

Black or White

Nicely politically incorrect sequential art
08.06 – 17.11.2013

Animated films, comic strips and cartoons.... these are rarely exhibited in a museum for contemporary art. However in the *Black or White* exhibition at the Van Abbemuseum they play the main role in combination with drawings and video installations. *Black or White* flirts with what is politically incorrect. It aims to provoke visitors to reflect upon their own behaviour and its interrelation with social conventions by exhibiting politically engaged art. The works that are exhibited are not necessarily politically correct at first glance. They attempt to test the boundaries; they are bizarre, provocative, sometimes coarse, exaggerated or ugly. In other words, in each of the works something is simply "not quite right". This elicits a direct and sometimes even physical reaction in the viewer in the form of laughter or discomfort.

The exhibition includes works by Michael J. Baers, Sue Coe, Robert Crumb, Emma De Swaef and Marc James Roels, Piotr Dumala, Extrastruggle, Philippe Grammaticopoulos, Greg Irons and Tom Veitch, Phil Mulloy, Prabhakar Pachpute, Dan Perjovschi, Peter Pontiac, and Ton Smits. The installation *The Refusal of Time* by William Kentridge (2012), one of the favourites of the public at DOCUMENTA13 last year in Kassel, is exhibited in the Studio.

The exhibition will open on Saturday 8 June, from 3 until 6 pm, together with the exhibitions *Manon de Boer – Encounters* and *Donation Maurice van Valen*.

Black or White provides an overview of different forms of sequential art: from animated films and video installations to drawings and comic strips. Bringing these to the exhibition space emphasises the political potential of a medium with a long history of critical commentaries on society. In *Black or White* this medium is used to address various conditions in the current political moment, such as isolation or exclusion on both an individual and a collective level.

course, the Zomertoer (Summer Tour) and the exhibition *Colourful in black-and-white* by children of Korein Kinderplein.

Curator
Galit Eilat

Van Abbemuseum

The Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven is one of the first public museums for contemporary art to be established in Europe. The museum's collection of around 2700 works of art includes key works and archives by Lissitzky, Picasso, Kokoschka, Chagall, Beuys, McCarthy, Daniëls and Kormeling. The museum has an experimental approach towards art's role in society. Openness, hospitality and knowledge exchange are important. We challenge ourselves and our visitors to think about art and its place in the world, covering a range of subjects, including the role of the collection as a cultural 'memory' and the museum as a public site. International collaboration and exchange have made the Van Abbemuseum a place for creative cross-fertilisation and a source of surprise, inspiration and imagination for its visitors and participants.

Van Abbemuseum

Bilderdijklaan 10
Eindhoven, The Netherlands
www.vanabbemuseum.nl

Opening hours

Tuesday to Sunday 11:00 – 17:00
Every first Thursday of the month the museum is open until 21:00

Admission

Adults: € 12,- / Groups of 10 or more: € 9,- / Young people from 13-18 years, students / Eindhoven city pass (stadspas) holders: € 6,- / Museumkaart, children under 13 years of age: free of charge. / Family pass (2 adults and max. 3 children until 18 years): € 18,-
First Thursday evening of the month from 17.00-21.00: free of charge.

For the editors:

For more information and photographs, please visit:
www.vanabbemuseum.nl/en/press

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Philippe Grammaticopoulos, *Le Regulateur*, 2004. Courtesy the artist.

Activities during *Black or White*

During *Black or White* the museum is organising different activities. Both young and old visitors can become active themselves in the museum. Workshops will also be given on drawing cartoons and making stop-motion films. The works in *Black or White* are also an important source for the lectures on certain themes, the three-day summer

Press release
May 2013

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