

Graffiti artist captures lightness of clouds to lift spirits

Denis Balibouse August 26, 2021 11:22 PM EDT Last Updated 3 days ago

MOLESON, Switzerland, Aug 26 (Reuters) - A French graffiti artist's monumental mountaintop project aims to encourage a more contemplative approach to life by inspiring childlike wonder at clouds drifting by.

The 1,500 square metre (16,145 square foot) painting "Un nouveau souffle" (A New Lease on Life) by French artist Saype, 32, graces the summit of the Moleson peak in the western Swiss Alps.

Using biodegradable paints made from natural pigments such as coal and chalk, it depicts a little boy blowing bubbles in an area known for its clouds, seeking to reflect the link with children's skygazing, he told Reuters.





1/4

French artist SAYPE gives the final touch to his land art painting "Un nouveau souffle" at the Moleson summit near Gruyeres, Switzerland August

25, 2021. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse

"I think we are in a world that is super heavy and we need a little lightness and I believe that the clouds are also a bit of a dream, the imagination," he said.

"When we were kids we were always imagining shapes in the clouds. And I believe that now is also a moment we must breathe and -- also with lightness -- relearn to create by reverie the world of tomorrow."

Known for massive works of graffiti on grass best seen from the air, Saype has also adorned sites ranging from an impoverished shantytown in South Africa to the lawn in front of the United Nations' European headquarters in Geneva [read more](#).

Writing by Michael Shields; editing by Philippa Fletcher

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