

EXHIBITION PROGRAMME 2007

February 2007

Dates and programme subject to change

GENERAL INFORMATION

Since 2006 the Van Abbemuseum has given a purpose to the spaces in its extraordinary buildings. In the Nieuwbouw (New building), **Plug In**, the innovating concept to show our famous collection, has shown 21 episodes in 2006. Also on show in the Nieuwbouw is **Living Archive**, exhibitions in which the abundant history of the Van Abbemuseum comes alive. In the Oudbouw (Old building) the museum presents alternating exhibitions and projects with upcoming artists and artists which are considered the 'classics' of modern art.

EXHIBITIONS - OUDBOUW

Lee Lozano

WIN FIRST DONT LAST

WIN LAST DONT CARE

07/10/06 – 07/01/07

The first Dutch retrospective of American female artist Lee Lozano's work at the Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven. Until now Lozano has been relatively unknown, yet she belongs to the most radical, liberal thinking and fascinating artists of New York's avant-garde art scene of the sixties. The exhibition comprises about a hundred drawings and paintings [including the acclaimed Wave paintings from 1967] along with a broad selection of handwritten instructions and statements with which she became famous in the late sixties and early seventies. Lozano began her short career as an artist in the early sixties with figurative paintings and cartoon type drawings in which she translated tools into sexually mixed images, sometimes adding obscene or amusing texts. In the mid-sixties she focused on minimalist and abstract forms in her paintings, which she consistently continued to develop from her tool motifs. These works finally led to the large format Wave series of paintings, which she worked on between 1967 and 1970.

The Lee Lozano exhibition – WIN FIRST DONT LAST WIN LAST DONT CARE is in association with Kunsthalle Basel and was made possible in part by Fortis ASR.

GHB – Groot Hertogdom Brabant

13/01 – 25/01/07

GHB is not an exhibition. GHB is the code name of a project that consists of presentations and performances, ideas and proposals, a workplace for the temporary formulation of ideas. Some of the exhibition spaces will not be programmed and will remain empty.

From 13 to 25 January 2007, the Oudbouw of the Van Abbemuseum will become the territory of diverse artists' initiatives and art establishments from Brussels, Flanders, Noord-Brabant and Limburg. These are all located in the historical region of the Grand Duchy of Brabant, which was founded nine hundred years ago. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Van Abbemuseum and an

alternating selection of art establishments in Noord-Brabant and Flanders organised the Triennial of the Southern Netherlands. In 1966, 1969 and 1972, three travelling exhibitions were organised with young talent from the south of the Netherlands and Flanders. GHB is a contemporary version and continuation of this tradition. The guest establishments are: Etablissement d'en Face [Brussels] & Artis [’s-Hertogenbosch], bkSM [Strombeek and Mechelen], MuHKA_media [Antwerp], Stichting Kop [Breda], Het Apollohuis [Eindhoven], De Nederlandsche Cacaofabriek [Helmond] and Hedah [Maastricht].

GHB was made possible in part by Provincie Noord-Brabant.

Allan Kaprow
Kunst als leven – Art as Life
 10/02– 22/04/07

In association with the Haus der Kunst in Munich, the Van Abbemuseum is organising the largest European solo presentation of the work of American artist Allan Kaprow, displaying a development of almost 50 years of artistic work. Kaprow, the father of the 'happenings' and the 'most famous unknown artist', died in April 2006.

The concept of this exhibition in the Van Abbemuseum was developed together with the artist shortly before his death. The theme is the paradoxical question of how museums can display art in an appropriate manner in this day and age, while approaching real life with that art as closely as possible. In the museum, we see all kinds of objects from Kaprow's artistic legacy: early paintings, environments, video documents and photographs, as well as an enormous array of original scores for his 'happenings' and 'activities'. This splendid presentation is not intended as an attempt to rewrite or document history, but to encourage visitors to see the 'museum as mediation'.

Kaprow was never interested in passively consumptive viewers but in active participation, and the Van Abbemuseum sees itself as an 'agency of action' as well as a place of mediation. The exhibition will entail a re-enactment of a selection of happenings – on condition, however, that the visitors understand their new role and participate.

Exhibition concept: Eva Meyer-Hermann & Stephanie Rosenthal
 Curator exhibition Van Abbemuseum: Eva Meyer-Hermann

The exhibition Allan Kaprow 'Kunst als leven – Art as Life' is a cooperation with Haus der Kunst, Munich, and co-sponsored by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. The project has been carried out within the framework of TRANSFORM and with the support of the Culture 2000 programme of the European Union.

Pavel Büchler, Frances Stark, Avi Mograbi
 12/05 – 02/09/07

Part of the artistic policy of the Van Abbemuseum is to exhibit renowned and upcoming artists in interesting combinations in their first important museum exhibition. The exhibition trio Büchler / Starck / Mograbi shows work of three strong contemporary artists.

Frances Stark

The Van Abbemuseum brings the first European overview of visual works from Los Angeles based artist Francis Stark (US, 1967). After publishing her "Collected Writing 1993-2003" she is now working on a publication based on her visual work produced in between 1992 and 2006. This upcoming artist publication forms the point of departure for the museum presentation, investigating both the book and the exhibition as a discursive device. The sculpturally collaged works on paper from Frances Stark fuse reading and looking into one experience. In her drawings she ponders the evolution of a thought that is defined visually. Literary allusions and semiotic systems, repositions of text and typography are only a few formal aspects to define her fascinating private and public observations from the past fourteen years.

Pavel Büchler

"Artists don't make art, artists make art works. Art works do something in the world and what they do we call art. (...) It's a triangular relationship between the artist, the art work and the audience." said Büchler in an interview. However, what the work of art sets in motion not only depends on the relationship between the artist, work and audience, but also on the context in which the work is presented. That definitely applies to Büchler's own work.

Avi Mograbi

Israeli artist Avi Mograbi creates experimental films in which he is criticises the way in which Israel treats the Palestinians. Mograbi studied philosophy at the University of Tel Aviv and Art at the Ramat Hasharon Art School.

The exhibition Pavel Büchler is a cooperation with Kunsthalle Bern.

Forms of Resistance

Artists and the desire for social change from 1871 to the present day

22/10/07 – 06/01/08

Forms of Resistance is a plea for the political potential of art as a form of cultural criticism. How have artists dealt with social and political issues from 1871 until today? The exhibition is based on four historic events: the French Commune in 1871, the Russian Revolution of 1914, May '68 and our world after 11 September 2001. Forms of Resistance is a searching and inciting exhibition about the amalgamation of art and life. What role have artists played in major social upheaval in the past 135 years? Do changes in the arts precede, coincide with or follow social change?

The exhibition is intended as more than just a platform for the presentation and documentation of social and political commitment among artists. Forms of Resistance is not merely an overview of art projects, it examines and combines a number of different historical exhibition models.

The exhibition has been put together by a team of curators: Charles Esche, Phillip van den Bossche, Will Bradley and Esra Sarigedik Öktem.

EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS - NIEUWBOUW

Be[com]ing Dutch

From January 2007

Be[com]ing Dutch is a two year project developed both inside and outside the museum, which consists of debates, reading groups, artist projects, exhibitions, residencies, and forms of collective participation and production. It all leads up to an intensive three week international Caucus [meeting] in November 2007. The final phase will be an large scale exhibition of newly commissioned works in the Van Abbemuseum in May 2008. Be[com]ing Dutch seeks to put our ideas of cultural identity under pressure and examine the processes of inclusion and exclusion in The Netherlands today. As the question of cultural identity and normative 'national' values become ever more of an issue in political and cultural debate, Be[com]ing Dutch asks how we could question national identity in the age of globalization whether art might offer alternative examples of thinking about how we might live together today.

Be[com]ing Dutch is developed by Charles Esche and Annie Fletcher and others in- and outside the Van Abbemuseum. Institutional partnerships: BAK (Utrecht), New Museum of Contemporary Art (New York), Goldsmiths College (London), Kosmose (Eindhoven), Stichting Interart (Arnhem). The project Be[com]ing Dutch by the Van Abbemuseum has been awarded the Development Award for Cultural Diversity 2006 by the Mondriaan Foundation.

Plug In

Re-imagining the collection

until April 2009

Plug In, the new way of exhibiting the collection, got underway in April 2006. For a period of three years, the Van Abbemuseum plans to experiment with presentations put together by the museum's own curators and guest curators, by artists, theorists and activists. Each museum space has its own independent display, with its own time span and development. This constantly invokes fresh narratives, surprising links and revealing contrasts. Plug In is an invitation to the visitors to 'plug in' according to their interests or needs and put their imagination to work. In December, new editions of Plug In were opened. For up-to-date information on Plug In visit www.vanabbemuseum.nl

Plug In was made possible in part by the Mondriaan Foundation.

Living Archive

Meanwhile... behind the scenes

20/05–11/02/06

On view since 2005, 'Living Archive' is the title of a series of documentary exhibitions based on the museum archive in constantly changing formats and periods, in various parts of the Nieuwbouw. This series takes on different forms: critical, supportive or documentary.

For Living Archive: Meanwhile...behind the scenes an object, letter, photograph or other small memento was chosen from every year of the museum's existence. Each archive item – seen as a 'keyword' for that particular year – is presented within the broader context of museum developments and events in the world. The 70 objects thus illustrate the historical development of our celebrating museum and the contemporary art it has shown and collected from 1936 to 2006.

Living Archive

"Wo stehst Du mit deiner Kunst, Kollege?"

27/02 – 02/09/2007

On view since 2005, 'Living Archive' is the title of a series of documentary exhibitions based on the museum archive in constantly changing formats and periods, in various parts of the Nieuwbouw. This series takes on different forms: critical, supportive or documentary.

The new Living Archive focuses on how artists and museums worked within the concept of the right to decide on their own field of expertise and the right to co-decide in other spheres. This exhibition centers on instances where artists view the museum as a podium for public discussion. Artists and the museum take progressive stands, which can be opposing. *Wo stehst Du mit deiner Kunst, Kollege?* shows the confrontation in the Van Abbemuseum.

Lawrence Weiner

Printed works

15/09/06-07/01/07

The posters and leaflets of artist Lawrence Weiner offer a fascinating review of the changes which lay-out has undergone over time, from modest, typed leaflets to colourful offset posters.

Dan Perjovschi

Wall Drawings

until 22/04/2007

Perjovschi draws pictures and writes texts for walls, newspapers and books. He makes these drawings in an almost spontaneous manner at the time when he is asked, allowing the flow of current events to effect the final result. With the simplest and most economical of all current art practices, Dan Perjovschi's work manages to comment on the widest possible terrain of political, economic and artistic subjects. Born and living in Romania, his view of the world is both particular to that place and riddled with all the contradictions, wisdom and absurdity that global information systems offer. His work is humorous, sharp and often cutting in its exposure of human behaviour and fragility, vain ambition and the contractions of the globalised (art)world.

Lily van der Stokker

The Complaints Club

until 01/04/07

The Van Abbemuseum shows a number of wall paintings by Lily van der Stokker. In this work Van der Stokker complains heartily about money, people and the 'scandalous' way in which she is sometimes treated. The works have been specially made for the Tower space. A video reveals the preparations and the installation of the work.

Lissitzky and Contemporaries

Permanent display

Permanent display from the collection: El Lissitzky, László Moholy-Nagy, Theo van Doesburg and Piet Mondriaan.

LIBRARY PRESENTATIONS

The library of the Van Abbemuseum is known as one the most important art library's in The Netherlands, and specializes in science literature for modern and contemporary art. The library is accessible worldwide via their online catalogue. The library programmes its presentations of works on paper, editions and artists books from the collection and also works with artists, writers and publishers.

Machteld Teekens

Books and texts

05/12/06 – 26/01/07

For Machteld Teekens drawing and writing with both hands is a study into the bilateralness of the body, space and thinking all at the same time. Her books are examples of concrete dialectics in which the left hand gives depth to the right hand. Thus her way of working can be described as "the unique phenomenon of a distance, however close it may be" (Walter Benjamin). 'Distance' is the pre-modern awareness that breaks through the 'now' moment of drawing and writing. With this way of working she places herself outside the prevailing views on visual art. At the same time, via her numerous texts, songs, poems and (educative) projects she is passing comment.

Byars & Beuys

13/02 – 09/03/07

James Lee Byars and Joseph Beuys allow both mystical and magical ritual into their work, making use of symbolic attributes. Byars defends the aura of art and strives for perfection. His carefully designed, stylish invitations contain statements in gold on black paper and black, red or golden catalogues and artist books revolve around the questions and not the answers. Beuys bases his work on the assumption that everyone is an artist and that art is only important in so far as it contributes to the development of consciousness. He uses perishable material and objects he finds.

INFORMATION

Admission Van Abbemuseum

Adults	€ 8,50
Groeps of > 15 & 65+	€ 6
Students & CJP holders	€ 4

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday	11:00 - 17:00
Thursday	11:00 - 21:00

For more information, go to www.vanabbemuseum.nl

- Note to editors -

Further details and visual material can be directly downloaded at www.vanabbemuseum.nl/pers

For more information you can also contact

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