



100 Gestes

Exhibition

30.11 -> 30.01.27

425 – Louizalaan, 425 – 1000 Brussels

To mark its centenary, La Cambre presents *100 Gestures*, an exhibition born out of an educational and research project carried out as part of the course on the anthropology of the arts. Based on a hundred ‘object biographies’ created by students from all disciplines at the school, it explores what objects reveal about the skills, practices and legacies that shape an art school. Transformed tools, fragments of projects, materials, scraps, prototypes and everyday objects bear witness to individual and collective journeys. Running from 30 November 2026 to 30 January 2027, the exhibition officially opens the year of celebrations marking La Cambre’s centenary within its walls and presents a sensitive reflection on the memory of the studios, the creative gestures and what is passed down from one generation to the next.

Inspired by the work methods of anthropology and ethnography, these ‘object biographies’ view things not as mere artefacts, but as repositories of human, technical and sensitive histories. Through stories, installations, visual displays and speculative forms, the students explore what deserves to be preserved, passed on or narrated.

This research engages in dialogue with a selection of works from La Cambre’s historical collection, built up over a century through donations from the school’s alumni. Spanning archives and contemporary experiments, the exhibition connects different generations of creators and reveals the continuity of gestures, skills and imaginary visions that have run through the school.

Through its interdisciplinary, intergenerational and sustainable nature, *100 Gestures* embodies the values that have underpinned La Cambre's identity since its founding by Henry van de Velde in 1926 : freedom of experimentation, transdisciplinary dialogue, the interplay between thought and practice, and attention to contemporary issues. The scenography prioritizes the reuse of materials and extends the reflection on the life cycles of objects and issues of sustainability.

On 30 November 2026, the anniversary of the school's founding by royal decree, the exhibition will also host the official launch of La Cambre's centenary. An event bringing together the press, partners, institutions, alumni and the school community will outline an anniversary programme that will run throughout 2027, with exhibitions, conferences, publications, performances and educational projects.

The exhibition *100 Gestures* kicks off La Cambre's centenary with a fundamental question: beyond the artworks, what does an art school pass on? Objects, methods, skills, but also stories, sensibilities and ways of inhabiting the world.

'100 Gestures' was conceived by Lola Meotti and Stéphanie Mahieu, whose respective practices in curating, anthropology and education converge around issues of transmission, contemporary creation and material cultures.

100! La Cambre

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