



Geert Vermeire

As the five day 2017 **Made of Walking** event in La Romieu, south west France drew to a close, Andrew Stuck had an opportunity to talk to **Geert Vermeire**, it's organiser and a walking poet and philosopher, in his on right. We sat in an echoey dining hall, in front of a small audience of Made of Walking participants, a couple of whom contribute to the interview by asking questions. Throughout Made of Walking, Andrew had been trying to pin Geert down for an interview, but he was never still for long enough, so on the off, Andrew wanted to explore his role and how he came to make Made of Walking happen. 26' 12" 12.3MB

Notes from the podcast interview by **Andrew Stuck**: Recorded in August 2017 in the dining hall of Le Couvent, La Romieu, France as the 2017 Made of Walking drew to a close. Published in October 2017 on <http://www.talkingwalking.net>

Geert Vermeire's website: <http://www.geertvermeire.be/>

The Milena Principle: http://www.themilena.com/about_us.html

Geert studied composition and musicology under the guidance of conductor **Sergiu Celibidache**.

In 2000, **Stefaan van Biesan** invited Geert to get involved as a poet in a visual art exhibition which led to Geert making his first creative walk - a poem without words - in the style of Greek philosopher Diogenes.

Diogenes https://www.ancient.eu/Diogenes_of_Sinope/

Stefaan van Biesan website: <http://www.stefaanvanbiesen.com/> - forthcoming Talking Walking interview

Flemish Centre for Poetry <http://www.poeziecentrum.be>

Museum of Contemporary Art Ghent <http://smak.be/en>

Since 2009/10 Geert has been incorporating new technologies in his practice on the theme of 'getting lost'. This is somewhat in contrast to the ever increasing desire to map and know where we are going, with the development of GPS software. Geert produced the 'no tours' open source platform with an on-line editor so that users can create their own itineraries. <http://www.notours.org/> A new extension to this, is in being able to create your own soundscape, through bodily movement and direction.

Lucius Burckhardt <http://www.lucius-burckhardt.org>

Sound Walk Sunday - curated by the **Museum of Walking**: <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/sound-walk-sunday/>

Durer - Renaissance artist https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albrecht_D%C3%BCrer

was godfather to Flemish artist **Joachim Patinir**. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joachim_Patinir

Link to **Made of Walking** <http://www.themilena.com/made-of-walking> tends to take place in isolated villages that have a strong link to pilgrimage <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1154465271292962/>

Geert's recommendation for a walk is:

1. Get friends together to walk in silence - in part to experience "togetherness"
2. Make a walk as if you did it for the first time - opening your mind up to wonderment and joy