### Attachment 1: The renovations in the museum

**New display 'Arrival on Ellis Island'**After the opening of the museum, the museum team also continues to be actively researching the historical narrative of the arrival of the passengers in North America. Projects and temporary exhibitions raised some interesting new questions, and visitors were curious as well about the follow-up story to the 'open end' in the last museum hall. 'What happened to the passengers after they arrived on Ellis Island? How did they build a life up for themselves? And, were they able to make their dreams come true?’

In the new permanent display, the museum provides an answer for this by adding the important element of 'memory' to the mix. How do the descendants of the Red Star Line passengers remember their family history, and how does this determine who they are in the contemporary American society? A museum colleague went and spoke to four descendants of the Red Star Line passengers in the USA and France for this question. Their filmed testimonies and a few of their personal possessions are central to the exhibition.

**Ellen Bledsoe Rodriguez** is the daughter of immigrant Bessie Cohen and lives in California. Upon arrival, Bessie was detained on the island for 9 months along with her sister due to illness.

**Caroline Emmett** is the granddaughter of Irving Berlin, who as a young boy from a poor Jewish-Russian family arrived in the US with a Red Star Line ship, grew up in a slum neighbourhood in New York, though ultimately developed into a famous composer.

**Ed Van Rossen**, a 3rd-generational descendant of two Belgian immigrant families from Detroit. The city of Detroit is now in decline, but at the beginning of the twentieth century, it was a bustling industrial city where many immigrants gravitated towards.

**Tom Wolf** is the grandson of Carl Wolf, a German immigrant who came to the USA around the turn of the century, and settled in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. More specifically, on Cabbage Hill, where many Germans lived.  
  
For more details, see attachment 4.

**Building with a mezzanine with a new museum café.**  
The historic luggage hangar of the Red Star Line now houses the museum café, the reception desk with group lockers and the museum shop. It is an impressive, open space with great potential, but not fully utilised due to the current configuration. As such, the reception desk was moved to the side wall and the cellar of the building so that a large, open space exists for various activities.

In addition, the museum café has moved to a new, expansive mezzanine (+/- 125 m²) above the entrance. In this way, the museum's café acquires a bountiful space and shall be the ideal place for concluding a (sometimes emotional) visit to the museum. In the museum café, you also have the possibility to continue browsing the passenger manifests of the Red Star Line shipping company.

The museum seeks to be an even more hospitable place with these architectural interventions, with a fine public experience and the possibility to further deepen, expand upon and link the historical narrative to reality by means of productions and participatory projects.

Impressions of the new museum café on the mezzanine: [www.redstarline.be/en/renewal](https://www.redstarline.be/nl/vernieuwingen)

The design of the new scenography and the museum café is drafted by Exponanza. Its execution is the work of Bruns b.v.