

EXHIBITION Raising our roots - Bruxelles à travers onze ogen 27.06 > 31.10.2025



Brussels-based collective Echoes' first exhibition, 'Raising our roots - Bruxelles à travers onze ogen', opens from 27 June to 31 October at the House of European History.

"Raising our roots - Bruxelles à travers onze ogen" is a new, free temporary exhibition, in a space on the sixth floor of the House of European History, which looks at representation in history. It was created by the <u>Echoes collective</u>, a group of **13 young adults from Brussels aged between 18 and 26**, from different neighbourhoods, with a shared interest in Europe's past, present and future. Together, they explored who is represented in history, how, and why, and what this means to young people today.

Presented in an audio-visual setting which recreates the atmosphere of the city, from its metro, parks, and people's homes, the stories told in *"Raising our roots"* contrast European history as shown in the museum, with intimate realities from Brussels and narratives on migration throughout time. Visitors will experience the in-between-ness of the ever-changing city that is Brussels.

Annelies Van Rijen, Outreach Coordinator and Project lead: *"The House of European History is a unique space to unpack themes such as representation, storytelling and heritage. A history museum can never be exhaustive. Discussing the themes of the museum with 15 different young adults, and turning these reflections into content for a temporary exhibition, has been incredibly enriching for everyone involved."*

Constanze Itzel, Museum Director: *"We are committed to showing European history from multiple perspectives. By inviting young people from Brussels to create within our museum space, we gain fresh and critical views at our shared past and its traces in our city".*

The process

The members of the Echoes collective - selected through a call for application - were invited to work together in a year-long project. They identified unheard voices and missing narratives in history, and developed a particular interest in changing the way migration histories are told. The Echoes participants then searched the streets and houses of Brussels for untold stories and personal accounts of migration and belonging. They transformed these stories into audio-visual content, which amplifies voices of history and of Brussels alike, *raising their roots into the light*. The exhibition will be open to visitors on the sixth floor of the House of European History during 27th June – 31st October 2025.

Echoes member and student **Amal Olayan**: "Thanks to Echoes, I have not only learnt to see Brussels differently, but also myself. I have grown in listening, in asking questions, in connecting. And perhaps most of all: in appreciating the small, the close, the human."

DOWNLOAD LINK - IMAGES

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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Press preview : 27.06 | time to be confirmed Opening night : 27.06 | 18:00

House of European History Rue Belliard 135, 1000 Brussels <u>historia.europa.eu</u>