



# MEUPIA PROJECT





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*MEUPIA PROJECT IS A FRENCH-FILIPINO PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE CITY OF BREST-FRANCE.*



## EDITORIAL

***“By making scintillate our light,  
we offer the others the opportunity to do so.”***

***Nelson Mandela***

Company Acte II started in 14th of May 2008 in the city of Brest in France.

To go acting, tell stories, exchange thoughts and ideas, move the audience to laugh, cry, think and more especially to move them to dream again... these prompted us to exist with meaning.

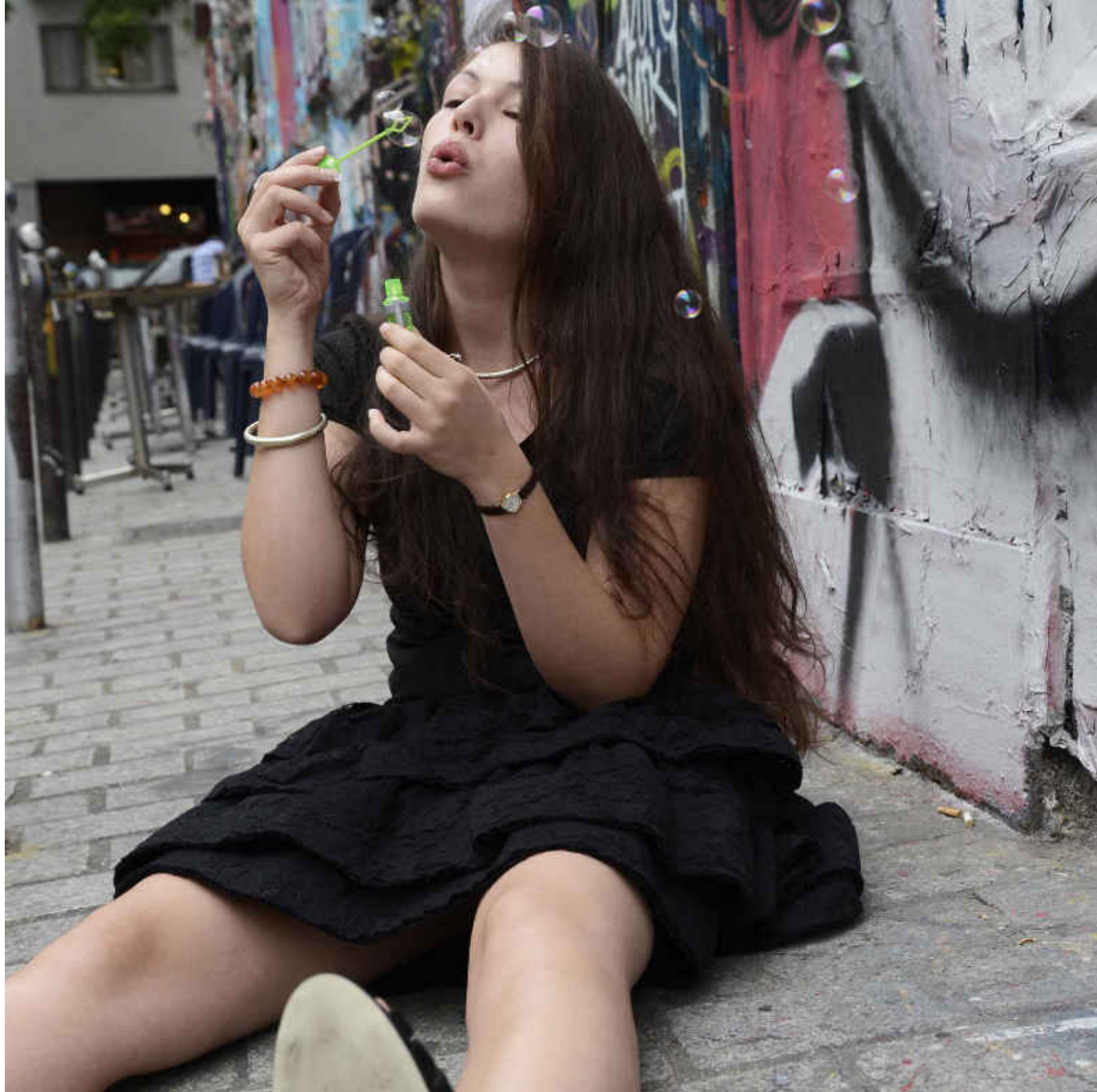
Over the years, the company has expanded and now offers shows that bring together different forms of art ( theater, dance, singing, stage fighting ) as well as artistic performances and contemporary art installations.

Cultural regeneration is also at the heart of our approach, which is why we have developed the "Meupia" project in the Manobo-Tigwahanon tribe in the Philippines so that children can relearn their culture, preserve their traditions, have access to education and serve as a door to the world with pride of their cultural identity.

We dream of a world with cultural vibrancy in all perspective. A world where art in all its form is accessible.

Openness to the world is at the center of our approach, which is why it is always a pleasure for us to play on tour as it has been in the past years : in India, in Dubai, in Israel/Palestine and all over France.

To Be Happy Is Now.



## COMPANY HISTORY



### PETER PAN (Theater)

**January 2009** Creation de "Peter Pan" at Guichet Montparnasse Theater in Paris.

**2009 – 2010** Resumption of "Peter Pan" at the Clarté Theater in Boulogne-Billancourt, in Ciné 13 Theater in Paris

An on tour at Rutebeuf theater in Clichy, St. Louis theater in Pau, PL Pilier-Rouge theater in Brest and at the Espace Mélanie in Riec-sur-Belon.

### THE FALSE SERVANT (Theater)

**April 2011** Preview of "The False Servant" written by Marivaux at the ACSEMD little theater in Paris

**October 2011** Creation of "The False Servant" at Darius Milhaud theater in Paris

**2012** "The False Servant" on tour at the theater of the Puy-en-Velay and at the Fort of Nogent-sur-Marne

### THE JUNGLE BOOK (Theater)

**October 2011** Creation of "The Jungle Book" at Ciné 13 Theater in Paris.

**2012-2013** Extension of "The Jungle Book" at Cine 13 Theater in Paris.

Resumption of "The Jungle Book" at the Essaïon theater in Paris

And on tour at St. Louis theater in Pau, PL Pilier-Rouge theater in Brest, Mômes Festival of Montbéliard and Festival of Cocyte-la-Forêt.

**2013-2014** Resumption of "The Jungle Book" at the Essaïon theater in Paris for the second straight year,

And on tour in Palais des Congrès of Loudéac in Bretagne, France.

**2014-2015** Resumption of "The Jungle Book" at Gymnase theater in Paris for the 4th season of the show,

And on tour in Armorica theater in Plouguerneau-Bretagne, France.

**June-July 2015** "The Jungle Book" in Lucernaire theater in Paris.

**August 2015** "The Jungle Book" on tour in "Alliances Françaises" India.

### JE SUIS CHARLIE (Contemporary Art)

**January 2016** "Je Suis Charlie" Contemporary Art Exhibit by Louie Talents in PL Pilier-Rouge, Brest-France.

**April 2016** "Free and Equal?" Contemporary Art Exhibit by Louie Talents in PL Pilier-Rouge, Brest-France.

**November - December 2016** "Free and Equal?" Contemporary Art Exhibit by Louie Talents un Armorica, Plouguerneau-France.

### ALADDIN – THE PROPHECY (Theater)

**January 2017** Creation of "Aladdin – The Prophecy" ( previously *Ala-é-Din* ) at Ciné 13 Theater in Paris.

**2017-2018** Resumption of "Aladdin – The Prophecy" at Lucernaire Theater in Paris.

And on tour at PL Pilier-Rouge theater in Brest, Armorica Theater in Plouguerneau and Keraudy Theater in Plougonvelin.

**2018-2019** Resumption of "Aladdin – The Prophecy" at Funambule Theater in Paris.

On tour in *Culture Émulsion* in Dubaï, in *Institut Français* in Israel/Palestine,

And in Henri Queffelec Theater in Gouesnou.



### KINAUYOKAN (Performance)

**January 2018** Created for the Fine Arts Museum of Angers-France for the exhibit "Collectionneur, le désir inachevé" presenting contemporary artwork from South-East of Asia.

**February 2018** Performed in PL Pilier-Rouge of Brest-France for the 10 years old of Company Acte II.





# MEUPIA PROJECT

## SOLIDARITY AND CULTURE

### OBJECTIVE

This project aims to preserve the culture of the Manobo-Tigwahanon and to nurture the talent of 32 children. The Manobo are among the largest indigenous population in Mindanao who practice farming with an integral component of their ideological system based specifically on their conception of the world, believing in the supernatural and the natural world.



### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

In 1875, the Spanish Jesuit missionaries pioneered missionary work, and thousands of Manobo and inhabitants were converted to Roman Catholicism. In the following decades, upon the arrival of the Americans, some of this Manobo groups were converted to the various Protestant denomination. In spite of the long tradition of Christian conversion, the Manobo in these parts still persistently adhere to their religious belief. Moreover, in recent decades the Manobo have faced campaigns of massive deforestation leaving them little territory to hunt. The combination of these factors weakened these people, economically and culturally. In response to this situation, "Meupia" meaning promoting goodwill, was launched last April 1, 2013 in Kisayab, a small community located 19km from San Fernando in the province of Bukidnon, Mindanao.

### ORIGIN OF THE PROJECT

*Meupia Project* was launched in Kisayab with the initiative of Morgane Quiguer, an independent french theater actress who was voluntarily working for 8 months in partnership with the program of the German Doctors. Morgane was entrusted by village elders with their desire to pass on their ancestral culture to the youngest. They also tell her about the difficulties of carrying out such a project given the lack of means to pay teachers, cooks, cultural livelihood, food and equipment.

Apart from this, Louie Talents was on a personal research to produce contemporary artworks about Mindanao in deepening his Filipino heritage through immersion in the said community.

All the factors were there for the Meupia project to come to life!

### PARTNERSHIP

Over the years the project has been articulated in 4 complementary branches:

- Little Manobo Footprints : developed page 7
- Meupia Art Projet : developed page 8
- Manobo Culturel Center : developed page 9
- 52' Documentary : developed page 10

All this has been possible thanks to our partners whom we wish to thank :

- General Council of Finistère
- City of Brest
- Municipio of Saint-Marc, Brest
- PL Pilier-Rouge, Brest
- School of Petit Paris, Brest
- Cicodes, Quimper
- Philippines Embassy, Paris
- Les P'tits Cracks, Paris
- La Maison Kangourou, Paris
- Cagayan-de-Oro city, Philippines
- ABS-CBN, Philippines
- Xavier University, Philippines
- KKP-SIO, Philippines
- German Doctors, Philippines
- ROTA, Philippines
- Dunkin Donuts, Philippine
- Cpt. Richies, Philippines
- Silly Snapz Photobooth, Philippines
- And all the generous individuals who supported us and helped us.



## PROJECT PROPONENTS

**MORGANE  
QUIGUER**



Morgane Quiguer studied at ESRA Rennes (Graduate School of Audiovisual Production) where she extended her knowledge about film industry before to joined the vocational training in Jean Périmony Drama School where she learned the basics of her profession and widen further her understanding about being an actress.

In 2009, she participated in the Festival of Avignon with the play entitled *Félicie* written by Marivaux and *L'occasion* written by Mérimée. From 2009 to 2011, she played Wendy in the famous play entitled *Peter Pan* along with *Company Acte II*. In 2011-2012 she was the Countess in the play *The False Servant* written by Marivaux. Moreover, she played Sister Grey, Mother Wolf and one monkey in *Company Acte II*'s *The Jungle Book* at Ciné 13 Theater in Paris.

In October 2012, she temporarily suspended her theater activities to go to the Philippines. There, in partnership with the Filipino contemporary artist Louie Talents, she responsively create a cultural program entitled *Meupia* that focus on preserving the dying culture of the Manobo-Tigwahanon tribe. Since then, she lives between France and the Philippines to carry out all its projects. From 2013 to 2015, she continued her role in the famous play *The Jungle Book*. She played in Paris at Essai Theater, Gymnase, Lucernaire and a theatrical tour in India.

In 2014-2015, she performs Martine in the play *Cuisine et Dépendances* written by Bacri and Jaoui at Funambule-Montmartre Theater. Since its creation in 2016, she is playing the main role Yasmine as well as the mother of Aladdin in *Aladdin – The Prophecy*, the family show of *Company Act II* of which she is the co-author. In 2018, she played in Paris at the Boussole Theater in a Café-Théâtre play.

Apart from this, she is trained in singing and actively involved in Martial Arts such as Muay-Thai and Kali-Escrima-Panantukan. More recently she also started a dance training.

**LOUIE  
TALENTS**



Filipino artist from the island of Mindanao, Louie Talents spent 17 years from kinder to his 1st Bachelors degree in Economics at Xavier University Ateneo de Cagayan.

Passionate about painting since childhood, in 2007 Louie decided to pursue his dream and took a 2nd batchelors degree in Fine-Arts at the University of the Philippines-Diliman, major in painting with a Magna Cum Laude standing and Outstanding Thesis Award.

In 2010, he was the first recipient of the French Embassy scholarship grant to study at L'école des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France.

Apart from this, Louie exhibited his works in the Philippines, Paris, Canada and Singapore since 2003.

Moreover, he is actively involved with six contemporary arts projects part of which are: *Palanay Art Project* which aims to transform Biblicals passages into diary entries from 40 cities worldwide and *Atten-Hut Project* for which he collected 21.000 pieces of toy soldiers wich aims to revisit historical context of places to draw attention on issues in the Philippines. He is also collaborating with "Drawing Room Gallery" in Manila and continues his travel to 40 countries around the world.

Since August 2014, he is also collaborating with *Company Acte II* in France on a socially engaged art project, involving french and filipino community, entitled *Meupia Art Project*. Apart from this, he was also exhibiting his artworks in an exhibition entitled *Free and Equal?* in different location in France. He is involved in creating the stage design of 2 theater shows of *Company Acte II: The Jungle Book* and *Aladdin – The Prophecy*.

In July 2018, he presented his solo exhibit entitled *Carnet Sans Age: N°19 – Japon* in "Pierre-Yves Caër Gallery", a french gallery with who he is currently collaborating with.



# LITTLE MANOBO FOOTPRINTS

## THEATER, MUSIC, DANCE, SINGING AND OTHER ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS



### 1 MONTH WITH ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS

For one month, 32 Manobo children from the village of Kisayab are taught about the importance of preserving their dying culture. They are taught by 9 teachers who share with them their knowledge and their love for this traditional Manobo culture.

On the program, learning activities were introduced to the children like dance, traditional songs, theater, art workshops, making of traditional clothing, jewelry and traditional musical instruments. There is also a class on understanding their origin led by the village elders.

### FOOD AND LEARNING



In addition to these activities, and in order to respond to the poverty that afflicts the community, children participating in the program receive a free lunch and snack each day to enable them to follow the program attentively.

### CREATING A SHOW

At the end of this cultural summer camp, all together young and old create a show in the image of their culture. Thus, on May 18, 2013, students, teachers and parents went to Valencia-Bukidnon for the closing of the program. The people of the city of Valencia were able to attend the *Little Manobo Footprints* show, allowing them to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the indigenous populations. Similarly, in April 2014, we were able to launch *Meupia Project 2* and on April 26, 2014, we were all delighted to present the show *Little Manobo Footprints 2*, in the city of Cagayan-de-Oro in the theater of Xavier-University Ateneo de Cagayan. This adventure relayed by the local media was for all a great moment of happiness and pride.

### OBJECTIVE

By taking an interest in their own culture, these children develop a sense of belonging that makes them stronger to face the "modern" world that reaches them. *Meupia Project* is a program that responds primarily to the needs of children and whose primary purpose is to allow them to have fun during a summer. The performances given in town at the end of the program are an opportunity for children to proudly present their work and their culture. These moments of laughter and sharing are also an opportunity for the public to rethink the condition of these young artists.

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<b>Title</b>	Little Manobo Footprints 1 and 2
<b>Project Proponents</b>	Morgane Quiguer and Louie Talents
<b>Performing Artists</b>	32 Manobo children
<b>Duration of the Show</b>	1 hour

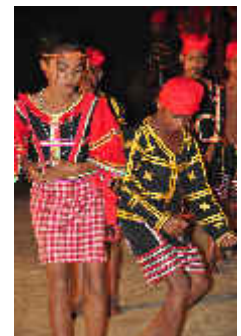
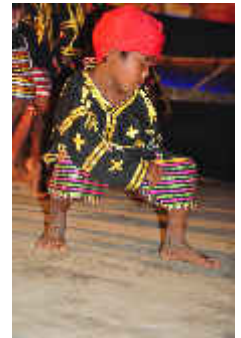
### ON TOUR:

#### APRIL 2014

Little Theater of Xavier-University  
( Cagayan de Oro – Philippines )

#### APRIL 2013

Municipio of Valencia - Bukidnon ( Mindanao – Philippines )



# MEUPIA ART PROJECT

## CONTEMPORARY ART

### LETTER OF EMBRACE 1



In January 2014, the french children from the school Petit-Paris in Brest were asked to make bond paper size drawing with a touch of stickers and words of what they intend to say and intend to show the Manobo children.

In April 2014, the Manobo children are doing the same in response of their creatives letters.

Owing to the slim chances for this children to personally meet and the language barrier to consider, the creatives letters would than be merge together through artistic cauterization to form one artwork with a visual image of a french girl giving comfort to a Manobo boy.

### LETTER OF EMBRACE 2



The invited theater actors, in the second stage of our Art Project, we not called to play but to be with their own self and perform.

On February 2, 2014, they went to the Trousseau hospital in Paris, to meet french children from association *Les P'tits Cracks*, who are fighting against cancer.

In turn, the French children made drawings for Manobo who responded to their messages on April 15, 2014.

Similarly, the creatives letters would than be merge together through artistic cauterization to form one artwork with a visual image of a Manobo girl giving comfort to a french boy.

## EDUCATIONAL TOUR

The works in question have been exhibited successively at the Petit-Paris school and at the PL Pillar Rouge in Brest, at the Trousseau Hospital in Paris and at the Xavier University Museum in Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines. Thus all the children who took part in the project had the chance to observe the result of their work highlighted by Louie Talents.



## OBJECTIVE

*Meupia Art Project* is a socially engaged art project which aims to communicate art as a reflective and achievable idea through confrontation. It aims to raise public awarress of these talented Manobo children and a symbolic statement of fighting for children's rights.

<b>Title</b>	Letter of Embrace 1 and 2
<b>Contemporary Artist</b>	Louie Talents
<b>Project Proponents</b>	Morgane Quiguer and Louie Talents

## EXHIBITIONS:

### 2015

Xavier-University Museo de Oro ( Cagayan de Oro – Philippines )

### 2014

Trousseau Hospital ( Paris – France )

School of Petit-Paris ( Brest – France )

PL Pillier-Rouge ( Brest – France )



# MANOBO CULTURAL CENTER

## CONSTRUCTION

### LAUNCHING

In 2015, at the request of the Manobo-Tigwahanon community of Kisayab we launched a project to build a cultural center in the heart of the village and for all residents. For more than two years, we set up the project and sought the necessary funds for its realization.

### FUNDING

The money raised through the *Meupia Art Project 1 and 2* projects was entirely allocated to the construction of the Cultural Center. In addition, we obtained a grant from the city of Brest, we benefited from the generosity of certain donors, we organized several fundraisers via the sale of traditional Filipino dishes in Brest and via the crowdfunding platform Ulule.



## CONSTRUCTION AND INAUGURATION

In April 2017, thanks to the efforts of all, the Manobo-Tigwahanon Cultural Center of Kisayab was born.

In May 2017, we had the pleasure of inaugurating the cultural center by participating in the INSIDE/OUT art project of the contemporary artist JR. Thanks to JR's global project to transforming messages of personal identity into works of art, the ceiling of the Kisayab Cultural Center was able to be covered with portraits of the 32 Manobo-Tigwahanon children with whom this incredible adventure began.

### OBJECTIVE

With the creation of this Cultural Center, the community now has a place dedicated to culture, open to all, which we hope will in the long run empower the community in terms of cultural preservation.



## DOCUMENTARY

52'

In order to review the 5 years of the Meupia project, but also to present with humility our volunteer experience in this community, we are currently producing a 52 minutes documentary.

**This documentary also aims to find a local or international NGO capable of taking over the project for the benefit of the Manobo-Tigwahanon community.**

## IN BRIEF...

### CONCLUSION

Our immersion in this community has opened our eyes to the everyday reality of these talented Manobo children who have to take care of their family from an early age, who do not all have the opportunity to go to school. and who for the most part cruelly lacks food.

In this world where we always seem in a hurry, let us not forget that art is not just a luxury but also a social bond, a means of expression, exchange, sharing and a magnificent vector of equality and human dignity.

Through its actions, *Meupia Project* defends the rights of children and remind that according to the International Convention of Childrens Rights, every child has "the right to dream, laugh and play". We are confident that the change will come from them in the coming years. As Jose Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines said : "The children are the future of this country".

We invite you to visit our website [en.compagnieactedeux.com](http://en.compagnieactedeux.com) to view the videos of projects so that we can share with you a part of this fabulous story.





# PRESS COVERAGE



## Saint-Marc École du Petit-Paris. Retour des Philippines

### Pilier Rouge Morgane Quiguer. Théâtre et humanitaire

Après avoir joué à la scène, Morgane Quiguer se lance dans le cinéma. Elle a écrit et réalisé un court-métrage intitulé "Acte 2. Cent vingt parts de poulet pour les Manobo".



Actrice traditionnelle manobo, Morgane Quiguer a écrit et réalisé un court-métrage intitulé "Acte 2. Cent vingt parts de poulet pour les Manobo".



## Pilier Rouge Projet Meupia. Exposition au patronage

Le projet Meupia a pour but de préserver l'artisanat des Philippines. L'exposition au patronage est ouverte du mardi au dimanche de 10h à 18h.

Travaux d'élèves de Petit-Paris et des Philippines. En 2013, à l'occasion du projet Meupia, pendant un mois, les élèves du lycée de Saint-Marc ont travaillé sur des projets de coopération.



De gauche à droite : Schwa, Dapao, et les autres élèves du projet Meupia.

## Pilier Rouge Acte 2. Cent vingt parts de poulet pour les Manobo



Tradition des Philippines : le poulet est un aliment de base pour les Manobo.

## Saint-Marc Petit-Paris. Un projet avec les Philippines



Morgane Quiguer et l'association Les Talents ont présenté aux élèves des classes de CE2, CM1 et CM2 du Petit-Paris le projet de coopération avec les Philippines.

Les élèves de CE2-CM1 et CM2 du groupe scolaire du Petit-Paris ont participé à une convention de partenariat avec la commune de Saint-Marc, accompagnée d'un artiste philippin, Louie Talents, à l'occasion du projet. La convention était déjà intéressante, à y a quel...



**Bukidnon children's artworks showcased in France**

The children's artworks were showcased in France during the project Meupia.



AUG 16, 2018



AUG 15, 2018

### Pilier Rouge Patronage. Succès de la paella caritative



Le Patronage du Pilier Rouge, partenaire du projet Meupia, a organisé une soirée de solidarité internationale pour présenter la culture du peuple Manobo du Mindanao.



