
PRESS RELEASE

STUBBORN AND STURDY

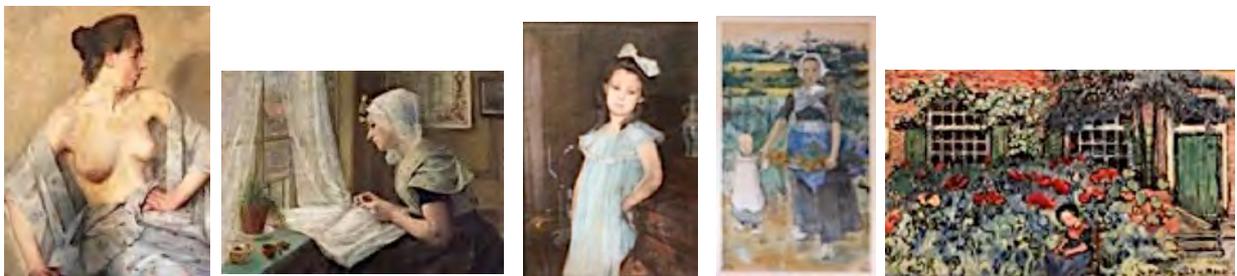
The Path of Jo Koster (van Hattem) and Dora Koch-Stetter

July 3, 2022 until incl. February 12, 2023

With Jo Koster's work as a guideline, the Summer & Winter Exhibition 2022-2023 of the MTVP Museum Domburg follows the development of two female artists, who started traditionally but then unfolded their talents, one particularly in the French neo-impressionist and the other mainly in the German expressionist sense.

That the Dutch Jo Koster and the German Dora Stetter both have been connected to a variety of European Artists' Colonies is clearly expressed in their work. In a beautiful survey of – inter alia – in Domburg, Staphorst, Heeze, Knokke en Ahrenshoop created paintings and graphic works, the similarities and differences between them are shown.

Around 65 works by Jo Koster and 35 by Dora Koch-Stetter were brought together for this exhibition. Among Jo Koster's work are beautiful and completely unknown pieces from private collections that have never been presented publicly before. Together with the works of Dora Koch-Stetter, they show what these women stood for in a world mainly dominated by men. Stubbornly persevering and sturdily digesting, or: their path wasn't easy, but the women were stubborn and sturdy!



THE ARTISTS' COLONY DOMBURG

At the end of the nineteenth century, Domburg made name as a simple international Spa town, with the major attraction of the doctor and physiotherapist Johan Georg Mezger (1838-1909). After Mezger's death and the First World War (1914-1918), the town slowly changed into a family seaside resort for the middle class. For a long time its history remained hidden, but from the 1980s onwards Domburg is chronicled as an old style artist colony.

Of old, artists have roamed Walcheren, attracted as they were by the unspoiled beauty of the surroundings, the special light along the coast and its reflection on the country embraced by water. With a couple of Belgian painters such as Emile Claus, Euphrosine Beernaert and Camille Van Camp as forerunners round about 1870, the Artists' Colony Domburg came into a first bloom about 1900, experienced its hey-day during the period of the well-known Domburgsche Tentoonstellingen (1911-1921) and lasted until the end of the 1920s. The Artists' Colony Domburg came to a symbolic end when the 'Kunstzaal' collapsed as a result of violent storms in the winter of 1921-1922.

THE MTVP MUSEUM

Since 1994, the Marie Tak van Poortvliet Museum Domburg (marietakmuseum.nl) organises successful exhibitions on the participants in the old exhibitions, on contemporary artists who have ties with Zeeland and in addition, in the context of the mutual contacts between European Artists' Colonies, on other notable Colonies from the end of the 19th and the early 20th century. In the past years, the Museum co-operated with the ICEAC (iceac.eu). The plans to expand the Museum and to connect it to the ICEAC are being elaborated, with the latter representing the scientific side of euroart (euroart.eu). One endeavours to let the inauguration of the Research- and Documentation Centre coincide with the opening of the new Museum.

For photos and more information: e.cleiren@museumdomburg.nl / info@iceac.eu

MTVP Museum Domburg | Ooststraat 10a | 4357 BE Domburg | T 00 31 118 584618



The exhibition is an initiative of the ICEAC Domburg and takes place in the context of the European network EuroArt with support by the Kunstmuseum Ahrenshoop.