The "Eurotopie" project for the Pavilion of Belgium at the XVIth edition of the Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2018 will address the major challenges and challenges faced by the European Union through the analysis of its main territorial, physical and symbolic in Brussels, its capital. If this neighborhood has little place in the collective imagination of Europeans, it is not the same for Brussels. Between love and misunderstanding, relations between the European quarter and Brussels are ambivalent.

In this part of Belgium tries to incarnate for some decades now the face of Europe. More than sharing space, the presence of the European district in Brussels is one of the conditions for the survival of Europe, but also of Brussels. If the European quarter is above all a space of expression of the European political system, it is in many ways and for many reasons - morphological, security, financial - resistant to popular speech. By accepting the role of hostess of this common enterprise which is Europe, Belgium accepts de facto the responsibility of its anchoring space.

The Belgian pavilion therefore proposes to recreate a space for discussion, debate and commitment that seems to be lacking in the European quarter. Pavilion "Eurotopie" will have the ambition to make the visitor think about the future construction of Europe by providing a line of reflection and discussion based on the analysis of Europe's spatial roots.

Driven by a desire to create political commitment to Europe, which Traumnovelle and Roxane Le Grelle, curators, believe is the last big story to face nationalism, "Eurotopie" will ask how European citizens can to grasp the stakes of the construction of Europe. How to apprehend the challenges of the cohabitation of the European quarter and Brussels? How can architects contribute to building the European democratic space?


At the initiative of the project, the collective Traumnovelle finds its field of research and expression in fiction and architecture. Traumnovelle has three members: Léone Drapeaud (born in 1987, graduated in
2015), Manuel Leon Fanjul (born in 1990, graduated in 2016) and Johnny Leya (born in 1990, graduated in 2015). They are associated with Roxane Le Grelle (born 1990, graduated in 2014), architect and historian of art. The four curators, all graduates of the Faculty of Architecture ULB La Cambre-Horta, surround themselves with a creative multi-disciplinary team including:
an artist, Sébastien Lacomblez,
a philosopher, Bruce Bégout,
a photographer, Philippe Braquenier,
an artist-illustrator, Claire Trotignon
a researcher, Dennis Pohl, and
6'56'' graphic designers (Jurgen Maelfeyt, Jonas Temmerman & Lien Van Leemput).

This team demonstrates the ambition of curators to value complementary approaches in the methodologies discussed, and to open up fields of exploration and encounter between disciplines.

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Exhibition curators
Traumnovelle
Léone Drapeaud
Manuel León Fanjul
Johnny Leya
& Roxane Le Grelle

Authors of the book
Eurocode 7 : Traumnovelle & Roxane Le Grelle
with Dennis Pohl
Journey to Eurotopie : Bruce Bégout

Photography
Philippe Braquenier

Collages
Claire Trotignon

Graphic design
6’56”
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