

Visit and prospection for activities in vacant premises- Ici-Bientôt

By Camille Vilain

Ici-bientôt is one of the Human Cities experimentations launched by Cité du design in Saint-Etienne

Ici-Bientôt initiates a new dynamic in the Beaubrun neighbourhood to fight against the increase of vacant shops and breathe new life into the changing neighbourhood.

Original article by Thomas from CREFAD – Ici bientôt

On 8th January, an unusual crowd was standing in the premises of a former wedding accessories shop in rue de la Ville.

It was the second visit of potential premises for the Ici-Bientôt team together with the artistic association “les moyens du bord” and the association of education “Terrain d’entente”. A visit to examine the space, imagine new uses and identify the works to do to host various activities.



Association members visiting a vacant shop to test new activities in rue de la Ville together with ici-Bientôt group – ©Ici-bientôt

This 45 m2 vacant shop will host 2 programmes during the Biennale Internationale Design Saint-Etienne 2017 from 9th March to 9th April 2017 :

- Writing workshops by the association “Les moyens du bord”, about the project “writing on Beaubrun district”. During the Biennial, various writing workshops existing in Saint-Etienne will gather here and will be open to new participants.
- A tea house for the users of Terrain d’entente association, which proposes workshops and activities for the families of the district. The volunteers will be present during the whole Biennial period. Some afternoons will be dedicated to writing workshops, especially for children, in partnership with the Saint-Etienne public Library.

This re-occupation of a vacant premises is one of the projects led by the experimentation Ici-Bientôt : identifying vacant shops, their status, their owners and connecting them with projects’ holders looking for a space for their activities and accompanying them in their project, thanks to the expertise of CREFAD Loire, one of the members of Ici-Bientôt group.

It will a prototype in test during the Biennial month, but the wish is to perpetuate these activities on a longer term ! We wish it will be a success !

Numerous activities will be organized during the Biennale Internationale Design Saint-Etienne 2017

More info about its programme and activities you can find [here in FR and EN](#) or you can follow the programme and stories on <http://ici-bientot.org/> and www.facebook.com/icibientotsaintetienne.