

Oscar Kokoschka's obsession



As early as 1908, the Austrian painter Oskar Kokoschka made a name for himself among the emerging Viennese expressionists, who demolished the 'classical pillars of art' in Europe and replaced them with 'modernist constructions of concrete and steel'.

Kokoschka's work is still the subject of research for numerous art historians. In this article, we will focus on an issue related to his personal life.

To be precise - an episode that led the artist into what some believe was his most lucrative and creative period, but also his most self-destructive.

Beautiful Alma, turns out to be a superior temptress.

As usual, there is a love story behind this wave of inspiration that lasted from 1912 to 1914.

In 1912 the painter met Alma Mahler, who was known among the bohemians and artists of Vienna.

Alma was the widow of Gustav Mahler, an Austrian composer who had died a year earlier.

Although death had separated the couple, the two were already estranged during the last years of Gustav's life, as Alma had an affair with Walter Gropius, then a young architect, and later the founder and head of the Bauhaus school.





Kokoschka has received various awards for his versatile oeuvre, in particular the Erasmus Prize. (In 1960 jointly with Chagall) and an honorary degree from Oxford.

Kokoschka enchanted by Alma.

The vulnerable Kokoschka lived up to her reputation as a superior seductress and was immediately enchanted by Alma's looks and personality.

Despite her relationship with Gropius, she considered it appropriate to enter into a relationship with the painter, whose influence was steadily growing in artistic circles.

He insisted she pose as his model. He painted numerous portraits of her, while she quietly nurtured his obsession.

The Bride of the Wind.

The love affair produced one of Kokoschka's most appreciated paintings; The Tempest, also known as - The Bride of the Wind - in which he and Alma lie side by side in a loving embrace.

Kokoschka was sickly jealous and frenzied with longing for her, that beautiful woman with that large bosom and that narrow waist, and if you are also an expressionist painter then you will soon be short of brushes and paint.



Kokoschka drove himself and everyone around him to madness.

Kokoschka drove not only himself but everyone around him to madness. Kokoschka's mother threatened to kill Alma if they didn't end the relationship, and patrolled her street with a firearm to reinforce the threat.

Eventually Alma Mahler broke off relations with Oskar Kokoschka around 1914.

As you might guess, he didn't handle that very well. In several paintings the rejection with Alma Mahler is the main subject.

The unborn child that Alma Mahler had aborted is also often reflected in his work.

In some works, Kokoschka refers to this child in the form of a cat.

Injured and deeply depressed.

He began to drink excessively, became depressed and prone to scandal. The breakup of the relationship couldn't have come at a worse time.

World War I was heating up and the Austro-Hungarian Empire was in dire need of volunteers.

The heartbroken painter decided to join the Imperial Dragoons' Cavalry Regiment in 1915 and was sent to the Ukrainian front.

Warfare must have seemed so romantic to him at the time, although reality almost took his life.





Woman in Blue 1919



Shortly after his arrival, he was seriously injured by a bayonet in the chest and a bullet in the head. Miraculously, he survived the ordeal and after treatment in Dresden, Kokoschka was again sent to the front, this time to Italy.

During this time Alma Mahler re-established her relationship with Walter Gropius, who also served during the war, and the two were married while on leave.

Mental problems.

In 1916 Oscar was injured again and was sent to Dresden for the second time. On this occasion, the doctors noted that the artist, who became a soldier, was also struggling with mental problems. They decided to delay his release until he was fully recovered.

Fortunately for Oskar, the war was over in the meantime.

In 1918 he returned to Vienna, still moved by the loss of his beloved.

On his return, Kokoschka learned of Alma's second marriage, his hopes of ever winning her back faded.

Life-size mannequin takes the place of Alma.

In 1919 he therefore had a life-size doll made that looked just like Alma Mahler. A seamstress from Stuttgart made for him the image of his great love. In his numerous letters to the seamstress, Kokoschka described in detail both the physical qualities of his former lover and the feeling she evoked in him.

Disinfected horse hair.

"Please allow my sense of touch to take pleasure in those places where fat or muscle layers suddenly give way to sinewy skin. For the first layer (inside), use fine, curly horsehair that must be disinfected first. Can the mouth be opened? and does she have teeth and a tongue? " he asked the seamstress.

Kokoschka hoped to find a lifelike replacement for his Alma with the doll. After numerous interventions and adjustments, the client was satisfied with the end product.

He dressed the copy of Alma Mahler in expensive clothes and took her to bed.

He also portrayed himself with the doll in his paintings.

From bizarre to insane.

From that moment on it went from bizarre to insane. The painter ordered his servants to spread rumors and gossip about the doll and consider her a to be living woman.

He often rode in the carriage with his artificial wife so that he could be seen in public in the presence of a lady, suggesting that she was indeed real.

He continued to make portraits with the doll as a model. In every other role, however, the mannequin failed to replace Alma, the charismatic femme fatale of the Vienna art scene.





Termination of a perverse relationship.

Despite all his best efforts, it soon became known among his friends that he was living with a life-size replica of Alma Mahler, and after some reasoning, he decided it was best for him to end the perverse relationship.

Getting over Alma wouldn't go down without a proper celebration. So Kokoschka organized an evening bacchanal with his friends, where he got terribly drunk.

Look-a-like Alma is ritually beheaded.

In a fit of intoxicated rage, the artist took the doll, sat her on a chair in his garden, and spilled wine on her. To complete the ritual, he wielded an ax and decapitated the look-a-like.

As this performance was the highlight of the party, the painter went to bed and immediately fell asleep. The next morning he was in for a surprise.

The local police raided his home because the body of a headless woman had been found outside in the garden.

After Kokoschka had explained the situation in embarrassment, peace returned.

For the last twenty years of his life, Kokoschka has been a successful and celebrated artist.

He died in a hospital in Montreux in 1980.

https://www.oskar-kokoschka.ch

Kunstenaar of hobbyist?

dekwast.nl

Maria Magdalena. the Exhibition!



19 feb - 29 aug 2021 Museum: Catharijne Convent. Utrecht - NL

It's time for Mary Magdalene! Meet this mysterious and inspiring woman of extremes. She has been stirring up emotions for over 2000 years. She now gets her own exhibition that she deserves: 'a must see next spring !

The Many Faces of Mary Magdalene. A woman of extremes

Meet the mysterious Mary Magdalene and her many faces: from crown witness, sinner to feminist. It is associated with the blending of sexuality, sensuality and sin; a beacon of hope and a feminist icon.

And was she married or not to Jesus? We are proud to present a grand exhibition dedicated to this fascinating woman who has continued to inspire for 2,000 years. Join us on a journey of discovery through historical sources, impressive paintings, contemporary visual art and popular culture. Come face to face with Mary Magdalene, and unravel her imagery through the ages.

Check before you plan your visit their website <u>www.catharijneconvent.nl</u> for the latest information and Covid19 measures to visit this exhibition.

Lange Nieuwstraat 38, 3512 PH Utrecht info@catharijneconvent.nl



Actor Sir Anthony Hopkins earns some extra pocket money.



"Everything I paint is complete madness"

Sir Anthony Hopkins the legendary interpreter of Hannibal Lecter in 'Silence of the Lambs' is now also a world-famous painter and artist.

The Welsh-born actor is now 79 years old, and has started painting 12 years ago at the instigation of his wife.

His love for art was born because his father took him to church as a child. He loved the stained glass windows. His preference for bright colors also arose there.

"Everything I paint is complete madness. It is a reflection of what's going on in my head, they are accidents of the moment "



His works, which he calls 'accidents of the moment', are painted with acrylic and sell smoothly between \$ 4,000 and \$ 80,000. Nice for a pocket money.

If you ask Anthony Hopkins about the meaning of a particular painting or drawing, the answer may surprise you.

He says, "I don't think there is any meaning in it. I just paint. I discover while I continue and I do not analyze, I just go for it, they are often accidents of the moment ".

His studio is an organized chaos.

His studio is filled with different paints, oils, acrylic paint, tempera bottles, pens, markers, brushes, canvases; it is all a riot of color and possibilities. Oddly enough, even with paintings of all sizes on the walls, the studio shows a sense of organized chaos.

"I don't have to prove anything"

Hopkins insists he has no idea of the results while practicing his art.

"I'm not afraid. I don't feel like I have to prove anything ".

This freedom of expectation and judgment allows him to run in the direction of his imagination at any time.









"My work must be childish, because I am a child "

Hopkins' paintings all share the power and vibrancy hidden behind the eyes. He says, "The face is not important. It is the eyes that are the most haunting part of a person's soul. It's very primitive. It's childish art. It must be childish because I am a child. I have recently discovered that I enjoy everything that is supposedly wrong with me. I used to take myself so seriously, but not anymore. I allow myself to enjoy the exciting nature of life. "

Hopkins has no plans to change the way he works anytime soon.

'I've never had such an academic discipline to work according to rules. I work with trial and error. I think I'm pure instinct.'

While working on a painting in his studio, he says, "I don't know where this one is going. But I find that very satisfying. Everything is utter madness. It's a reflection of what's going on in my head. I tell younger people they should be like this. Enjoy it, this is it.

That's how we were made, and It's the way I was made "

Would you like to personally admire Sir Antony's work? Then you have to go to Hawaii for that.

https://anthonyhopkinsart.com

The Hill of Crosses in Lithuania





There is a special monument near the town of Siauliai in Lithuania. Pilgrims placed thousands of crosses on a small hill over a period of about two hundred years, creating a spectacular image.

In the Middle Ages, a wooden castle stood on the hill, about 12 kilometers north of the present-day city of Siauliai. This castle was destroyed in the midfourteenth century by members of the Livonian Order. According to some reports, Lithuanians would have started placing crosses on the historic hill from the mid-1800s, because they believed they were dealing with a sacred site.

In Soviet times, when religion was banned, peasants from surrounding kolkhoz (state farms) were even ordered to destroy the crosses and flatten the hill. This also could not stop the Lithuanians. At night new crosses were often placed, which eventually resulted in a new hill. The hill was razed to the ground several more times after this.

Only under the rule of Mikhail Gorbachev was the battle finally halted.

Placed crosses remained from that moment on. There were an estimated 50,000 crosses that year. It is not clear how many there are now, but it is certain that there are many more.

In addition to crosses, the hill also includes statues of the Virgin Mary, prayer chains and thousands of small statues of saints.

Decorating crosses is a Lithuanian tradition recognized by UNESCO.



Singer Grace Slick of the Psychedelic rock band 'Jefferson Airplane' turned 80, she has 57 cats and nowadays she paints rabbits.

Grace would replace the pregnant singer of Jefferson Airplane only for a few months. That singer never came back, and Grace stayed.

Any 'older youth' interested in rock music will undoubtedly remember her performance with the band at the Woodstock festival in 1969.

Beautiful Grace could swear like a boat worker and drink like a Templar.

The tough and beautiful Grace in a white outfit, these clothes would still do very well today as 'Bohemian chic' or 'Ibiza Style'.

When you see her singing with a finger in her ear, because she couldn't hear herself, you can't believe she could swear like a boat worker and drink like a templar.

The lyrics Grace wrote for the song White Rabbit seems to be about a bad LSD trip, but if you listen carefully it turns out to be very innocent and about Alice in Wonderland.





"I just wanted to have a good time".

Grace Slick couldn't have picked a better time to join the Jefferson Airplane. "When the band became so successful in 1967, I was in the right place at the right time. It was as if you were invited to every important party, when you arrived there you were in the spotlight all evening and you were paid afterwards. That was also my ambition: have fun ".

Grace had different views than her colleagues. "They were on stage for political or artistic reasons. Not me: I just wanted to have a good time ". Grace, now 80, spends her days with her 57 cats, painting and swearing on the news.

A look back.

Girls like Grace were trying to end the 'Victorian era' of rock music.

In the international media in 1968 the role of Grace Slick was described as revolutionary. She was more than a vocalist. Bands featuring a female singer were rare at the time.

Grace later says: "I understood that interest in me. You have to see it this way: if you have a group of 5 cows and one pig, the attention goes to the pig because it is different ".

Girls like Grace were putting an end to the 'Victorian era' of rock music.

Ladies started to infiltrate pop music, think of Janis Joplin, Mama Cass, Linda Ronstadt, Gladys Knight, Cindy Lauper and so on. In the Netherlands, which called itself "progressive", Jefferson Airplane did not mean much at the time. The singles "Somebody to love" and "White Rabbit", for example, did not even make to the Dutch 'top 40' best sellers. Interest was also limited in England.

Jefferson Airplane seemed to remain a cult group.

Renewed interest came after performing at Woodstock 1969.

In the fall of 1968, the group, including Grace, went on tour with 'The Doors'.

They sadly got no further than to act as support act.

That was also the case on a memorable evening at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, where 'The Doors' lead singer Jim Morrison was unable to perform.

Grace later learned that Jim had climbed onto the stage during her performance and was acting rather silly. Everyone thought it was part of the act. Morrison had later on to be removed on a stretcher.

In the spring of 1970 the group came to Rotterdam to perform at the Kralingen pop festival. (Kralingen is a beautiful and large park on the outskirts of Rotterdam)

Jefferson Airplane's performance at Woodstock renewed interest in the band.

However, the band was not a unity and did not last long.

Soon there were all kinds of side projects The single "We Built This City" reached the top, first position on the Billboard chart in 1985. It was her biggest success - much to the dismay of the hip crowd.



Grace Slick and Janis Joplin (Woodstock)

A life full of drugs and alcohol.

Grace was also active in other areas most notably taking alcoholics, LSD and other drugs. That did not benefit her health and appearance.

On a YouTube video some years ago she had changed beyond recognition. Rather than being a 'slender pine' with fine hair, she appeared with a plump figure and a nearly bald head.

However, it didn't seem to bother her.

Grace cheerfully told her that she had taken a new path, from singer to painter.

"You want bunny? I give you bunny!"

Grace no longer sings her former hit in public. But she exploited white rabbits in a different way - as a painter. "Do you know that I paint a lot of them? If you want to have a rabbit, leave it to me. In all shapes and sizes. Of course I get a lot of requests for white rabbits. Extra commission is charged on this. You want bunny? I give you bunny ".

"I Prefer not to be a permanent part of the art world, I show myself during an exhibition, see if there are enough snacks, and than I get away quickly."

"I travel a lot, but mostly to galleries. I've been living off that for eight years now. My agent arranges exhibitions and the first two days I show my face there. I talk to people, make sure there are enough snacks and the viewers drink a lot so that they are more likely to buy something. Yes, that's how it works in that world. No matter how good or bad you are as an artist, they will drink.



But I never stay in that art world longer than two days because I prefer not to be a permanent part of it either. I paint, send it to my agent, who decides where and how it is sold and whether I have to drop by for text and explanation. And snacks ".

When I hear 'White Rabbit' somewhere, I immediately think "Royalties" .. !!!

Again and again Grace emphasizes that she has distanced herself from her past in pop music. Her words also show that she never really took her role as a singer seriously.

"Now and then I am still in San Francisco, because of my paintings, and then I happen to drive past places from back then. Surprisingly, that doesn't affect me, because I have experienced time and left it behind. When I hear "White Rabbit" these days, I immediately think: royalties ".

I don't know why I'm still alive.

She is not shy about her own drug experiences and those of the members of Jefferson Airplane.

"Marijuana made me paranoid. I only used that in combination with drinks.

LSD was actually very enjoyable and I could handle it well. Never had bad trips or gone crazy. No flashbacks either, because I simply always had good experiences. With LSD, the environment was also very important. The people around you, where you are, what your mood is.

Some of us didn't survive, especially because of the drugs. I don't know why I'm still alive. No idea! That's just the way it went. But no one was then deliberately killed.

We were too busy getting drunk stoned "

Source:

Willem Bemboon / Harry Knipschild / Madhouse Magazine.

Link to youtube video: White Rabbit Jefferson Airplane during Woodstock https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vl89g2SwMh4

Link to trailer Alice in Wonderland (Tim Burton) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9POCgSRVvf0

> One pill makes you larger And one pill makes you small, And the ones that mother gives you Don't do anything at all. Go ask Alice When she's ten feet tall And if you go chasing rabbits And you know you're going to fall, Tell 'em a hookah smoking caterpillar Has given you the call. Call Alice When she was just small. When the men on the chessboard Get up and tell you where to go And you've just had some kind of mushroom And your mind is moving low. Go ask Alice I think she'll know. When logic and proportion Have fallen sloppy dead, And the White Knight is talking backwards And the Red Queen's "off with her head!" Remember what the dormouse said: "Feed your head. Feed your head. Feed your head"





Happy Birthday Grace Slick, Madhouse Magazine

Photographer: David King Copyright 2014 David King

Licht

Door't verduisterd venster van mijn hart viel ineens zonder dat 'k 't wist licht naar binnen.

Een nog nooit ingevulde blinde vlek.

Met licht vult de nacht de dag met jou.



Desire for eternal youth

'Kunsthal Rotterdam'

23 januari 2021 t/m 13 juni 2021

Kunsthal Rotterdam kicks off the new year with a multimedia exhibition about the timeless longing for eternal youth.

Using fashion, photography and video, the "Youthquake" exhibition shows how youth sells.

In visual culture, being young is exuberantly celebrated. In the street scene, advertisements and (social) media, the desire to stay forever young is widely propagated. It is recommended to contact De Kunsthal by telephone before planning a visit. In connection with Covid19.

Kunsthal Rotterdam Museumpark, Westzeedijk 341 3015 AA Rotterdam Informatielijn: 010 - 44 00 301 Kunsthal Algemeen: 010 - 44 00 300

Panamarenko followed Icarus

He is praised for his maladaptive behavior, also known as creativity.



Antwerp (Belgium) artist Panamarenko is best known for his wonderful constructions of submarines, imaginary vehicles, machines and assemblies, often linked to his fixation for flying.

His designs of portable helicopter devices attest to this. The wing beat of insects and birds also fascinates him. Time and again he displays his desire to overcome gravity. He explains it in his book The Mechanism of Gravity from 1975.

Bombers flying overhead in World War II made him gaze into the sky mesmerized in childlike innocence. As an adult, he still remembers the sound of the German murderous V1 Rockets above the Schelde city (Antwerp).

The basis for his interest had been laid.

In edition 5 of Kunststof Magazine, volume 2014, we introduced you to the Belgian artists Panamarenko (1940-2019).

Because Panamarenko has stolen our hearts, we would like to bring him under the spotlight one more time.

Panamarenko sounds more melodic then Henri Van Herwegen.

It is a corruption of Panteleimon Ponomarenko, (a Soviet politician), a name the artist happened to hear on the radio, and Pan American Airlines.



You step into a boy's dream.

His assemblages that speak to the imagination have both technical and artistic allures. They invite you to be approached with reason and feeling. They are often constructions of complex machines, ingenious in their apparent simplicity.

Formulas and theses to study the airspace and gauge the depth of the sea are included. After a lot of studying complicated scientific formulations and abstract terms, he does intend to make his creations work.

Sometimes that works and when this is not the case, despite his frantic tinkering, something emerges that eclipses the technicality. It transposes its artifact to another dimension, that of the imagination.

The spectator is led beyond the boundary of the sober. You step into a boy's dream.

High 'professor Barabas' content.

Panamarenko tinkers and assembles everything himself, with the exception of hired basket weavers from Bornem for the cabin under his Aeromodeller (1971).

He works with plastic, paper, aluminum, adhesive tape; even waste is sometimes upgraded to be part of an art object.

Note: Professor Barabas is one of the regular characters from the wel known Belgian comic book series 'Suske en Wiske'. (Released as 'Willy & Wanda' in English ?)





He starts with something and ideas come enriching it along the way, as if inspiration falls from the sky. Creation is an organic process. The final result sometimes looks fragile and unfinished. Playful solutions through naive and playful means, sprung from his unbridled imagination, give imperfection a poetic dimension.

His wavy head of hair adds to his Professor Barabas content.

I was a young lad and I wanted to know everything about the launch of Sputnik.

Panamarenko grew up in the Seefhoek, a working-class neighborhood in Antwerp. His father is alternately an electrician - mechanic and ship repairer on the docks. He used to go with him on and in the boats, including in a freezer-vessel. The fascination to discover something from within grew. He studied at the Antwerp Academy, but his creative mind intuitively strives for freedom and independence.

"The launch of Sputnik (1957) was not discussed at school, they thought that was for alchemists, certainly not for emerging artists.

We had to paint boats sailing on te river Schelde. What good was that now? I was a young lad. I wanted to know so much more about that Sputnik launch. Everything new deserved my attention. The rest belonged to the past. I had no eye for the past, and I still do not have an eye for it today.

"Later I went to follow evening school Mechanics". There it was better for him. Flying boat 'Scotch Gambit', armored craft, made of stainless steel. Intended as a mobile home to travel with. Design dates from 1966.

The flying boat was only realized by Panamarenko in 1999. The plan to give the boat a permanent berth in the Bonaparte dock in the port of Antwerp was politically boycotted..

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He will remain free throughout his life, in other words, he will always do what he wants. .

In 1968 he exhibits Das Flugzeug (aluminum tubes, two bicycle wheels, leather saddle, pedals, wings covered with canvas) at the Staatliche Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf (Germany).

In 1972 his participation in Documenta 5 in Kassel, Panamarenko's zeppelin Aeromodeller was given a generous place.

Fascinating works of art in a magical world.

Belgian "Art pope" Jan Hoet is introduced to his work and immediately adopts it. Attempts to test the airworthiness of the airship fail, especially when a fierce wind throws sticks in the wheels.

The model will have several variants. Disarming drawings and calculations precede assembly.

He draws with both hands; writes right-handed. Strange titles, showing his preference for Latin, introduce his fascinating works of art into a magical world.

Some are given evocative captions such as Archeopterix (intelligent primeval bird / 1990), a construction with built-in photocells for autonomous walking, and Pahama Novaya Zemblaya (submarine 1996).

PING OF THE FERRO LUSTO PANAMARENKO 10 FEBRUARY - 2 APRIL 2000

Open daily 10am - 6pm. Tuesday & Wednesday until 8pm. www.hayward-gallery.org.uk

Hayward Galle

on the South Bank Lone











On the occasion of his eightieth birthday on February 5 - 2020 his young wife Eveline Hoorens wants to honor her "Panaatje" with an exhibition. Auction house Campo & Campo is participating in the project. Their beautiful art-deco halls, in the former cinema Berchem Palace, perfectly serve the inventive objects of Panamarenko.

They are set up on wooden islands. The sound of birdsong hangs around his "Bird Market", one of those sublime disarming ideas that will make many a visitor smile and warm the heart. Just like his "Flying Carpet".

Photographer Bart Ramakers is making another photo session with famous people at the Panamarenko house in Michelbeke in honor of the upcoming celebration. The artist looks like a contemporary Phileas Fogg, English gentleman and main character from Jules Verne's classic Around the world in 80 days.

A few days later Henri Van Herwege, aka Panamarenko, dies. In his sleep. Alone, as a Einzelgänger. (Einzelgänger = German for Loner)

Panamarenko once said in an interview:

'The highest goal that a person can set for himself is to leave the earth.'

Panamarenko (1940-2019) was more than an artist. He was an engineer looking for the symbiosis between art and technology.


Will that stranded UFO on 'De Inktpot' ever take off again?



He's been there for a while that UFO. Actually since 2000. It is a remnant of the Utrecht Art Manifestation Panorama 2000. The UFO has a diameter of 12 meters and is designed by Marc Ruygrok. During the event, the UFO perched on the roof of a building popularly called "De Inktpot".

De Inktpot is located on the Moreelse park near the Utrecht Central Station. It is now 100 years ago that the construction of Utrecht's most iconic building started.

It looks strict, almost Russian and mysterious at the same time. It was built between 1918 and 1921 under the direction of Sybold van Ravesteyn on behalf of the Dutch Railways.

Due to the scarcity after the First World War, construction was taken into its own hands by the NS. Two brick factories, a timber company and three ships were purchased. Because 4000 cubic meters of oak was needed, a Limburg forest was also bought. Old rails were used for the foundation.

The Inktpot contains 22 million masonry bricks. This makes it the largest brick building in the Netherlands.

During the war the NS came under German supervision. Rumors that the German SS was using the Inktpot as headquarters do add to the mysterious image of the Inktpot. But according to the Dutch Railways this is a common misunderstanding.

No one knows when the UFO will take off again to disappear forever to a distant solar system ...

But there are probably people in Utrecht who keep a close eye on this.

(Note: De Inktpot = The Ink-pot / NS = Dutch Railways)



Exhibition from 25 February to 30 May 2021 in Museum - Het Valkhof City of Nijmegen ³⁸

For four centuries, Europe was in the grip of the plague.

The Black Death, as the disease is sometimes called, killed tens of millions of people. The museum shows in "The Plague" how one of the most devastating infectious diseases to ever ravage the world has left its mark on art and society.

With more than 200 works by artists such as Gabriël Metsu, Albrecht Dürer, Erwin Olaf and Berlinde De Bruyckere and writers such as Dante Alighieri, Giovanni Boccaccio and Albert Camus, the museum connects the history of the plague with current events.

Never before has an exhibition of this size been devoted to this subject in the Netherlands.

The Black Death and a Nijmegen plague doctor.

From 1347 the plague raged in Europe. In the first wave alone, 25 million people died. For nearly 400 years, everyday life has been dominated by deep-seated fear. The Black Death is seen as a punishment from God or as the fatal consequence of astronomical phenomena. Conspiracy thinkers believe that the disease is deliberately spread by hostile people. It is not clear to anyone what causes the plague, how the disease spreads, and which of the myriad measures and remedies to provide protection are actually effective







It was not until the seventeenth century that medical science got a better grip on the causes of the plague.

Plague doctor

IJsbrand van Diemerbroeck is at the beginning of this development. In the years 1635-1636 he treated countless plague sufferers as city doctor of Nijmegen. He writes a thesis about this in which he records his experiences.

With this thesis, which is in the collection of Museum Het Valkhof, Van Diemerbroeck is ahead of his time. His clinical observations are the beginning of a scientific approach to the disease. It became the most important book on the plague at the time.

De Pest (The Plague) in Museum Het Valkhof.

The Plague shows how a disease has shaken art and society to its foundations.

Where great works by old masters, imposing altarpieces and appealing images of saints of Saint Sebastian and Rochus make the history of the plague tangible, contemporary sculptures, video installations and futuristic bio-art invite reflection on the current Corona pandemic and its consequences in the future.



The Plague takes you on a gripping journey, from fear and threat, through a quest for hope, comfort and togetherness, to finding new solutions https://tickets.museumhetvalkhof.nl/nl/tickets



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Laurie Mika is a contemporary mixed-media artist from California (US)

She was mainly influenced by the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, and this is very clearly reflected in her work.

Laurie explains:

"I am an artist, author and instructor"

"Over the past two decades, my mixed media mosaic work has evolved into an original and easily recognizable style.

My approach combines handmade polymer clay tiles with beads, jewelry, glass mosaic and other found objects. I feel very lucky to be able to combine my love of travel and passion for art by teaching art retreats.

My work has been published in numerous magazines and books.

My own book, Mixed Media Mosaics, was published by North Light Books in 2007 \H

(noot redactie: als E-Book te koop bij **bol.com**)







Artistieke assemblies.

"My explorations with polymer clay started more than twenty years ago.

With a background in painting, I keep adding that aesthetic to my clay work by creating mixed-media mosaics and assemblages.

The color of the clay doesn't really matter to me, it's about transforming the surface of the clay.

This scenic effect is achieved by using acrylic paint, mica powders, wax pastes and gold leaf.

The surface is further embellished by embedding it with anything and everything. Pieces of jewelry, beads, and metal objects and everything else I find.

Medieval, Renaissance and Mexican folk art.

The greatest pleasure for me is experimenting with what clay can do and how it can be combined with other media.

Generally speaking my work is influenced by an eclectic mix of medieval, renaissance and Mexican folk art."









The gilded devotional panels from the past become worldly icons infused with personal stories.

"Art and folk traditions referred to in my work stem from my travels abroad.

The highly embellished surfaces, including text segments, form sumptuous tapestries made of traditional and modern materials.

As a modern alchemist tinkering with ancient mosaic art, I find magic in combining dissimilar elements "

Editor's Note:

Laurie said that in the past she lived in Limburg for a while and that she has very good memories of Holland.

It's a small world sometimes





www.mikaarts.com laurie@mikaarts.com www.etsy.com/shop/LaurieMika

Ad de Rouw



Ad de Rouw from the village of Kerkdriel makes art from metal objects he has found. Screws, bolts, pieces of iron, etc. everything he encounters on his (cycling) path. He collects this in a box that he occasionally tips over on his workbench to see if he can turn it into something interesting.

You will see Ad's creations more often in Passe-Partout in the future.

International career started as a nail.

My DNA was primeval, my career started as a nail, and after that I had a coexistence with some spruce boards. Together we went through life as a pallet and I visited many ports and countries. Over the years we have borne many burdens. Due to wear and tear, we as a couple had to stop working together. In a multi-burner our ways were separated again, then I was sifted from the ashes like a nail and after some welding and bending work a beautiful steel fish was created from me.

From wind and weather clothesline pole to Scales fish.

I too was created in steel and forged scale by scale.

As a steel pipe at a market garden I have enjoyed a beautiful tropical life and a lot of warm water ran through my stomach. I have seen many vegetables grow, and also beautiful flowers bloom open.

However, my cost became too expensive and soon I lost my job. Old iron seemed to be my fate, but they made holes in my stomach and then I was used as a clothesline pole.

There I stood, in all weathers and even pouring rain. Until the electric dryer came in.

Nowadays I can go through life as a steel fish, I have the best job ever.



From wind and weather clothesline pole to Scales fish.

E-Mail: derou023@outlook.com

Art Competition 2021 theme Animals.



Because of Corona we had to cancel the 2020 art competition.

People have other more serious things on their mind and that is understandable.

We hope that this year will be a more positive year, also for art, and that we can still organize a nice exhibition of the entries at Van der Wal Interior consultants in the city of Leerdam.

Because it is wonderful if you can exhibit your work in a beautiful environment as Van der Wal Interior consultants

Many art forms are allowed such as drawings, prints, paintings, textile art, stained glass, ceramics, photography, installations, mosaics, collages, sculptures in stone and wood, jewelery, etc.

We would love to hear from you.

Oil painting: Dog "Rose" by Ditske de With.

Apply before September 1, 2021 at: <u>sylviabosch@leerdamskunstenaarscollectief.nl</u> we will then confirm your registration.

More information about the conditions can be found at www.kunstwedstrijdleerdam.nl That site will be updated soon.

Passe-Partout Art magazine

Passe-Partout Art magazine previously Kunststof Magazine is published 6 times a year. The digital magazine is a free edition of Leerdams Kunstenaars Collectief Foundation.

This foundation is also the organizer of The Leerdam Art Competition.

Editors Passe-Partout: Sylvia Bosch. Layout & photography: Ton Swiderski. Cover photo: Ton Swiderski: Model: Jaleesa, (Beauty, Nails & Makeup Model) https://www.facebook.com/Punkylicious89/



For more information or a free subscription mail to: sylviabosch@leerdamskunstenaarscollectief.nl

The latest edition and all previous editions of You can read Passe-Partout Art Magazine on the website of the Leerdams artists collective:

https://www.leerdamskunstenaarscollectief.nl/Passe-Partout_kunstmagazine.html

Zullen we vrienden worden?

Wij zijn een stichting zonder subsidie. Ons doel is om mensen warm te maken voor de kunst. Want kunst kleurt je leven !

De activiteiten die wij als vrijwilligers organiseren zijn laagdrempelig zodat ze toegankelijk zijn voor iedereen. Om dit ook in de toekomst te blijven doen hebben we vrienden nodig die met 10 euro per jaar onze stichting steunen.

Wil jij alsjeblieft ook onze vriend worden ?

Ons rekening nummer is: NL82 Rabo 01671774 00 t.g.v Stichting Leerdams Kunstenaars Collectief.

Stained glass course at ROC Rivor

Provided the rules, in connection with the Coronavirus (COVID-19), allow it, a stained glass course will start again at the ROC Rivor.

Address: Poppenbouwing 3b

Place: Geldermalsen

Please contact Jan Kuiper for the correct dates.

Time: 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm

The course consists of 6 evenings

For more information, go to:

https://www.rocrivor.nl/leven-langontwikkelen/

Or send an e-mail to Jan Kuiper:

jankuiper@rocrivor.nl





Stained glass windows by student Irene Peters



Workpiece on course made by Mr. Stöver.





Workpiece on course made by Mr. Stöver.



Zin om een schildercursus of schilderworkshop te volgen waarin je écht wat leert? Leren schilderen of je technieken verbeteren

tijdens een ontspannen en bijzondere schildervakantie? Dan bent u bij Catherine aan het goed adres. Al jaren organiseert zij schilderlessen in Vianen of bij u op locatie, en schildervakanties op de mooiste plekjes in binnen- en buitenland. Vorig jaar voeren we zelfs het IJsselmeer rond op een prachtige en ruime viermaster!

Hieronder vindt u alle<u>schildervakanties</u>, en <u>schildercursussen</u> van de komende periode.

Ook online zijn er weer leuke lessen en schilderworkshops! Mét persoonlijke begeleiding, mét duidelijke instructiefilmpjes en natuurlijk de les kwaliteit die u van Atelier Gathier mag verwachten!

Schilderen aan de hand van een foto kan overal, maar het is heerlijk om ook eens te schilderen op locatie, direct aan het strand waar je de zee niet allen ziet, maar ook hoort en ruikt. Schilderen in het Limburgse Heuvellandschap, met de vogels om je heen, de zon op je huid voelen en wat dacht je van een schildervakantie op een uniek en mega zeiljacht? De Summertime 21 juni t/m 25 juni Ook dit jaar gaan we weer op pad met de Summertime! Schildervakantie op een schitterende 4 master ZEILSCHIP (65 M. lang!) Een wel heel bijzondere schildervakantie, waarbij we te gast zijn op de Summertime, een riant en comfortabel zeilschip, wat normaliter alleen grotere groepen herbergt. Echter,.. in deze tijden van social distancing krijgen wij (maandag 21 t/m vrijdag 25 juni) de unieke kans om dit mooie schip te mogen bevaren, met alleen ons eigen groepje tijdens een schildervakantie om nooit te vergeten.



De Haayman Hoeve 14 juni t/m 18 juni (nog 1 kamer vrij) EXTRA DATUM 23 augustus t/m 27 augustus Heerlijk schilderen aan de mooie Zeeuwse kust op Schouwen Duivenland!Verblijf in een prachtig, ruim huis waar elke slaapkamer eigen sanitair heeft.

Heerlijk schilderen in het atelier, de duinen of één van de mooie haventjes in de buurt in juni of augustus. U zult meer dan geïnspireerd raken tijdens de schilderworkshops `s morgens, waarin u allerlei (nieuwe) dingen leert.

Daarnaast heeft u alle tijd om lekker op pad te gaan naar mooie natuurgebieden in de nabije omgeving, een fijne strandwandeling te maken of mooie steden als Middelburg of Zierikzee bezoeken.



Al weer voor het 3e jaar gaan we naar Le Grandeur Nature en we raken er maar niet op uitgekeken. Vlakbij prachtige steden als Aken en Maastricht, wandelpaden die voor de deur beginnen en heerlijk schilderen tijdens de leerzame en inspirerende schilderlessen.

Dat is wel een hele fijne vakantie bestemming van maandag 6 t/m vrijdag 10 september!





ONLINE cursus Olieverf fijnschilder technieken, vanaf half februari

We maken een prachtig stilleven in de stijl van de hedendaagse fijnschilders. We leren een olieverf schilderij op te zetten en uit te werken in meerdere lagen. Div. technieken in het schilderen met olieverf worden behandeld, zoals

- glaceren in olieverf
- uithalen van de verf
- droge kwast technieken
- kleuren mengen
- schilderen in lagen

Wat?

Een online cursus olieverf technieken bestaande uit 6 lessen. U krijgt per week een instructie film en de bijbehorende documenten. U gaat daarmee zelf aan de slag wanneer het u uitkomt en elke week heeft u de mogelijkheid om direct één op één vragen te stellen aan 'de juf', tijdens het persoonlijke contact op Zoom waarin zij uw werk kan bekijken en directe input en instructie kan geven. Deze constructie is niet alleen super duidelijk maar ook heel motiverend en inspirerend.

Op deze manier is online les geven een "Win Win" situatie! De instructiefilms blijven nog 3 maanden beschikbaar dus u heeft alle tijd om e.e.a. rustig te bekijken.

Wanneer?

De eerste les komt op donderdag 11 februari beschikbaar en elke donderdag volgt een nieuwe les.

Op elke maandagavond is er de gelegenheid tot persoonlijk online contact.

Prijs? U betaald voor deze volwaardige en complete schildercursus <u>slechts € 75,-!</u>

ONLINE cursus Winterlandschap schilderen

Wat?

We gaan tijdens deze online workshop een sfeervol Winterlandschap schilderen. Hoe fijn is het om je in deze vreemde tijden van social distancing helemaal te kunnen ontspannen door je creatief in te spannen? Catherine begeleidt je in een persoonlijke Zoom meeting met goeie aanwijzingen en aan de hand van duidelijke schetsen die vooraf met je gedeeld worden, door jouw eigen kunstwerk in wording. Ook na deze workshop krijg je nog 3 maanden toegang tot een heel duidelijk instructiefilmpje waar je nadien nog eens rustig naar kunt kijken. Mocht ie geen schildermaterialen thuis hebben en toch mee willen doen, dan is er een prima start setje, bestaande uit acht tubetjes verf, een schilderdoekje en penselen te koop voor € 22,-. Je kunt dit ophalen in Vianen, of het wordt je voor de workshop per post thuis gestuurd. Portokosten komen er dan nog bij.

Wanneer?

Op zaterdag 20 februari van 11.00 tot 13.00 uur, nadien hebben we nog de gelegenheid om het werk te bespreken. Prijs? U betaald voor deze volwaardige en complete schildercursus <u>slechts € 15,-!</u>



ONLINE cursus Wolken en Weide schilderen

Wat?

We gaan tijdens deze online workshop aan de slag met een prachtige wolkenlucht boven een weide met Hollandse koeien.

In deze tijden van social distancing, heerlijk aan de slag en je helemaal kunnen ontspannen door je creatief in te spannen! Catherine begeleidt je in een persoonlijke Zoom meeting met goeie aanwijzingen en aan de hand van duidelijke schetsen die vooraf met je gedeeld worden, door jouw eigen kunstwerk in wording.

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Portokosten komen er dan nog bij.



Wanneer?

Op vrijdag en zaterdag 5 en 6 maart van 14.00 tot 16.00 uur, nadien hebben we nog de gelegenheid om het werk te bespreken.

Prijs? U betaald voor deze volwaardige en complete schildercursus <u>slechts € 30,-!</u>

Heb je nog vragen of wil je je aanmelden, mail dan gerust naar info@wandschildering.com of bel met Catherine 06-13236944

Exposeren bij een Rivas locatie in Leerdam of Gorinchem ?

Neem contact op met Maya Beijen van de Kunstcommissie.

Tel. 06-23309395 of mail naar m.beijen@rivas.nl







 $\begin{array}{c} MU\\ S \\ S \\ GORCUMS \end{array}$

Gorinchem is a unique, lively fortified town on the river Merwede. At its beating heart is the versatile Gorcums Museum. It tells the history of the city and shows Gorcum art from the past and present. There are also changing exhibitions on art, design and history. Visit our surprising museum shop and restaurant "T Oude Stadthuys.

You can also become a subscriber to our art lease.

Address Gorcums Museum Grote Markt 17 4201 EB Gorinchem

0183-632821 gorcumsmuseum@gorinchem.nl



Edition 11.2 of Passe-Partout Art magazine will be published in mid - April.

> Submit copy before the end of March 2021.

> > **Redactie:**

sylviabosch@leerdamskunstenaars collectief.nl