

Report by the Supervisory Board

General

The Supervisory Board met four times in 2012. In addition to ongoing matters, such as the museum's finances and organisation, the Supervisory Board devoted a great deal of attention in 2012 to two important subjects: the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science's cultural policy and the Van Gogh Museum's accommodation.

Dutch government cultural policy

According to the provisions of the new grant system, introduced by Secretary of State Halbe Zijlstra in 2011, the Van Gogh Museum submitted its grant application to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science before 1 February 2012. An extra Supervisory Board meeting had been organised in early 2012 to discuss this grant application, plus the Dutch government's policy plan for 2013-2016.

In May 2012 the Dutch Council for Culture issued its recommendations regarding the grant application: the Council was extremely positive in its appraisal of the Van Gogh Museum and advised the Secretary of State to allocate the grant in accordance with the museum's placement in category one.

In September 2012 the Van Gogh Museum received the definitive grant allocation from the Ministry which awarded the museum a total of € 30.4 million for the period 2013-2016. The Van Gogh Museum is delighted to receive this continuing support from the Dutch government.

In 2011 Secretary of State Halbe Zijlstra had announced that he would no longer use his statutory right regarding appointment of members of the Supervisory Board. The statutes of the Van Gogh Museum were therefore altered to this effect at the Supervisory Board's meeting in September 2012. Members of the Supervisory Board are henceforth appointed by the Supervisory Board. Several other amendments were also made to the statutes to bring these in line with the requirements of the Central Bureau on Fundraising.

Accommodation

The accommodation projects can be divided into:

- The Maintenance & Fire Safety Project: the Rietveld Building was closed from September 2012 to April 2013 for essential maintenance work.
- The Hermitage Project: 75 of the Van Gogh Museum's masterpieces were presented in the Hermitage Amsterdam during renovation of the Rietveld Building.
- The Kurokawa Project: the projected New Entrance on Museumplein, attached to the Kurokawa Wing.

The Supervisory Board discussed the finances, scheduling and capacity of the above-mentioned projects. Keeping the collection permanently accessible to the public was a recurring principle in these discussions.

The Kurokawa Project ('New Entrance') will remain an important point of attention in 2013, with the focus lying on raising sufficient sponsorship for this.

In 2012 the Supervisory Board discussed and approved the 2011 Annual Accounts and the 2013 Budget.

Directors and organisation

With regard to the composition of the board of directors, it was decided that the major challenges facing the museum required Mr F. van Koetsveld to remain managing director of the Van Gogh Museum in the period 1 July 2012 to 1 May 2013, despite attaining pensionable age. The recruitment process for a new managing director was initiated during the year under report, with the appointment of an applications committee comprising a representative from the Supervisory Board and the museum's general director. The process was successfully completed in 2013. The appointment of Mr A. Dönszelmann, formerly Operations Section Manager, confirms the quality of the Van Gogh Museum's organisation.

Supervisory Board composition

A number of changes were made to the composition of the Supervisory Board in 2012.

Mr H. van Beuningen, partner at Booz & Company, was appointed as a member of the Supervisory Board, thereby fulfilling the Board's wish for a member with a strong commercial, business background and a network relevant to the museum. In appointing this extra member the Supervisory Board successfully achieved the range of desired profiles for its members laid down in the Code Cultural Governance.

Mrs T. Maas-de Brouwer was reappointed as chair for a period of four years. Mr J. Cuno will resign as a member of the Supervisory Board with effect from 22 March 2013, when he attains the maximum term he is allowed to serve.

Supervisory Board activities

Procedures

In addition to chairing regular meetings of the Supervisory Board, the chair of the Board regularly consults with the general director of the Van Gogh Museum. During these consultations the chair and the general director discuss both ongoing issues and items on the Supervisory Board's agenda.

There are two committees active within the remit of the Supervisory Board, to wit:

- **The Audit Committee**
The Audit Committee, active since 2010 with Mr P. Tieleman and Mr R. Dijkgraaf as representatives. The Audit Committee is involved in financial reporting, budgeting and the quality of the financial organisation and reporting.
- **The Building Committee**
The Building Committee, established in 2011, also played an active role in 2012. This committee addressed the Van Gogh Museum's challenging, large-scale projects. The Supervisory Board was represented on this committee by Mrs A.J. Kellermann and Mrs T. Maas- de Brouwer. The Building Committee was given a regular tour of the Rietveld Building which was closed for a period in 2012 for major renovations. The Building Committee also received a weekly report on the progress of the renovations.

Annual accounts 2012

The 2012 annual accounts were discussed at the meeting of the Audit Committee on 13 March 2013. The external auditor reported his findings from his audit of the 2012 annual accounts. The Audit Committee presented the annual accounts to the Supervisory Board with a recommendation to approve these. The Supervisory Board accordingly approved the 2012 Annual Accounts in conformance with Article 8 paragraph 1 subsection b of the Statutes.

The Supervisory Board acknowledges that the director and staff of the Van Gogh Museum made extraordinary efforts in the year under report and expresses its sincere thanks in this regard.

These extraordinary efforts included the temporary exhibition Dreams of Nature. Symbolism from Van Gogh to Kandinsky, the necessary renovation of the Rietveld Building, the collection's temporary move to the Hermitage Amsterdam and the display of the museum's top pieces in the Hermitage in the presentation entitled Vincent. The Van Gogh Museum in the Hermitage Amsterdam

The dedication and involvement of the Van Gogh Museum's organisation provides a healthy foundation from which to face a challenging 2013.

Thus approved on 10 April 2013.

Mrs T.A. Maas- de Brouwer
(appointed with effect from 25 September 2008)

Mr P. Tieleman
(appointed with effect from 24 August 2009)

Mrs A.J. Kellermann
(appointed with effect from 31 May 2010)

Mr R.H. Dijkgraaf
(appointed with effect from 31 May 2010)

Mr H. van Beuningen
(appointed with effect from 26 November 2012)