A young boy in a blue jacket is reaching up towards a large, shiny red balloon. The scene is set in a street with traditional buildings and a tree in the background. The image is dimly lit, with the red balloon being the most prominent and brightly colored element.

Lam Chung Yan:
"Adventure in Belleville"
(A pictogram for Albert Lamorisse's
The Red Balloon, 1956)

SM2105 Project 02: Pictogram

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Statement

The reason for me to choose *The Red Balloon* as the reference piece for my pictogram is that I like its comedic theme. The story is simple and lighthearted, yet the meaning behind amazes me when I dig into the historical background of it.

The film was to bring people out of the neurological atmosphere after World War II, to let people see hope and have faith in the world. It is easy to lose hope in humanity or in ourselves as the world develops. I think in this era and the current situation of Hong Kong, or even in the world, hope, and faith are still always needed.

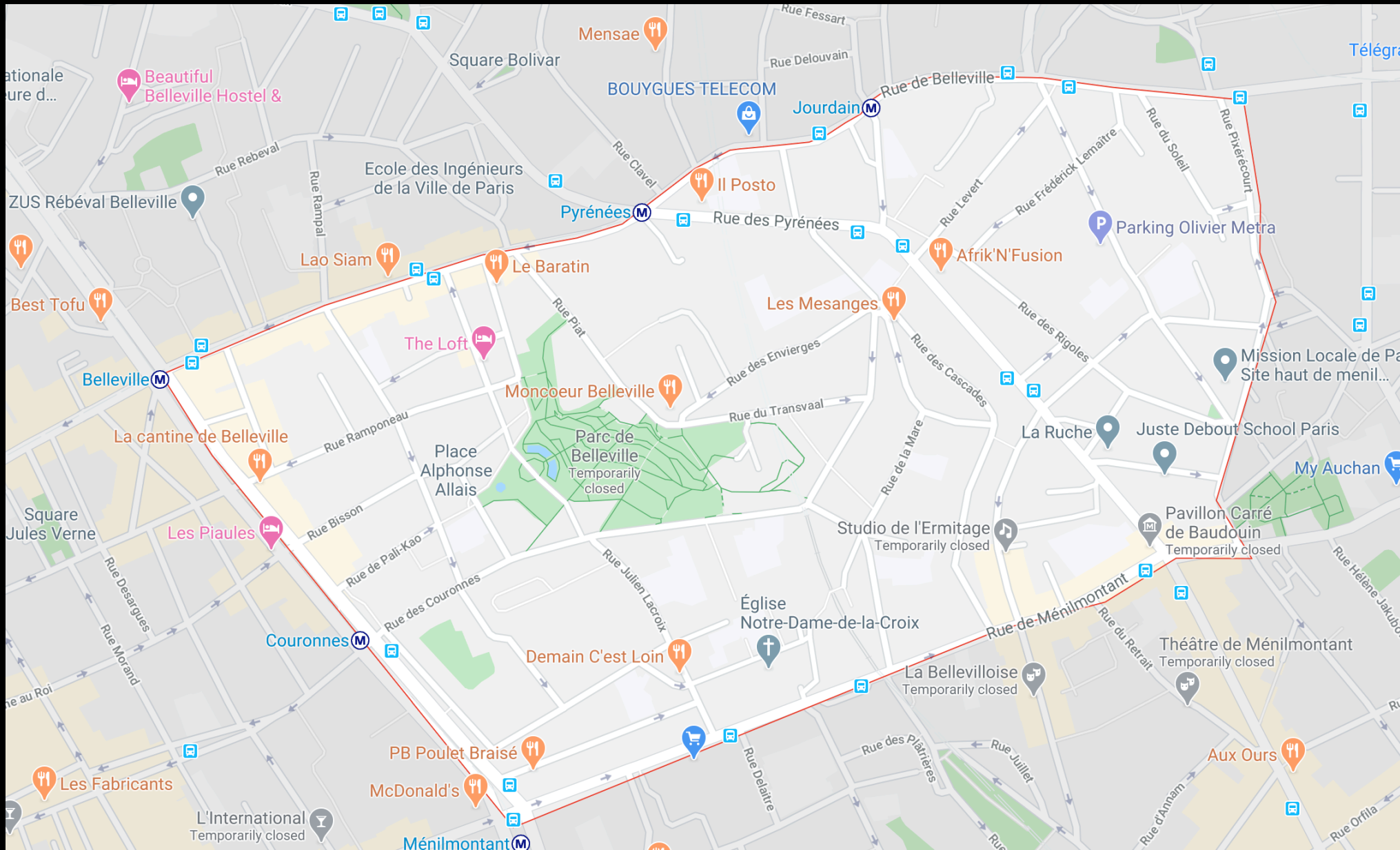
The short film used a child's point of view to convey the whole story. It turned the audience into a child to look at the whole story, to re-experience the innocent mind of a child. So the style of my pictogram is also childlike. I want to make it as a "treasure map" so that people can experience the story in my pictogram using a child's point of view.



Map of Belleville, Paris

Legend

- As I mentioned in my statement, I intended to make a childlike style pictogram, so the whole pictogram is hand drawn by myself.
- The map in the pictogram is drawn according to the map of Belleville, Paris. Where the film was shot. And the location of the home (house icon), bus stop (bus icon), school (book icon), church (building with a cross icon), bakery (bread icon), and battlefield (area of grey), was drawn according to the actual location of where they shot the scenes in the film.
- The grey area is the battlefield where the fight in the climax of the film happened. The shape is the actual shape of the park in Belleville.



Map of Belleville, Paris

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Belleville,+75020+Paris,+France/@48.8711911,2.3822937,16z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1sox47e66deb8dcf4d1d:ox6193d771823c73f6!8m2!3d48.8728179!4d2.389461>

Legend

- The timeline of the story is highlighted by the arrows and the numbered events in the pictogram.
- In the film, the background is in a greyish tone, to give prominence to the red balloon, representing hope. Therefore, the color of the pictogram is mainly in black and white. Only the balloons are colored.
- I intentionally put everything inside the border of the map, except the drawing of the final event where all the balloons in the city join to lift the boy into the air. It represents the balloons not only took the boy into the air, but brought the boy to the outside of the frontier and broke free of the frame and restrictions.