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TRANSITION ZONE | BETWEEN HERITAGE, ART AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

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TRANSITION ZONE is a project about connections, participation and visibility, and involving heritage, art and research in the ENCI area. The entire area – as (geo)archaeological, landscape and industrial heritage – will transform into cultural heritage, natural landscape and wellness. This specific location, in which various experienced notions of place are making changes possible, is staffed by different parties. All these different stakeholders – ranging from the field of archaeological and paleontological research to local occupancy and tourism – provide their own perspective on the rearrangement of the ENCI-quarry. We invited 12 young artists, who work one-and-a-half year together with the stakeholders, in order to analyse and grasp the complexity of the ENCI area in the past and present towards the future. One could say that our way of conducting research is by co-creation. The project addresses the developments in the field of 'Experimental Heritage, involving researchers, artists and the local community'. We believe that in this complex, old location all these different parties can exist side by side, and tell their own story.

In this paper we want to show what the effort of cross cultural collaboration between artists and archaeologists/heritage researchers and practitioners can be, and how both artists/researchers and owners/users of a future heritage place can learn from each other. We propose to address the artistic methodology to the session-topic 'Experimental heritage...'. We will do so by providing some examples of best practices in life form by the participants Eline Kersten en Joep Vossebeld. Simoultaneously, a series of artistic results will be presented in the ENCI quarry during the EAA-conference. Together, we aim to find out what the ENCI area in transformation with all the different notions of the place and during specific times can be. In this way 'transition zone' means also a meeting place for the local community and the artists.