THE ICEAC Report 2025-26 – FvV

Dear Friends,

The MTVP Museum in Domburg is a 1994 replica of the old Art Hall (‘Kunstzaal’), which was built in 1911 by Jan Toorop and his friends in the dunes of Domburg.

And now, in 2026, we have started the dismantling of the old Museum and the building of the new Art Museum and Research Centre in Domburg. At last.
You may remember that our first plans for an International Research Centre date back to 2013 in Willingshausen.
During the building process, the Museum is housed in Galerie Het Noorderlicht in de Noordstraat in Domburg. We hope to open the new Museum at the end of June 2027.

The Museum is owned by the Stichting Museum Domburg; the cost of the Museum’s extension is borne entirely by that foundation. The total cost of the project is subsidised by various institutions, including the Municipality of Veere. The plan for a Research Centre has often been of great significance in this regard.
The cost of the Research Centre as part of the overall construction plan amounts to approximately 300,000 euros. This space will be made available to the ICEAC.
Although the ICEAC is not an independent legal entity, it is a brand name that can be used in many ways.

The Study or Research Centre, which will house the ICEAC, will be equipped with all necessary communication facilities. The construction budget allows for this, and the actual fit-out will be privately funded.
The ICEAC was included in the EuroArt budget from 2019 onwards and received its first contribution of 2000 euros in 2021. In 2023 the amount was changed to 3000 euros. The contributions until 2024 have been accounted for and approved of by you, the participants of the General Meetings.
The 3000 euros for 2025 went in part to the Quartermaster’s Research and in part to the building process of the ICEAC. For 2026 the ICEAC has not yet received a contribution.
In order to develop the ICEAC into a European research platform, the digitizing and accessibility of the library and archives are top priority. This requires time and further planning for the Museum.

Together with Godelieve van der Heijden, I shall be responsible for developing the library and archive. Until now, the library could be visited at a private location, of which, I am happy to say, many scholars, students and artists made use. After setting up the library, I’ll continue to serve as Senior Research Adviser.

The Museum's management will be responsible for the programme of events at the Study Centre and Museum (workshops, lectures, etc.).

Our new museum meets all necessary requirements regarding climate control, security, lighting, and so forth. Of course, it has an adapted facility report.
The Opening Exhibition will last about four or five months. It is at the same time my farewell exhibition: 'Francie's Choice' (*Francie's Keuze*), with some 40 to 50 works that have held significance for me during my thirty-year association with the Domburg Museum and International Organisations. For this occasion, I am requesting works from both domestic and international sources. With great pleasure, I am inviting you all to the exhibition.

After the opening of the new Museum next year, during the summer of 2027, Arnold van Houtum will step down as the Museum's General Leader, and I shall quit as its Artistic Leader. Our successors are present with us here, all of you have met them: Eveline Cleiren, who will be the General Director-executive and Janita Baron, who will be the Artistic Director-Executive. At the moment, all four of us are working together towards the Museum opening.

As to the possible role of EuroArt in the ICEAC:
A working group consisting of Pierre Bedouelle, Annette Winter-Süß, Margot Jongedijk, Eric Schaftlein and myself, is now established to prepare a first draft outlining how the scientific pillar of EuroArt could be further developed and what role the ICEAC could play within this broader concept.
This first draft will be presented for discussion within the Steering Committee.

Thank you.