

TOUCH: Contemporary Art Contest Winners Announced

Fiction Becomes Reality



Belgium, East Flanders, Feb 9, 2021 (Issuewire.com) - In collaboration with the GDM bachelor program, Igepa Belux NV and The Navigator Company are pleased to announce the winners of the contemporary design competition TOUCH.

"TOUCH" Art Exhibition can be viewed online at soporsetpostercontest.com through the end of 2021.

The theme for this annual art exhibition emerged during the time when student artists were living under the restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic. TOUCH is therefore particularly appropriate for these times where the lack of touch helps to increase stressful situations. Not only is the theme currently a global as well as a local source of inspiration for the artists, but it is also interpreted by the students on a very personal level. The artists submitted their designs as a grade 4 or 5 assignment from their design school in high pdf resolution, accompanied by a description of the exhibit in Dutch or English.

The total number of submissions was 145 coming from the design schools - AP University College Antwerp and Artevelde University College Ghent - in Belgium. Graphic and print experts were involved in judging the competition, and over 500 communication agencies were also invited to vote.

Congratulations to the following top three winners of the "Touch" 2021 Online Art Exhibition:

- First Prize: Zoe Bosquet (Artevelde University College Ghent), awarded a voucher for the bookshop Copyright Antwerp worth €250.
- Second prize: Elias Jansen (AP University College Antwerp), awarded with a voucher for the bookshop Copyright Antwerp worth €100.
- Third prize: Emma Vanderhaegen (Artevelde University College Ghent), awarded a voucher for the bookshop Copyright Antwerp, worth 75€.

The winners will receive their own space in the reception area of IGEPA Belux NV, in Aalter to exhibit their artwork.

Dirk Salens, Managing Director of IGEPA Belux said, "Working with educational institutions, schools and universities is key to attracting new and young talent that will enable us to understand the emerging needs of our customers, and the Soporset poster competition was a unique way for Igepa to connect with these creative young people. The collaboration with The Navigator Company has now become a tradition, and it is in these challenging times that we wanted to make the statement that 'touch' is so important, virtual at the moment, but more real than ever in the future.'

All designs will be printed on high-quality Soporset preprint 120 gr./m² for the exhibition and will be gifted to students and the participating schools.

Arjan Kind, General Manager for The Navigator Company Netherlands said: 'These powerful creations come to life on paper and enhance the impact of the communication. Soporset is a high-quality uncoated paper that gives printed materials a warm appearance. Being able to view these projects both online and offline is a unique experience. We wish these students the best in their design careers.'

The various works can be viewed online at www.soporsetpapercontest.com

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IGEPA Belux

About Soporset Premium Paper

Soporset is the result of a continuous search for innovation and investment in the highest technology. Proof of this is in the product offer Soporset Digital, Premium Pre-print, and Premium Offset, ranging from 60gsm to 300gsm. Innovative initiatives, quality performance, sustainability, and new brand tools are foundational to Soporset's leadership and are embedded in the brand.

About IGEPA Belux NV

Igepa is a specialized one-stop supplier for all products for the print- and visual communication market, office paper, packaging products, and hygiene items. Igepa Belux NV is active in Belgium and Luxemburg and belongs to the German Igepa Group, represented in 29 countries.

On a daily basis, 300+ employees are taking care of our growing customer base of more than 9.500 clients ensuring more than 650 deliveries per day, order within 24hrs.

With more than 60 sales specialists acting as a trusted advisor for our customers, more than 35.800m² storage space, and 22.000 articles always on stock we strive for ultimate customer satisfaction.

We have a heavy focus on sustainability in relation to our suppliers, customers, and ourselves driving towards zero waste and a CO₂ neutral operation.

About The Navigator Company

The Navigator Company is an integrated producer of forests, pulp, and paper, tissue, and energy, whose activity is carried out in modern, large-scale factories, with cutting-edge technology, and which is a benchmark of quality in the sector.

In 2020, The Navigator Company was classified by the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) as a global leader in fighting climate change, reaching a prominent place on this organization's "A" list. The Company was recognized for its actions in cutting emissions, reducing climate risks, and developing a low carbon-impact economy. It was the only Portuguese company to obtain the maximum classification and became one of only five companies in the world in the sector of pulp, paper, and forests to receive this distinction.

The Company is the third-largest Portuguese exporter, representing approximately 1% of the national GDP and 2.4% of national goods exported, and generates the greatest National Value Added. In 2018, The Navigator Company had a turnover of approximately € 1.6 billion. Nearly 91% of the Group's products are sold outside Portugal and are exported to approximately 130 countries. Consolidating its position as a European leader in the production of uncoated woodfree printing and writing paper (UWF) and ranked fourth worldwide, the company is also Europe's biggest producer (ranked fifth worldwide) of bleached eucalyptus kraft pulp (BEKP).

The Company has over 110,000 hectares of forest under its management and the largest certified

nursery in Europe, with the capacity to produce 12 million plants per year. The Group has vertically integrated forest activity with its own Forest Research Institute, which is a global reference in the genetic improvement of the Eucalyptus globulus. It creates a vast forest area in Portugal, 100% certified by the FSC® (FSC C010852), and PEFC™ (PEFC/13-23-001) international systems. It also has an installed capacity of 1.6 million tonnes of paper, 1.6 million tonnes of pulp (80% integrated into the paper), 120 thousand tonnes of tissue converting, producing around 2.5 Twh of electricity each year. It is responsible for approximately 4% of the energy production in Portugal and 52% of the energy produced from biomass.

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