On Friday the 6th of December, 2019, in the presence of Anne-Marie d’Estienne d’Orves, Deputy of the Mayor of Marseille for Culture, Marie-Hélène Feraud-Gregori, Municipal councillor for the Opera, Theatre and Contemporary Art, and Sabine Bernasconi, Mayor of the 1st and 7th arrondissements and Vice-President of the Bouches-du-Rhône Departmental Council for Culture, Manifesta 13 Marseille’s director, Hedwig Fijen, and the Education team are happy to officially inaugurate the Tiers QG, headquarters of the education and mediation programme of Manifesta 13 Marseille titled Le Tiers Programme.

Tiers QG, the headquarters of Le Tiers Programme, is situated at Bernard du Bois square at the entrance to Belsunce neighbourhood as you approach it from the central railway station St Charles. This former snackbar next to a students’ dormitory has been transformed into a space which will welcome projects and people over the coming year. Tiers QG has an open exhibiting space, a shared space for workshops and gatherings, as well as a small shared garden. The complex transformation of the space has been developed by the students of the College of Arts and Design of Marseille (ESADMM) under the guidance of Cookies, design and architecture studio based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Inauguration of the Invisible Archives project

From December 2019 onwards, Tiers QG will be inhabited by Invisible Archives, a year-long project of exhibitions and a public programme representing genealogies of various civil initiatives, histories of resilience and community synergies originated in particular areas of Marseille. Opening half a year before the main biennial programme, Invisible Archives is an attempt the ambition of Manifesta in the host city and help to understand the current complexities of Marseille.

Each exhibition proposes a collaboration between the archive holder and an artist that specialises and narrates the story. The exhibitions are accompanied by public events: discussions, screenings, gatherings, walks, performances and mediation programme. Each archive will leave a trace within the space in a material form, accumulating all the narratives of the project.

Please find a full description of the Invisible Archives project in annexe of the press release or on this link.

Invisible Archives: Crémaillère 1 “Place des investis” inaugural exhibition by Olivier Hilaire
“Place des investis” by Marseille-based visual artist Olivier Hilaire is the inaugural exhibition of the Invisible Archives project. Hilaire, familiar with creating works based on existing archives, has been invited by the Tiers Programme team to collaborate with the Belsunce interest committee (CIQ Cadunab) and Belsunce traders association (ACAM) to narrate the story of citizen mobilization around Louise Michel square in Belsunce. Immersing himself in the genealogy of this history, Olivier Hilaire collaborated closely with its tireless counterpart - the president of the two associations, Ali Timizar. They worked together to dissect the archives of the associations kept at Café Louise Michel. In addition to regular meetings with Ali Timizar and his colleagues, the artist completed his research by soliciting important actors from the square’s memory, such as the teams from the Théâtre de l’Œuvre and Radio Grenouille.

The next exhibitions will include projects by Marseille-based artists Gethan & Myles (“Archive #2: Les excursionnistes marseillais”) and Martine Derain (“Archive #5: Former members of un Centre Ville Pour Tous”); Moroccan artist based in Casablanca Mohamed Fariji (“Archive #3: Hôtel du Nord”); Canadian artist based in Montreal V. Jourdain (“Archive #7: Mémoire des sexualités”); Cinémathèque of Tanger (“Archive #8: Film Flamme – Polygone Etoilé”), and much more.

For updates on the public programme, please visit our website.

More about Le Tiers Programme:

Proposed by the Education team of Manifesta 13 Marseille, Le Tiers Programme (the Third Programme) is a mediation initiative between the main curatorial programme and the city of Marseille. Deriving from encounters between educators, mediators, artists, researchers, teachers, students and other inhabitants in Marseille, the programme is a set of interrelated research-based projects unfolding on sites of non-institutional histories and narratives of the city. At the core of the programme is the notion of voicing the unheard, including multiple histories of the city’s common heritage, giving an insight into what Marseille is today and what it can become in the future. It studies Marseille’s unknown genealogies, remarkable histories of local resilience and imaginative modes of international exchange. It has its own temporality in relation to the main biennial programme, beginning one year before the opening of Manifesta 13 Marseille and concluding after the biennial closes its doors.

Tiers Programme derives from Gilles Clément’s notion of Third Landscape: an ‘undetermined fragment of the planetary garden’ consisting of the sum of places given back to nature by man’s neglect. It is a refuge for diversity left to all biological beings, a territory in the absence of any human decision, a celebration of neighbouring ‘unattended’ spaces. Tiers Programme leaves institutional categories, disciplinary divisions, and target groups behind, bringing together projects that are educational, curatorial, research-based, narrative, artistic, and accessible to a broad public.

Main Supporter of Invisible Archives: Fondation Daniel et Nina Carasso

For further information about the Third Programme: www.manifesta13.org/tiers-programme
About Manifesta:
Manifesta, the European Nomadic Biennial, originated in the early 1990s in response to the political, economic, and social change following the end of the Cold War and the subsequent steps towards European integration. Manifesta has developed into a platform for dialogue between art and society by inviting the cultural and artistic community to produce new creative experiences with, and not for, the context in which it takes place. Manifesta rethinks the relations between culture and society investigating and catalysing positive social change in Europe through contemporary culture in a continuous dialogue with the social sphere of specific place.

Manifesta was founded, and is still directed, by Dutch art historian Hedwig Fijen. Each new edition is fundraised individually and managed by a permanent team of international specialists.

Manifesta 13 Marseille is a non-profit organisation initiated by the International Foundation of Manifesta and the City of Marseille. Manifesta 13 Marseille is supported by the City of Marseille, the French Ministry of Culture, the Préfecture des Bouches du Rhône and the Departmental Council of the Bouches-du-Rhône.

Dates of Manifesta 13:
7 June – 1 November 2020

Previous Manifesta Host Cities
Manifesta 1, Rotterdam (Netherlands, 1996)
Manifesta 2, Luxembourg (Luxembourg, 1998)
Manifesta 3, Ljubljana (Slovenia, 2000)
Manifesta 4, Frankfurt (Germany, 2002)
Manifesta 5, Donostia-San Sebastián (Spain, 2004)
Manifesta 6, Nicosia (Cyprus, 2006 – cancelled)
Manifesta 7, Trentino-Alto Adige (Italy, 2008)
Manifesta 8, Murcia - Cartagena (Spain, 2010)
Manifesta 9, Genk-Limburg (Belgium, 2012)
Manifesta 10, St. Petersburg (Russia, 2014)
Manifesta 11, Zurich (Switzerland, 2016)
Manifesta 12, Palermo (Italy, 2018)

Next Manifesta Host Cities
Manifesta 13, Marseille (France, 2020)
Manifesta 14, Pristina (Kosovo, 2022)

For further information about Manifesta, please contact:
Amsterdam Head Office
Emilia van Lynden
Head of Communication, Marketing and Publications
office@manifesta.org
Marseille 13 Marseille Office
Nadia Fatnassi
Press & Public Relations
m13press@manifesta.org

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