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# NOT A DAY WITHOUT A LINE

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ELS VOS / BE  
EXPO 14/01 - 17/03/2024



This in-situ installation, featuring exclusive etchings by Els Vos, captures **the imaginative journey from the darkness of winter to the vibrant light of spring.**

It is inspired by the ever-changing interplay between light and nature, and is beautifully integrated into the modern architecture of Muze'um L, which is constructed along the Lightmeridian.

**"Voortdurend I - IV - Ochtendblauw"**

dry needle 1/1 - image sizes 66 x 46 cm – 2017  
- photo: Johan Geleyns

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**NOT A DAY WITHOUT A LINE / GEEN DAG ZONDER LIJN / Nulla dies sine linea**, a statement attributed to the court painter of Alexander the Great (Apelles, around 400 BC), illustrates Els Vos's unwavering dedication and steady rhythm in her pursuit to uncover the underlying (power) lines of the dynamic process that governs everything. This process represents the complex nature of the time between birth and death, origin and completion, beginning and end. Els Vos faithfully adheres to a continuous movement, which she can only comprehend and express through her graphic work as a personal and universal growth process. "Not a day without a line" carries the same meaning as "not a moment without a step in evolution."

Her artistic creed is that of **Progressio in Traditione**: Els Vos portrays the cycle of life through an endless repetition of frightful, winding lines that, due to their repetitive power - but never without variations - offer peace and comfort, particularly for those seeking guidance or a future that defies all uncertainties. A clear enlightening message does not seem to be present unless there is something that endures forever. It is as if the line wants to convey: it is always worthwhile to start anew. In a movement that promises a turning moment after a turning moment. The night transforms into light, and the light returns to darkness once again.

## "Nachtwacht I - II"

aquatint 1/1 – image sizes 66 x 46 cm – 2021  
Photo: Johan Geleyns

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**Text (in Dutch): Dirk Hanssens** (On the occasion of the book performance of the bundle 'Wat is er van de nacht?' Richard Foqué & Els Vos - Uitgeverij P)

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*Google/AI translated*

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***Light and dark,  
air and earth,  
rhythm and line,  
every day again:***

***Not a day without a line***

When someone mentioned to me during a studio visit some time ago that my work aligns with contemporary architecture and the concept of Muze'um L on the Lightmeridian, it piqued my interest. During my first visit, I witnessed what they meant. As I stepped into the sloping corridor, the walls directed my gaze upwards, framing a view of the cloudy sky: the "Blue distance" ("Blauwe verte"). The blue sky adorned with white, drifting clouds perfectly complemented the scene, creating a seamless blend of air and light.

However, it wasn't long before the idea of "**constant changeability**" also resonated with me, in addition to the concepts of "light and line."

**"Blauwe verte"**

dry needle 1/1 - image  
size 66 x 46 cm – 2018  
Photo: Johan Geleyns

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Architect Marc van Schuylenbergh created a stunning exhibition space called Muze'um L. He designed a unique sculpture that plays with light and shadow, harmonizing with the sun's movement. A cut in the roof allows sunlight to shine through, creating changing "shadow drawings" throughout the day. The building's design embraces natural elements and the passage of time, aiming to align with the sun's rhythm. It also incorporates the surrounding landscape, bringing the outside environment inside. Visitors are invited to witness this interaction firsthand.

Through the interplay of light and air, something tangible suddenly becomes elusive. This is because the world and everything around us, including ourselves, are constantly in motion. All aspects of our surroundings engage in a continuous exchange. **This constant changeability has fascinated me for years, as I observe and experience it in nature, time, space, and life itself, in the repetitive cycle of existence.**

**Inspired by Muze'um L** and its significance, I embarked on creating a series of unique etchings. Building upon my long-standing fascination with this theme, I also revisited existing works that relate to this concept. Consequently, a collection of etchings has emerged, with each piece representing a distinct moment in time. The transition from darkness to light, the shifting and passing of hours and days, and the ever-changing quality of light form the "common thread", the guiding line. In these etchings, you can discover the elements that surround the building, engaging in a dialogue with one another; including the grasses, plants, and even the clouds.

Every etching (primarily dry needle, occasionally utilizing line sets or combined with aquatint) is composed of lines and often features multiple layers of pressure. Each work is individually printed and unique. The consistent paper size (66 x 46 cm) further emphasizes the recurring rhythm.

As a graphic artist, I find great fascination in exploring and depicting the phases of change through series; the growth and evolution, the interplay of light and dark, and everything in between. Almost everything returns, albeit in different forms, creating a cyclical movement. This mirrors the nature of life itself.

**Light and dark, sky and earth, rhythm and line, every day anew.**

Light and landscape serve as my "muse", while lines function as my "language and sign". "Not a day without a line" is my driving force.

*Els Vos (december 2023)*

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# NOT A DAY WITHOUT A LINE

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## EXHIBITION

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**ELS VOS / BE**

**14 january - 17 march 2024  
every sunday from 14h to 17h**

**MUZE'UM L - Bergstraat 23 - Roeselare**

[www.muzeuml.be](http://www.muzeuml.be)

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## OPENING

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**Sunday 14th of January  
14:00 - 17:00**

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# ELS VOS / BE

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## GRAPHIC ARTIST



## CONTACT

ELS VOS  
Dalenstraat 6  
B - 3020 Winksele  
+32 (0)16/48 96 84  
els.vos2@telenet.be  
www.elsvos.be

# ELS VOS / BE



The light, the rhythm, and the line can be found everywhere, and they can also find you. Ordinary people may see these elements and continue walking, but an artist contemplates them and creates something meaningful. Els Vos approaches her artwork with the concept of 'fundamental': she carefully analyzes what she sees and composes her drawings, etchings, and paintings in a deliberate and thoughtful manner, incorporating rhythm, light, and line.

In a previous description of her work, I mentioned that Els Vos does not think in abstract or figurative terms; instead, she seems to meditate on the concepts of order and chaos as an artist. It is well-known that even the greatest chaos has its own order. Each of her etchings or drawings appears to capture a fragment, a snapshot of the cosmos, creation, and the universe. The continuity in her work is vital, much like the blue hour and ultimately the clouds, mist, and water reflections, where the heavens and earth meet. In these works, she does not abandon the use of line, but rather combines it with a subtle touch.

Despite the absence of humans, their presence is unmistakable, particularly through the artist's hand. Els Vos works at a self-imposed slow pace: etching is a labor-intensive artistic expression, especially considering the technical aspects after the etching process itself. Her drawings are meticulous elaborations of line after line, and in some works, she even cuts the white space around the lines, resembling the meticulous work of a monk. However, she finds solace, introspection, and a sense of zen in this process.

Thus, Els Vos achieves a surprising balance in her work. It is both consistent and recognizable, original yet timeless, encapsulated within the aforementioned 'continuum'. Her art does not depict images of humanity, as the presence of light, rhythm, and the interplay of lines would only disrupt the anecdotal nature of humanity.

*Marc Ruyters (inleiding kunstmonografie Els Vos - Uitgeverij P, 2019)*

*Google/AI translated*

**Uit: Geen dag zonder lijn**  
 - **Grasduinen / Hortus**  
 dry needle 1/1 - image  
 size 66 x 46 cm – 2023

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# ELS VOS / BE

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## C.V.

Els Vos was born in Antwerp in 1963. From 1981 to 1983 she followed the Regentate Plastic Education at the Holy Graf Institute in Turnhout. Subsequently, she completed her education at the Provincial Higher Institute for Art Education in Hasselt, where it specialized in graphic art and in 1986 with great distinction and the prize of the province of Limburg. In 1988 she bought her etchers and set up her studio. She lives and works in Winksele.

She won several prizes and honorable mentions:

- Drawing competition Joris Minne (Joris Minneprijs 1993) - Joris Minnefonds, Antwerpen
- Rotariale '90 (Eerste Prijs Nationale Wedstrijd Grafiek) - Rotary-afdeling Brugge, Brugge
- Jonge Kunst in Vlaanderen 1990 (Prijs Grafiek) - vzw De Gulden Sporen & KULAK, Kortrijk
- Vijfjaarlijkse Maritieme Schilderswedstrijd 1990 (Eerste prijs) - Vereniging van staatsrivierloodsen, Antwerpen
- Jonge Kunst 1986 (Prijs Grafiek) - Jaycees, Maasland-Maasmechelen

Her most important individual exhibitions took place in:

- Antwerpen, Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekathedraal
- Mol, Jakob Smitsmuseum
- Antwerpen, Galerie Het Vijfde Huis
- Linkebeek, Huize Lismonde
- Heusden-Zolder, kunstgalerij De Mijlpaal
- Leuven, ABB Galerij (KBC)
- Schelderode-Merelbeke, Kunstforum
- Antwerpen, Jacob Jordaenshuis & St. Nicolaasgodshuis C.C. Elzenveld
- Kortrijk, BBL vzw. De Gulden Sporen



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# ELS VOS / BE

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## C.V.

She participated in various group exhibitions at home and abroad including:

- Hulst (NL), Kunst in Druk - Curator Daan Rau
- Møn (DK), Kunsthal 44 'Møenlight Sonate' Curator: René Block (Edition Block - Berlijn)
- La Louvière, Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimée 'Chemin faisant...'
- Heusden-Zolder, Vaals (NL), Hasselt, St.Truiden en Knokke, met kunstgalerij De Mijlpaal
- Bilbao (SP), FIG Festival International de Gradabo, Contemporaneo
- Grand-Quevilly (F), Maison des Arts & Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimée, La Louvière 'La rêve habité'
- Hamme, Aardenburg en Cadzand (NL), met id+Art
- Brunssum (NL), Internationale Grafiekmanifestatie Ilse Frankenthal
- Bastogne, Autres Regards, Autres Univers - Art Contemporain
- Krakow (PL), Toulon (F), Gent, Hamme, 'à propos d'Ensor', met id+Art
- Drogenbos, FeliXart Museum
- Brussel, Boudewijncomplex - Ministerie van Vlaamse Gemeenschap '30 jaar Grafiek in Vlaanderen'

Works by Els Vos are in the collections of het Prentenkabinet of museum Plantin-Moretus (Antwerpen), Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimée (La Louvière), de Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekathedraal van Antwerpen, het Jakob Smitsmuseum (Mol), de provincies Vlaams-Brabant en West-Vlaanderen, Kunst In Huis, KBC, FIG Bilbao / Arthazi (Spanje), het Stadsmus (Hasselt), de gemeente Willebroek, D.S.M. (Nederland),

Association Gravures - Strasbourg (Frankrijk) and private collections.

Recent book publications:

- kunstmonografie Els Vos. Met teksten van Marc Ruyters en Johan van Cauwenberge. Deze monografie werd voorgesteld in galerie De Zwarte Panter in Antwerpen. Uitgeverij P - 2019
- 'Wat is er van de nacht?' Richard Foqué en Els Vos - Uitgeverij P - 2021

# MUZE'UM L

## LIGHT - LANDSCAPE - LINE



**The White Muze'um L is situated on a hilltop, appearing as if it is floating amidst the blue sky and the lush green surroundings.**

The white, sunken building is situated in the undulating countryside to the south of the city of Roeselare.

This concept is not ordinary; it is a tribute to nature, with the sun and the light meridian as the main characters. MUZE'UM L is precisely positioned at a longitude of 03°07'45" east of Greenwich, forming an imaginary north-south line of art.

The purpose of the building is to serve as a grand light generator, converting this specific longitude into a light meridian, with the central artist being the sun.

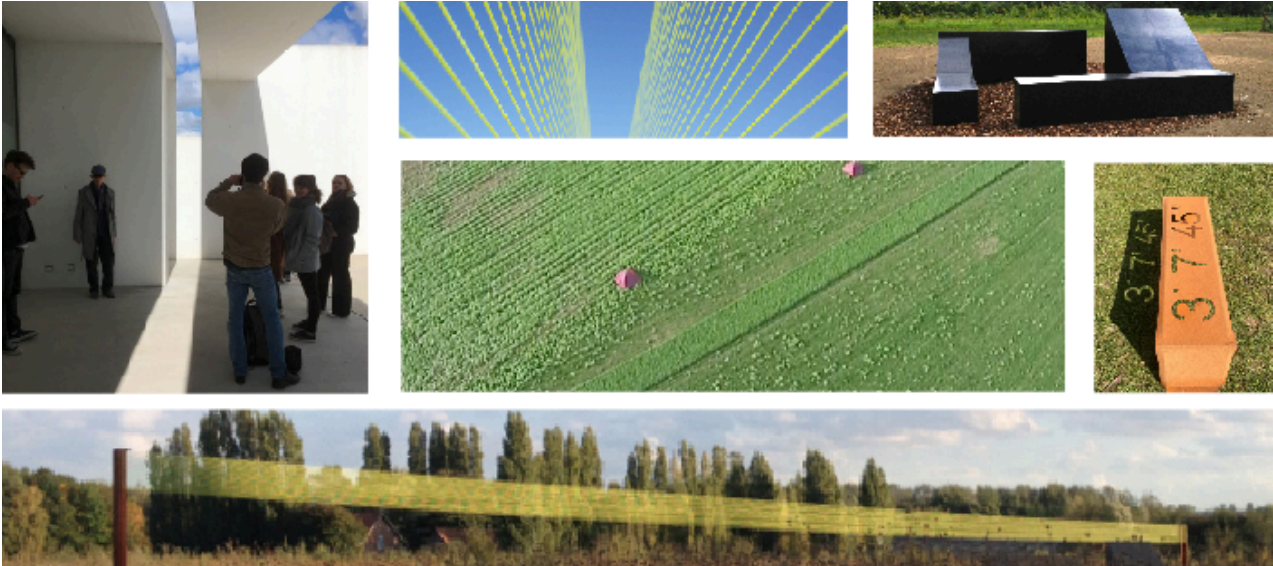
- The MUZE'UM L is located on the meridian  $03^{\circ}07'45''$  (N  $50^{\circ}55'12''$ ) on the outskirts of the provincial Bergmolenbos.
- It aspires to be a MUSE for artists from all disciplines.
- The height of the MUZE'UM L is 1.80 m (human size) and is seamlessly integrated into its natural surroundings.
- The entrance is stepless: allowing visitors to fearlessly explore the framed clouds and the interplay of light.
- The architectural design creates intricate sun drawings and shadows, which change with the passing of time throughout the day.
- This project is privately funded and not reliant on subsidies.
- It is open to the public and free to enter. Indoor exhibitions can be visited on Sundays.

# MUZE'UM L



# MUZE'UM L

## THE LIGHT MERIDIAN



## MUZE'UM L : INFO POINT OF THE LIGHT MERIDIAN

- On the south side, a green avenue outlines the LIGHT MERIDIAN. Artists can use this avenue to display their sculptures as visual representations of the meridian.
- MUZE'UM L serves as the Info Point for the LIGHT MERIDIAN (3°7'45" E)
- MUZE'UM L is situated on this meridian.
- As the main sun's drawing, the light meridian becomes visible for a brief moment during the true local noon, when sunlight falls directly and vertically through a precise cut in the building. This is the LIGHT MERIDIAN of MUZE'UM L.
- The LIGHT MERIDIAN extends from the North Pole to the South Pole, with water occupying the other side of the globe.
- The LIGHT MERIDIAN is a straight line of light that traverses Europe and Africa. It enters Europe through a lighthouse in Blankenberge (BE) and exits the mainland via a lighthouse in Palamos (ES).
- All cities and towns located on this meridian share the exact same time, down to the hour, minute, and second, establishing a connection between them.
- On July 21, 2016, the "LIGHT MERIDIAN 3°7'45" E" (the meridian of light) was officially inaugurated in Blankenberge by the former Minister of Culture, Jan Jambon.
- It is proposed to associate an international light art project with this meridian by placing light/art installations on it or organizing cultural events. This project is known as "THE LIGHT MERIDIAN: LIGHT ON ONE LINE" across Europe and Africa.
- More info: [www.lightmeridian.org](http://www.lightmeridian.org)

# MUZE'UM L

## PRACTICAL



## ADDRESS

### MUZE'UM L : MUZE'UM LICHT & LANDSCHAP

Bergstraat 23  
8800 roeselare  
Belgium

### COORDINATES:

E 03° 07'45 " / N 50° 55'12" // DECIMAL: E 3,1292° / N 50,9201°

## OPEN

**1. Indoor (expo):** in-situ art : Every Sunday from 14:00 to 17:00, there is always someone available at the museum who can provide you with explanations about the museum and the ongoing exhibition. Admission is free.

**2. Outdoor (site and patio):** Every day from 11:00 to 17:00, we provide you with the chance to experience the authentic afternoon on our premises, specifically between 12:00 and 14:00. (Please refer to our website for the exact timing)

The owners provide free access, firmly believing that visitors will come to the property with a respectful attitude towards the artworks, architecture, and landscape. Photography is allowed only with prior permission.

**3. Guided tours:** The guided tour offers a comprehensive explanation of the entire story of MUZE'UM L. It is available for groups of up to 35 people upon request and lasts approximately 1.5 hours. The contribution required for this tour is 60 euros.

## CONTACT

[www.muzeumL.be](http://www.muzeumL.be)

[mail@muzeumL.be](mailto:mail@muzeumL.be)

+32 (0)51 86 53 44

