



Press release
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HET HEM IS OPEN AND PRESENTS CHAPTER 1NE: EDSON SABAJO & GUILLAUME SCHMIDT

"Culture happens in communities."

With: Michele Aboro, Quentley Barbara, Sanford Biggers, Roxette Capriles, Victor Crezée, Aria Dean, Menno Kok, Gabriel Lester, Erik van Lieshout, Dana Lixenberg, Fantastic Man, Neo Matloga, Terence Nance, Navid Nuur, Rich Medina, Piet Parra, Ebony G. Patterson, Adrian Piper, Rammellzee, Farida Sedoc, Sanlé Sory, Boris Tellegen, The Black Archives, Tom Trago.

Het HEM, a new art institute on the fringes of Amsterdam, is now open. Housed within an almost 10,000m² former ammunitions factory, Het HEM combines the presentation of highly relevant visual art with a strong programming in music, performance and dance, the organisation of socially critical public programmes and participatory, educational activities.

Kim Tuin, Director of Het HEM: "We want our audience to feel at home, to be inspired and to open their minds to new experiences, intuitions and creative ideas. Using art to raise important questions concerning contemporary society, we hope to give people a more active and inclusive understanding of our world."

Het HEM strives to bring art closer to different communities and to be a sounding board for society. The program is divided into seasonal 'Chapters'. Each chapter is developed in collaboration with a guest curator. These are people who do not necessarily have a strong connection with the visual arts, but who, because of their personal story, professional expertise or exceptional experience, bring a special perspective on the time in which we live. The curatorial team of Het HEM translates this story into a ten-week exhibition or artistic programme aimed at encouraging the public to change their minds.



Edson Sabajo en Guillaume Schmidt. Foto: Menno Kok

Chapter 1NE of Het HEM shares the story of Edson Sabajo and Guillaume Schmidt, a creative entrepreneurial duo best known for their successful streetwear and lifestyle brand, Patta. Deeply rooted in Hip Hop Culture, Sabajo and Schmidt are considered cultural vanguards. Whilst constantly in contact with their artistic and musical environment, they represent a new generation of 'homo universalis': multi-talented makers led, not by convention, but by forging their own creative paths.

For Chapter 2, from September 21 to December 1 2019, the American/ Chilean producer and composer Nicolás Jaar will reside at Het HEM and turn the space into an interdisciplinary and experimental research centre.

In addition to its large-scale exhibition programme, Het HEM will host a living room with a library and work/ reading table, a terrace, artist studios, Dynamic Range Music Bar, Restaurant Europa, and 'Still Life' (2019) a newly commissioned context-specific art installation by RAAAF. Het HEM is located within the Hembrug site, a former munitions, firearms and artillery factory built at the end of the 19th century located on the border of Amsterdam and Zaandam - an area currently in a state of transition as the city of Amsterdam steadily expands beyond its borders.

Alongside the exhibition and Boxing Clinic, Het HEM also presents an extensive public programme consisting of (musical) performances, talks and guided tours, including Victor Crezée, Fantastic Man, Rich Medina, The Black Archives, and more.

With the support of: BankGiro Loterij Fonds, Fonds 21, Mondriaan Fund and Adidas.

Het HEM ferry

From Thursday to Sunday a GVB ferry will run between Amsterdam Central Station and Het HEM. The ferry goes between 17:00 and 00:00 and will take 25 minutes. A single trip costs €2,50. You can buy your ticket on board and pay by card. A ten-journey punch card is available at Het HEM. The ferry departs from the GVB ferry dock between the NDSM ferry and the Buiksloterweg ferry. Bikes are allowed on board.

With thanks to: GVB, Metropoolregio Amsterdam, ministerie van OCW, gemeente Amsterdam and gemeente Zaanstad.

Note to editor:

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