

**persbericht
press release**

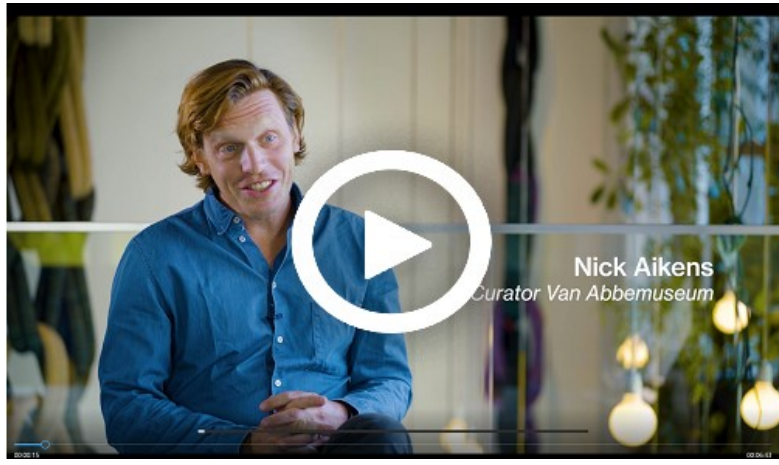


Featuring new work by Lubaina Himid & Magda Stawarska, Didem Pekün and susan pui san lok / lok pui san

Rewinding Internationalism Scenes from the 90s, today

From 19 November 2022 to 30 April 2023, the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven will be presenting the ambitious research exhibition *Rewinding Internationalism. Scenes from the 90s, today*. Five new artworks have been created for the exhibition including works by Lubaina Himid and Magda Stawarska, Didem Pekün and susan pui san lok / lok pui san. The exhibition explores developments, ideas and stories from the 1990s and how they resonate in the world today. The end of the Cold War, the AIDS pandemic and increasing globalisation brought about dramatic changes, also in the art world. What became of the questions and experiences of those days? The exhibition features visual and audio material from the past and present, archive materials and recently created work. The curators, collectives and artists who have curated the exhibition invite you to 'rewind' to moments from the 1990s and reflect on them from the perspective of today. *Rewinding Internationalism* is partly the result of a collaboration within the L'Internationale museum confederation, of which the Van Abbemuseum is a member.

"Press rewind and you go back to a part of a song or a scene in a film. Something happens in the act of rewinding though. The magnetic tape of a cassette or VHS gets scrambled. The section of the song, now replayed out of sequence, becomes abstracted. If you continuously rewind and replay – to borrow the title of susan pui san lok's new work in the exhibition – the recorded fragment takes on completely new meanings. Within the context of an exhibition that is in dialogue with the 1990s, the term 'rewinding' is an invitation to revisit and rethink histories and concepts once they have already been 'played' out – to scramble them and open them up to new interpretations." says curator Nick Aikens. The video below explains why exactly it is so relevant to take a look back at the 1990s now.



The distinct design of the exhibition emphasises the fact that history is not linear. Instead of walking through a continuous story, visitors are occasionally made to turn around and go back to where they started. In the process, they encounter a unique story and atmosphere in every room, sometimes bright and hopeful, sometimes dark and ominous.

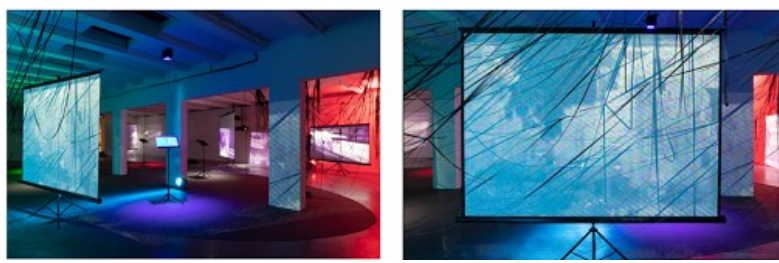
Zanzibar by Lubaina Himid and Magda Stawarska

Winner of the Turner Prize, artist Lubaina Himid (1954, Zanzibar) and Magda Stawarska present *Zanzibar*, a sound piece created to accompany a series of paintings of the same name painted by Himid in the 1990s. Visitors will hear a variety of sounds, including falling rainwater, excerpts from radio broadcasts from the 1990s that Himid was listening to while painting and a man reading from a guidebook about Zanzibar. Himid's father gave this guidebook to her mother in the 1950s before she arrived on the island from the UK.



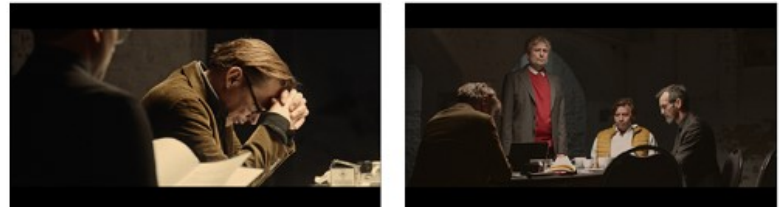
REWIND/REPLAY by susan pui san lok / lok pui san

The installation *REWIND/REPLAY* by susan pui san lok / lok pui san (1972) rearranges material from the Gate Foundation archive. This foundation was established in the Netherlands in the 1980s with a view to introducing European audiences to artists from Asia. After the foundation was closed in 2006, the archive was housed at the Van Abbemuseum. In *REWIND/REPLAY* it feels as if you are standing on a stage or in a rehearsal room waiting for a performance to start. There are music stands with microphones in front of them, red, green and blue lights turning on and off, and several thousand metres of hanging videotape. In the video and audio clips that are at time quite humorous, the artist plays with words. In the process, she draws attention to the similarities and differences between the debates on internationalism both in the 1990s and today.



Disturbed Earth by Didem Pekün

During the film *Disturbed Earth* by Didem Pekün (1978, Istanbul) an unsettling feeling creeps over you. You see a group of strategists and bureaucrats sitting around a table in a basement. They are arguing incessantly amidst an impending disaster. The camera constantly swivels around the men, emphasising the absurd feeling of constantly going round in circles. The film is based on transcripts from NATO and UN meetings just before the fall of Srebrenica in 1995.



Publication and opening event

The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication with contributions by Nick Aikens, Sara Buraya Boned, Pablo Martinez, Bojana Piškur and Grace Samboh as well as images from the exhibition. On the day the exhibition opens to the public, Saturday 19 November 2022, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., a conversation will take place with approximately 15 artists, collectives and researchers who have contributed to the exhibition.

Featuring works from

Christine Baeumler, Act Up Barcelona, Belkis Ayón Manso, Nadiyah Bamadhaj, Cecilia Barriga, Miguel Benlloch, CADA, Tony Cokes, Betsy Damon, Eugenio Dittborn, Les Diables Bleus, Diamela Eltit, Gorgona Group, Beth Grossman, Dai Guangyu, Félix Guattari, Lubaina Himid en Magda Stawarska, Julije Knifer, Ivan Kožarić, Li Jixiang, Chengying Liu, susan pui san lok / lok pui san, Miguel D. Norambuena, Miguel Parra Urrutia, Olu Oguibe, Didem Pekün, Pejvak, Wang Peng, Nelly Richard, Christian Rodríguez / CEPSS, Sandra Rylvin Rinaudo, Lotty Rosenfeld, Allan Sekula, Semsar Siahaan, Lamnu Suri, Norbert van Onna, Yin Xiuzhen, Zeng Xun.

Collaborative research projects

AIDS Anarchiv developed with Equipo re (Aimar Arriola, Nancy Garin and Linda Valdés), *Revista de Crítica Cultural*, *The Three Ecologies* and *Internationalist Feminisms* developed with Paulina E. Varas; *Keepers of the Waters* (Chengdu and Lhasa, China, 1995-1996) developed with Sebastian Cichocki; *Contemporary Art of the Non-Aligned Countries. Unity in Diversity in International Art* (Jakarta, 1995), developed with Bojana Piškur, Grace Samboh and Rachel Suriyata; *ADN* (Association pour la Démocratie à Nice), with Carnivals Independents and Les Diables Bleus (1991-2004).

Part of the series

Rewinding Internationalism ties into a series of cutting-edge research exhibitions at the Van Abbemuseum, including *Yael Davids: A Daily Practice* (2020), *The 1980s. Today's beginnings* (2016), *Confessions of the Imperfect* (2014-15) and *Museum of Arte Útil* (2013-14).

Colophon

Curator: Nick Aikens
Project Leader: Inge Borsje
Exhibition design/scenography: Natascha Leonie Simons

Partners



Parts of the exhibition were on display at Network Aalst in early 2022 and after Eindhoven, they will continue on to Villa Arson in Nice (3 June to 17 September 2023).

NOTE FOR EDITORS

Our Many Europes is a four-year programme (2018–22) comprising exhibitions, public programming, heritage exchange and institutional experimentation, organised by the European museum confederation L'Internationale and its partners, and co-funded by the *Creative Europe Programme* of the European Union. The programme takes the 1990s as a starting point when our current Europe was born. It aims to think speculatively about the role of culture as a driving force in showing who and how we are in the world. The members of L'Internationale (M HKA Antwerp, Belgium, Moderna galerija (MG+MSUM), Ljubljana, Slovenia, Van Abbemuseum, The Netherlands, MACBA, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Spain, Muzeum Sztuki Nowoczesnej w Warszawie, Poland, SALT, Istanbul and Ankara, and Museo Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain) and its partners National College of Art and Design (NCAD), Dublin and HDK-Valand (Gothenburg University) are presenting more than 40 public activities until December 2022.

For HR-images or further information

T: +31 (0)40 238 10 19

E: pressoffice@vanabbemuseum.nl

image top to bottom, left to right: susan pui san lok / susan lok pui san, *Rewind / Replay*, 2022, multimedia multichannel site-specific installation, Network Aalst. Courtesy the artist and Network Aalst. | Lubaina Himid, *Sea Wave Goodbye Say Hello*. Courtesy of the artist and Hollybush Gardens, London. Photo: Andy Keate. | Lubaina Himid, *Never Harm a Clever Man*. Courtesy of the artist and Hollybush Gardens, London. Photo: Andy Keate. | susan pui san lok / susan lok pui san, *Rewind / Replay*, 2022, multimedia multichannel site-specific installation, Network Aalst. Courtesy the artist and Network Aalst. | susan pui san lok / susan lok pui san, *Rewind / Replay*, 2022, multimedia multichannel site-specific installation, Network Aalst. Courtesy the artist and Network Aalst. | Didem Pekün, *Disturbed Earth*, 2021, film, 29 minutes. Courtesy the artist. | Didem Pekün, *Disturbed Earth*, 2021, film, 29 minutes. Courtesy the artist.

Bezoekadres
Stratumsedijk 2, Eindhoven

Openingstijden
Dinsdag t/m zondag van 11 tot 17 uur.
Het museum is gesloten op Koningsdag, eerste kerstdag en Nieuwjaarsdag.



Entreeprijzen
€ 13 Volwassenen
€ 6 Studenten, CJP houders
Gratis Kinderen t/m 12 jaar, Museumkaart, VriendenLoterij VIP-kaart & iedere dinsdagmiddag na 15 uur

Boek vooraf online on vanabbemuseum.nl/tickets

Het Van Abbemuseum wordt onder andere ondersteund door / is supported by:

