



New Season Highlights

PRESS RELEASE, Eindhoven, 3 September 2019 [update 10/12/2019]- Specialising in contemporary art, the Van Abbemuseum presents an extremely varied programme for the year ahead. Alongside smaller and larger exhibitions dedicated to contemporary artists, the museum also forays into other domains: developments in the field of design, paintings from the Golden Age and objects pertaining to the Second World War are all exhibited in conjunction with the museum's own collection.

Eyewitnesses of conflict: Goya, Beuys, Dumas / 31.08.2019 – 06.10.2019 / Old Building

This autumn, the Van Abbemuseum presents a poignant exhibition of works by artists who have witnessed war and conflict first-hand. *Eyewitnesses of conflict: Goya, Beuys, Dumas* shows how artists from various eras have depicted their traumatic experiences, acute observations of wrongdoing and satirical social critique in powerful images. They offer material through which to contemplate the conflicts we are facing all around us today. The exhibition features some 70 pieces by fourteen artists, spanning almost three centuries of art history. At the heart of the exhibition are bold prints by 18th-century British artist, William Hogarth (1697-1764) and Spain's Francisco Goya (1746-1828). This will represent the first time that these prints have been exhibited alongside one another in the Netherlands. They are combined with prominent pieces from the Van Abbemuseum collection by artists Constant, Joseph Beuys, Marlene Dumas and Anna Boghiguan, among others. Sponsored by Stichting Promotors Van Abbemuseum and BankGiro Loterij.

GEO-DESIGN: Junk / 19.10.2019 – 17.11.2019 / Old Building

This year will see another collaboration between the Van Abbemuseum and Design Academy Eindhoven for Dutch Design Week (DDW): a lively event that transforms the whole of the city of Eindhoven into a design stage. The first exhibition was introduced last year in the form of a series entitled GEO-DESIGN. The theme for this year is *Junk*. Whilst the word 'junk' is strongly associated with something having little or no value, it is something all of us come into contact with. The challenge for the young designers is to view waste as potential. Not merely as a problem to which solutions must be found, but rather as material that offers possibilities for the future on both a local and international scale. Final year students and graduates of Design Academy Eindhoven were invited to submit research proposals that addressed social, economic or geopolitical issues. The selected candidates were given just three months to formulate their plan, give it form and present it. Nine of the presentations are on display at the Van Abbemuseum and nine more in the city centre at (retail) locations including de Bijenkorf, Hutspot, ING, HEMA and Deense Kroon.

Positions #5 / 30.11.2019 – 08.03.2020 / Old Building

Positions #5 presents a fresh perspective on the art scene in the Netherlands. This edition exhibits the work of five artists currently living and working in the Netherlands, each exploring forgotten, trivialised or suppressed histories. Mercedes Azpilicueta creates theatrical scenes with coloured walls, suspended tapestries and costumed wooden figures. Anna Dasović uses photos, film and video to show how we deal with disturbing events such as genocide. Em'kal Eyongakpa fills two galleries with a blend of music, sounds, the spoken word, plants, lighting effects and performance. A tent, decorated in embroidered words, takes centre stage in Mounira al Solh's piece. Quinsy Gario presents recent and new work that reflects on the history of Sint Maarten and Curaçao. These varied contributions result in a fascinating experience, which provokes the visitor to reflect on what art today can mean.



Exhibitions 2019 / 2020

Positions is a series of exhibitions in which projects by emerging artists are presented as small, museum solos that, together, engage in a certain dialogue. Sponsored by Stichting Ammodo and the Mondriaan Fonds.

Face to Face with Frans Hals / 21.12.2020 – 26.01.2020 / Collection Building

On the back of the success of the exhibition, *Face to Face with Rembrandt* in early 2018, January 2020 will see the opening of *Face to face with Frans Hals*. Old art from the Frans Hals Museum in Haarlem will be presented alongside modern and contemporary art from the Van Abbemuseum collection. As such, the exhibition sheds new light on old art and frames new art in tradition; in a similar way to which the Frans Hals Museum displays different styles of art side by side. In *Face to Face with Frans Hals* visitors can explore the relationship between the 17th-century paintings and pieces produced after 1900. At times, the composition or subject is comparable; at others, there is a similar narrative to be discovered. In addition, each Golden Age painting will be paired with an object from an extraordinary collection of art and crafts belonging to an Eindhoven collector.

Yael Davids, A Daily Practice: One is Always a Plural / 21.03.2020 – 14.06.2020 / Old Building

The body plays a central role in the 20-year long artistic practice of Yael Davids (1968, Jerusalem). It can be used both as a means of examining the world and as artistic medium. It plays an important role in interactions with other people and the surroundings. Over the past three years at the Van Abbemuseum, Davids has been exploring the interplay between the body, the museum collection and the Feldenkrais Method (a movement modality Davids has studied). Through Davids' motto, *One is always a plural*, the exhibition offers a new perspective on the notion of 'solo exhibition'. A selection of Davids' oeuvre is displayed in conjunction with work by (primarily female) artists with whom she feels an affinity, such as Hilma af Klint, Lee Lozano and Adrian Piper. In addition, Davids cleverly integrates pieces from the Van Abbemuseum collection. Visitors will also actively experience the Feldenkrais Method in a specially designed room. Sponsored by the Mondriaan Fonds.

Victor Sonna: 1525 / 23.05.2020 – 23.05.2021 / Tower

"There are two sides to everything", says the artist Victor Sonna, who grew up in Cameroon and is now living in Eindhoven. A few years ago in New Orleans, Sonna purchased the shackles of a slave, inscribed with the number 152. It inspired him to produce 152 new works that reflect on the history of slavery in the Netherlands, Africa and Suriname. The pieces are based on 17th century European tapestries featuring 'idyllic' scenes. Sonna transformed these tapestries into three series of poignant artworks. A vast scaffolding system will be constructed in between the floors so that the works can be viewed up close. The exhibition forms part of a 2020 collaboration between various Dutch art museums, including the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, addressing the history of slavery. This exhibition will be combined with a comprehensive educational programme and exploratory activities.

Positions #6 / 27.06.2020 – 20.09.2020 / Old Building

This, the sixth and final edition of the *Positions* exhibitions revolves around a central theme: The Technological Body. How will humans evolve physically as more and more becomes possible through biotechnology? What consequences will this have for our sense of identity based on gender, race or class? Will artificial intelligence and genetic manipulation pose a threat to us or offer us new opportunities? Artists Laure Prouvost, Tarek Atoui, Zach Blas, Navine G. Khan Dossos and Ajla R. Steinvag will each explore or respond to these types of questions in their own way. In-keeping with previous editions of *Positions*, this edition will take place in the form of solo exhibitions of artists with very diverse work, which engage in a certain dialogue due to their joint presentation. Sponsored by Stichting Ammodo and the Mondriaan Fonds.



Exhibitions 2019 / 2020

Announcement: The Constituent Museum

In March 2019, the Van Abbemuseum and the Whitworth Art Gallery in Manchester received a grant of £150,000 for the project The Constituent Museum. Awarded by Outset Partners - a branch of the Outset Contemporary Art Fund - the grant is issued to promote social change through the concept of Arte Útil, developed by artist Tania Bruguera. Since September 2017, the Van Abbemuseum has been working alongside groups from the city of Eindhoven under the name Werksalon (Work Salon). The stories of the city's inhabitants are told through exhibitions, workshops and events and added to the collection display. A new collection display will be produced in 2020, scheduled to open in September 2021.

NOTE TO EDITOR

High-resolution images are available online at vanabbemuseum.nl/en/press
Please address questions to: Neeltje van Gool, Communications & Press
T: +31 (0)40 238 1019 / M: +31 (0)6 1299 5794 / E: pressoffice@vanabbemuseum.nl

Visiting address

Bilderdijklaan 10, Eindhoven / vanabbemuseum.nl/en

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday 11am - 5pm.

1st Thursday of the month 11am - 9pm.

The museum is closed on New Year's Day, King's Day and Christmas Day.

Admission

€13	Adult
€ 6	Young persons aged 13-18, students, CJP card holders
Free	Children aged up to 12, Museumkaart, BGL VIP card & every Tuesday afternoon after 3pm.

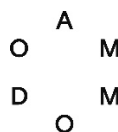
Gallery guidance

Exhibitions are accompanied by a comprehensive programme. Museum hosts are present to signpost visitors through the museum and exhibition. For more specific questions or deeper discussion, there are the cicerones.

Unlimited Van Abbe

Modified tours that go by the name of *Unlimited Van Abbe* are scheduled and offered for those with disabilities. Regular tours are organised for those with dementia, aphasia, blind and visually impaired visitors and deaf and hearing impaired visitors. This programme has been made possible with the support of the BankGiro Loterij.

With thanks to



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