

ARTWORK "Memorial Dreyeroord"

Welcome, my name is ELLEN BROUWERS Visual Artist from Oisterwijk.

I Designed this memorial by order of Amvest and Airborne Feelings Foundation as a tribute to those who fought in this area. This artwork is located here at the entrance of former Hotel Dreyeroord, an important historical site. There was heavy fighting around this hotel by the Allies (7th KOSB: The King's Own Scottish Borderers and the Glider Pilots)

Material and technique:

The monument is made of powder coated stainless steel. The tempered glass panels in ceramic technology. A durable print has been applied on the back. The ink consists of micro particles. The glass is sealed in the curing oven at a very high temperature.

The realization / the making of:

In November 2017 I was approached with the request to design a memorial. I started research in February 2018 and in April I presented the first sketches. The Andrew's Cross has become the basic shape of the object. Inspired by the flag of Scotland, England and on KOSB's Badge. The 24 posts stand for 24 years. This is an estimate of the average age at which the soldiers died. The shape of the tubes represent the towing cables of the Gliders (gliders) that the troops transported from the United Kingdom to the Netherlands. During the commemorations in September, the stainless steel flag pole (4.5 meters) will be added in the heart of the line-up with the Pegasus flag. The colour white stands for peace, simplicity, innocence and hope and is the symbol for a new beginning.

The inspiration gained in the Airborne museum

Projected images and sounds brought me into the midst of the war. My feeling immediately told me that I wanted to do something with that. A work of art with a connection between war and future. I saw faces of very young boys. Understand that their fathers, uncles and many men had already been sent to liberate Europe.

Sitting in a Horsa glider. I imagined the following:

The boys - anxious - high in the clouds - jumping from the light to the unknown war zone - lonely - now only minutes - and then you might look back for a moment - a look back at your parental home ... where they stay believe in your return ...

After 75 years as a victim of this war, let us commemorate all the fallen and also an ode to all mothers who had to let their sons go for the struggle for freedom and feared they would never be seen again. I hope that this work of art will remind passers-by for a long time of the black page in our history. I believe it was an honour and privilege to be able to give my contribution to the commemoration of 75 years of freedom.

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