

International Centre for the Study and Documentation of European Artists' Colonies

Ooststraat 10a, 4357 BE Domburg

ART CONNECTS & TRANSCENDS BORDERS

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear euroart-friends,

* The ICEAC Project was first brought forward at the General Assembly of 2013 in Willingshausen and, thankfully, was greeted there with great enthusiasm. Since then, I have tried to focus on collecting as many relevant books and works of art as possible and I am happy to say that at the moment the library has more than 5.000 books on the subject and the art collection consists of more than 600 relevant works.

It has however been a struggle to get the same enthusiasm in Domburg, which prospers by tourism and in those past years was not really interested in culture and art, or in *euroart* or the ICEAC.

- In fact, the Domburg Museum has existed for 25 years without structural financial support. The local entrepreneurs even pointed out that they didn't need culture or a museum to blossom.



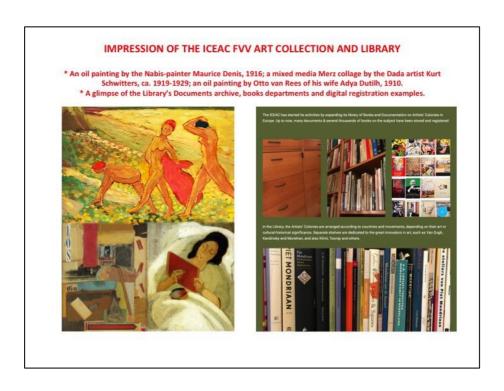
* But the times, they are a-changing: since a couple of years, both the Municipality and the community and even some entrepreneurs have realised that culture and art can enhance the quality of a bathing resort which also is an artists' colony.

At the moment we have the full support of the Municipality and are, in consultation with them, planning the renovation of the Museum and the expansion of the Museum Complex with the ICEAC. At the end of this year, we would like to begin with the construction planning phase and, if all goes well, have a Grand Double Opening in March 2024, the 30th year of *euroart*'s existence.



* The ICEAC is meant to be a Research Centre for scholars, for artists and for anyone interested in art and culture. Its library is at their disposal. Thankfully, now and then, several of our Members are contributing to it and at its Grand Opening it will receive extensive relevant libraries, as donations by Claus Pese from Nürnberg and Hans-Günther Pawelcik from Worpswede. And I certainly hope more Members will follow.

The library will be surrounded by works of art. The Domburg Museum owns around 200-250 works of art, focusing on Domburg; and as mentioned before, the collection managed by the ICEAC consists of more than 600 works, dedicated to the artists' colonies in Europe.



* Here you see an impression of some of these art works which were acquired in 2021. Oil paintings by the Nabis-artist Maurice Denis and Otto van Rees, who was connected to Laren, Domburg, Ascona, etc. and a Merz collage by Kurt Schwitters. Next to it an impression of the archives and the library, which is digitally registered.



* Going back to the ICEAC objectives, I would like to focus on point 5: the projects in collaboration with comparable institutions. There are already preliminary negotiations on the possible organisation of workshops, lectures and exchanges of exhibitions with several European cultural and educational institutions, among them universities in the Netherlands and Belgium. We hope to start them as an experiment next year, with the Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf, and continue them regularly from 2024 onwards, after the Opening.



* The Map. The pink coloured spaces form the existing museum. Entrance, Shop & Desk, Museum Café, the Double W's, all accessible for free; then the existing Museum Hall for exchange exhibitions, a glass walled corridor, the second Museum Hall for a display of works from both the Museum and the ICEAC collections, and then the Study Centre with facilities (the Pantry should also be seen as a possible room for Workshops).

The arrows do indicate possible extra rooms. The ones on top of the Map for receiving goods, storing works etc. and to provide a technical room; the ones below for possible extra Workshop & Conference rooms.

OPENING OF THE ICEAC EXHIBITION THE UNVEILING BY EUROART SECRETARY-GENERAL PIERRE BEDOUELLE, DOMBURG 11.09.2021

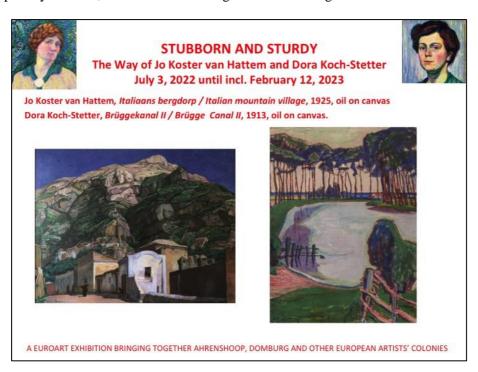
The exhibition *The Unveiling* told the story of the classical Artists' Colonies in Europe, their beginnings in the 19th century, their development, prosperity and decline in the 20th century. And their revival, from the 1850's of that last century.

It showed how intertwined with each other the classical Artists' Colonies in Europe were, but also how important they have been for the development of modern art.





* In September last year, our Secretary-General Pierre Bedouelle opened the exhibition *The Unveiling*, which – as you all know – in fact was a kind of introducing the ICEAC to the public. About 170 works from different European artists' colonies and painters' villages were on show; and in the displays, the visitors could follow several of the Research Projects by the ICEAC. The expo was interrupted by COVID, but did run for a long time and was a great success.



* Also a great success is the current exhibition, *Stubborn and Sturdy*, presenting two women artists, Jo Koster van Hattem and Dora Koch-Stetter, who had much in common but also differed in many ways and both were connected to different artists' colonies. The exhibition is an initiative of the ICEAC and was organised in collaboration with the Kunstmuseum Ahrenshoop under the umbrella of *euroart*.

It was opened by Reinier van Lanschot, Co-President of the Pan-European Political Movement Volt. I cannot thank the Kunstmuseum Ahrenshoop as lender and in particular its Director Katrin Arrieta as the organiser of the German loans and support in many other ways enough for their help. Also many thanks go to Heiko and Astrid Brunner, who so very kindly took care of the international transport. And to Hans-Günther Pawelcik for his assistance in lay-out matters.

This is a great example of how cooperation between *euroart* members can be. And the more it pleases me, that so many visitors have found and do find the way to our Museum, are struck by the works of these two women and plan to visit Ahrenshoop and its Museum as well.

- We would love to see you all in Domburg!

Thank you.



EXTRA INFORMATION

MUSEUM DOMBURG

- Renovation and Extension Museum
- Focus on European Artists' Colony as phenomenom
- Host of the scientific branch of Euroart: ICEAC
- Facilities for library, study and documentation centre, seminars and workshops

MUSEUM DOMBURG anno 2022



MUSEUM DOMBURG 2024

- overall costs 2.3 million
- ICEAC section 4 K
- gross surface (GLA) 80 m2
- · height 4 m
- high speed internet (Surfnet)
- Opening March 2024!











