

Unique miniature trains are leading visitors to the King Baudouin Foundation's BRAFA stand!

You probably wouldn't expect to see a model railway alongside some of the most renowned names in the art world. This year, however, that is precisely what you will find on the King Baudouin Foundation's stand.

At the age of 14, Raymond Legrand, an enthusiastic modeller, embarked on what would become his life's work: a model railway with reproductions of real early 20th century trains from Belgium's National Railway Company (SNCB/NMBS). He built everything himself: rails, sleepers, locomotives, carriages and buildings. He chose a scale (1:22.5) that would allow him to add all the details he wanted. His scale models are astonishingly realistic. The model railway network, which runs to hundreds of metres, contains reproductions up to 1.20m long, 30 cm high and weighing up to 30 kg. He spent between 600 and 1200 hours working on each carriage. Every item was made by hand and testifies in its own way to his remarkable finesse and precision. The locomotives are driven by electric motors, which means they can move along the railway under their own power, pulling carriages or freight wagons behind them. The railway network is completed by a control desk, an optical control panel and the necessary electrical hardware.

His unique life's work has now been preserved forever, thanks to a donation to the King Baudouin Foundation. As a visitor to the stand at Brafa you will experience these trains and the wealth of passion and history that they carry. If that is not enough to persuade you, the King Baudouin Foundation's stand will also be featuring some impressive modern and contemporary artworks, including paintings by Serge Vandercam and Roger Somville and photographs by Jan Yoors. Abstract artworks from Wallonia, created by Joseph Lacasse, Raoul Ubac and Pol Bury, will also be presented alongside pieces by leading Belgian (interior) architects such as Jules Wabbes and Jacques Dupuis. Lovers of antiques and decorative art will find French furniture, portraits and porcelain from the Sèvres table service that belonged to the Princess de Lamballe, as well as some remarkable 18th century busts and a unique coconut cup.

Don't miss the train: visit the King Baudouin Foundation at stand 46 A at the Brafa exhibition!

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The Brafa art exhibition is running from 26 January to 2 February 2020 Tour & Taxis, Havenlaan 88, 1000 Brussel Open from 11:00 to 19:00 More info: <u>https://www.brafa.art</u>

For more information about the King Baudouin Foundation and its efforts to preserve our heritage, visit: <u>www.heritage-kbf.be</u> <u>www.kbs-frb.be</u>

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