

OPEN STUDIOS

SUNDAY 27.04

Handle with Care is an invitation to move through a shared space—one that carries stories, gestures, and traces of care. This afternoon unfolds as a living environment rather than a fixed programme. Instead of defined starting and ending points, interactions emerge and dissolve, while artworks inhabit the space, waiting to be discovered or approached. Let yourself be surprised by a journey of installations, whispered conversations, tactile encounters, music, performances, and moments of watching and listening.

Lili Vanderstraeten & Kito Kotsoane

Huskrooms

14:00 > 17:00 – at the intersection of rue du Houblon & rue du Grand-Serment

installation-performance / work-in-progress / ongoing

Walking Over In Your Oldest Shoes
Meeting Ancestors Seabottomflowers
Knowing What's From Whom
Ripping Veils in Splendid Shreds of Doom
Under Braided Branches Regaining Power
For Old Times' Sake Cutting Timeless Compounds Loose

— Poem by Henny Baeken

Huskrooms is a traveling installation activated through performances and unfolding organically via interactions with its surroundings and participants. Comprising carefully collected and reworked textiles, the artwork interweaves relationally—like a living organism—with the space, people, weather, textures, and materials of its temporary location. Lili Vanderstraeten, Kito Kotsoane and Leonie Buysse warmly invite you to spend time in the square—feeling the space, materials, movements, and people. Engage by composing with them, simply hanging out, or taking a seat on the bench for a one-on-one performance—preferably with a pair of old shoes in hand.

Laryssa Kim soft sonic opening & closing

15:00 > 15:30 – concert studio (1st floor)

17:30 > 18:00 – concert studio (1st floor)

sonic performance

Laryssa Kim is an Italo-Congolese singer and composer based in Brussels. Her music blends soulful vocals with layered electronics and acousmatic textures, creating hypnotic, emotionally charged soundscapes. Rooted in reggae and live performance, her practice evolved through contemporary dance and physical theatre, and electroacoustic composition

studies at the Royal Conservatory of Mons. Centring the voice as her main instrument, she crafts delicate yet powerful compositions that move between experimental sound and intimate song.

Nada Gambier & PSC residents

15:30 > 16:00 – dance studio (2nd floor)

open music rehearsal

Since February, Nada Gambier has been hanging out with the residents and staff of the psychosocial centre PSC Ixelles as part of her ongoing research project *BREAKFIX*. They've played music together, painted, sat in silence, sipped coffee, and pondered art and life. As a natural outpouring of these weeks, they now bring you a short jam session, a poetic cacophony, a noise-word fest of sorts, and a painting created by many hands — a celebration of what happens when we don't know, but we do it anyway. Together.

The Band starring Vic Grevendonck, Billtrack, Nada Gambier, Jazznofobia, Chris, and Lumière Mauve – *Mais Acquis*, text by Billtrack – *Un briquet*, text by Nada and Billtrack – *Experiment 6*, text by Lumière Mauve and composition by Jazznofobia – Collective painting by Katrien Debaillie, Flecha Guazo Yemanja, Andre Kestemont, Marcos Castro, Billtrack, Nada Gambier, Fabienne Dragonetti, and Thomas – Thank you also to Lore, Zachary, and everyone else who made these last weeks memorable!

Samuel Baidoo Plum Road Tea Dream

15:30 > 17:30 – penthouse (4th floor)

installation & game / work-in-progress / ongoing

17:10 > 17:30 – concert studio (1st floor)

conversation Samuel Baidoo x Marie Umuhoza

Plum Road Tea Dream unfolds as a video game, performance, and exhibition. Drawing from their experience as a queer person of colour, Samuel Baidoo

transforms their grief, joy, and memory into the story and mythology of the game. Through the avatar 'S.', visitors are invited to explore personal sanctuaries—spaces to slow down, reflect, and wander. With each encounter, you dive deeper into S.'s psyche, framing exploration as a gentle archaeology of healing and connection. Moving fluidly between virtual environments and physical installations, *Plum Road Tea Dream* reimagines the video game as a space for introspection rather than conquest.

Judith Engelen

I met you once, I loved you twice

15:30 > 17:30 – terrace corridor (1st floor)

video & sculptures / work-in-progress / ongoing

Judith Engelen works on a visual performance inspired by the myth of the spherical beings from Plato's *Symposium*, exploring the overlap between falling in love and psychosis, and focusing on the longing for unity and the loss of one's own position. You can catch an early glimpse of the atmosphere and material.

De Ambulanten Toolbox for Care

15:50 > 16:20 – concert studio (1st floor)

presentation

Toolbox fo care is a long-term artistic project around art and participation with residents and staff in residential care centres and around building bridges between care and art. MUS-E artists Rasa Alksnyte, Ann Weckx and

Justine Maxelon engage in Huize Sint Monika in the Marolles in Brussels. There, under the name The Ambulanten*, they will make small artistic interventions to open up the image and perception surrounding age, dementia, old age, care and life in residential care centres.

Their experiences, reflections and research will gradually result in a 'toolbox for care': a work of art that may inspire artists and residential care centres to enter into stimulating, caring collaborations.

* *Ambulatory means: "without a fixed workplace; on the move", and is often used in the context of care and education. Both involve support where it is needed.*

Elien Ronse De Staminee in 28 hoofdstukken

16:30 > 17:10 – concert studio (1st floor)

conversation & film

From October to December 2022, Elien Ronse was artist-in-residence at the psychosocial centre PSC Ixelles. She spent most of her time in the living room or *staminee*, where people ask each other how they are doing and conversations range from small talk to very intimate subjects. Sometimes nothing seems to be happening, but then you hear the radio and piano playing simultaneously, the loud Coke vending machine, the Zumba moments, the (online) chess games, the bouncing of ping pong balls, and the cries of joy or cursing... In an intimate and humorous video work, Elien looks at forms of care that emerge in everyday relationships.

This afternoon is composed by **Marie Umuhoza**, a multidisciplinary creative producer based in Brussels. With an ingenuous approach, she explores her practices as a programmer, curator, poet, dramaturg, moderator, and speaker. As artistic coordinator and programmer at Decoratelier from 2020 to 2024, she focused on the different dynamics that can emerge from intentional spaces. She has been a member of the nomadic platform Gouvernement since 2022, where she co-programs the *BREAKFASTCLUB* format. Since 2023, she has also been the artistic director and programmer of the multidisciplinary festival *Africa is/in the Future*, which addresses contemporary Afro+diasporic futurologies in Brussels. In the same year, she became an associate dramaturg at La Bellone. In 2025, she is researching the transdisciplinary performance *Holy* alongside Martha Canga Antonio and Vivi Focquet.

The Open Studios programme is curated by workspacebrussels in dialogue with the artists. A big thank you goes to the team of Kaaitheater, and especially to Christian, Emiel, Frank, Geni, Godfried, Jan, Louise, Mo, Olga, Rodion and Titane. We also want to thank La Bellone for the collaboration between Open Studios and Vitamines B this year, and Les Brigittines for hosting one of our performances in their house. Workspacebrussels is structurally supported by Kaaitheater, Rosas, Ultima Vez, Les Brigittines, the Flemish Community and the Flemish Community Commission.