

PRESS RELEASE

## THERE THEY GO ... !!

### DOMBURG HEADS & DOMBURG IMPRESSIONS

from 17.12.2023 until incl. 17.03.2024

#### Domburg Heads

From December 17 onwards, 21 Domburg Heads, brought together by the City of Domburg Foundation for 800 Years, will decorate the walls of the Gallery of the MTVP Museum Domburg. With two Domburgers who travelled the wide world on a Zündapp in the late 1960s, all the way to Westkapelle, as figureheads. The story of it hangs next to the photo and 20 more special photos of striking Domburgers with equally special stories follow. The stories were collected by Peter Louwerse and edited by him, Frits Jongepier and Francisca van Vloten. The organisation was in the hands of Guest Curator Chris Maas and Museum Curator Van Vloten.



#### Domburg Impressions

In the Hall of the museum you can see impressive works by 8 photographers who were inspired by certain facets of 800 years of Domburg with the photo as an art form: an action photo, a tranquil moment, a portrait against a background, a beautiful detail of a larger whole or, for example, just an impression. The photographers are Ineke Wesselink, Britt Roelse, Vincent Mentzel, Lex de Meester, Michiel Heijmans, Mies van den Hemel, Dominique de Haes and Leonore de Berlis. The selection was made by Museum Curator Francisca van Vloten and Guest Curators Dominique de Haes and Renée van Vloten.



## 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 classes. For a long time its history remained hidden, but from the 1980s onwards Domburg is chronicled as an old style artists' 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 MTVP Museum Domburg ([marietakmuseum.nl](http://marietakmuseum.nl)) has organised successful exhibitions around the participants in the old exhibitions, around contemporary artists who have a connection with Zeeland and in collaboration with the ICEAC ([iceac.eu](http://iceac.eu)) around other high-profile colonies from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Hard work is being done on the plans to expand the Museum and connect the ICEAC as the scientific side of euroart ([euroart.eu](http://euroart.eu)). The aim is to have the opening of the Research and Documentation Center coincide with that of the new Museum in Domburg in 2025 or 2026.

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