Exhibitions Curator
Full time (36 hours per week)

The Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven is recruiting an Exhibitions Curator to join the artistic team and take up management responsibility.

The Van Abbe is one of the first public museums for contemporary art to be established in Europe. The museum’s collection of around 2700 works of art includes key works and archives by Joseph Beuys, René Daniëls, Marlene Dumas, Sheela Gowda, Patricia Kaersenhout, Gülsün Karamustafa, Iris Kensmil, Oskar Kokoschka, John Körmeling, El Lissitzky, Paul McCarthy, Pablo Picasso, Martha Rosler, and Lidwien van de Ven. The museum has an experimental approach towards art’s role in society. Openness, hospitality and knowledge exchange are important to us. We challenge ourselves and our visitors to think about art and its place in the world, covering a range of subjects, including the role of the collection as a cultural ‘memory’ and the museum as a public site. International collaboration and exchange have made the Van Abbemuseum a place for creative cross-fertilisation and a source of surprise, inspiration and agency for its visitors and users.

The role:
Exhibitions Curator is a senior post within the Van Abbe. You are one of the public faces of the museum and will have a key position within the museum beside the director, managing director and other curators. Together, the team develops the museum’s policy, strategies and programmes. You will be responsible for representing the interests of the temporary exhibitions as well as leading on specific exhibitions, public programmes and other activities with colleagues. You will work closely with the director and colleagues in research, collection and mediation and will prioritise the links between these areas of activity in your work. Together with your colleagues you will contribute to a holistic programme in which research, the collection, temporary activities, exhibitions, artistic practice and an active collaboration with the public come together.

Blend, Behave, Belong (Franz Erhard Walther) workshop by International Locals in 2018. Photo: Dieuwke van den Heuvel.
Van Abbemuseum strives to be an inclusive museum where the social mix of our city and region is reflected. The staff are committed to understanding what decoloniality means for a modern art museum and are developing our thinking under the ‘demodern’ rubric. We pursue deviant research lines and forms of constituent-led museum practice. More about these terms can be found online at www.vanabbemuseum.nl and www.internationaleonline.org as well as in the L’Internationale publications “What’s the Use?” (2016) and “The Constituent Museum” (2018, both Valiz). As Exhibitions Curator you will play a key role in developing these concepts further in the coming years.

Specifically the Exhibitions Curator is responsible for:
• Contributing to the conception of all elements of the temporary programme and research trajectory of the museum with the members of the artistic team and the directors
• Working as a project leader to conceive, develop and realise large scale exhibitions
• Finding suitable national and international partners for relevant exhibitions and research projects and managing international exhibition tours
• Contributing to the development and realisation of the Constituency programme working with local and national constituency groups
• Conceiving and writing substantial funding applications to support the temporary exhibitions programme along with the museum’s head of fundraising
• Contributing to the museum’s strategic vision and its positioning locally, nationally and internationally
• Playing an active role in the museum confederation L’Internationale, working with colleagues across partner museums to realise the confederation’s programme and goals
• Maintaining an (inter)national network within the world of contemporary art and museums;
• Developing a relevant regional network inside and outside the world of contemporary art and museums, aimed in particular at keeping in touch with today’s diverse society

You are expected to be able to combine a radical, experimental approach with an inclusive and hospitable attitude. Familiarity and affiliation with discourses on the decolonial, feminism and inclusion are essential.

Profile
You have:
• completed a post-graduate degree
• at least 5 years of experience in the development and realisation of exhibitions in an international museum context
• up-to-date knowledge of developments in modern and contemporary art, both in the field of the makers (the artists) and research
• demonstrable experience working with community groups or activism
• demonstrable experience in successful fundraising
• relevant (inter) national network
• excellent written and oral communication skills
• are skilled in developing policy, giving advice and leading projects
• excellent Dutch and English communication skills or you are prepared to develop your Dutch or English language skills to a high level in a short time.
• live in (the vicinity of) Eindhoven or you are willing to relocate. You are expected to be physically present in the museum for a large part of your hours

The Van Abbemuseum endorses the Cultural Diversity Code and has set itself the goal of being a museum that reflects society. In the case of equal suitability, preference is given to the candidate who reinforces the widest diversity within our team. We would especially encourage applications from people of colour.
Employment terms
As an employee of the city of Eindhoven you receive:
• an annual contract. After one year and on the agreement of both parties, it is converted into a permanent contract
• a maximum of € 4,849,- gross per month based on 36 hours per week
• the option to make use of the city’s relocation costs scheme
• 23 vacation days (including 36 hours per week) and the possibility to build up ADV
• a freely disposable amount of 17.05% of your gross salary. This consists of, among other things, the holiday and year-end bonus and life-course contribution
• transport costs of max. € 60 per month if you travel by train / bus. We also have walking, cycling and e-bike reimbursements
• room for personal development and participation in various courses and training courses

If you think you are suitable for the role please send a motivation letter and resume via this link before 26 May 2019. Via this link you will be redirected to the website of the municipality of Eindhoven. In the letter you should outline how your skills and experience equip you for the role.

For questions related to the position please contact Charles Esche, general director, via c.esche@vanabbemuseum.nl. For questions about the application process please contact Jantine Claus, Museum Personal Assistant, on +31 40 238 1021.

The first interview round is scheduled on 11 and 12 June and the second round on 17 June. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to conduct a profile assessment prior to the interview.