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Annual report
m4gastatelier

2024

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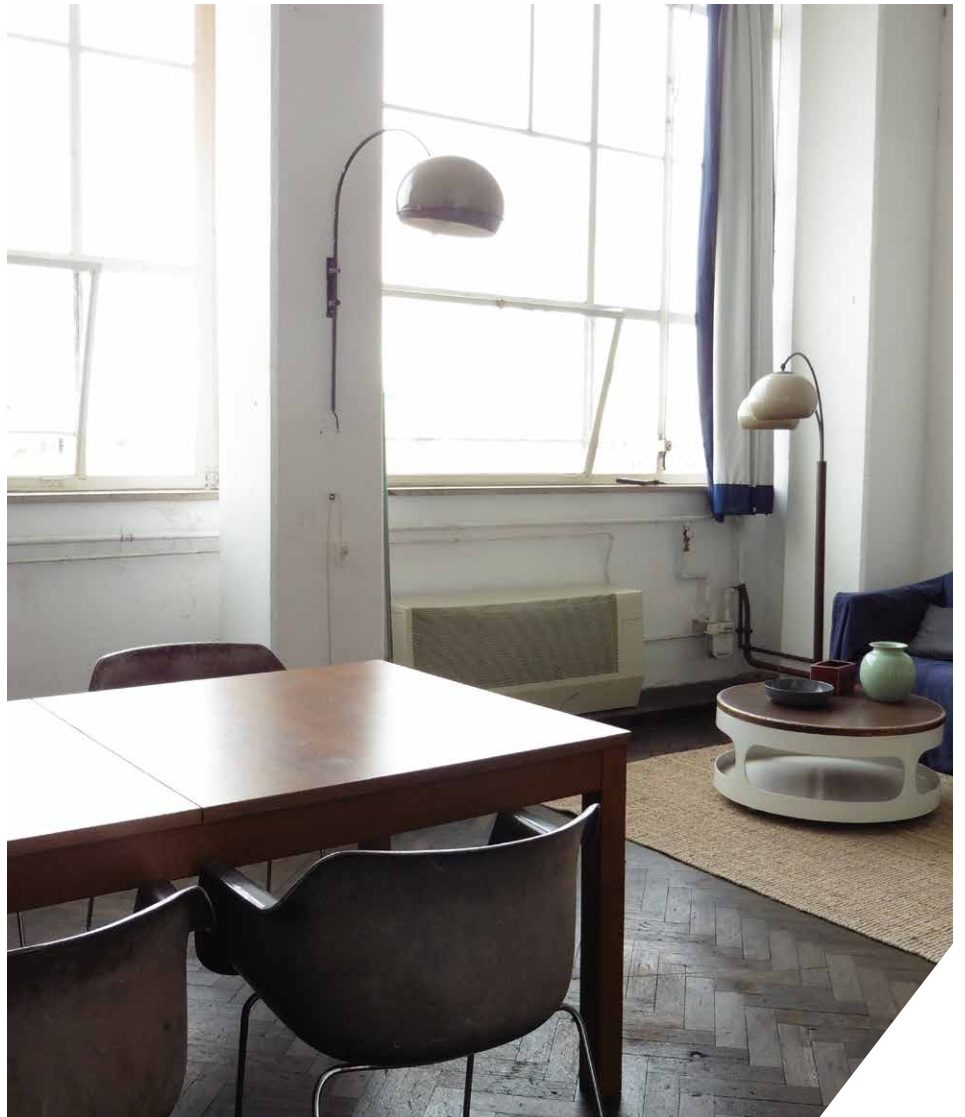
1—m4gastatelier Foundation

The aim of the foundation

The m4gastatelier Foundation is a not-for-profit organization in the center of Amsterdam. Its objective is to promote visual art and everything related to it, in the broadest sense, contributes to it.

This is achieved in a number of ways:

- Organizing an Artist in Residence program
- Stimulating and supporting research-oriented projects
- Organizing exhibitions, art manifestations and other art events with a national and international character
- Collaborations with art institutions, academies and universities at home and abroad
- Collaborations with artists, scientists and makers from home and abroad



Profile

Besides an Artist in Residency program, m4gastatelier is a platform for the production, presentation and contextualization of contemporary art by means of a diverse range of disciplines. In close cooperation with several art institutions in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and beyond, m4gastatelier pays special attention to research-oriented projects. It has a strong international interest and perspective, while focusing on creators, new forms, science disciplines, crossovers, 'bottom-up' research, curiosity, and novel relationships.

Since its inception in 2005, over 200 artists from home and abroad have enjoyed the opportunity to work and reside in m4gastatelier's studio. Their sojourns are alternated with workshops, exhibitions and lectures. m4gastatelier also produces manifestations, exhibitions, and research and educational projects. In addition, since 2018, m4gastatelier has offered residency to students (over 300) from the Rietveld Academie, Fine Arts department, who participate in a Curatorial Practice in their final academic year.

Location

The studio of m4gastatelier is situated in the large building complex Tetterode, where over 250 people have been working and/or living since the 1980s. Since the type foundry company Lettergieterij Amsterdam left its former factory building in 1981, Tetterode has become one of the most renowned working & living estates of the Netherlands. The 11.000 m² building complex comprises artist studios, residents and cultural organisations. m4gastatelier, with 120m², is situated on the 4th floor of a modern extension of this national treasure characterized by transparency, space, light and air. This part of the building houses the majority of the 35 artists' studios and several art organizations such as fanfare, Platform BK, Gerhard Hofland Gallery, de Stenzilzolder and Hard//hoofd.
www.m4gastatelier.nl / www.wvpt.nl



2—Residencies

2.1—Elena Konstantinidi & Nara Yang

01.11.2023—15.01.2024

Two artists from the Fine Arts department of the Gerrit Rietveld Academie stay and work in m4gastatelier for 2 ½ months.

As this concerns a study situation, it will not be discussed further here.



2.2—Curatorial Practice

Gerrit Rietveld Academie,
Fine Arts
—Edition 7



12.02.2024—31.05.2024

The Gerrit Rietveld Academie is a small-scale, independent and internationally oriented university of applied sciences for Fine Arts and Design in Amsterdam (NL) where artistic expertise converges from a wide range of angles.

Curatorial Practice Part 7

From February 12 till May 31 students of Fine Arts of the Gerrit Rietveld Academie, who are in the last year of their education, took residence at m4gastatelier in the framework of the course 'Curatorial Practice'. Every week, during a period of three months, small groups will build up an exhibition which will be critically looked at and discussed with the mentors.

Presentation

Presentation, within the academy situation, involves becoming aware of (the influence of) the physical space and the works in relation to each other, the function of text and title, and the role of the viewer.

Presenting work is a contextual and relational matter (...) works begin a dialogue with scale, atmosphere, and the significance of both the place and the other works within that space.

A dialogue is created between the works by their placement and the space surrounding them, and is completed by the presence of the viewer. (...) Just like an architect can only truly see his work once it's in use, a viewer and his own subjective world of experience finalises the completion of the exhibition. Art simply does not exist without this last element.

Through presentation we find the sole evidence of whether our plans and intentions are visible to The Other. A text and a title offer metaphysical foundations. However, this relationship only works when the work and the written correspond.

In fact, and this is the beauty of it, every good exhibition includes a relevant thought on the presentation and placing of an artwork.

— *Ergens*, Jean Bernard Koeman, mentor 2024).

The exhibitions are open to the public after the presentations.



2.3— Christian Sleiman — Supperclub



Hey everyone!

I'm Chris, and I'm taking over m4space for the next four months. I'll be organizing a Supper Club that takes place on Saturdays.

Our first dinner will be on the 4th of May. I'll be preparing Lebanese dishes and discussing topics like the rise of national cuisine in response to new world borders, the race to claim culinary dishes through Guinness World Records, and the implications of commercializing these cuisines.

I'll share about 20-25 minutes of research on the topic. Then, we'll enjoy dinner together.

— Presentation

The residency concludes with another meal and an overall exhibition. In addition, an e-publication of the lectures has been compiled, with film footage, objects and other traces to disseminate and make the information accessible.

Sleiman studied Sciences in Architecture (Holy Spirit University of Kaslik - USEK, Jounieh, Lebanon) and Fine Arts (Lebanese University, Beirut, Lebanon).
www.chrissleiman.com

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01.05.2024—08.09.2024

With *Supper Club*, Christian Sleiman investigates the political, economic and cultural forces that shape our relationship with food and influence our taste preferences.

He presents his research in the form of community dinners for a changing audience and a related, growing exhibition at m4gastatelier.

During the evening meals, various topics are discussed, for example: foraging as an ancestral ritual; the impact of mulberry monoculture in Lebanon during the Ottoman Empire and its connection to the Great Famine of 1916; the popularization of the Mediterranean diet and the rise of ultra-processed foods. The structure of the dinner is fluid and experimental: there are live performances, lectures and stories, and plenty of humor.

For each event, the space is transformed, matching the theme of the evening. Gradually, the studio turns into an exhibition space, with the collected objects testifying to the themes, stories and knowledge of the shared suppers



2.4—Curatorial Programme

de Appel Amsterdam



www.deappel.nl/nl/curatorial-programme

10.09.2024—14.02.2025

Five artists/curators from two art collectives, selected for the Curatorial Programme of de Appel, Amsterdam, are staying at m4gastatelier. Artcollectives:

- *Dash* from Isfahan (Iran) with artists Emili Allahbeigi and Tara Jamali.
- *Biquini Wax* from Mexico-City (Mexico) with artists Mili Herrera, Denisse Vega and Gerardo Contreras.

During the CP, the artists/curators work together intensively: they travel together, meet artists and curators, visit art and cultural institutions, gain first-hand knowledge and build sustainable relationships with each other and the ecosystems they come into contact with.

The research area of this 30th edition of the Appel's Curatorial Programme is *lumbung*. *Lumbung* involves living (together) in an alternative economy of collectivity, of shared resource building and of fair distribution. *Lumbung* is rooted in the local and is based on values such as humour, generosity, independence, transparency, sufficiency and regeneration.

In the CP 2024-25, the participating collectives and artists will learn about *Lumbung*: self-organised and socio-political artistic and curatorial practices and the development of alternative institutional forms for the future.

Presentation

The artists will occasionally organize film screenings at m4gastatelier and the Tetterode film room, followed by an exchange of ideas and/or debate.

The entire Curatorial Programme (which spans ten months) will conclude in May 2025 with a major program at De Appel, m4gastatelier, Tetterode, and throughout the city. More information will be provided in the 2025 annual report

The CP 2024-25 runs parallel to a temporary master program of the Sandberg Institute: *Lumbung Practice* (Amsterdam) and Gudskul's Collective Study Program (Jakarta).

3—Activities

3.1—Culturele Stelling van Amsterdam

Participants include Jette Kelholt and Sara Calmeijer, Meijburg Origins, Selby Gildemacher and Gijs Velsink, Bart Eysink Smeets, Wybe de Haan, and Jippe Liefbroer.

Poster of this edition was designed by Una Jongenelis.

m4gastatelier/live-work space Tetterode is part of Culturele Stelling Amsterdam, a defensive line in and around the city that unites independent creative initiatives, independent live-work spaces, and free cultural spaces.

On May 25th, Culturele Stelling (CSA) organized the third edition of the KunstCorso (Art Corso) featuring performers, visual artists, theater makers, dancers, and musicians. The KunstCorso draws attention to Amsterdam's cultural sector and to a livable and affordable city.



3.2—MOKER and other organizations

m4gastatelier is part of the guest studio consultation via DutchCulture | Transartists. Nationally, m4gastatelier is also affiliated with De Zaak Nu; it attended its (online) members' meeting in 2024.

In 2024, it participated in the MOKER meeting. The affiliated Amsterdam institutions meet periodically to discuss policy developments, respond to current issues in the Amsterdam arts scene, and consult on the Visual Arts sector through the ACI. Affiliated members include CBK Zuid Oost, Oude Kerk, W139, If I Can't Dance I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution, Mediamatic, Rijksacademie, Zone2Source, De Ateliers, de Appel, Framer Framed and AGA LAB.

November 2024: Visit by DutchCulture | TransArtists and Ukrainian AiR managers.

In the summer of 2024, DutchCulture | TransArtists visited various AiRs and organizations across Ukraine and later welcomed them to a visitors' program to share their stories, to meet colleagues from the Dutch field, and to network.

DutchCulture | Transartists: Heidi Vogels, Coordinator AiR NL; Lotte Geeven, visual artist and Central and Eastern Europe advisor Tijana Stepanovic.

AiRs from Ukraine: Visual Arts at the Ukrainian Institute; Asortymentna Kimnata, Jam Factory Art Center; Yermilov Centre for Contemporary Art and the ART KUZEMYN Residency; Artsvit Gallery.



4—Publicity & communication

Network

In recent years, m4gastatelier has gained a solid reputation. It built its reputation on effective policy, rather than on a lofty publicity plan. Moreover, thanks to the high quality of its activities and its excellent network leading (international) supervisors and specialists could be involved in the projects.

The longstanding collaboration with the Rietveld Academie Fine Arts Department and, more recently, with the Appel Amsterdam enhances the standing of m4gastatelier, both in Amsterdam and beyond.

Rietveld students consider the Cultural Practice program at m4gastatelier a highlight of their time at the academy, with alumni regularly applying for work periods at m4gastatelier.

Neighborhood and Amsterdam

m4gastatelier has never had public reach as its primary goal, but with the relaunch of West Wednesdays (monthly editions from 2014 to 2019), m4gastatelier did seize the opportunity to reach the public in the neighborhood and Amsterdam and thus give m4gastatelier a face outside the physical space of m4gastatelier while also enhancing Woonwerkpand's Tetterode appeal.

In the Dutch art world the network is actively maintained, through various academies such as the Rijksacademie, De Ateliers, Gerrit Rietveld Academie and Sandberg Institute and through national and local initiatives, organizations and platforms such as with DutchCulture | TransArtists, Platform BK, de Appel Amsterdam and Culturele Stelling Amsterdam.

Website

The archive function of the site is particularly important because of the lengthy and intensive work processes. It reinforces publicity and forms part of the project's documentation. In addition to presentations and paper publications, which regularly appear during the final presentation, (digital) documentation is the way to retain valuable traces and memories of past projects.

Webdesign: Katja van Stiphout

Social Media

m4gastatelier regularly posts items on instagram, facebook, linkedin and bluesky accounts and the website of residential and work building Tetterode. Since November 2024 m4gastatelier has its own Instagram: @m4gastatelier



5—Financial annual report

The m4gastatelier foundation has an annual turnover of around 18,000 euros.

m4gastatelier works entirely with volunteers. Two people receive a small monthly amount (30 euros) for daily recurring activities, such as maintaining the website, finances, communication, maintenance and household tasks.

m4gastatelier is widely supported by artists, companies and residents of the Tetterode residential work building. Every year, m4gastatelier receives (after a substantiated application) an amount of 2000 euros from Woonwerkpand Tetterode as a contribution to the organisation and office costs.

The rent and energy costs are paid by the residents and/or the relevant art institutions. We try to keep the rent low and realistic.

For each residency and/or project, it is assessed whether subsidy elsewhere is desirable. In 2024, this was not the case.

The annual financial report (in an abbreviated version) can be requested via m4gastatelier@xs4all.nl



6—Organization

Board

Anja Nagelkerke—general board member / exhibition lighting, designer/executor of interior objects
Á. Birna Björnsdóttir—general board member / visual artist
Diederik de Savornin Lohman—treasurer / founder of Agaath Administraties
Monica Aerden—chairman / visual artist, art historian
Ruth Timmermans—general board member / cultural professional

Advisory board

Esther Jiskoot—visual artist
Gerhard Hofland—gallerist Amsterdam
Hans van den Ban—visual artist, former Advisor Rijksbouwmeester
Louise Schouwenberg—former lecturer at Design Academy Eindhoven and KABK The Hague
Menno Dieperink—creative director interior design
Saskia Monshouwer—independent curator and critic
Yvonne Dröge Wendel—visual artist, head of Fine Art Department Gerrit Rietveld Academie
Marianne Theunissen—visual artist, teacher Fine Arts, Gerrit Rietveld Academie
Chris Baaten—visual artist
Una Jongenelis—visual artist, musician

Organization

Monica Aerden—coordination, secretariat
Mirjam Berloth—coordination, finances, content manager website
Gaston ten Horn—network of (inter)national arts organizations
Ruth Timmermans—PR intern and extern
Anja Nagelkerke—assistance technics
Ina van den Heuvel—assistance finances

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Woonwerkpand Tetterode WWPT
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Funds and Sponsors

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Partners

- Gerrit Rietveld Academie
- fanfare
- West Wednesdays
- de Appel Amsterdam

