



## SIDEWAYS festival

Artistic laboratory on / along / about slow paths

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17 August – 17 September 2012

Sideways is an itinerant festival for contemporary arts and cultural research. Slow paths form the scenery for a dialogue between nature and culture. Artists from different countries follow a web of **slow paths** and explore with the audience different tracks in the Belgian landscape: footpaths, alleys, backroads and shortcuts. On the way, they research aspects of slowness and movement, arts and activism, spatial planning and sustainability, storytelling and walking libraries.

Behind the ribbon development and in the margins of the ubiquitous car infrastructure, the festival follows a few **side tracks** and wants to bring arts outside of the walls of the black box, the white cube or the university campuses. The backbone of the Sideways festival is a 4 week **walking expedition** across Belgium, from west to east, undertaken by an international group of artists as well as a broad audience. For the artists a **mobile laboratory** unfolds along the way: artistic projects develop at a footpace, in interaction with each other and with the environment. During the 4 festival weeks, we walk in different stages, from Mondays to Thursdays. The day trips vary between 7 and 35 kilometers, are guided by a local explorer and everyone is welcome to walk along. Some 50 artists interpret the landscape within their performances, artistic research, photography, spatial installations, paintings and drawings.

During the 5 consecutive festival weekends, the caravan halts on **5 festival locations**: Menen (19/8), Herzele (25-26/8), Brussels (1-2/9), Turnhout (8-9/9) and Zutendaal (15-16/9). Different lines of movements and stories are entwined into knots of activity. Sideways looks up surprising and charming locations, like the old stone bakery in Herzele, the green oasis of a Brussels' city farm or the 'Klein Engelandhoeve' in Turnhout, an estate surrounded by a maze of walking trails. On these festival nodes, the Sideways caravan puts up its camp for one weekend and visitors can discover different artistic projects. Some interventions document the experiences and impressions from the previous week of walking, other interventions are specifically developed for the festival site. The programme is diverse and exists of multimedia installations, walks and live performances, but also 2 symposia, film screenings in open air and many outdoor workshops. The mobile bar of the Lekkerbakery invites us all to relax and enjoy the company of others.

**Tracking trails and making ways: Sideways goes for the sustainable path.**

Space to walk and bike safely. Sport and play close to home. Opportunities for nature in a urbanized and fragmented country as Belgium. Slow paths are far more than connections to move from point A to point B. They are essential for a pleasant living environment. A trail is also tantamount to a movement, an act of crossing, the performance of the passage. Walking and biking tracks appear again as alternative and sustainable ways for the ubiquitous car infrastructure and are very meaningful to stimulate the transition to a carbon-low ecosystem. Indeed, the auto mobility starts to suffocate in its own downward spiral of traffic

jams, greenhouse gases, diminishing oil supplies and a far-developed petrification of the landscape.

Sideways wants to accentuate the **different qualities of slow paths**, and researches other sustainable initiatives hidden behind the ribbon development. The participating artists stay overnight at biological farms, youth centers, communities or guest families. Encounters and hospitality are vital aspects of the Sideways expedition. Also the catering for crew and artists are not outsourced in the classical way, but is in hands of the families of a food collective movement, De Beek. They want to reduce food kilometers and work with local products and left-overs to prepare the meals. On the way, the Sideways expedition will also map fruit trees in public space, self-harvesting gardens, food forests and more inspiring initiatives via the website.

**Experimenting, documenting, publishing>>follow the expedition online via the multimedia donkey!**

The festival begins and ends with a symposium for the broad audience: framing moments of reflection and exchange. The opening symposium **'Setting Out'** (Menen, 19/8) sparks an investigation of slow ways and sets out the guidelines and research themes of the Sideways expedition. During the closing conference **'Moving on'** (Zutendaal, 15/5) sets the experiences of the mobile laboratory in dialogue with different stories and practices from Belgium and abroad. Both symposia concentrate on the values of being on the way and cast a new light on debates about slow paths and spatial un/planning, walking and creation, arts and ecology, im(mobility) and landscape appreciation, topography and storytelling.

Not everybody will be able to follow the Sideways adventure during one month from nearby. For the ones at home or away and the international audience, Sideways is daily documenting the findings of the expedition online with the help of **DonkeyXote**, the multimedia donkey and mobile office of the festival. This traditional pack animal is equipped with gps-tracker, laptop, time lapse camera, sound recording system and solar panels! On the way, stories, encounters and impressions are gathered in images and words to publish them on the world wide web via [www.sideways2012.be](http://www.sideways2012.be). As such, the Sideways caravan and the traversed landscape will be mapped, day in day out, step by step.

### **Speakers for the Sideways Symposia**

**Tim Ingold<sup>GB</sup> | Sacha Kagan<sup>FR/DE</sup> | Martin Kohler<sup>DE</sup> | Wim Cuyvers<sup>BE</sup> | Giulia Focca & Lorenzo Romito<sup>IT</sup> | Wilfried Houjebek<sup>NL</sup> | Baptiste Lanaspé<sup>FR</sup> | Jan Masschelein<sup>BE</sup> | Judith Rugg<sup>GB</sup> | Jan-Dirk van der Burg<sup>NL</sup> | Ignace Schops<sup>BE</sup> | Misha Myers & Deirdre Heddon<sup>GB</sup> and many more...**

### **Sideways artists & projects**

**Peter Ankh aka P.ankh<sup>IT</sup>**  
*Donkeyxote - Ephemeral Footprint*  
[www.donkijote.org](http://www.donkijote.org)

**Boris Nieslony<sup>DE</sup>**  
*Table Walk*  
[www.epi-zentrum.org](http://www.epi-zentrum.org)

**Daniel Djamo<sup>RO</sup>**

**Anthony Schrag<sup>GB</sup>**  
*This Is How Far We've Come*  
[www.anthonyschrag.com](http://www.anthonyschrag.com)

**Jeremy Wood<sup>GB</sup>**  
*Walking With Satellites*  
[www.jeremywood.net](http://www.jeremywood.net)

**Liesl Vanautgaerden, Hans Geyens, Kris Van Dessel<sup>BE</sup>**

*The Road*

[www.danieldjamo.blogspot.com](http://www.danieldjamo.blogspot.com)

**Benjamin Verdonck**<sup>BE</sup>

*Valstrik [Booby Trap]*

[www.benjamin-verdonck.be](http://www.benjamin-verdonck.be)

**Wrights & Sites**<sup>GB</sup>

*Ambulant Architectures*

[www.mis-guide.com](http://www.mis-guide.com)

**Joe Baele & Hugh Lupton**<sup>BE/GB</sup>

*Travelling With Ghosts*

[www.joebaele.be/](http://www.joebaele.be/) [www.hughlupton.com](http://www.hughlupton.com)

**TimeCircus**<sup>BE</sup>

*De Lekkerbakery*

[www.timecircus.org](http://www.timecircus.org)

**De Beek**<sup>BE</sup>

*De Zwerfbeek [The Straying Brook]*

[www.debeek.edosia.org](http://www.debeek.edosia.org)

**Yana K.M.**<sup>RU</sup>

*Peace Pilgrimage*

<http://emedia.art.sunysb.edu/yanakm/>

**Davide Tidoni**<sup>IT</sup>

*Soundstorming*

[www.davidetidoni.name](http://www.davidetidoni.name)

**Misha Myers & Deirdre Heddon**<sup>GB</sup>

*Walking Library*

**Christine Mackey**<sup>IE</sup>

*Ecological Dispersals*

[www.christinemackey.com](http://www.christinemackey.com)

**Brandon LaBelle**<sup>US/DE</sup>

*Handbook For The Itinerant*

[www.brandonlabelle.net](http://www.brandonlabelle.net)

**Reg Carremans**<sup>BE</sup>

*Pathscape*

[www.regcarremans.com](http://www.regcarremans.com)

**Lara Dhondt**<sup>BE</sup>

*Primary Stages*

[www.laradhondt.be](http://www.laradhondt.be)

*Palimpfest*

[www.hansgeyens.com/](http://www.hansgeyens.com/) [www.krisvandessel.be](http://www.krisvandessel.be)

**OKNO**<sup>BE</sup>

*Edible Walk, Herbal Work*

[www.okno.be](http://www.okno.be)

**Jacqueline Schoemaker & Jozua Zaagman**<sup>NL</sup>

*Passages Of Need*

[www.jozuazaagman.nl/](http://www.jozuazaagman.nl/) [www.jacqueline-schoemaker.nl](http://www.jacqueline-schoemaker.nl)

**Andrew Stuck**<sup>GB</sup>

*Talking Walking*

[www.talkingwalking.net](http://www.talkingwalking.net)

**Aifoon**<sup>BE</sup>

*Soundways & Sound Landscapes*

[www.aifoon.org](http://www.aifoon.org)

**Floris Visser**<sup>NL</sup>

*Café Hallo – Mille Plateaux*

[www.vlorisfisser.nl](http://www.vlorisfisser.nl)

**Filip Van Dingenen**<sup>BE</sup>

*An Inland Voyage 2.0*

[www.fantaman.net](http://www.fantaman.net)

**Kaspar Wimberley & Susanne Kudielka**<sup>DE</sup>

*Caravan / ANIR / Process Of Compression*

[www.treacletheatre.co.uk](http://www.treacletheatre.co.uk)

**Hendrik Sturm & Guy Morel** DE/FR

*Marcher Ensemble*

<http://wildproject.fr/revue/galerie-hendrik-sturm>

**Bram Thomas Arnold & Eleanor Wynne Davis**<sup>GB</sup>

*A Belgian Transect*

[www.themobileinstitute.wordpress.com](http://www.themobileinstitute.wordpress.com)

**Orquestina de Pigmeos**<sup>ES</sup>

*Camina Y Ven*

[www.tea-tron.com/nilogallego/](http://www.tea-tron.com/nilogallego/) [www.chusdominguez.com](http://www.chusdominguez.com)

**Cristian Borş & Marius Rîțiu**<sup>RO</sup>

*Bleach Gallery*

[www.cristianbors-mariusritiu.com](http://www.cristianbors-mariusritiu.com)

**Esther Polak & Ivar van Bakkum**<sup>NL</sup>

*New Work*

[www.estherpolak.nl/](http://www.estherpolak.nl/) [www.ivarvanbakkum.nl](http://www.ivarvanbakkum.nl)

[www.clemenswilhelm.com](http://www.clemenswilhelm.com)

[www.verbekefoundation.com/daniel-dewaele.html](http://www.verbekefoundation.com/daniel-dewaele.html)

[www.glasbak.be](http://www.glasbak.be)

[www.sideways2012.be](http://www.sideways2012.be)

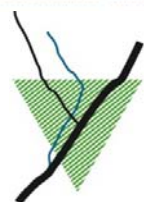
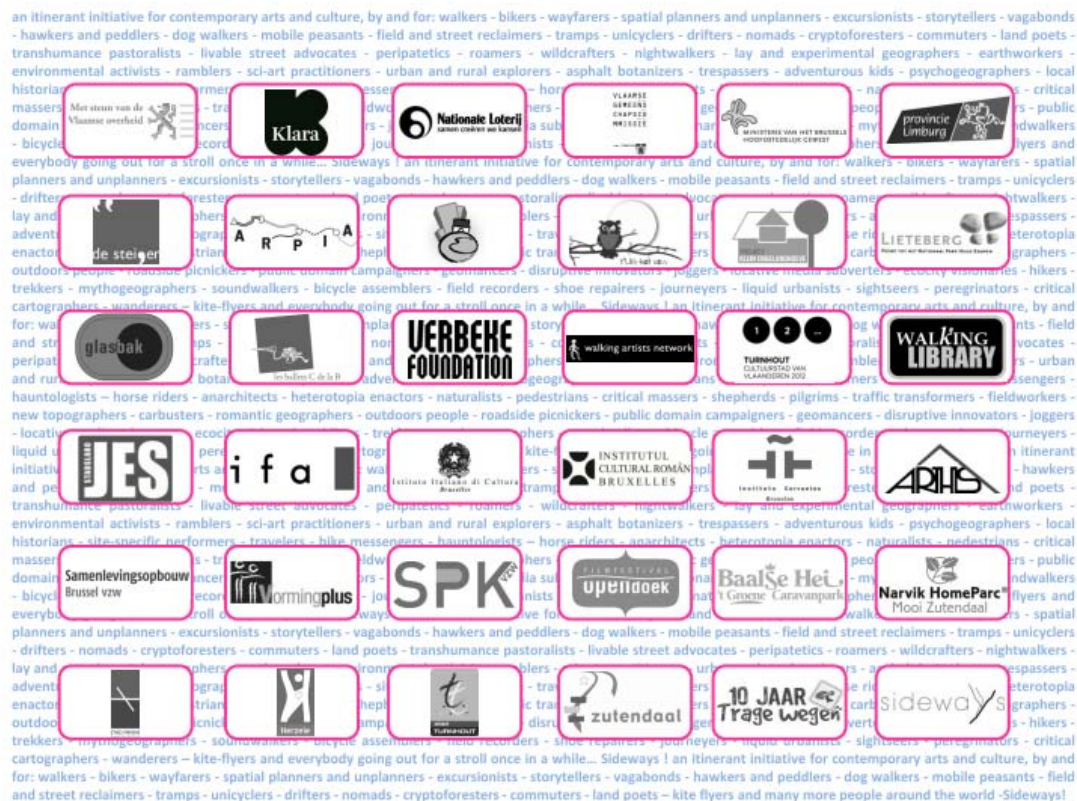
[www.facebook.com/sideways2012](http://www.facebook.com/sideways2012), Sideways is also gathering a global community of people who incline to the ideas of the expedition. Welcome to join us, in real time or online!

Sideways is a project of *Trage wegen vzw* and is framed in the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Trage Wegen vzw*  
Press contacts: [sinta@sideways2012.be](mailto:sinta@sideways2012.be) and +32 (0)495944051

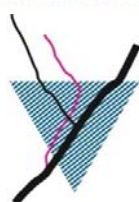
**In collaboration with** Verbeke Foundation, Glasbak, Les Ballets C de la B, Arpia, Turnhout 2012, Walking Artists Network, CC De Steiger, Ferme du Parc Maximilien, Klein EngeLandhoeve, De Lieteberg, Waerbeke, Vormingplus, 't Uilekot, Open Doek Filmfestival, JES stadslabo, Arthis, Strategic Project Organisation Kempen and many more partners.

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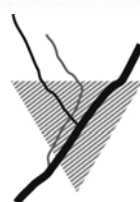
**Mediapartner Klara**



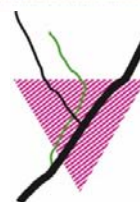
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