen.



Fig.16 Reconstruction  
walk 2.2 , La Romieu,  
France 2016,  
Stefaan van Biesen.



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He is a member of ArtScience Exhibits Community Berlin and the Milena principle. As an artist he worked in Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Germany, UK, Poland, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Portugal, Brazil and China.