

# MUNDANEUM #REOPENING



# 1895-2015

## P R E S S K I T



**mundaneum**



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Memory of the World

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## **(INTERNET) A STORY THAT BEGAN IN BELGIUM ?**

1964. The story begins with an Australian student who was writing a thesis on information science at the University of Chicago. When he walked into the Institut d'Anatomie at the Parc Léopold in Brussels for the first time, he had no idea that he was about to discover a unique heritage and the whole life of one man, Paul Otlet, whom he would study for the rest of his life. This Australian student went on to become Professor Boyd Rayward after publishing "The Universe of Information: the Work of Paul Otlet for Documentation and international Organization" in Moscow in 1975 (International Federation for Documentation). A conduit. The first to (re)discover the Mundaneum, 20 years after the death of its founders.

2014: the British scientific journal, Nature, called Paul Otlet: "the forgotten prophet of the Internet", and the Mundaneum is now known as "The Paper Google" (Le Monde).

2015: At a time when we can imagine the possibility of archiving all the information in the world in the boot of your car thanks to recent advances in genetics and DNA, a venue reopens in Mons that bears witness to a time when two men dreamed of putting the whole world down on paper.

Welcome to the Mundaneum !

# THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE KNOWLEDGE

## *THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO CREATED OUR INFORMATION SOCIETY*

Paul Otlet stares at us, unblinking. A cloud of keywords hovers over him, creating a world of vocabulary and semantics. The creation produced by the Spanish architect and designer Juan Osborne for the exhibition marking the reopening of the Mundaneum is a compromise between the past and the future.

2015 is a symbolic year for the Mundaneum. Mons, the adopted home of the "Paper Google" since 1993, is now the European Capital of Culture. It is also the year of the **reopening** of a venue that has been transformed after two years of work, housing the heritage of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation whose uniqueness has been duly recognised.

By a happy coincidence, 2015 is also the **120<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the Mundaneum's creation. Or rather, that of the International Office of Bibliography, an umbrella organisation founded in 1895 by Paul Otlet and Henri la Fontaine in Brussels, which a few years later produced the Mundaneum World Palace in the Parc Cinquantenaire.

Any anniversary celebration involves a certain amount of looking back into the past. Archives and acts of remembrance are what the Mundaneum is all about, but the challenge for an institution like this one is to keep on questioning and reinventing itself in light of the big social issues.

For several years now, the Mundaneum has enjoyed an international reputation unlike any other scientific or cultural institution in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. Since the heritage of Otlet and La Fontaine was rediscovered by the Australian academic, Boyd Rayward, who became the first worldwide scientific ambassador for the Mundaneum, the documentary maker Françoise Levie (2006) and the American journalist Alex Wright (2014) have both produced biographies of Paul Otlet.

It is to the latter that we owe the recent high profile of the Mundaneum on the timeline of Information Society pioneers. He radically changed the way we see this heritage: we had to wait until the digital revolution

and the arrival of a new culture to see the founders of the Mundaneum as the ingenious visionaries that they obviously were.

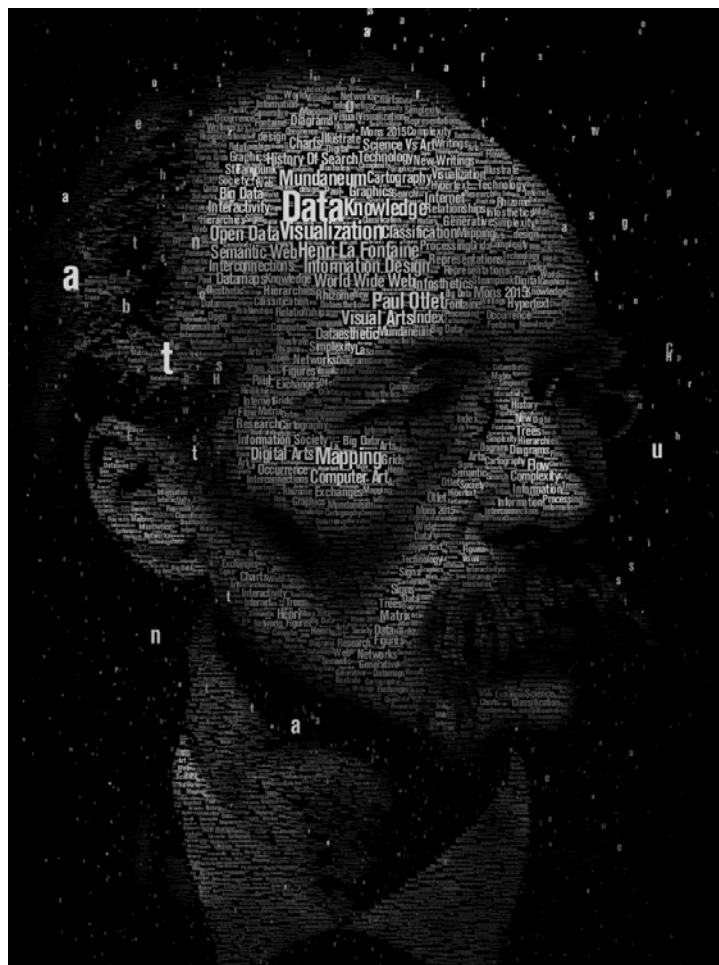
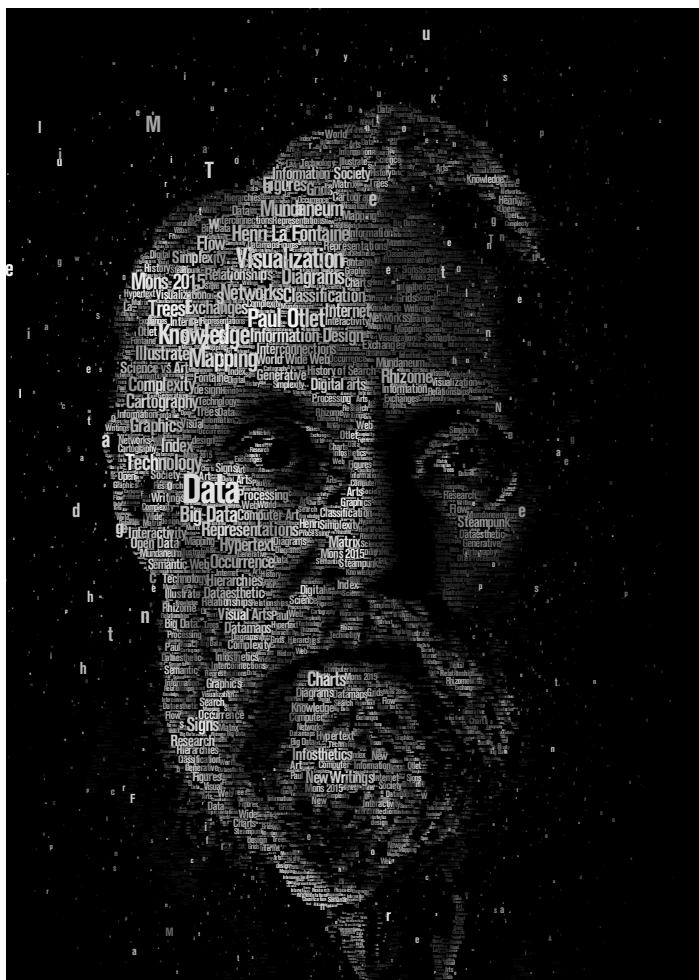
"The future of the web is 100 years old" announced Alex Wright last February (*Nautilus*, USA). What if, according to the usual procedure, future web developments were to learn from 19th century philosophy and ideas ? Experts in reverse engineering, a low pro-





file science that involves studying an object to work out how it functions or was made, wouldn't dispute this idea.

The Mundaneum's mission also encompasses education. At a time when the process of organising information has been automated, this involves putting human beings back at the heart of filing knowledge and making it accessible. When in 1895, Otlet and La Fontaine developed the Universal Bibliographic Repertory, they imagined a world that could be improved by sharing knowledge, a masterpiece **of the men and women behind this knowledge.**



The Mundaneum is committed to creating a home for this heritage, where it can promote digital culture, where visitors can learn, discuss and share, where young people can find out about how to master these new digital transformation tools to create and innovate : to emancipate society through culture ! It is in this breeding ground for education that the Mundaneum finds its full relevance.

"Filing is the highest operation of the mind, the one that involves all the others. The mind soars when it is capable of abstraction, systematisation and synthesis" (*Paul Otlet, Traité de documentation*, 1934).

"Until recently, not many people knew that Henri La Fontaine received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1913. His heritage sank into oblivion before any development project at the Mundaneum could take place. The personal archives of Henri La Fontaine (more than 300 boxes !) cover all aspects of his life and his career as a senator in the Belgian Parliament, his many interna-



tional initiatives for universal peace that resulted in the Nobel Prize, his career as a lawyer, his many cultural and sporting exploits, and his life as

a freemason. All of this has been carefully and professionally preserved, analysed and studied by the team at the Mundaneum." **Patrick Lafontaine, 4th cousin, 3 times removed, of Henri La Fontaine**

## **CLOSED FOR REFURBISHMENT, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN NOTHING'S HAPPENING !**

The closure of the Mundaneum provided an opportunity to develop new projects and partnerships :

- "The Mundaneum in your classroom" : activities based on our heritage and the burning issues of the day (history of the Internet, First World War, impact of advertising etc.)
- The arrival of a collection including 45,000 glass plates from the Fondation Norbert Ghisoland, a photographer who spent four decades in the Borinage
- A collaboration with the Maison Léon Losseau (director of the International Institute of Bibliography after the death of Otlet and La Fontaine), a fellow resident of the Rue de Nimy in Mons: help with restoration, conservation and digitisation of collections (ongoing)
- The "Corps, armes et paix" project (Bodies, weapons and peace), an Interreg-IV collaboration between Mons and Cambrai: interactive experiences and memorial tourism based on the Great War
- Organisation of an online event and conference in Brussels by Alex Wright to coincide with the publication of the biography *Cataloging the World : Paul Otlet and the Birth of the Information Age* (Oxford University Press, 2014)
- Online exhibitions on the Google Cultural Institute designed by our archivists and heritage experts at the Mundaneum.

# A RENAISSANCE FOR THE MUNDANEUM IN MONS : *RESTORING HISTORY AS A KEY TO THE FUTURE*

**1895-2015** : More than just a period of 120 years, these dates mark two key periods for the Mundaneum, with the year of its creation in Brussels in 1895, and the year of its reopening in Mons after its refurbishment in 2015. From the analogue era to the digital age, the Mundaneum is now at the crossroads between heritage



and technology. "Web archaeology" is now crying out to be studied and explored in these fully renovated facilities.

Mainly focusing on its archive centre, the transformation bears witness to a **striking architectural feat** : the archives become the foundations for the project, as here they are, buried underground, more than 6 kilometres of documents, spread across a gallery with a surface area of 500m<sup>2</sup>.

## PLUS, THERE IS

- A professional digitisation unit
- A light, bright reading room, with direct access to our archives
- A climate-controlled area for glass plates, in which the 45,000 glass negatives from the Fondation Norbert Ghisoland have joined our own iconographic collections
- A fully refurbished office building that now houses the whole Mundaneum team
- A courtyard with a window to look down at the archives underground, creating a delightful living space
- An educational area dedicated to welcoming school groups as well as activities, workshops, birthdays and courses
- *Utopia*, where you can take a break during your time at the Mundaneum to have a coffee and check your emails, or take a vegetarian cookery course, join in a conference discussion or a video-conference
- A temporary exhibition space, boasting a reception and shop area, in the unique atmosphere designed by Schuiten & Peeters.

These renovations were made possible thanks to the Cultural Facilities Branch of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels. Their work, and that of the architects Cotton-Lelion - Nottebaert, has doubled the surface of the Mundaneum and improved the environment for collections, staff and visitors.

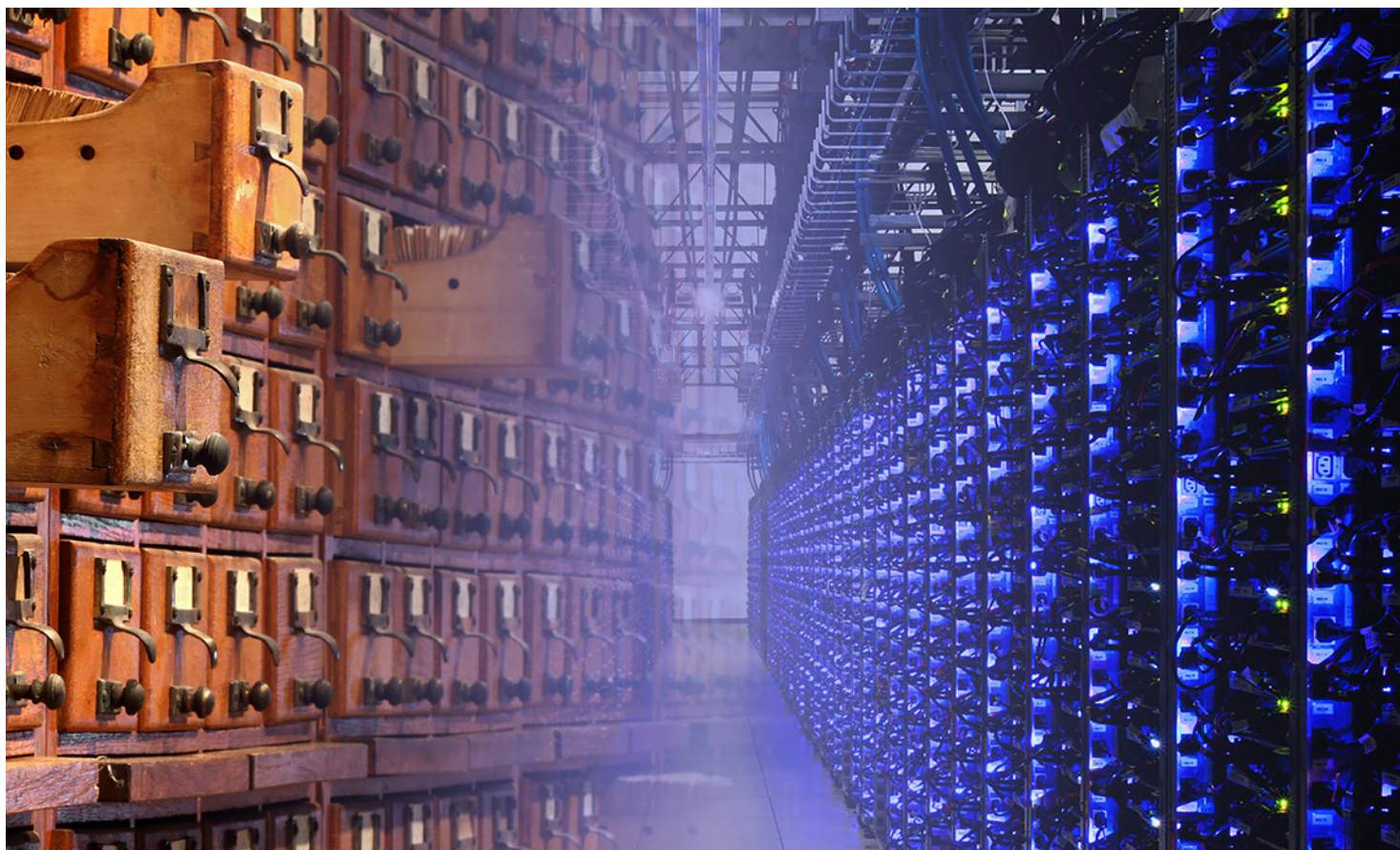


### **Collections as diverse as knowledge itself**

As well as the personal documents belonging to its founders, the archives of the International Institute of Bibliography and the documents covering the development of universal decimal classification, the Mundaneum also houses themed archives and specific collections including the Universal Iconographic Repertory, the International Press Museum, World Fairs and the Universal Repertory of Documentation. These include, in particular :

- The anarchy collection : *newspapers, pamphlets, letters, posters and much more, from 1839 to 2000*
- The pacifism collection : *books and journals from 1850 to 1980*
- Archives and collections about feminism : *inventoried since 1998*
- Iconographic collections : *15,000 posters, 200,000 postcards (from 1897), a century of photographs (from the portrait of George Sand by Félix Nadar in 1864 to holiday snaps from the 1960s) and 30,000 glass plates (negatives on glass and slides, from 1900 to 1950)*

**Bearing witness to the 19<sup>th</sup> century version of Information Architecture, the Mundaneum steps into a new era in which its archive centre becomes a matrix, and its different spaces bring its heritage to life : comparing it with the world today, and facilitating a dialogue between it and its visitors.**





## QUOTES FROM PIONEERS !

"The Mundaneum reminds me that **there is nothing new: it is always a question of rediscovery using other means**, using new technologies, new capacities. The Mundaneum, the Memex and now the Internet and the World Wide Web are only the latest manifestations. I am impatient to know what follows!"



Vinton Cerf (USA), "Father of the Internet", co-inventor of the protocol TCP/IP, Mons, 28.10.2013

"The Mundaneum confirms my beliefs with regards to the invention of the web: it isn't an invention, but rather a convergence of elements and precursors which have more or less laid the foundations of what we know today."



Robert Cailliau (BE), Co-founder of the World Wide Web at CERN en 1989, Mons, 22.10.2012

About the Mundaneum: "**A fascinating story**. The frustration people had not having electronics! Again, I feel we are lucky to be born at this time"



Sir Tim Berners Lee (UK), inventor of the World Wide Web in 1989 at CERN, 2004 (Extract from correspondence with Jean-François Groff)

"My congratulations to the Mundaneum project, innovation on innovation, for **restoring history as a key to the future.**"



Prof. Manuel Castells (UCLA-Berkeley, USA), Sociologist specialising in communication, Mundaneum, 20.11.2012

# #REOPENING2015 : *NEW FACILITIES AND NEW SERVICES*

Brand new facilities, with brand new purposes. The transformation of the Mundaneum was not only designed to improve the conditions for preserving its archives, but also to increase the quality of the welcome offered to its visitors and diversify the services available. From 27 June 2015 the Mundaneum will be presenting :

## "UTOPIA"

The name *Utopia* resonates with the history of the founders of the Mundaneum: sharing knowledge for universal peace... On the ground floor of the new annex of the Mundaneum, this room is a space in which people can take a break and meet others informally, as well as a venue for discussions about our society of knowledge, social innovations, idealism today... To enhance the visitor experience at the Mundaneum, *Utopia* offers :

- A range of hot and cold drinks and, occasionally, some – local, organic, vegetarian – refreshments thanks to the venue's partnership with local suppliers.
- A programme of activities combining culture and wellbeing. "Inner peace" joins forces with the "world peace" sought by Otlet and La Fontaine !  
For example : Laughing yoga, aromatherapy, sound massage and tea tasting.
- The chance for community-based organisations to use this space, in keeping with the ideals of the founders and the concept of sustainable development.



Luc Schuiten, *Utopia* - 2007

## **AN EDUCATIONAL SPACE**

Schools and young people, who represent the bulk of our audience, now have their very own dedicated learning area. Activities based on the exhibition will add to the interactive experience, with one goal : to question, raise awareness and guide visitors towards the digital society. The Mundaneum's philosophy is to give young people some points of reference and encourage them to become aware of the world in which they live, with all of its history, its contradictions and its developments. Above and beyond digital technology, the Mundaneum strives to raise awareness about citizenship, democracy and respect, and wants to inspire young people to become responsible citizens by giving them a taste of creativity and the desire to commit.

## **THE MUNDA'SHOP**

The Mundaneum is making the most of its grand reopening to offer a range of items dedicated to Otlet and La Fontaine specifically designed for its visitors for the Mons-based studio, Arkam. Now the founders of the Mundaneum can be with you all day long: a mug of coffee in the morning, a notebook and pen for your notes, a lithograph by "François Schuiten" on your living room wall. Not forgetting the school range for little ones, the Mundaneum revisited by the Créas de Cora (a young designer from Mons) !



## **THE "ANDRE CANONNE (1937-1990)" READING ROOM**

Named after the librarian and director of the Centre de Lecture Publique de la Communauté Française, who played a key role in the reappearance of the Mundaneum's archives in the 1980s, the Mundaneum's brand new reading room offers researchers who come to 15 Rue des Passages in Mons a comfortable working environment as well as access to a range of services, from help with research to digitising archives, including ad hoc training sessions on preservation and archiving.



# WHEN TECHNOLOGY ENHANCES THE WAY WE EXPERIENCE HERITAGE :

## *THE MUNDANEUM AT THE HEART OF THE CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES*

Built according to the slogan “Where technology meets culture”, the candidacy of Mons as the European Capital of Culture provided a lot of the inspiration for the programme to reopen the Mundaneum.

The digital transformation is redefining the shape of and the economy. With firm foundations in the **development of the cultural and creative industries**, the Mundaneum celebrates the meeting of economics and culture, one that is today strongly encouraged within the context of European policies supporting heritage. Located right in the centre of Mons’ “cultural kilometre”, just a stone’s throw away from a future IDEA incubator for businesses involved in the creative industries (January 2016), building on its unique experience with Google (the Cultural Institute in Paris, the data centre in Saint-Ghislain), the Mundaneum is thrilled to be working with the world of business and research.

« We have gone back to our roots by supporting the Mundaneum project »

**Thierry Geerts, director of Google Belgium, March 2012.**



Playing an active role in the “Creative Valley” (a creative hub in Mons, part of a programme led by the Minister, Jean-Claude Marcourt) as a founding member, the Mundaneum is keen to become a venue for experimentation where new ways of experiencing heritage are tested and examined, with a focus on smart heritage.

What's the point of going to a museum today when all the information is at your fingertips ? How can you make an institution a museum of the world, whose heritage is available wherever you are on the planet ? What form should a “next generation” museum adopt, the archive centre 3.0 ?

The Mundaneum has transformed itself into a laboratory where different new approaches and practices can be tried out, offering :

- A **serious gaming** experience throughout the whole site, in collaboration with **Fishing Cactus**, using indoor geolocation technology and augmented reality
- A new narrative for its heritage – the Universal Bibliographic Repertory and the Universal Decimal Classification system – made possible thanks to interactive technology, **augmented** reality and the Internet of things (the bibliographic record becomes smart). In collaboration with **Tiny Big Story**
- An interactive, audiovisual journey through 20 years of cultural life in Mons, thanks to the interactive device, “**Reactibox**” in partnership with the **Sonuma** (audiovisual archives), the **Numédiart** Research Institute and the **UMons** and the Mons-based start-up, **Hovertone**

- A monthly "**Coffee break with a tech**" : an informal chat with a digital entrepreneur
- In the brand new reading room, trials of apps developed by Creaceed for Apple IOS (mobile). **Creaceed** is a Mons-based business whose approach to software facilitates the task of managing document sources. Their apps, "Carbo" and "Prizmo", will be used by the Mundaneum's archivists and made available to researchers.
- **Conferences** to learn everything there is to know about the digital transformation, in partnership with the young French publishing company, "**Kawa Editions**"
- A journey via tablet through around ten exhibitions published on the **Google Cultural Institute**, based on its archives (virtual international museum of archives where the Mundaneum's collections rub shoulders with those of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, the MoMa in New York and the British Museum). The new app will be tested for the first time at the Mundaneum !
- Navigation through a selection of digital archives thanks to a new type of **visual encyclopaedia** : **Visupedia**, a Brussels-based start-up and partner of the Mundaneum
- The creation and publication of an **interactive timeline** based on archives, aimed at secondary school pupils in collaboration with the young company, **Hstry**

# NEW INTERACTIVE EDUCATIVE DEVICES

## PROMOTING UNESCO HERITAGE: A SOCIAL NETWORK BEFORE THE INTERNET !

At the dawn of a digital revolution, searching for information has essentially become a virtual process. The Mundaneum is now a unique place where you can get right to the heart of a search engine and “touch” the search results with your fingertips!

The reopening of the Mundaneum is the perfect opportunity to showcase the innovations and social network of Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontaine thanks to modern viewing techniques. An interactive terminal and online exhibits (smart bibliographic records), developed by *Tiny Big Story*, give visitors the chance to look at concepts like the Universal Bibliographic Repertory and the Universal Decimal Classification system.



The reconstruction of Otlet and La Fontaine's intellectual cooperation network is designed to show how, starting in Belgium in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a trend for sharing ideas spread around the world through different areas of social sciences.



## MUNDANEUM DOCUMENTARY : WHEN ARCHIVES MEET TECHNOLOGY

**An interactive audiovisual journey through 20 years of the Mundaneum in Mons...**

From its arrival in 1993 to its reopening in 2015, the Mundaneum has been in Mons for more than 20 years. This period is described in a number of reports produced by the RTBF and the local channel for Mons-Borinage. *Mundaneum Documentary* is an artistic, interactive, evolving installation to navigate through this collection of videos. By manipulating three cubes, visitors can interact with the installation by choosing keywords (people, actions, emotions). Certain segments will emerge as the “most popular”. Thus the installation evolves with its audience, creating a “social documentary” about the Mundaneum.

In collaboration with the **Sonuma**, **TéléMB**, the **University of Mons** through its research institute, **Numédiart** and the start-up **Hovertone**. With the support of the integrated LinkedTV project, funded by the European Commission (7th Framework Program – FP7-287911)

hovertone  
musical experience design

numediart  
MONS INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

TÉLÉMB

sonuma  
LES ARCHIVES AUDIOVISUELLES



# THE MUNDANEUM, THE ULTIMATE “GEEK TRIP” !

A by-product of the arrival of the Internet was the emergence of a new culture, generated by one of the most revolutionary inventions since the invention of printing in the 15th century: the Internet. This new web culture has brought with it new customs that now affect everybody.

This has put Mundaneum on all sorts of online lists. Wired magazine (USA) has named it one of the 100 geekiest places on the planet. It is recommended for technophiles alongside the likes of the **Computer History Museum** in Mountain View (Silicon Valley), the **National Center for Electronic Games** (New York) and **Bletchley Park** (UK) where the biopic dedicated to the father of the computer, Alan Turing, *The Imitation Game* (2014), was recently filmed. The new “geek” culture now chooses its very own heritage sites all over the world.

The Mundaneum and the Café Europa are two of these destinations in Mons, and will join forces to create a natural synergy between the different hubs of web culture in the city centre.



# "OPEN MUNDANEUM" : THE MUNDANEUM IS COMMITTED TO ACCESSIBILITY !

Since its temporary exhibition space opened in Mons in 1998, the goal of the Mundaneum has always been to promote the heritage of its founders among as wide an audience as possible. The Mundaneum encourages a critical analysis of the digital transformation that we are witnessing and taking part in. Today more than ever, the institution's commitment to socio-cultural promotion is keen to be diverse, innovative and inclusive, an approach summed up in one word : openness !

## SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Making up the majority of our visitors, school pupils will come to the Mundaneum and find a space in which to explore and find out more about ICT, comparing the historical enlightenment with current digital habits.

- Showcasing the key players in the digital revolution,
- Trying out new educational equipment,
- Raising awareness of (future) teachers about the relevant use of ICT in the classroom,
- Developing a critical approach, and a spirit of collaboration.

These are just some of our educational goals.

## COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES

The new *Utopia* space, a room dedicated to discussions, activities and interaction, is now a privileged gateway to the Mundaneum for community-based initiatives. The project that gradually led to this new space is based on collaboration with not-for-profit organisations, echoing the philosophy of the founders of the Mundaneum. These include a partnership with the not-for-profit organisation, **Article 27** whereby visitors without any job security can come to the Mundaneum for an afternoon of culture, as part of the Cultural Village in October 2015.

## PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Visitors with **sensory disabilities** can enjoy exclusive activities: a signed tour for the hard of hearing, and tactile tools for the visually impaired. Our special facilities are now available to **people with limited mobility**, thanks to the advice of the Passe-Muraille ASBL.

## INDIVIDUAL VISITORS

Renewed effort has been made to help individuals, who are now welcome at the site which is home to much more than just the museum: there is a café with Wifi, shopping opportunities, a terrace and a courtyard to enjoy, weather-permitting.

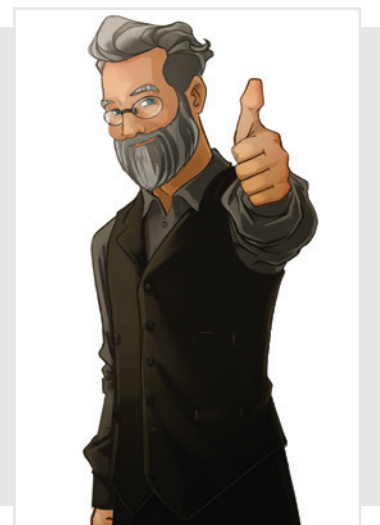
For **families**, there is a focus on exploration in "leisure" mode :

- a *serious game* video game,
- courses for children and teenagers during the school holidays,
- an à la carte *Birthday* package,
- the new *Family Sundays* : a tour of the Mundaneum and family activities with our partner, the Café Europa.

**Senior citizens** haven't been forgotten, with a package just for them: a tour of the Mundaneum and delicious refreshments in *Utopia* !

## A NEW SERIOUS GAME : “MUNDANEUM – WEB 1895”

Back in 2012, the Mundaneum produced an educational video game alongside the “Renaissance 2.0” exhibition. Now, history, the values and plans of our founders can be found at the heart of an interactive digital tool. Visitors, equipped with a tablet, can make their way through the museum and its contents, guided by a slightly hipster version of Paul Otlet... Our partner Fishing Cactus developed the geolocation system JIRA, which stands for Jeu Indoor en Réalité Augmentée (Indoor Augmented Reality Game). With **Mundaneum – Web 1895**, the institution presents a new experience, for anyone, whether they're 7 or 77 !



## BUSINESSES

The “Paper Google” is also a venue that opens its doors to the world of business, as it's the perfect place for dedicated events or customised team building activities, as well as creative partnerships with local start-ups and SMEs (see “The Mundaneum at the heart of the CCI” p.11).

## PUBLIC DOMAIN

Last but not least, being open in the digital age also means “**open data**” : in 1 January 2015, the heritage bequeathed to us by Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontaine entered the public domain. The Mundaneum is dedicated to distribution, and invites the creative community to embrace this heritage, which is no longer bound by any copyright. Over the last few years, its promotion has involved making written documents, drawings and diagrams

available via Wikipedia and Wikimedia, as well as putting virtual exhibitions online (via the Google Cultural Institute). In January 2016, Mundaneum will host the second Festival of the Public Domain. The 2.0 version of the initiative to convey knowledge that was so dear to the hearts of the founders of the Mundaneum !

*Contrary to popular belief, the process of entering the public domain is the opportunity to rediscover works and breathe new life into them. Things don't “fall” into the public domain, they enter it, or even rise up to it, Alexis Kauffmann, organiser of the Festival of the Public Domain and founder of Framasoft, in Libération, 09.2013.*





# A FORUM IN WHICH TO DEBATE : THE MUNDANEUM, A CONFERENCE SPACE

The Mundaneum is known in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation as **a living space where the digital transformation is put up for discussion**. Different series of conferences organised by the Mundaneum from the moment it reopens will give members of the public the chance to explore the history of the venue and the heritage that it houses, as well as the social impact of information and communication technologies, the artistic interpretation of our Information Society.

## ■ “UNDERSTANDING THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION” : CARTE BLANCHE TO KAWA EDITIONS

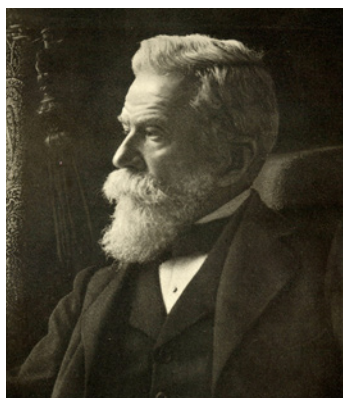
Kawa is a young publishing company (FR) whose motto is “*With us, you're going to love marketing and digital solutions, but not just that...*” This series of conferences marks the meeting between the social angle led by Kawa and the original setting of the Mundaneum, in a light-hearted, friendly atmosphere !



■ **22.10.2015** : *La sérendipité* (Henri Kaufman, FR) – with Kawa Editions

■ **03.11.2015** : *Uberisation=économie déchirée ?* (Bruno Teboul, FR) - with Kawa Editions

## ■ “THE MUNDANEUM : A NETWORK OF KNOWLEDGE”



To celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its creation, the Mundaneum focuses on the history of the intellectual cooperation network established by its founders with other personalities of that time. This series of conferences looks at the relationship between scientific and social progress at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

■ **29.10.2015** : *Edmond Picard, un bourgeois socialiste belge* (Paul Aron, BE)

■ **25.11.2015** : *Ernest Solvay, rêves d'unité d'un entrepreneur scientifique* (Nicolas Coupain, BE)



## ■ “COFFEE BREAK WITH A TECH”

Over a coffee in Utopia, the Mundaneum offers people the chance to have an informal chat every month with an entrepreneur specialising in digital solutions or knowledge. Aimed at anybody interested in the development of the digital economy, these meetings will help demystify technology and help participants find out more about possible careers and trajectories.

## ■ CYCLE "PARTNERS"

Throughout the year, the Mundaneum opens its doors to events whose philosophy fits in with the venue and its history.

■ **12-13.09.2015** : Journées du Patrimoine de Wallonie : *La presse, de l'Ancien régime à la Belgique indépendante* – open doors & temporary exhibition

■ **21.09.2015** : *Faut-il échouer pour réussir ?* (Julien Cusin, FR) – part of « Creative Valley »

■ **25.09.2015** : 2<sup>e</sup> « Otlet Salons » (Keynote : Pieter Colpaert, BE) - Plateforme interdisciplinaire de réflexion pour un changement sociétal

■ **10-18.10.2015** : The Mundaneum welcomes « Parcours d'artistes » – A production Ville de Mons

■ **16.11.2015** : *Rêves d'archives*, François Schuiten & Benoît Peeters (BE) – Conference-Fiction, in partnership with Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimée in La Louvière

■ **15-31.01.2016** : 2<sup>e</sup> Festival of the Public Domain (FR/BE)

■ **08.04.2016** : Creative Learn – With PedagoTIC asbl, l'Agence du Numérique & UCL Mons

## ■ CYCLE MAPPING KNOWLEDGE

*During the exhibition, the Mundaneum and its partners organise talks and conferences open to the public. Another way to discover the theme of Mapping Knowledge, understanding the world through data.*

■ **07-09.10.2015** : 3<sup>e</sup> International meeting KNOWeSCAPE / COST

■ **15.10.2015** : *Rendez-Vous du Design* spécial information design – In partnership with Maison du Design Mons, part of Quinzaine numérique

■ **27.11.2015** : *From digital to culture* – Round table part of Transnumériques, in partnership with Transcultures

## ■ WITH THE MONS 2015 FOUNDATION :

### 1 - « *Metamorphosis* »

New cultural destinations, activities in the city, installations in public spaces: Mons 2015 is experiencing a real metamorphosis. With a unique exhibition and new facilities rising up after two years of building work, it's only natural that the Mundaneum is also involved.

### 2 - The « *cultural kilometre* »

From the new Arsonic space at the Maison Folie, to the Théâtre Le Manège and the Manège de Sury (*Atopolis* exhibition in 2015, a CCI business incubator from 2016), the Mundaneum is right in the middle of the *Cultural Kilometre*, now the nerve centre of Mons' cultural life.

### 3 - *Bus on Tour Mons 2015*

Cultural routes linking up different partners of Mons 2015, for daylong experiences or unusual evenings packed with new discoveries :

■ **21.09.2015**, *Sound Culture* :  
Mundaneum + *City Sonic* + Royal  
Chamber Orchestra of Wallonia

■ **14.11.2015**, François Schuiten :  
Mundaneum (Mons) + *Lumières  
sur les Cités @Centre de la Gra-  
vure et de l'Image Imprimée (La  
Louvière)*

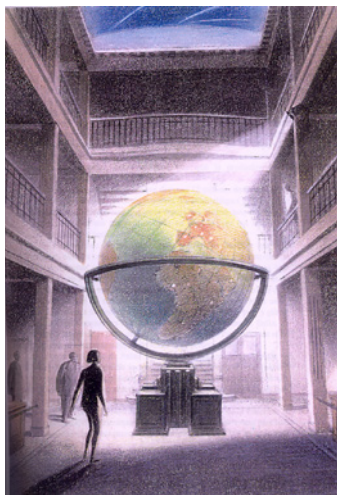
■ **11.12.2015**, *Digital Experimen-  
tation* : Mundaneum (Mons) +  
*Transcultures (Mons) + Un pas de  
côté @La Fabrique de Théâtre  
(La Bouverie)*



# PARTNER ARTISTS OF THE MUNDANEUM

## FRANCOIS SCHUITEN AND BENOIT PEETERS (BE)

The shared history of the Mundaneum and François Schuiten and Benoît Peeters started well before the opening of the museum in Mons, when they decided to design and recreate the very specific world of the founders of the Mundaneum. An exhibition covering eight hundred square metres lets visitors peak into the drawers of the Universal Bibliographic Repertory, the "information highways" across the vaults, and above all the sphere, that

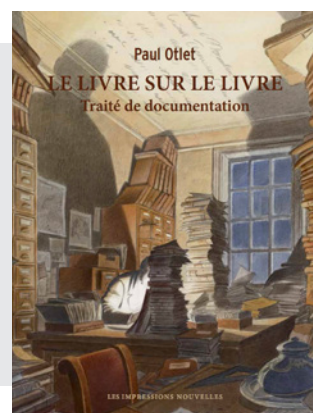


became the first image associated with the Mundaneum. Despite the renovations, the temporary exhibition space has maintained the unique fingerprints of these two creative minds who will be visiting us for the conference-fiction Dreams of archives in autumn 2015 (in collaboration with the Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimée in La Louvière). For the reopening of the Mundaneum, François Schuiten, in collaboration with publishers, Etat de Stock, will be reissuing some of the digital prints he produced for the opening in 1998.

*« Everybody should come and explore this utopia. When history is involved, we often have a short memory in Belgium. I see Otlet as a typical Belgian hero. He was an unlikely character you can't help but love », François Schuiten*

Benoît Peeters has embarked on a new edition of the *Traité De Documentation* (1934), an important treatise dedicated to the very first vision of the Internet referred to. What a fantastic way for the Mundaneum to celebrate Paul Otlet's arrival in the public domain – 70 years after his death – and for the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the International Office of Bibliography !

Editions Les Impressions Nouvelles, publication scheduled for September 2015. Presale at the Mundaneum from 27.06.2015 : 38 euros.



## MAUD FAIVRE, PHOTOGRAPHER ASSOCIATED WITH IN/OUT (MONS 2015)

A photography mission commissioned by the Mons 2015 Foundation and the City of Mons by "Matador", the **In/Out project** has documented the different architectural and urban building sites in the European Capital of Culture. The Mundaneum was one of the sites observed, and now the photographs by Maud Faivre introduce visitors to the memory of this metamorphosis, which lasted more than two years, in the inner courtyard.

[www.maudfaivre.com](http://www.maudfaivre.com)

# EVERYBODY'S INVOLVED IN THE MUNDANEUM !



The whole team at the Mundaneum has one shared goal: to spread the word about the work of its founders and bring their ideas to life through a wide range of projects. And because the adventure of knowledge is by definition collaborative, members of the public can help us, both practically and metaphorically !

## BECOME A "FRIEND OF THE MUNDANEUM"

*Founded in 1924, the association known as "Les Amis du Palais Mondial – Mundaneum" (the Friends of the World Palace) defined itself at the time as a "scientific, documentary, educational centre, made up of institutes and collections" whose aim is to continue the work of the World Palace. After the death of Otlet and La Fontaine, this association remained active until the 1980s, when the collections were purchased by the Walloonia-Brussels Federation.*

In June 2015, the Mundaneum will be reviving a support network that will be given privileged access to its activities, via an annual membership fee of 50 Euros: the **Friend of the Mundaneum** pass!

More information: [expositions.mundaneum.org/fr/mundami](http://expositions.mundaneum.org/fr/mundami)

## A PERMANENT WELCOME FOR STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

The Mundaneum is first and foremost an archive centre, whose expertise enjoys an international reputation, both in terms of questions about preserving different types of document, and about promoting these archives. A team of five archivists and two visitor experience managers will take on this colossal task, which will include material for courses, dissertations and theses and for volunteering projects.



Volunteers at work in the Mundaneum in Brussels, 1905.

To coincide with its reopening, the Mundaneum is appealing to anybody who would like to contribute to this fantastic project in one way or another !

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
LUN / MAA / MON										
MAR / DIN / TUE										
MER / WOE / WED										
JEU / DON / THU										
VEN / VRI / FRI										
& JOURS FÉRIÉS										
WE & FEESTDAGEN										
& BANK HOLIDAYS										

Fermé / Gesloten / Closed : 25/12/2015 & 01/01/2016 & 23-24/05/2016

## EXPO / TENTOOSTELLING / EXHIBITION

FR · NL · EN

## GUIDE / RONDELEIDING

FR · NL · EN · DE · IT · ES

ADULT(E) / VOLWASSENE ..... 6,00€

+65, ETUDIANT / STUDENT ..... 4,00€

DEMANDEUR D'EMPLOI  
WERKZOEKER ..... 4,00€  
JOB SEEKER

FAMILLE  
FAMILIE ..... 2,00€/PERS.  
FAMILY

ARTICLE 27 ..... 1,25€

### GROUPES (max. 25 pers.)

Visite guidée / Rondleiding / Guided tour

Adult(e)s / Volwassenen : 100€

Ecoles & associations / Scholen en VZW's / Schools & associations : 75€

Visit(e) / Rondleiding + serious game

Ecoles & associations / Scholen en VZW's / Schools & associations : 80€

## REDUCTION / VERMINDERING / REDUCED



EDUCPASS, PROF, LERAREN, CULTURE, ISIC,...

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ECOLÉS & GROUPES / SCHOLEN & GROEPEN / SCHOOLS & GROUPS : EDUCATIF@MUNDANEUM.BE - +32 65 39 54 80

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programme available  
at [mons2015.eu](http://mons2015.eu)



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Wallonie



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TOURISME

AVEC LE SOUTIEN DE  
LA FÉDÉRATION WALLONIE-BRUXELLES,  
DU COMMISSARIAT GÉNÉRAL AU  
TOURISME ET DE LA WALLONIE

EN COLLABORATION AVEC / IN SAMENWERKING MET / IN COLLABORATION WITH



Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture



Le Répertoire Bibliographique Universel  
Inscrit au Registre International en 2013  
Mémoire du monde

LA PREMIÈRE



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TRANSCULTURES



Université de Mons



UMONS INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES



LES ARCHIVES AUDIOVISUELLES



EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
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