

# “Postcard Politics”: Exhibition at Halles Saint Géry, Brussels

5th July – 28th August 2013



We live in a world with complex problems which are sometimes so daunting that they lead us to “switch off” and to disengage. The aim of this project is to attempt to “reactivate” the public with satirical cartoons which strive to cut to the crux of particular issues in order to prompt reflection and discussion.

“Postcard Politics” is a collection of cartoons dealing with current social, political, environmental and economic issues. The pictures are bright and colorful with each one presenting a serious theme and inviting further thought. Some of the images present a clear message while others leave a certain level of ambiguity. This is intentional as the idea is not to preach but rather to stimulate and, if any viewer draws a different conclusion, that is simply “food for the debate”. The most important thing is that both reflection and discussion take place!

Alongside the debate, it is important that individuals take action both to change their own life-styles and to put pressure on governments to implement changes which benefit not only their own electorate but also the planet and those societies in distant lands which are impacted both by environmental changes and by economic policies (e.g. terms of trade).

The author of the pictures is Alan Mitcham, an Englishman living in Cologne, who has been designing and distributing these pictures (for example, as postcards) since 2008. Alan has held exhibitions of his work in Cologne, Frankfurt and London and regularly sends packages of cards to organisations and personalities who are working to improve the world. He has also had written contributions published in the English and the German press.

From 5th July until 28th August a selection of these pictures will be displayed in large format on the outside walls of “Les Halles St. Géry” in Brussels. This means that also passers-by and guests at the various cafés will experience exposure to the project. The pictures will also be available as postcards for visitors to take away to either keep or to use for sending constructively critical comments to those with the power to change things.

Further information can be found on the website of “Les Halles St. Géry” ([www.sintgorikshallen.be](http://www.sintgorikshallen.be)) and Postcard Politics ([www.postcardpolitics.org](http://www.postcardpolitics.org)).