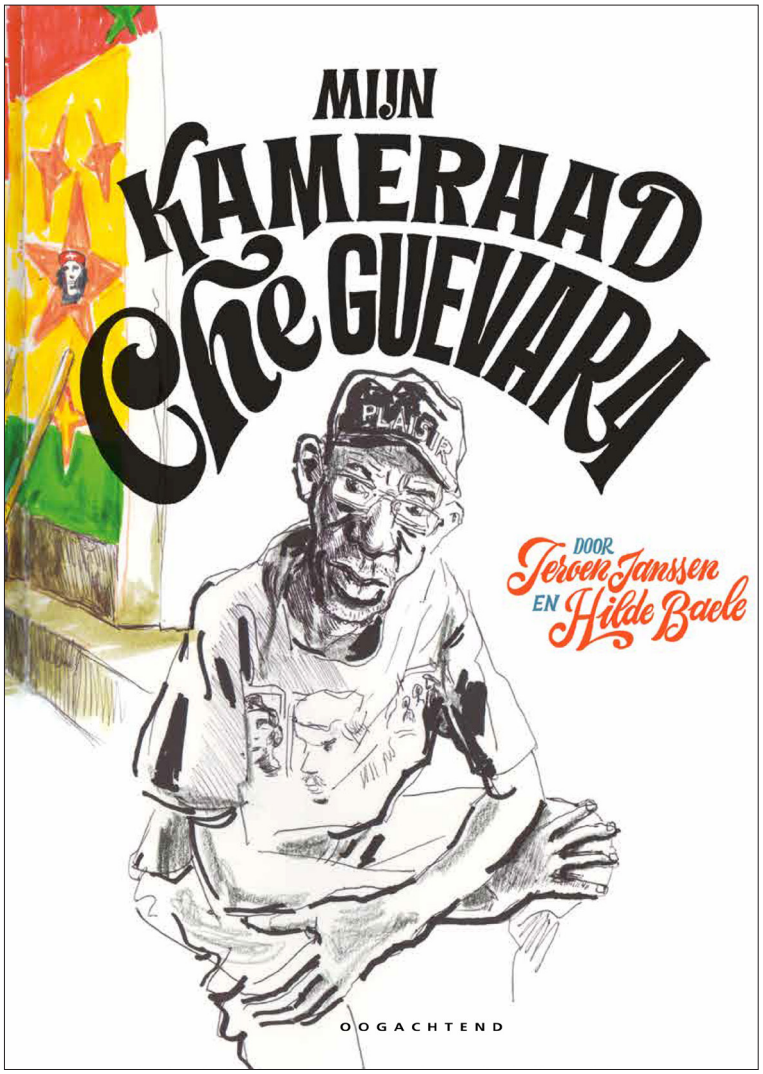

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Original title : Mijn kameraad Che Guevara
(Oogachtend, 2020. Hardcover, 24x28 cm, 160 pp.)
Rights sold : French (Édition l'oeuf)

My Comrade Che Guevara

JEROEN JANSSEN & HILDE BAELE

In 2008 journalist Hilde Baele was sitting on a bench in Kigali, Rwanda, when she met Mzee Jerôme Sebasoni, a gardener, who told her his incredible life story. He claimed to have fought against the Belgians and to have been a close comrade of **Che Guevara**'s in the struggle to oust the Congolese dictator Mobutu. Later, Guevara took him to Cuba, he said, where he found a wife and had a child. Baele couldn't find out any more though: soon after their conversation Sebasoni disappeared without a trace. Baele roped in her illustrator friend Jeroen Janssen to help her find Che's guide and get to the bottom of his claims.

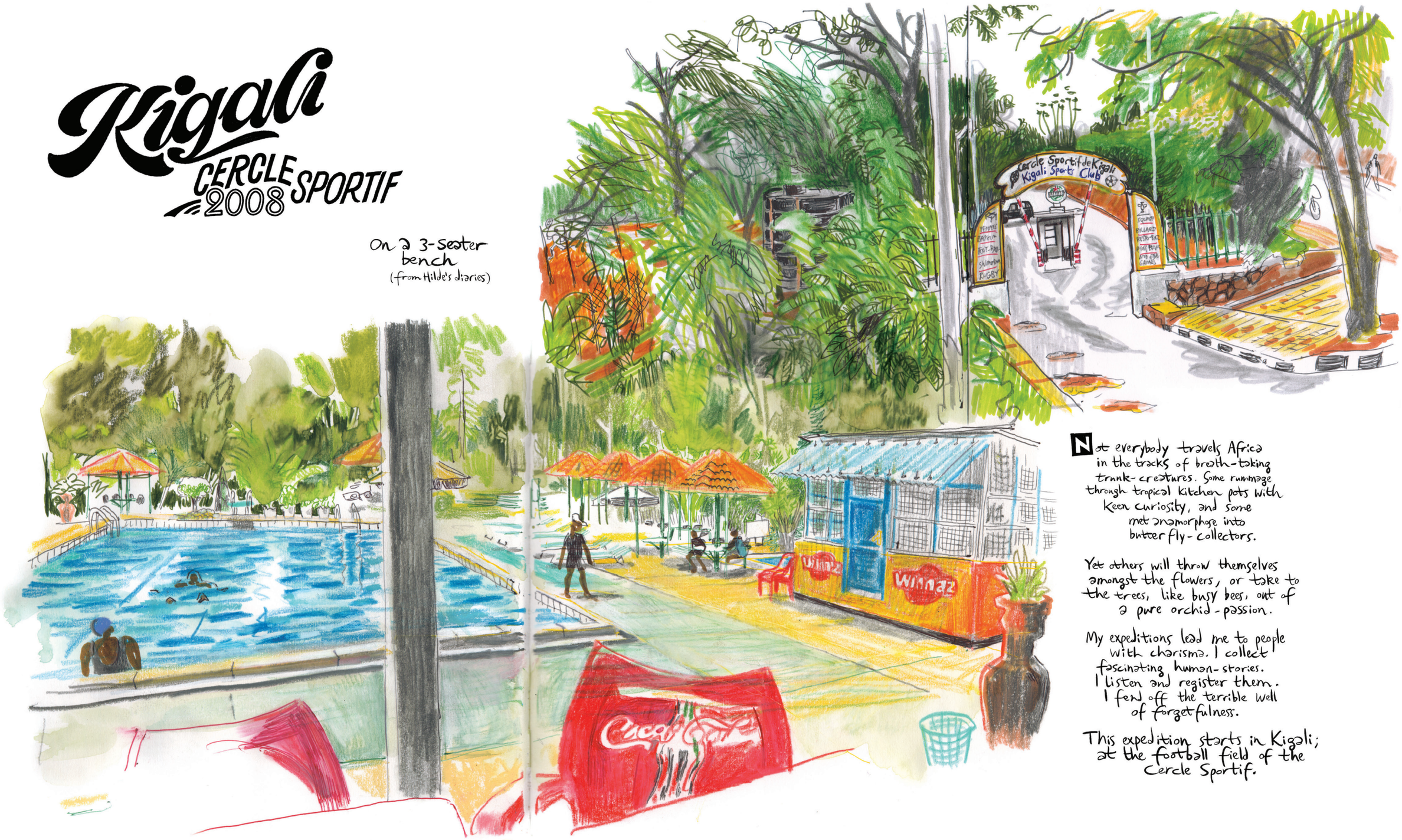
Jeroen Janssen (b. 1963) *has been a postman, teacher, driver, gardener, library assistant and has worked with psychiatric patients. He has always had a great passion for drawing, but did not start making comics until the 1990s. When he was working at an art school in Rwanda, he started turning true stories into comic strips. This approach has become his trademark and he does not shy away from difficult topics. His work includes an investigation of the threatened Flemish village of Doel and he has also depicted Ecuador and Rwanda with a great eye for detail. He received the Bronzen Adhemar oeuvre award in 2018*

Hilde Baele (b. 1967) *is a writer and illustrator currently living in Mauritania. Her commitment to advancing women's and children's rights, the right to information and self-determination is passionate, and she brings the full force of her imagination to this crusade. Humour is an important element in the books and didactic materials that she creates.*

Kigali

CERCLE SPORTIF 2008

On a 3-seater bench
(from Hilde's diaries)



Not everybody travels Africa in the tracks of breath-taking trunk-creatures. Some rummage through tropical kitchen pots with keen curiosity, and some met amamorphose into butterfly-collectors.

Yet others will throw themselves amongst the flowers, or take to the trees, like busy bees, out of a pure orchid-passion.

My expeditions lead me to people with charisma. I collect fascinating human-stories. I listen and register them. I fend off the terrible well of forgetfulness.

This expedition starts in Kigali; at the football field of the Cercle Sportif.