

EUROPE ARCHIVE

ERIK KESSELS / THOMAS MAILAENDER

 **VESZPRÉM**
MŰVÉSZETEK HÁZA



Veszprém-Balaton 2023
Európa Kulturális Fővárosa
Partner Intézmény



SEARCHING EUROPEAN FLEA MARKETS TO RECREATE A COLLECTIVE MEMORY

In this collaboration, the two artists, Erik Kessels and Thomas Mailaender are hitting the road in an 'Archive on Wheels'. They're on a mission to recreate a collective memory reusing images and objects found at flea markets across Europe.

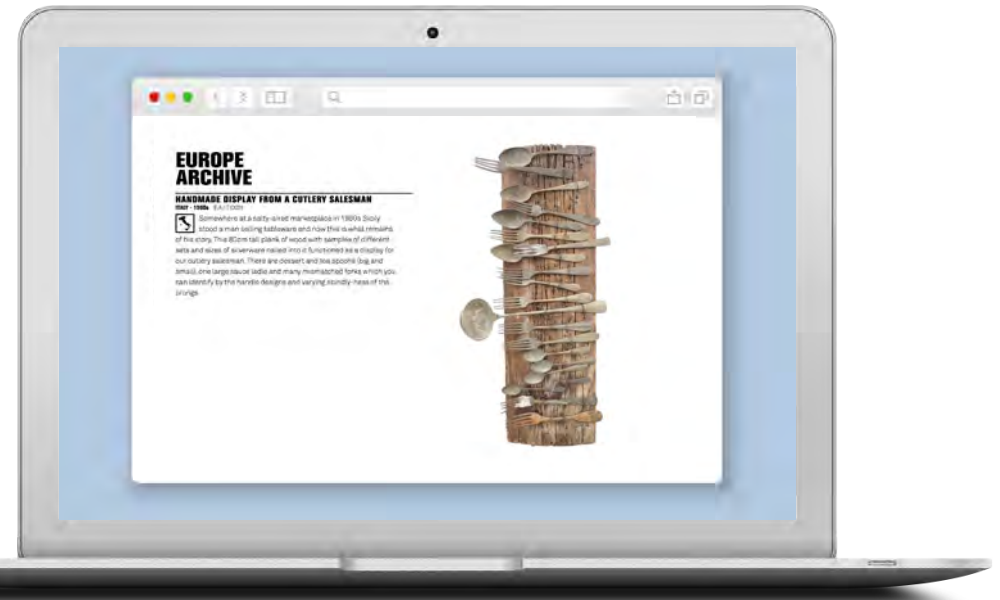
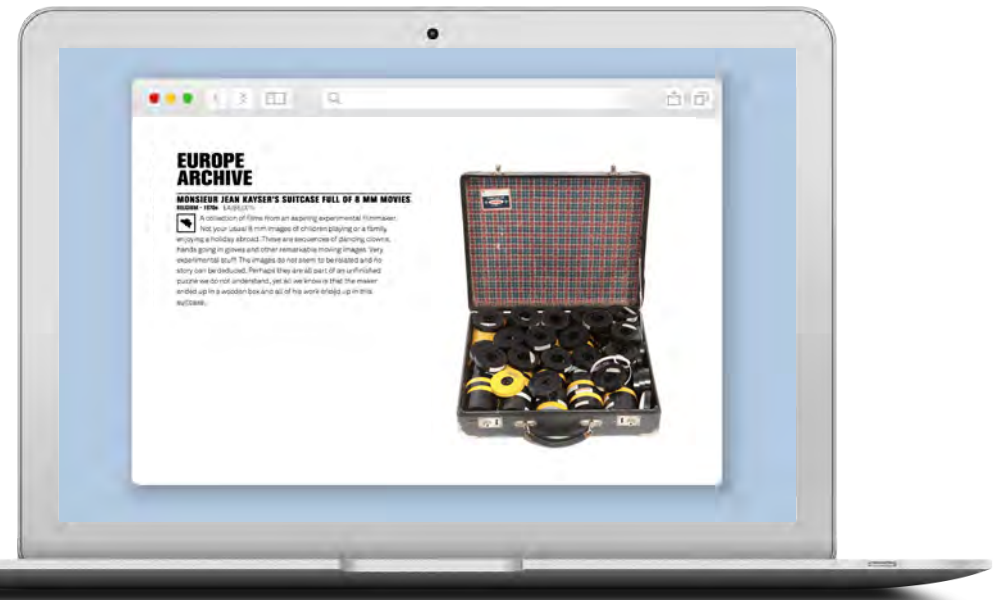
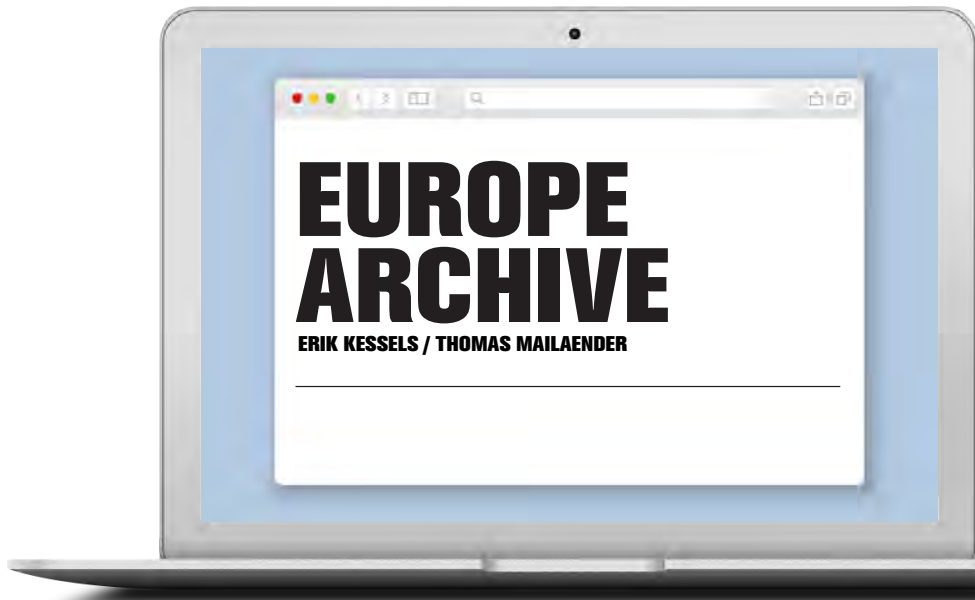


As we move, our 'stuff' moves with us, and even after we're gone it keeps moving. This is the great migration of things as they shift from room to room, house to house, from one family member to another, to a storage box, a second hand shop and finally an auction house or a flea market. 'Things' used to migrate locally, but globalisation, consumerism and the internet have greatly extended their migratory patterns. And along with the decline of the flea market, chance encounters with objects and their memories are disappearing.



JUSTICE
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PAIX





EUROPE ARCHIVE

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ARCHIVE
TRAVELS
STORY

EUROPE ARCHIVE

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and the internet have greatly extended their migratory patterns. And along with the decline of the flea market, chance encounters with objects and their memories are disappearing.



In this collaboration between Erik Kessels and Thomas Mailaender, the two are hitting the road in an 'Archive on Wheels'. They're on a mission to recreate a collective memory of Europe by

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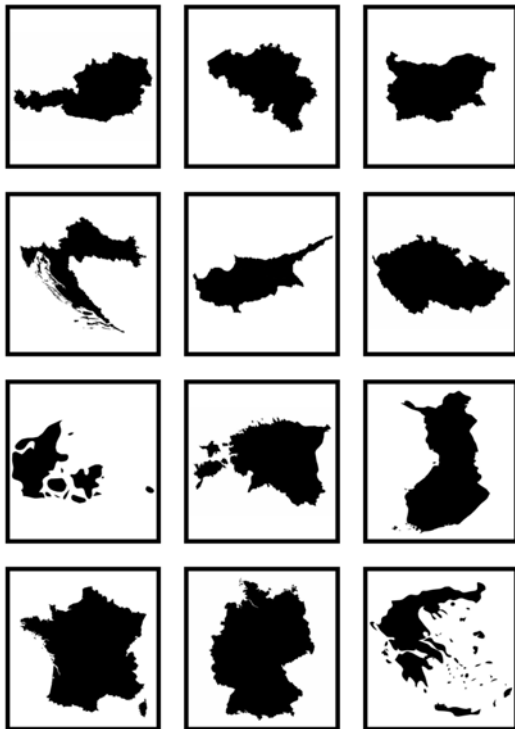
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truck will finally arrive at museums, where the public are invited to discover the collection gathered by the two artists alongside their trip in Europe.



The first stop for the *Europe Archive* will take place at the *Diversity United* exhibition in Moscow from the 15th of November until the 21st of February 2021. Due to Covid-19 the physical archive will not be able to be there, however, visitors can scan tiles complete

EUROPE ARCHIVE



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KITCHEN UTENSIL SCULPTURE RESEMBLING A HOUSE

BELGIUM - 1970s EA/BE/0004



Many hours of work have gone in to this endearing amateur sculpture, particular signs of dedication

EUROPE ARCHIVE



CIGAR CASE CONTAINING SEVEN BULLET

BELGIUM - 1990's EA/BE/0006



This Café Crème by Henri Wintermans cigar tin seems as if

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**SHAME MEDAL AWARDED
FOR LOSING 13-0 AT
PETANQUE**

FRANCE - 1990s EA/FR/0002



'The important thing is not to win,
but to participate' reads the
translation of this traditional pétanque
medal, awarded to the player who loses

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**'BLACK LIVES MATTER'
PROTEST SIGN WITH
BROKEN HANDLE AND
FOOT PRINTS**

FRANCE - 2020 EA/FR/0005

**EUROPE
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**FLOWER VASE
REPURPOSED FROM AN
EXPLODED BOMBSHELL**

CROATIA - 1990s EA/HR/0002



About 20,000 people died in
Croatia's four year war of
independence, during the breakup of
Yugoslavia. And some 2000 people were
murdered four years later, in 1995, during

Flea markets are history's filter, gathering the remains of the past together for redistribution. But rural flea markets throughout Europe are dying out, and with them goes a unique link to the past. The EUROPE ARCHIVE truck will travel from market to market collecting these traces of the past. The objects and documents collected along the way will form a collective memory; a souvenir of European history and culture as it used to be. The archive will function as a travelling museum, with the collection itself growing constantly. The final stop will be a large installation exhibition, which will recycle the past, celebrate yesterday and keep these historical memories alive in a context that makes them relevant to today.



The truck parked outside the great Bitaka Market, Sofia, Bulgaria.



The EUROPE ARCHIVE project centres around a shipping container that's been transformed into a climate controlled storage unit complete with shelves. The archive will be transported across Europe by a golden truck accompanied by Erik Kessels and Thomas Mailaender. While on the road, the pair will hunt for new objects to add to the existing Europe Collection. At the end of its journey the truck will finally arrive at museums, where the public are invited to discover the collection gathered by the two artists alongside their trip in Europe.



The EUROPE ARCHIVE project involves a 20 FT Maritim container that will be transformed into an archival room. This storage will be transported by a 19T truck around Europe following Erik Kessels and Thomas Mailaender during their road trip hunting for documents. The vehicle will be foiled with gold film transforming the truck into a massive safe on wheels and a big signal that will encourage encounters with the population.



The inside of the container will be thermo-isolated and installed with shelving system in order to receive the different documents and objects collected by Erik Kessels and Thomas Mailaender.

**VISITING
VESZPRÉM
BALATON**



For the Veszprém-Balaton European Cultural Capital period, the truck can travel around the Balaton area and can connect visitors in several places with the collective memories of other European countries.



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SIÓFOK 23/05/2023

 **VESZPRÉM**
MŰVÉSZETEK HÁZA



Veszprém-Balaton 2023
Európai Kulturális Főváros
Pályázati Készlet

The stops that this 'Archive on Wheels' makes will be announced with posters in the cities around the Balaton area and that are important for the communication for the period of the Cultural Capital event.



The truck and its archive is 'transporting' the European 'thoughts and ideas' and can become a great 'vehicle' for PR and communication for the Veszprém-Balaton European Cultural Capital.



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Veszprém-Esztergom 2023
Európai Kulturális Fesztivál
Együttműködés





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Magyarországi Képzőművészeti Alkotóműhelyek Hálójának tagja



The Europe Archive project will make its final stop in front of the the House of Arts in Veszprém. Where an exhibition of the complete project will open inside the museum on June 22, 2023.



EUROPE ARCHIVE

Erik Kessels / Thomas Mailaender

