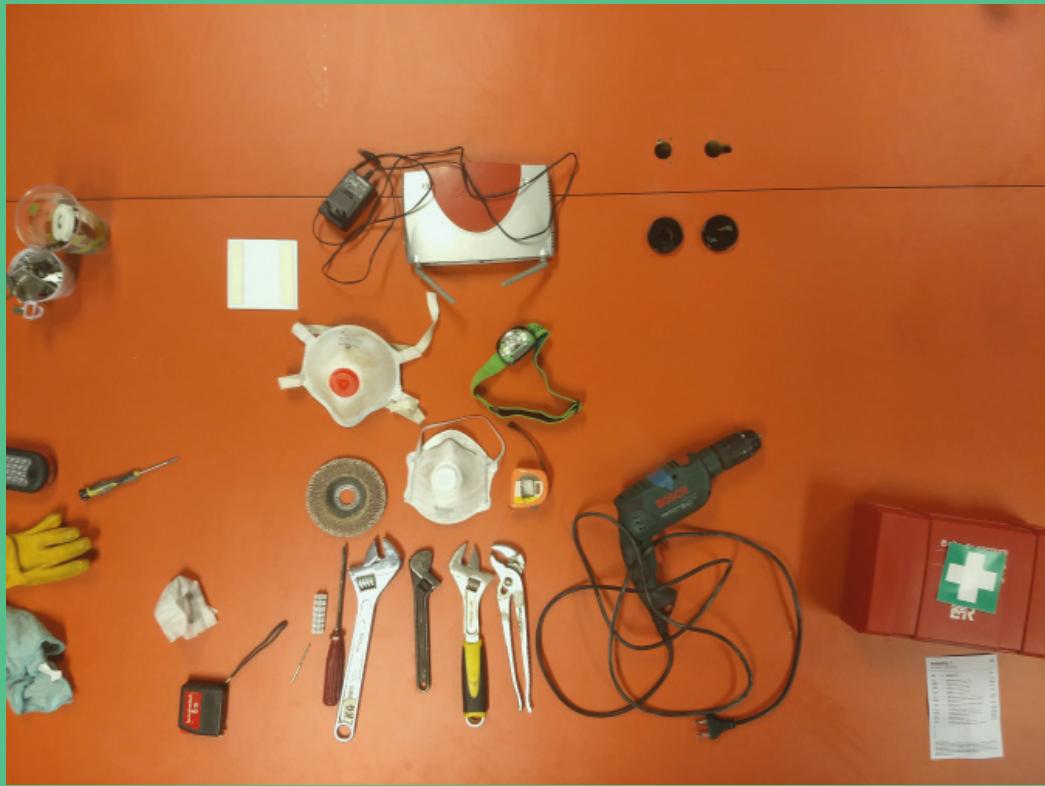


LEVEL FIVE*



Level Five is an artist run cooperative studio floor located just steps from the Beurs/Bourse in Brussels. On the fifth level about 75 artists share a floor which houses individual and shared studio's, a shared desk area, a shared kitchen, and common spaces.

* Level Five can refer to a 1997 French art film by Chris Marker, to the terror threat level scale of the OCAD on which level 4 is the highest 'very serious' stage of alert, or an artist run cooperative studio floor in Brussels.

The organisation of the floor is loosely based on council politics and democratic models of decision making and action. There is a council elected from the members of Level Five, which organises the basic obligations of the organisation (asbl Level Five vzw). Off paper there is a monthly forum where members of Level Five can bring forward issues and proposals concerning the everyday environment in order to collectively give form to the common of the studio floor.

The common spaces are there as an open space where Level Five members and visitors can meet. They are conceived as a social space that can transform in the different shapes social action can take: share a drink, watch a screening, view an exhibition, attend a lecture, participate in a discussion, ... We feel that in this way the gap between production and presentation in the arts, which is the cause of alienation of the arts from society, is narrowed down on Level Five.

From the initiation of Level Five there has been made an effort to have a diverse group, both in background as in the content and form of artistic work. The group is very diverse in roots, gender, and languages. It is a cause though that is necessary to keep on discussing between us and to see how to take action towards inequality and racism within the arts and society at large. Concerning diversity in content and form of artistic work Level Five covers a wide range from painters to performers, from academics to architects, from developers to designers, from sculptors to social-activist. This also supports our view of art as a social and democratic form, since only within an aesthetic plurality all perspectives can find expression.

*Level Five
Rue Paul Devaux straat 3
1000 Brussels
level5bxl@gmail.com*