



By Sandra SMETS, September 10 2015, Leiden, Netherlands

Global Imaginations in De Meelfabriek Leiden **BREAKING FIXED CONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE WORLD**

“... ”

But the very best inversion is that of Ghana ThinkTank, the highlight of this exhibition. This American artist collective takes questions from westerners and submits them to think tanks it established in Mexico, Indonesia, and the Palestinian areas. For example: how do I give my children sex education? Watch Animal Planet with them. How do I make sure my children from a minority at school fit in? Organize a musical play about tolerance and thus activate the conversation.

And then comes the painful question submitted to several think tanks: How dare we westerners to bother you, from countries so much poorer, with our problems? In the video you see a group of young men in Indonesia thinking about this question: yes, they sometimes feel this inequality as well once in a while, but is the one who asks the question talking about economical differences, poverty? Is the question originated out of humbleness or a sense of superiority? In a few seconds they dissect the question completely. On another screen Sudanese refugees discuss the question from a different angle than you would suspect. ‘We have quite some experience with problems, so maybe we are the right persons to submit them to.’

...”