

2024 ACTIVITY REPORT

To be approved by members during the 2025 General Meeting

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Network activities

euroart network activities are regularly published on the website, on the *euroart* Instagram account and through the newsletters.

New marketing material

Over the past year, a range of marketing materials was produced.

- **Postcards:** Each member can print their own postcards, adding a picture of their choice. These postcards are meant to be free for visitors and displayed prominently.



- **Plates:** four possible versions of signs available. For heritage-listed buildings, there is also the option of making them transparent.



- **New *euroart* flyer:** The new general flyer is now complete and has been sent to the members who ordered it. We hope it will help inform people about *euroart* and provide a unique overview of the locations of the artists' colonies across Europe.



- Regional German flyers: flyers are available as PDFs on the *euroart* website.



- Instagram account: the *euroart* Instagram account has been launched and is regularly updated with posts. Follow us to learn about artists' colonies, current exhibitions, and expect a "Masterpiece Monday," where we present a new painting each week



2024 Digital Summer Exhibition

For the third time *euroart* organised a digital exhibition. The 26 participating artists' colonies/painters' villages showed the exhibition on the theme TREES on a screen in their own museum/gallery. Most of the museums/galleries presented the three paintings they sent to the digital exhibition. Flyers were created for the public and sent as PDFs to each participant, allowing them to print copies for their visitors.

The project was managed by Margot Jongedijk from the Noord-Veluws museum in Nunspeet.

The theme for 2025 will be woman painters. Every *euroart* member or partner is welcome to join.



ICEAC – International Centre for the study and documentation of European Artists' Colonies

The main ICEAC activities in 2024 concentrated on researching and publishing. The ICEAC Book Series, Catalogues and Booklets or Cahiers really got going.

To my great pleasure, the Province of Zeeland together with the Zeeland municipalities have granted the ICEAC and Domburg Museum 10,000€ to let a quartermaster develop a program for organizing the Centre and its researches & activities in a manner that suits its natural and social environment. We are looking for the quartermaster in the first place within *euroart*.

MAIN ACTIVITIES 2024

Research and Publications in the ICEAC Series. Cahiers, Catalogues and Books.
With this year the *euroart* Jubilee Cahier, a catalogue on the Edmond Verstraeten exhibition in Domburg and



The latest publication: the Cahier *From Studio to Landscape. The adventure of the artists' colonies in Europe*. It is the third one in the Series and is dedicated to 30 years of *euroart*, and it accompanied the exhibition of the same name in *L'esquisse*.

The second publication in the Catalogue Series concentrated on the Belgian luminist painter Edmond Verstraeten; it was published at an exhibition on him in Domburg (The Netherlands).

The ICEAC Book Series is a Series of its own: it publishes one book a year, which should be a high-qualified scientific research study presented in an easy and accessible format. The Series is open to contributions from *euroart* Members. Suggestions are always welcome.

The ICEAC Book Series - once a year

... In October 2024 appears No. 2: *Treasures of the Soul. Marianne von Werefkin 1860-1938*.
In February 2023 appeared No. 1: *Forever Indebted. A real Mondrian or a clever fake*.

For 2025 is planned No. 3: Jenny Reynaerts on the models of Breitner, Mondrian and Toorop. Jenny Reynaerts is senior curator of Rijksmuseum Amsterdam and since 2021 leader of the project 'Women of the Rijksmuseum'.

Suggestions for further publications are welcome!



euroart and the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe

Since 2021, *euroart* has been granted the “Participatory status with the Council of Europe”, which means *euroart* is invited to contribute to the work of Council of Europe, as an “accredited” representative of the civil society. As such, *euroart* has become a member of the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe - the Conference of INGOs -.

This status has been renewed in 2024 for another 3 years, till 2027.



Since 2022, *euroart* is a member of the newly approved “Education for democracy” committee. The committee’s specific objectives are to put forward concrete proposals on the role of education stakeholders such as civil society, formal and non-formal education providers as democratic actors to orientate the work of the Council of Europe on the issues related to education about democracy and human rights. This includes creating links between the different initiatives within the Council of Europe, sharing best practices across CoE member states, mainstreaming the most innovative and efficient methods to embed democratic values in all forms of education and training

The plenary sessions took place in April 8-10 (Spring session) and October 14-16 (Autumn session) in the Council of Europe premises in Strasbourg (France).

During the Autumn session, the 3-year strategy plan of the INGO Conference was approved, focusing mainly on:

External

- Ensuring freedom of expression, assembly, association, and defending liberal democratic values.
- Strengthening the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights’ system and rule of law.
- Fighting inequalities and actively promoting the European Social Charter.
- Promoting equality, anti-discrimination and protection of marginalized and at-risk groups.
- Promoting civil society action on the Triple Planetary (Environmental) Crisis and the human rights consequences.

Internal

- Reinforcing the role of CINGO as the CoE civil society pillar through further developing CINGO members’ systematic contribution to CoE bodies.
- Strengthening CINGO’s internal and external communications and participatory approaches.



News of Impressionisms Routes®

Highlight of the year is the publication of the Guide "Impressionism in France" published in cooperation with "Le Petit Futé".

This work was released in bookstores in May 2024 and was officially "launched" during an event organized on June 19, 2024 in the Salons of the Cultural space "L'Atelier" in Argenteuil, in the presence of many personalities and Nicolas Monquaut, representing the Ministry of Culture.

This work, a new tourist and educational tool serving the territories, covers around a hundred impressionist sites in France. It summarizes the history and the great moments of the movement, while providing the traditional practical information appreciated by the readers of Petit Futé.



Digital Interactive Map

The comprehensive Digital Interactive Map of European artists' colonies is now operational. Members still need to deliver the information to populate the database.

The database as well as the software can be distributed to interested museums and institutions. The museums or tourist information centres then only have to buy a screen with touchscreen function.

As more and more information gets added into the database, the Digital Interactive Map will continue to develop and become a truly European project.



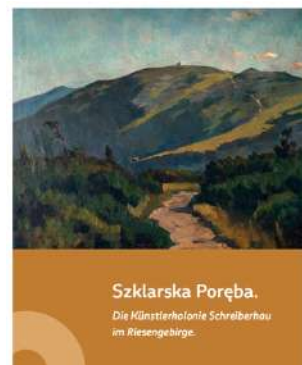
euroart funded projects: 10,000€

Kunstmuseum Schwaan (Germany): 2,000€

Szklarska Poręba. The Schreiberhau artists' colony in the Giant Mountains."

Exhibition at the Schwaan Art Museum from 23 March to 16 June 2024

The Schwaan Art Museum presented paintings by artists from the Schreiberhau artists' colony, which is located in the Giant Mountains. The exhibition was organised in close cooperation with the Karkonoskie Museum in Jelenia Góra. Almost 40 artworks are on display in the former home of Carl and Gerhart Hauptmann in Schreiberhau. These include works by Alfred Nickisch and Carl Ernst Morgenstern, as well as Hans Emil Oberländer. Oberländer had close ties to both Schreiberhau and Ahrenshoop and, like the Hauptmann brothers with Hiddensee, represents a connection between two artists' colonies. A particular aim of the exhibition was to make the artists' colonies visible as a shared European heritage.



Malwerk Oberhausen (Germany): 1,000€

Arbour conversations / Laubengespräche / Conversations sous les tonnelles

A sensational art exhibition as well as musical, literary and other performances ("Intermezzi") at RAUMdurchKUNST, Sindelsdorf, Germany from 6-27 July 2024.

Organized by Malwerk Oberhausen, Germany in cooperation with Tervuren, Belgium, represented by Wim Scheere.

Malwerk Oberhausen invited the paneuropean Artists group AiM to deal artistically with the phenomenon of arbour conversations by interpreting the semantic fields associated with it.



Jamlitz artists' circle (Germany): 3,000€

Scandinavian artists' colonies meet the Jamlitz artists' circle

Art exhibition from 17 November to 15 December 2024 at the Justus Delbrück Haus | Akademie für Mitbestimmung Bahnhof Jamlitz.

This exhibition, was created as part of the Jamlitz Dorf + Welt | Scandinavia project.

The exhibition was arranged in the style of a Petersburg hanging and invites visitors to engage actively by discovering pairs of paintings that are thematically or stylistically connected.

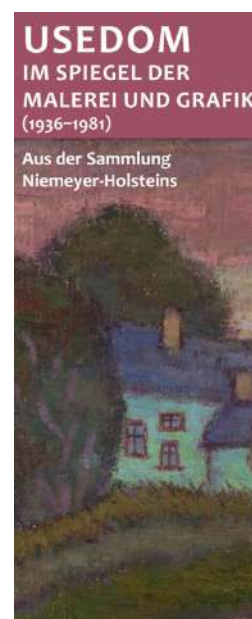


Kunstlermuseum Heikendorf (Germany): 1,000€

Usedom in the mirror of painting and graphics (1936-1981) – from the Otto Niemeyer-Holstein Collection

Art Exhibition from 9 March until 26 May 2024 at the Kunstlermuseum Heikendorf-Kielerförde.

The extensive collection of the artist Otto Niemeyer-Holstein (ONH) consists of more than 700 paintings and prints as well as sculptures by important contemporaries. ONH was friends with over 200 artists and exchanged works of art with them or received them as gifts. Later, he also bought works by artists he admired and supported young artists through acquisitions. The works of Usedom's artist friends form a focal point of this collection. Franka Keil, director of the Atelier ONH museum in Lüttenort/Usedom, has selected almost 50 works by 24 artists from this wealth of artworks.



Musée Atelier Otto Niemeyer-Holstein (Germany): 3,000€

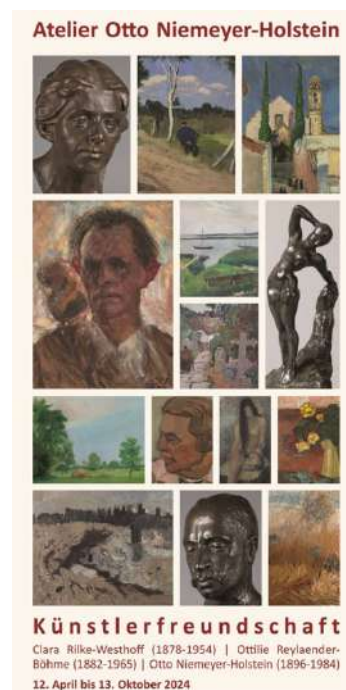
Artist friendship Clara Rilke-Westhoff (1878-1954)

Ottlie Reylaender-Böhme (1882-1965)

Otto Niemeyer-Holstein (1896-1984)

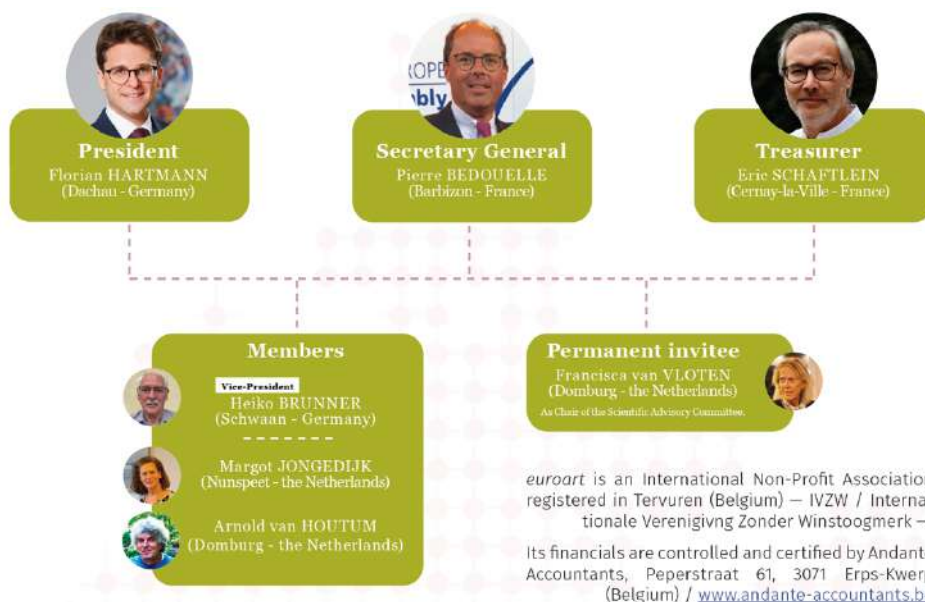
Art exhibition from 12 April until 13 October 2024 at the museum Atelier Otto Niemeyer-Holstein.

Clara Rilke-Westhoff and Otto Niemeyer-Holstein met at Arthur Segal's painting school in Berlin, whom ONH already knew from Ascona. After returning from Mexico in 1928, Ottlie Reylaender-Böhme also reunited with Clara Rilke-Westhoff there, deepening their long-standing friendship. ONH was impressed by the work of the two women artists, who had first met decades earlier in Worpswede. A close artistic exchange developed, which is reflected in ONH's work over the years. In the 1950s, the connection intensified again, documented in mutual portraits and studio scenes.



GOVERNANCE

Steering Committee



Steering Committee meetings were held:

- 25 January 2024, by video conference
- 16 February 2024, by video conference
- 10 May 2024, in Nunspeet (The Netherlands)
- 5 July 2024, by video conference
- 3 September 2024, by video conference
- 27 September 2024, in Barbizon (France)
- 17 December 2024, by video conference

Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)

The SAC - *euroart's* Scientific Advisory Committee - advises the Board on Membership matters. The current SAC exists of Henning Repetzky from Heikendorf (Germany), Eva Frellesvig from Faaborg (Denmark), Annette Winter-Süss from Schwaan (Germany) and Francisca van Vloten, from Domburg (The Netherlands) as Chair.



Next to that, the Chair is available for general advice to the daily management of the Steering Committee and the Secretary General.

In 2024, the SAC advised the Steering Committee to grant Membership to the Flensburg Museum (Germany) and the Ciurlionis National Museum of Art in Kaunas (Lithuania) as Partner Members, the Associations AiM (Artists in Motion, Cernay-la-Ville, France), Artistes du bout du Monde in Grez-sur-Loing (France), Les Amis de Bourron-Marlotte (France) and Heimatfreunde in Grötzingen e.V. (Germany), and the Foundations Historisch Egmond and CultuRE in Renkum (The Netherlands) plus the Municipalities of Olevano Romano (Italy) and Grez-sur-Loing (France) as Member Members. The two Municipalities will come back to this next year.

Contacts are ongoing with:

- In the UK (St. Ives), in Denmark (Skagen), in Sweden (Arvika), in Switzerland (Ascona) and in Italy (Bordighera and Meran), hoping to interest them in joining again. This goes for the municipalities as well as for the museums and artists' associations.
- And finally, through endeavours from many sides, the number of Private Members in several European countries is growing.

Office

Birte Hölscher, based in Worpswede (Germany) focused her work on general administration and communication & marketing.

Gabriella Haass, based in Barbizon (France), focused her work on the Digital Interactive Map, the annual report and the organisation of the 2024 GM.

She ended her apprenticeship; *euroart* thanks her for the work accomplished and wishes all the best.



Working Groups

Museum connection WG

The museum group has intensified its collaboration this year. Every three months, a zoom call took place, organized by the members in alphabetical order. During the call, one or two museums briefly introduce themselves, presenting their collections, artists, number of employees, and other relevant information. This is followed by a discussion on common shared topics of interest like exchanging know-how on transportation, insurance and online marketing (social media, newsletters, websites). A shared document will be created where all planned exhibitions will be listed, allowing opportunities for collaboration to be identified.

Contact: Margot Jongedijk

Cultural tourism WG

New euroart sales publication:

- 12 members throughout Germany launched a digital version

- target group: German tour operators, specialized in art & culture
- inspiration for trips and routes,
- combination of several partners or with nearby major city
- completion in September 2024, right in time for the anniversary
- additional promotion via press release in September 2024
- other members are welcome to join

Contact: Monika Webersberger (Dachau Tourist Office)

Artists Residency program WG

A pilot of a two-week artists in residency program is planned in the following three locations: Worpswede, Hiddensee and Dachau.

Individual themes are worked on at the locations and then exhibited together. The results will be presented first at the General Meeting 2025 in Katwijk with an optional subsequent traveling exhibition at the respective locations (third-party funding required).

Contact: Bhima Griem & Mathias Buß

Commercial partners WG

The group had 4-5 zoom sessions over the course of the year. The objective is that a group of commercial partners will be formed with in the first place focus on hotels.

The criteria are that hotels located in or near an artists' colony offer an art experience to the visitor.

It will be investigated whether the statutes have to be adapted for commercial partners.

The members of the group are seeking contacts to the hotels and ask them about their needs for, and expectations of such a partnership. Possibility of a route among the hotels to be created. To attract and secure commercial partners, it's crucial that we increase euroart visibility on social media, particularly on Instagram..

Contact: Vincent Tuijp & Eva Van Niel

2024 General Meeting in Barbizon (France) - 26-to 29 September 2024

In the picturesque artists' colony of Barbizon, *euroart* celebrated its 30th anniversary and reflected on the past year. It was intense few days filled with encounters, engaging in exciting discussions, networking, and deepening connections between members.

In addition to informative discussion rounds, visits were scheduled at the Barbizon Art Museum (*Musée départemental des peintres de Barbizon*), the studio of the famous artist Jean-François Millet. With also the opportunity to explore the charming former artists' colonies of Grez-sur-Loing and Bourron-Marlotte.



The highlights of the annual meeting included the opening of the exhibition at the cultural hotel *L'esquisse*, featuring paintings from the artists' colonies of the 5 founding members, as well as the symbolic tree planting in honor of *euroart* 30th anniversary.

President, Florian Hartmann, and Secretary General, Pierre Bedouelle, celebrated this special moment together with representatives from the other founding members: Ahrenshoop (Germany), Tervuren (Belgium), Worpswede (Germany), and Kronberg (Germany). The planted tree symbolizes not only networking and growth but also embodies the deep art historical roots of the unique phenomenon of artists' colonies.

A presentation of the cards sent by contemporary artists



The meeting was held in the exhibition room of the Hotel *L'esquisse*, where Francisca Van Vloten, together with Heiko Brunner, curated an impressive display of remarkable paintings from the five founding colonies of *euroart*.



A collective, multi-lingual poem created by the attendees of the 2024 *euroart* General Meeting in Barbizon. A project initiated and animated by Wim Scheere from Tervuren, Belgium.

Watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TD3OaGUPvbw>



The 30th anniversary tree planting campaign

Trees are living organisms that sink their roots deep into the earth and stretch their leaves towards the sky. They carry a profound symbolic meaning in various cultures and religions around the world. Trees played an important role for the founders of the artists' colonies and are immortalised in many paintings. They give us a sense of timelessness and connect us with the past. Especially in times of climate change trees are a sign of hope and we feel connected to them.

To celebrate the anniversary, a symbolic tree was planted in Barbizon, marking the start of the tree-planting initiative across our member colonies. Each colony is encouraged to plant a tree, symbolising the growth and flourishing of *euroart* in the years to come.

Barbizon (France)



Grötzingen (Germany)



Dachau (Germany)

