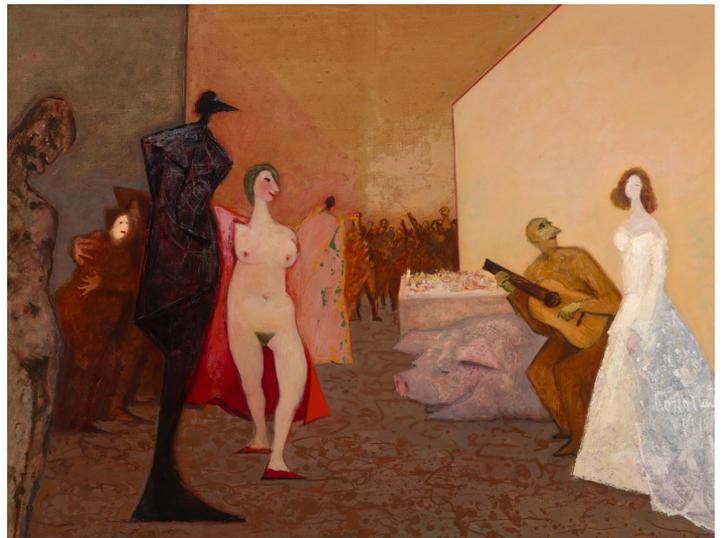


Constant

101



Projects *Constant 101*

A production by Fondation Constant

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PROJECTS CONSTANT 1 0 1

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CONTEXT p.02

NEW AUDIENCE p.04

NEW WORK p.05

PRODUCT p.07

MUSEUMS | PROJECT SPACES | GALERIES p.09

PROGRAM p.15

RESEARCH p.16

CONTEXT

These are the projects that create a context between the different projects, works and activities. They provide a stage, a connection, a background and reflection.

CONSTANT 1 0 1 | digital platform [1]

Thonik | Our Polite Society

A digital platform (website) will become the center of the *Constant 1 0 1* project year. Here, visitors can follow all projects taking place within and outside their region and learn more about Constant and the new makers who have started a work or project inspired by or reflecting on Constant's legacy. On this platform, the various projects and their sources are documented in image, sound and text. After the *Constant 1 0 1* year has finished, this platform will continue to exist and will form a digital archive of the project year.

The platform connects the functions of communication, archive and exchange in a visual work that reflects conceptually, artistically and substantively on Constant's ideas about creatorship, the role of art in society and technology. The four themes from the concept, **New world, Man at Play, Collective and Conflict, Romanticism and Dialectics** are visualized in the platform.

The website is being developed in a collaboration between Dutch design agencies thonik and Our Polite Society. The choice of an established agency that focuses on new audiences and new media and an emerging, international graphic design agency with a quirky idiom represents a continuation of Constant's quest for the role of art in society. This collaboration is an investigation into how autonomous artistic practice can be brought together with an inclusive communication for a new audience with new media, whereby the collaboration leads to a layered and inclusive work.

CONSTANT 1 0 1 | archive [2]

Constant was an orderly man and kept projects, correspondences and notes in folders and folders. In 2008 Constant's large studio in Wittenburg was emptied. His working materials were then documented, but the full filing cabinets were put in boxes and moved to the basement of his home on the Kromme Waal.

In addition to letters, notes, manuscripts and photos, there are folders about Constant's applied art, design and construction projects in collaboration with De Broek en Bakema, the Public Works Department and Bouwcentrum Rotterdam, among others.

By organizing, digitizing and making the archive available as a whole, this is a sustainable project that also facilitates future research into the work of Constant and his contemporaries. The partners in the projects will be able to make exclusive use of this archive material that has never been shown and researched before the project year.

CONSTANT 1 0 1 | the podcast [3]

Freek Dijkstra | Eliane Odding

What does a Constant artist's practice mean for the contemporary maker? In Constant 1 0 1 the podcast, creators Eliane Odding and Freek Dijkstra, based on the ideas of Constant, go in search of the question what is the role of art in society, together with contemporary coastal artists? And what should this role be?

In each episode, interviews with artists and connoisseurs, music, voice recordings of Constant, recited fragments and anecdotes will collectively tell the substantive story of Constant's ideas and today's reflection on this. These give inducement to talk to contemporary makers about artistry, their artistic practice, engagement, art as a means of action, or art for art. How do today's artists deal with the art-historical cannon? And how do artists of today who think about the future use the ideas and theories about the future that Constant developed in a completely different century? How can the ideas help them or how does it get in their way?

CONSTANT 1 0 1 | the video series [4]

New Heroes Foundation | Joep van Osch | Lucas de Man

During the year Company New Heroes will make short video items about the various projects in the context of the project year Constant 1 0 1. These will be video items like the popular Dutch art series Man and Kunst and Kunstuur. These items can also be used for communication purposes and will draw a wide audience to pay attention to the projects.

NEW AUDIENCE

These are the projects that have been set up with the aim of reaching new audiences.

Education project | Babylon Z [5]

Breitner Academy

In collaboration with art and media teachers from the Fluxus art center and teachers from the Kennemer College MAVO, a course is being developed for students in MAVO 3. This lesson series is a pilot for the client Constant Foundation. During their design process, students explore artistic strategies to internalize public space, and how to maintain an open attitude towards other groups with different interests. The problems that young people experience themselves are used as a springboard to Constant's work. Constant's oeuvre serves as a lens in the search for solutions. This creates a dialogue between the art world and the world of young people. The New Babylon project reflects on the theme that now also plays a role among young people: the right to public space and the spontaneous, playful interaction with it.

Virtual theater | Enter New Babylon [6]

Dennis Molema | Over het IJ Producties | Poetry Circle Nowhere | HKU | Pol Eggermont

Enter New Babylon is a virtual theater experience based on the futuristic world of New Babylon in which, in addition to the virtual reality experience, the physical experience and environment also play an important role. The virtual 3D model of Constant's Large Yellow Sector (1967), made by Dennis Molema, is used as a setting for theatrical stories about residents of the future New Babylon. The audience can walk through the model wearing VR glasses, listening to stories set in New Babylon. By working with seven different writers and linking them to their own scenographer, seven different worlds in New Babylon are created, seven perspectives on the future. The stories last 3-6 minutes and the visitor can choose to visit one or more worlds. This project is developed for theater, art and music festivals and aims at a younger and new target group, who in this way come into contact with Constant's work and ideas in a playful way.

NEW WORK

These are projects which will lead to new work.

Antonis Pittas x Constant's empty canvas [7]

For the project year Constant 1 0 1, Antonis Pittas will use the last canvas that was fully prepared by Constant but never painted on.

“For Constant1 0 1 I will be making a new installation with the empty canvas, and continue where Constant left off. The work will be research based, looking at the utopian ideology of New Babylon in relation to the promises of modernism, and draw parallels with current societal and political developments. I will create my own interpretation and reflections through Constant's body of work and intellectual legacy. New Babylon (and Constant) will function as inspiration; as a set of glasses to look at our current times.” | Antonis Pittas

For Constant 1 0 1, Antonis Pittas makes a film installation that is projected onto Constant's unpainted canvas. The film shows a drawing made with Constant's charcoal, accompanied by a voice-over with subtitles. Research into Constant's work will be presented on a series of modified work tables found in Constant's studio.

Antonis Pittas was appointed Honorary Fellow at the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Amsterdam in September 2020. Previously appointed Fellows are: Pierre Audi, Arnon Grunberg, Freek de Jonge and Abdelkader Benali.

Krien Clevis x Constant's studio [8]

With regard to Constant's studio / house, photographer Krien Clevis is particularly interested in Constant's painter's studio. Although abandoned, the studio appears almost untouched and at the same time it exudes an atmosphere as if work is still being done; the paintbrush can thus be taken up again by the master. Clevis wants to follow this process of change and record it photographically with her technical camera. She takes a low camera position, from the center between the two rooms to both the front and rear space. With the photos to be developed, she enters into dialogue with Constant, with a major aspect for her teacher; from “the monkey's perspective”.

The photos, Krien makes of Constant's studio, are hand-printed in limited editions on paper from Constant's own studio.

Krien Clevis (artist / researcher / curator PhD) photographs lieux perdus; places of significance, which in many cases no longer exist. The places Clevis photographs are historical, current (actually existing), or imaginary (from her memory). These places have in common that they are changing and are constantly being overwritten by aspects of time and space. They are lieux perdus, which in many cases are no

longer there. Clevis (re) creates the places in her photos as a new place of meaning. Her type of research is interwoven in these three places: historical, artistic and autobiographical.

ROBUCHE x Kromme Waal 18 [9]

The artist duo ROBUCHE, consisting of Lou Buche and Javier Rodriguez, create, as a website platform that takes the form of a visual and musical journey, an introspection into the spirit of visual artist Constant through his house in Amsterdam. The ambition is to develop a new, visual and fluid narrative that stems from the physical legacy in the artist's home, based on the powerful interdisciplinary aspects of Constant's work. ROBUCHE tries to create new interpretations of the oeuvre and what it means for him and for us to be able to dream as an artist. The house is currently for sale.

ROBUCHE is an Amsterdam amalgamation of the international designer-artists Lou Buche and Javier Rodriguez. In their work they look for a playful immediacy, effortlessly navigating between virtual and physical, spatial and flat. Their background in graphic design also provides a design basis for their spatial representations.

Noa Eyl & Dani Luca x Music [10]

With Constants cymbalom and inspired by his works, the violinist Noa Eyl and pianist and cymbalist, Dani Luca, will create compositions and arrangements inspired by Constant's Winterreise works. Constant had a fondness for Schubert's Winterreise and he has made some beautiful paintings inspired by the Winterreise. This provides a nice entrance for inspiration for the arrangements. Constant himself was a very solid cymbalist (he also played the violin, guitar and sang).

PRODUCTS

These projects result in a tangible product.

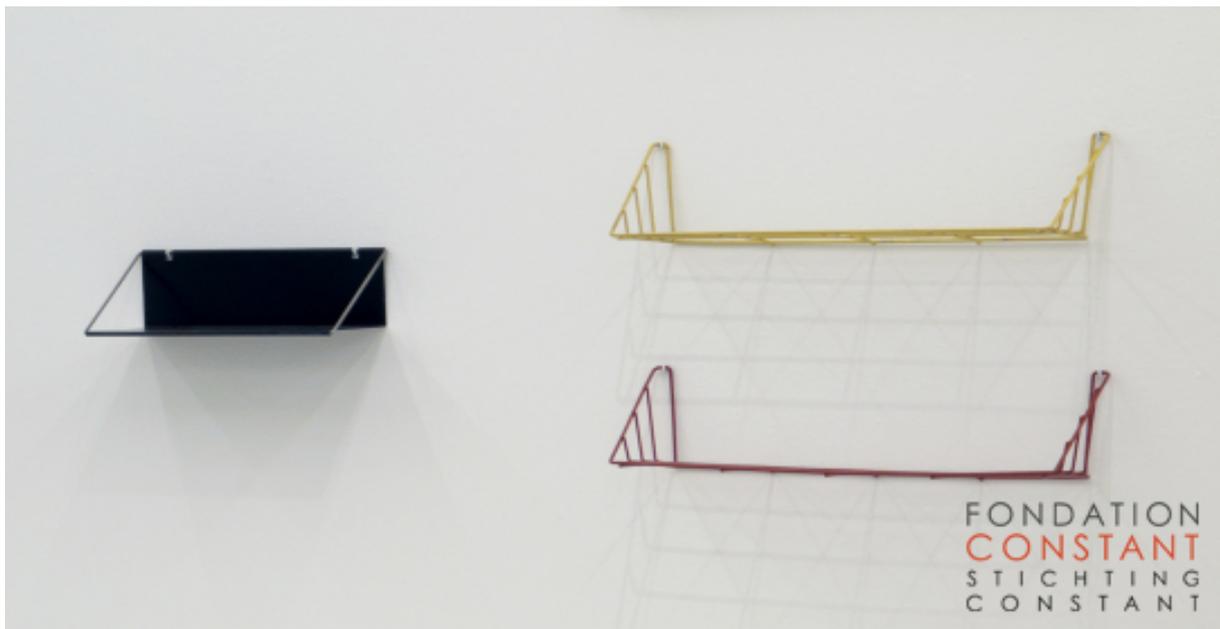
De Gids x Constant [11]

There is a strong affinity between the literary magazine De Gids and the artist Constant in terms of content. Constants engagement with the world, with modern urban life, was a starting point just as it is for De Gids. De Gids explores relevant themes in a literary way. Unlike a scientific or journalistic medium, the magazine thus gives space to the imagination, layering, ambiguity and personal experiences. In each issue, the editors address a theme. Just like Constant, De Gids wants to break through boundaries, between literature and the world, and between the different arts. This is the commitment of De Gids.

Special issue December 2021: Constant | The playing person or the fleeing person

Spectrum Design x Constant [12]

Spectrum Design will put the wall rack designed by Constant in 1956 back into production. In 2015 Spectrum Design already took Constant's IJhorst table back into production.



Publication | The Only Constant is Change [13]

Publisher Valiz

During the project year Constant 1 0 1, publisher Valiz will create an autonomous publication to reflect on the meaning of Constant now. Fondation Constant has formulated four basic themes in its plan for "Constant 1 0 1": New World; Playing Man; Collective and Conflict; and Romanticism and Dialectics. Valiz has looked at Constant's oeuvre from the perspective of contemporary issues and opposed parallel themes.

A search was made for authors / artists with a very broad background and a multi-disciplinary view of art, often operating internationally, often with a link to the Netherlands. About eighty percent of these authors were born after 1985, not because young-younger-youngest is always better, but because in the case of Constant and his legacy, it is exciting to see how a younger generation is turning to Constant and the issues that he / his work relates to. The list of authors also includes a number of "anchor points", people who know Constant's work thoroughly and can create context and connections from there. Astrid Vorstenman is the compiler of the book in collaboration with design agency Our Polity Society and Zippora Elders.

MUSEUMS | PROJECT SPACES | GALLERIES

These are projects developed by and in the museums, project spaces and galleries.

Bureau Europa [14]

Bureau Europa is eager to join the project year Constant 1 0 1. The project is still being developed.

Bureau Europa was founded in 2006 as NAI Maastricht, a branch of the former Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAi) in Rotterdam. Since 2013, the organization has operated independently as Bureau Europa, platform for architecture and design. As a presentation platform and network organization, Bureau Europa presents exhibitions, lectures, workshops, city tours and other discursive activities in the fields of architecture, urban planning and design. From a social perspective, Bureau Europa wants to promote knowledge production and talent development within the cultural domain. These objectives take shape in cultural projects within the institute and in the public space.

Borzo Gallery [15]

Gallery Borzo is looking at a traveling presentation of Constant's oeuvre in collaboration with partner galleries from London and Berlin.

COBRA Museum of Modern Art [16]

Curator Hilde de Bruijn has asked artist Antonis Pittas to create a concept and design for an exhibition about Constant in the Cobra Museum.

“As starting point for the exhibition, I focus on Constant's vision of New Babylon: a concept towards a future society, a utopian conceptual design for future architectural structures made for a society of creative people, who are freed from stultifying everyday work, the homo ludens. Constant's work prominently critiques conventional social structures. He was a free spirit and stood for an unconditionally autonomous and visionary practice inextricably linked to social and political consciousness. New Babylon has never lost its topicality, as is also evident from the fact that it is often still a compulsory part of the curriculum of architecture courses. [...] Recently, Fondation Constant has granted tools and materials of Constant, that were located in his residency at Kromme Waal in Amsterdam. These objects will become part of the installation, relating to his connection to the city of Amsterdam.” | Antonis Pittas

This exhibition will also include the work: Electric Circus - The Supreme Exodus Series by Antonio Jose Guzman.

Circus is a surprising mix of installation, performance, dance and music that revolves around contemporary migration, nomadic existence, underground economies, The Homo Ludens and Constant's New Babylon. Electric Circus is a multidisciplinary project in a context of uncertainty about

the European project, the collaboration also raises the question of the potential and limits of collectiveness. To enter the Electric Circus is to get in another spatial dimension, like entering into Jimi Hendrix Electric Ladyland of Constant New Babylon.

The installation performance video project feature Afropop Dancers playing around a choir singing DNA ancestral genetic sequences from different parts of the world, inside an installation full of stairs and frames for the Homo Ludens to travel in different spaces, while a video of the performance filmed in IJmuiden is projected in a giant screen into the installation space. The Video and installation run continuous, the performance and music orchestration presentations start at specific times. The music orchestration is based on DNA automated configurations, and computer systems algorithms from Constant genes and Guzman's DNA." | Antonio Jose Guzman

Framer Framed [17]

For Constant 1 0 1 Framer Framed strives to give Monika Dahlberg a commission for a work in the public space.

"The starting point is the interaction and friction between identity, background and ethnicity. The dialogue between 'me and the other', connection, alienation, change and exchange are recurring themes in my work and research. I use my biography as a guide to create my own colorful universe.

Working in this broad spectrum as my frame of reference, I connect history to current events. Converting the world that exists to my own world and, thus making it easier to understand. I am my work and everything is intertwined.

My work has been described as energetic, humorous and with a critical relationship to media culture, which is also uncomfortable and confrontational. The confronting thing is that I also let you look at yourself in a certain way and not shy away from prejudices against how we look at non-Western art."

- Monika Dahlberg

Kunstfort at Vijfhuizen [18]

Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen is enthusiastic to join the project year Constant 1 0 1. Project is still being developed.

Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen is art, heritage and nature in one. The modern Fort near Vijfhuizen is one of the first concrete buildings in the Netherlands and is part of the Stelling of Amsterdam; a large-scale 19th-century divestment plan that was never fully put into effect, and in 1996 was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The island is surrounded by distinct examples of Dutch spatial planning, such as the 19th century polder landscapes and the 20th century. century Vinex architecture.

Since 2005 the Fortress has been a destination for art, a special place where visual art and environmental heritage come together. The displays mirror the surroundings of the fort: a collage of

artificial landscapes in which nature has been used for various - now often obsolete - purposes. The Kunstfort is a place where space, time and image interlock. The programming is inspired by science - artists create alternative benefits and benefits questions existing systems. Negative themes are: climate and landscape, boundary politics and divestment models, technology and rationality, dystopia and apocalyps. This is prefixed in exhibitions, interventions in the outdoor area and multidisciplinary erasures.

MaMA [19]

In the coming year, MaMA is organizing a number of gatherings as part of "At MaMA you step into a new world". MaMA proposes to organize one of these meetings as part of the project year Constant 1 0 1. The idea is to bring the makers of the programs into contact with the ideas of Constant and not to impose this on them. In this way MaMA creates an inspiring environment in which the institution hopes for free inspiration from the makers who can get started with this philosophy based on their own enthusiasm. With this, the bottom-up aspect of the programs at MaMA and the freedom that the makers get in the development will remain central.

Melly [20]

Melly has a special connection with Constant through the important exhibition *Constant. New Babylon* which took place in 1998. This exhibition was created under the direction of Bartomeu Marie and was accompanied by the publication *New Babylon, the Hyper Architecture of Desire* by Mark Wigley which is still the permanent reference work for the New Babylon project. Melly is happy to join Constant 1 0 1 with a substantive program that starts from the archive of the 1998 exhibition. They are currently talking to NAI to create a project in collaboration with their two archives on Constant.

Museum Henriette Polak [21]

The artists from the collection of Museum Henriette Polak are / were idiosyncratic and followed their own path, regardless of trends and prevailing art styles; moving between figuration and abstraction, with attention to the craftsmanship and focused on human emotions. The vision of Museum Henriette Polak; to allow as many people as possible to get to know and enjoy art and culture in an open and respectful manner, in a broad sense and with a view to our valuable art and cultural-historical collections. The works of Constant from the collection are shown within the context of our collection. If possible, references will be added to the exhibition High Airs, treasures from the Rijksmuseum (27-11-21 to 20-03-22), whose motto is: 'City air makes you free'.

Museum Krona [22]

Thinking of an investigation into the role of faith in socially engaged artists, starting from their work *Die Beschneidung Christi*, nach Joerg Ratgeb, 1975. In which Constant's early religious works and his training with the Jesuits are also considered. The presentation is scheduled for December 2021.

Museum Krona is located in a green enclave on the outskirts of Uden. It is part of an ancient abbey complex, inhabited in part by the Bridgettines Sisters. One of the finest collections of religious art in the Netherlands is displayed in this unique environment. The rich collection includes a unique group of late medieval sculptures. Other highlights include the collection of icons, silver and contemporary art. The herb garden and the museum café De Refter enrich the visit after a medieval example.

The museum tells religious stories with Art, monastery and herb garden. Stories that can be labeled timeless due to its universal themes and that make you think. About the past, the present and the future. About yourself and others.

Museum van Bommel van Dam [23]

Museum van Bommel van Dam is eager to link up with the project year Constant 1 0 1. The museum has the beautiful watercolor *Le Misanthrope* (1981) and *Le joueur de guitare*, 1985 in its collection. Presentation is still being developed.

Museum van Bommel van Dam is a municipal museum with a large collection of modern and contemporary art. The works are mainly made by Dutch artists. With artists such as Erwin Olaf, Shinkichi Tajiri, Eugène Brands and Rob Scholte. As of 2021, the Museum will have new accommodation at 1 Keulsepoort in Venlo.

P/////AKT [24]

Is eager to join Constant 1 0 1 the project year. They propose to connect through their exhibition series **am I an object?** Taking place this year.

P/////AKT is a non-profit contemporary art exhibition space that organizes and facilitates large-scale solo presentations, giving the public the opportunity to gain insight into the artists' thinking space.

P/////AKT offers a platform for exceptional, emerging artistic talents, who are distinguished by their unique and authentic language and who are able to give a different view on the current way of thinking. They are encouraged to create new developments and are given the opportunity to present their work to a relevant audience. Moreover, P/////AKT always asks the artists to create new work that matches the specific nature and dimensions of the given space and to present their own mental space as a total presentation within the given context.

Post [25]

Post is enthusiastic to join the project year Constant 1 0 1. Presentation is still being developed.

Since 1994, the Post has been a platform for contemporary visual art. Located in a former umbrella factory in the center of the city of Nijmegen, they now also create contemporary art exhibitions in the former post office in Arnhem. Post shows artists from home and abroad, and Post offers space for experiment, engagement and collaboration. The inquisitive attitude of the curators and organizers is decisive for a broad program in which the interaction between visual art and other disciplines is paramount.

By programming experimental and committed contemporary art, Post aims to be a generator that encourages an independent, creative and open way of thinking. Art invites you to explore the unknown, acts as a critical mirror and creates new vistas. Post works from four pillars: engagement, experiment, collaboration and talent development. Post connects and stimulates the development of emerging artists, curators and writers. Exciting art productions that generate a powerful visual and substantive field of tension are the starting point. Exhibitions, performances, educational activities, lectures and conversations make Post a presentation setting, a meeting place, breeding ground and sound room for a broad and especially young audience. Contrary curiosity is the pivot where makers and visitors find each other.

Rijksakademie x Pedro G. Romero [26]

During the project year Constant 1 0 1 there will be an exhibition / program in the Rijksacademie with Pedro Romero, in which the fascination for Roma culture and the relationship to it in modern art will play an important role.

Pedro Romero is an artist who, like Constant, moves effortlessly between different disciplines. Art, theory, literature, film, museum, theater and dance are among the disciplines he works on. Romero is also a Flamenco expert and interested in Roma culture. For the catalog accompanying the Constant. Nueva Babilonia in Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia he wrote the text The New Babylonians.

Rijksmuseum Twenthe [27]

It is part of our current collection presentation *Ars longa, vita brevis*, for which we asked nine contemporary artists to set up their own room with their own work and a selection from the collection. One of the artists (Peter Zegveld) has set up a room with work by Constant (series New Babylon and Labyrismen) and his own work on the theme of "willpower and inability". *Ars longa, vita brevis* can be seen in Rijksmuseum Twenthe until June 2021. For Constant 1 0 1 we will look for ways to activate this presentation of the relationship between Zegveld and Constant with a number of activities. Further details will follow.

Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam [28]

The Stedelijk Museum has indicated that they would like to join Constant 1 0 1. With the relocation of the permanent collection from the BASE, they are looking into how this part of the collection can be presented for Constant 1 0 1. These plans are currently being examined. There are many starting points, from a beautiful collection of war drawings from the Cobra period to the long lawsuit that Constant brought against the museum about the majestic canvas De Barricade, 1949.

Stedelijk Museum Schiedam [29]

Stedelijk Museum Schiedam is enthusiastic to join the project year Constant 1 0 1. The museum has an important collection of modern art with works by Cobra artists, including Constant, and it is also a long-term loaner from the collection of Fondation Constant. Presentation is still being developed.

With exhibitions and activities, we let you see the world through the eyes of artists, specialists and people from the city. We program exhibitions with art from the 60s, CoBrA art and artists of today. And we pay attention to history and social themes; topics that concern everyone.

Van Eesteren Museum [30]

The Van Eesteren Museum is eager to join the project year Constant 1 0 1. Presentation is still being developed.

The Van Eesteren Museum introduces you to the cultural-historical heritage of urban planner Cornelis van Eesteren. His work is one of the highlights of post-war urban planning and architecture in Amsterdam. In Nieuw-West, in Buitenveldert and in parts of Amsterdam-Noord, the special spatial layout designed by Van Eesteren can still be felt.

We are still talking to:

- Textielmuseum
- Rozenstraat

PROGRAM

These are projects that make a program for the public.

De Balie x Constant [31]

De Balie organizes three evenings, each focusing on one subject about which Constant Nieuwenhuys has written. De Balie creates programs by linking different disciplines. For this series, politics, art and literature are intertwined.

We ask a contemporary artist to reflect on an essay by Constant. This can be done in different ways, the form is free. The artist then enters into a dialogue with a discussion partner of his choice about the subject of Constant Nieuwenhuys' essay and his interpretation of it. The interpretations are later published online or on paper.

1. New World: Avant-garde, commitment, technology

Text: New Babylon (1962)

Artist: graphic designer and researcher Femke Herregraven

2. Playing Man: Living space, Homo ludens, craft

Text: The Dialectics of the Experiment (1965)

Artist: Graphic Designer and Art Director Simon Wald-Lasowski

3. Romanticism and Dialectics: Compassion, Contrast, Poetry

Text: Art and living space (1955)

Artist: visual artist, cultural activist and feminist Patricia Kaersenhout

RESEARCH

These are projects where research is the starting point.

The New Institute [32]

Het Nieuwe Instituut is enthusiastic to link up with the Constant 1 0 1 project year. It is currently being investigated whether Constant's archive regarding the building plans and maps of his objects for public space and collaborations with architects contains leads project with TU Delft.

Het Nieuwe Instituut consists of: The Museum for Architecture, Design and Digital Culture; The National Collection for Dutch Architecture and Urban Planning; Agency for Architecture, Design and Digital Culture; Research and Development.

The mission of Het Nieuwe Instituut is, based on current developments, to increase the appreciation of the cultural-social significance of architecture, design and digital culture with its activities, as well as to strengthen the interaction between these disciplines. In a period characterized by radical changes, Het Nieuwe Instituut wants to moderate, stimulate and facilitate the current conversation about architecture, design and digital culture by means of research and presentations. Broadening and deepening public appreciation is a fundamental principle in this respect.