Manifesta 13 Le Tiers Programme

*Le Tiers Programme (the Third Programme)* proposed by the education and mediation team of Manifesta 13 focuses on background narratives and includes third voices within the dialogues of Marseille’s citizens. At the core of the programme is the notion of voicing the unheard, including multi-histories into the city’s common heritage. These multi-histories give an insight on what Marseille is today and what it can become in the future.

Looking out from the institution, Manifesta 13’s *Le Tiers Programme* derives from encounters and conversations between educators, mediators, artists, researchers, teachers, students, and other engaged citizens in Marseille. *Le Tiers Programme* is a set of interrelated research-based projects transversally unfolding on sites of non-institutional narratives and memories of the city. It studies Marseille’s unknown genealogies, remarkable histories of local resilience, and imaginative modes of international exchange. It has its own temporality in relation to the main biennial programme, beginning one year before the opening of Manifesta 13 and concluding after the biennial closes its doors.

*Le Tiers Programme* posits an in-between space, anchoring itself in the subjective cartography of the city of Marseille derived from the urban study and the educational team’s field research. This cartography informs the « sites » of the programme, which appear in various forms and dimensions accumulating knowledge from listening and conversations – as physical spaces (educational venue), human beings (Manifesta mediators), projects, and publications. Complementing the main curatorial programme *Traits d’Union.s* unfolded in reimagined institutions, *Le Tiers Programme* seeks to investigate non-institutional spaces or their remains.

**Why Le Tiers Programme?**

*Le Tiers Programme* derives from Gilles Clément’s notion of Third Landscape: an « undetermined fragment of the planetary garden » consisting of the sum of places given back to nature by man’s neglect. It is a refuge for diversity left to all biological beings, a territory in the absence of any human decision, a celebration of neighbouring « unattended » spaces.

*Le Tiers Programme* mediates, adds layers, and traverses parallel narratives. It accompanies visitors to the main biennial programme and creates space on its margin for those who would like to take more time to explore Marseille’s nuanced histories.

*Le Tiers Programme* leaves institutional categories, disciplinary divisions, and target groups behind, bringing together projects that are educational, curatorial, research-based, narrative, artistic, and accessible to a broad public.
Initial Projects 2019–2020

Le Tiers Programme balances on two pillars: the biennial agenda and that of the Marseillais. Part of the programme derives from the artistic and curatorial dialogue and includes a series of projects accompanying artistic interventions of Manifesta 13 in different neighbourhoods, as well as an extensive mediation programme during the biennial. Another part of the programme traces genealogies of Marseille as a host city. In music, these genealogies would be called non-harmonic tones (consonant or dissonant) that do not form part of the chord but are essential for harmonic progression.

Invisible Archives

Peripheral narratives of Marseille and its surrounding will appear as a backbone storyline of Le Tiers Programme. Non-institutional memories originating in various neighbourhoods and histories of resilience will challenge Marseille’s « mainstream » narratives. These memories will inhabit the space of ‘Invisible Archives’, a year-long programme of consecutive exhibitions and public events that activate and re-narrate archives of associations at work around the city of Marseille. « Invisible Archives » claims the recognition of these extraordinary examples of community synergies as common heritage and bring them into an artistic dialogue with each other and with similar initiatives in other contexts.

Schools’ project by Stine Marie Jacobsen (DK)

The culture and history of resilience in Marseille is rooted in the strong will of citizen participation. Today’s young people are becoming more active and passionate participants of cultural, ecological and political debates in public domain. Looking at the tools the national education system provides younger citizens to face human, social and environmental complexities, one may question how the citizenship education can teach pupils solidarity, care, civic consciousness and collective intelligence skills.

Danish artist Stine Marie Jacobsen has been invited to develop a long-term project with Marseille schools. Her project will take the shape of an innovative sports and civic education programme focusing on various forms of solidarity, participation or objection, healthcare, and being together. The project will be developed together with teachers, local associations and the pupils themselves. Realized in partnership with the Académie d’Aix-Marseille, the project will be designed, tested, and acti-vated in more than thirty schools of Marseille and the department of Bouches-du-Rhône in 2019-2020 academic year.