

**PRESS
RELEASE**

Saint Etienne,
01/07/2008

10 ANS

Biennale internationale design 15 → 30 NOV. 2008

Saint-Étienne

partner of the

European Season of Culture

CONTACTS PRESS:

Aurélié Zimmermann :

+ 33 (0)4 77 49 31 91

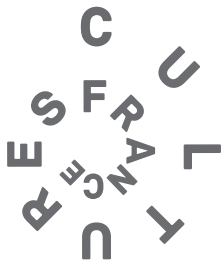
Christophe Imbert :

+ 33 (0)4 77 49 31 96

3, RUE JAVELIN PAGNON
42000 SAINT-ÉTIENNE, FRANCE

WWW.CITEDUDESIGN.COM

2008 Saint Étienne International Design Biennial partners the European Season of Culture.



The European cultural Season (July 1st- Dec 31st 2008), is organized by the French Ministries of Foreign and European Affairs and of Culture and Communication, with the support of the General Secretary for the French Presidency of the European Union, and operated by Culturesfrance.
Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres: Ambassador in charge of the cultural dimension of the French Presidency of the European Union Council / Laurent Burin des Roziers: General commissioner

In line with the cosmopolitan and inclusive approach that has run through all of its previous editions, the programme for 2008's biennial dedicates a major exhibition to the international dimension: **FLIGHT NUMBER TEN** (Curator Chloé Heyraud – International Relations Josyane Franc). In l'Europe des Designers (Designers' Europe), a space entirely dedicated to Europe, innovative schemes highlight the work of European designers and show how each in their own individual way, they are continually asking questions about the European society that shapes our day-to-day existence. **FLIGHT NUMBER TEN** is a snapshot of contemporary creativity, through which audiences will be able to observe the directions and recent developments in the world of design, as well its latest trends.

The exhibition **FLIGHT NUMBER TEN** is held in association with Design Connection Brainport, (the Netherlands) and DMY Design May Youngsters (Berlin, Germany).

The Cité du Design has engaged a team of special curators to guarantee the relevance of the projects on show, who are masters of the art of uncovering talents and new trends.

Belgium: **Giovanna MASSONI**

Spain: **Marcelo LESLABAY**

Central Europe: **Czeslawa FREJLICH, Magda KOCHANOWSKA and the ADAM MICKIEWICZ INSTITUTE**

Estonia: **Ilona GURJANOVA**

This exhibition is produced by the Cité du Design, with the support of Culturesfrance, as part of the European Cultural Season*.

The event will also include two Tandem exhibitions. The principle of Tandem events is to bring together artists with different horizons and so foster the construction of an emergent European culture.

Franco-Finnish pairing: *GéoLocalisation (GeoLocation)*

GéoLocalisation is a multidisciplinary exhibition produced by the Cité du Design which calls upon the new information and communication technologies.

This meeting between two Finnish and two French artists aims to look at the concepts of real and virtual borders. These works, which question territorial changes, help to

*The European Cultural Season is organised by Culturesfrance, on behalf of the French President's offices, the Prime Minister, and the Ministries for European and Foreign Affairs and Culture and Communication. The general curator is Laurent Burin des Roziers.

assert the artist's commitment as an active participant in and a witness to the decisive changes which are altering our European landscape. It will later (spring 2009) be shown in the gallery of the University of Art and Design in Rovaniemi

Finnish artists: **Tomi KNUUTILA and Minna RAINIO**

French artists: **Raphaël PIGEAT and Marc VEYRAT**

Co-ordinated by: **Josyane FRANC**

Franco-Czech pairing: *Golem*

Golem is a project which aims to establish close co-operation between artists, researchers, scientists, computer scientists and theoreticians from these two countries which will be taking on the Presidency of Europe one after another and in this order (2008/2009).

The *Golem* has occupied a constant place in the Western imagination and is part of the historic and symbolic foundations of its culture, lying at the very heart of the dreads upon which it was founded, relating to the simulation and creation of living beings. The aim is to arouse a debate, by various means, about the decisive changes brought about by the impact of biotechnologies on major transformations to contemporary society. First and foremost it will attempt to highlight all of the resulting symbolic and imaginary aspects, expressing itself particularly in the cultural, artistic, scientific and technological fields.

EVA, a virtual, interactive and nomadic installation will be available to the audience at the Biennial. It will allow access to a bank of data relating to documents about the artificialisation of the living world.

Participants in the project:

CIANT: International Centre for Art and New Technologies in Prague,
person responsible: **Pavel SMETANA CYPRES** (Research and Design Centre -
arts/sciences/technologies and cultures), person responsible: **Louis BEC.**

Setting up of a production structure with ADN System:

Person responsible: **Patrice BERSANI**

Europe is therefore set to play a particularly significant role in the 2008 Saint Étienne Design Biennial – which will run from Saturday 15th to Sunday 30th November 2008, as it celebrates its 10 years of bringing people and ideas together.