
Hallo, Is Daar Iemand? / Ben Even Weg

2007

'Hallo, Is Daar Iemand?' and 'Ben Even Weg' by Martijn Sandberg are located in the district of Floriande in Hoofddorp/ NL. The piece of artwork consists of two free standing walls 4.5 metres high and respectively 24.5 metres and 14.5 metres in length.

Each screen serves as a partition between the loading and unloading zone on the North and South side of the shopping centre Floriande and the street plan of the residential area bordering it, which includes a community school.

The starting point of Sandberg's plan is the development of a semi-transparent typographical screen which he describes as 'writing with railings' ('schrijven met spijlen'). This is based on a fence of vertical lines, comparable with the 'bars' in a barcode.

While passing the piece of artwork, a series of letters appears and disappears in the alternating of the open and shut character of the fence over its full length. As if someone has just left a memo, a memento for ever in the trellis: 'Hallo, is daar iemand?' and 'Ben even weg'. *)

*) 'Hello, is anybody out there?', 'Out for a moment'.

Title: 'Hallo, Is Daar Iemand?' / 'Ben Even Weg'

Artist: Martijn Sandberg

Location: Dussenstraat / Hankstraat, Floriande Hoofddorp/ NL

Material: 2x screen, brown coated steel, precast concrete

Measurements (l x h x w) 'Hallo, Is Daar Iemand?': 25m x 4.5m x 0.4-0.7m

Measurements (l x h x w) 'Ben Even Weg': 14.7m x 4.5m x 0.4-0.7m

Concept and design: 2005-2006

Final design: March 2006

Completion: 2007

Commissioned by: Bouwfonds MAB (Municipal Building Fund MAB), Haarlem/ NL and District of Haarlemmermeer, Hoofddorp/ NL