Attachment 3: Exhibition Thuishaven (Safe Haven)

On 22 September, the temporary exhibition Thuishaven (Safe Haven) also opens. This exhibition presents the results of the journey that the story bus of the Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp completed and the stories of the 'new' Antwerp residents about their first five years in the city.

Whether it concerns refugees, expatiates, love stories, students who have stayed here or immigrants from other Belgian cities: everyone has a story to share. In total there are 700 stories collected from people of 62 nationalities. People could bring their stories to life by drawing, writing, sketching or in some other creative manner on a card. These cards were then folded up into boats and form the core of the exhibition.

Every folded, little boat carries a unique cargo and captivating personal story along with it. The Red Star Line Museum thus becomes the mooring place for all collected testimonies, of which a few shall also be preserved on video and shown. Antwerp is not only able to call itself a world port, but also bears the title of 'thuishaven (home port)': a place where everyone can create a home.

A few well-known 'new' Antwerp residents have engaged themselves in this project as ambassadors and tell about their Antwerp: cabaret actor and theatre maker Geert Hoste, illustrator Fatinha Ramos, creative designer Deepak Mehta, student and reporter on StampMedia Mohamed Barrie and chef and restaurant owner Fatima Marzouki. Production house Danse La Pluie provides the scenography of the temporary exhibition by which visuals are employed for the symbolic of ships, ports and moving. The most beautiful stories are collected into a unique publication, designed by Gerd Dooreman.

**‘At Home in the Red Star Line Museum’**The story bus fits into a larger project 'At Home in the Red Star Line Museum', in which non-Dutch speakers were actively involved and thus received a Dutch-language practice space. 3000 students of ‘Nederlands en Inburgering’ annually visit the museum in the context of their lessons. For them, the visit is a personal experience, often also being a moment of recognition of the pain of immigration and a starting point to make a connection with Antwerp and their new life here. The museum is a place of dialogue, exchange and an opportunity to practice Dutch.

For 'At Home in the Red Star Line Museum', the museum is receiving additional subsidies from the Flemish Agency for Integration and Habituation. A number of partners (including Atlas, FMDO, tafels van vrede, Samenlevingsopbouw and Vormingplus) collaborate in this project.
 **Practical information**Thuishaven (Safe Haven)
From 22 September until 21 October
In the renovated Shed (free of charge)