

Annual Report 2024 Sculpture Network e.V.

Activities of the association to fulfil the statutory objectives

Established in 2004, Sculpture Network stands as Europe's premier platform for contemporary sculpture and three-dimensional art. As a non-profit organization, our mission is to actively promote and support sculpture while fostering connections among individuals and institutions passionate about three-dimensional art: artists, art educators, sculpture parks and museums, galleries, curators, collectors, suppliers and art enthusiasts.

With a total membership of 671 individuals as of December 31, 2024 across 32 countries, Sculpture Network maintains a strong presence throughout Europe, boasting an extensive network to create partnerships for events and collaborations.

Our website, www.sculpture-network.org, serves as a dynamic information portal enriched by an online magazine and an events calendar featuring informative, inspiring, and entertaining contributions from the global sculpture community.

Throughout 2024, our focus remained on expanding our range of events, both live and online. Central to Sculpture Network's ethos are face-to-face encounters in informal, open atmospheres - a rarity in the art world - that foster meaningful connections. The increased number and reach of live events were made possible by our dedicated new and longstanding country Coordinators.

1. Sculpture Network Events 2024

Dialogues 9 countries - 20 events - 396 participants

Dialogues are local events designed for both members and the general public, offering professionals and enthusiasts of contemporary sculpture new insights and a platform for dialogue and exchange. In 2024, a total of 396 people attended 20 events held across Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Denmark, Austria, Croatia and the UK. This is a new record for our association! These events successfully brought together artists, curators, and art lovers, fostering connections and sharing knowledge.

The Dialogues events aim to engage a diverse audience, providing a deeper understanding of contemporary sculpture. They serve as a valuable platform for networking, discussion, and the exchange of ideas within the sculpture community. By offering a dynamic and interactive environment, these events have significantly contributed to the contemporary sculpture community, enhancing learning and collaboration.

The following 20 Sculpture Network Dialogues took place in 2024:

Date	Titel	City	Country
13.01.2024	Dialogue in Barcelona: guided tour of the ISSUE13	Barcelona	Spain
09.02.2024	Dialogue in Brussels - sculptura#2	Brussels	Belgium

17.02.2024	Dialogue in Berlin - HANDGEHABT - Exhibition visit and talk with Wolfgang Nestler	Berlin	Germany
23.03.2024	Dialogue at Museum Beelden aan Zee	Scheveningen	Netherlands
23.03.2024	Dialogue at the Olympic Village in Barcelona	Barcelona	Spain
19.04.2024	Visit to Coup de Ville in Sint-Niklaas	Saint Niklaas	Belgium
30.04.2024	Dialogue at the The FAC POP PASQUA POPULAR in Carrara	Carrara	Italy
02.05.2024	Visit of the Bruges Triennial	Bruges	Belgium
08.06.2024	Dialogue: Visionary Environment	Barsinghausen	Germany
23.06.2024	50 years of the Berlin Sculpture Symposium & Sculpture Summer in Pirna	Pirna	Germany
26.06.2024	Xtant in Torre de Canyamel, "Exploring the Textile Art Renaissance"	Mallorca	Spain
07.09.2024	A Studio Visit with Mirko Zrinščak	Opatija	Croatia
14.09.2024	Dialogue during BERLIN ART WEEK 2024	Berlin	Germany
28.09.2024	Richard Serra's Legacy in Ostwestfalen: A guided tour with cultural scientist Thomas Kaestle	Lemgo and Bielefeld	Germany
19.10.2024	Discover the Land that Inspired Joan Miró and Visit Martí Rom's Studio	Mont-roig del Camp	Spain
19.10.2024	Dialogue and Bus Tour in Vorarlberg, Austria	Voralbert	Austria
19.10.2024	Art and Nature in Perfect Harmony - at The Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden	Surrey	United Kingdom
27.10.2024	Bad RagARTz 2024: Exclusive Guided Tour and Meet with the Founders and Organizers	Bad Ragaz	Switzerland
30.11.2024	Exclusive guided tour by curator Anne Berk at Kunstcentret Silkeborg Bad	Silkeborg	Denmark
15.12.2024	Dialogue in Amsterdam: Atelier Volten & Daniella Rubinovitz	Amsterdam	The Netherlands

The Online Club 7 events – 330 participants

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we launched a series of online events covering various topics to strengthen the European sculpture community. These Online Club events provided a platform for members to engage in activities and discussions, continuing even after the pandemic due to their success. The Online Club events transcend national borders, enabling artists, curators, and art enthusiasts to network and exchange ideas with like-minded individuals globally. This virtual

format complements art travel, thus making it a sustainable form of networking.

Curator Anne Berk moderated all events (except one), which were held on the Zoom platform. A total of 330 participants attended the sessions, which were structured into three parts: Introduction by curator Anne Berk providing an introduction of Sculpture Network and the evening's topic, one to three keynote speaker presentations from across Europe and a final networking part where participants engaged in small group discussions, with approximately five participants per group.

The Online Club of 23/09/2024 was organized and moderated by our new Curatorial Board member Natalia Bergmann.

These events have proven to be an enrichment to our community, fostering connections and enhancing the exchange of ideas across the European sculpture community. For those who can not attend live, we provide a written report of the event few weeks later in our online Magazine.

In 2024, the following 7 Sculpture Network Online Clubs took place:

Date	Titel
29.01.2024	What if you are a female sculptor? With artist Lorna Green UK and Ute Hartwig-Schulz DE, artist and co-founder of Künstlergut Prösitz
26.02.2024	Emerging Sculptor Awards Night with Ruta Putramentaite CZ Jindřiška Jabůrkova CZ and Nevena Ekimova BG
13.05.2024	Paper as sculptural material I with Manuela Granziol IT and Fides Linien, artists and President of IAPMA International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists.
17.06.2024	Paper as sculptural material II with Ann Weber US Karen Sargsyan AM/NL and Helmut Frerick DE
23.09.2024	Reinventing Oneself & Redefining Sculpture with migrated Russian artists Nikita Seleznev, Alesya Murlina, and Vitalii Datchenko
18.11.2024	Re-Nature: Louis le Roy NL and Sara Vrugt NL
09.12.2024	For the Love of Trees with Marinus Boezem NL, Cecilya Malik PL, Bianca Runge NL and Bart Ensing NL

Sculpture Network Coordinators and Team Meeting in Silkeborg

Our team operates across ten countries, with communication primarily conducted via email and Zoom between the executive board, curatorial board, coordinators, volunteers, and office staff. In-person meetings are therefore essential for shaping the future of Sculpture Network while

strengthening our sense of belonging and commitment to our shared mission. Thanks to the support of a foundation, we were able to organize a two-and-a-half-day team meeting in October 2024 at Art Center Silkeborg Bad in Denmark. The venue was chosen as it hosted the exhibition MIRKO ZRINŠČAK – THE ESSENCE OF NATURE by the Croatian sculptor and Sculpture Network member. This exhibition was initiated and curated by our vice-chairperson, Anne Berk, exemplifying how Sculpture Network facilitates opportunities for members to present their work internationally.

The meeting brought together 19 participants from six countries, including members of the executive and curatorial boards, coordinators, volunteers, and the project managers from our back-office staff. With the exception of the project managers, all participants contribute to Sculpture Network on a voluntary basis. Over two and a half days, discussions focused on team-building, brainstorming on the network's strategy, and celebrating Sculpture Network's 20th anniversary. The meeting provided a valuable opportunity to explore possibilities for growth and the organization's future direction.

Emerging Sculptor Recognition

During the Online Club on 26 February we proudly presented the three winners of the *"Emerging Sculptor Award 2023"*, which was made possible by funds of a foundation. Selected between 32 outstanding candidates nominated by our Coordinators, the jury selected 3 of them that were granted a prize of respectively €3,500.00, €2,500.00 and €1,500.00. Next to that they received a free membership for one year, and promotional presentation at the Online Club.

Because the *"Emerging Sculptor Award"* requires a lot of financial and personal resources of our organization, the Board decided to experiment in 2024 with new format and conditions, creating the new: *"Emerging Sculptor Recognition"* consisting of a free membership for 3 years, a presentation in the Online Club and promotion on social media and newsletter. The awarded artists were: Menno Hiele, Mette Sterre and Sara Vrugt.

The *"Emerging Sculptor Recognition"* promotes young artists who are making an important contribution to the field, offering them the opportunity to present themselves to a European audience. It allows Sculpture Network to look ahead, and stay in tune with the latest developments and technologies in sculpture, attracting a growing number of younger members.

2. Sculpture Network Website

On our website www.sculpture-network.org, we are offering our wide range of information on contemporary sculpture, creating a new layout with greater convenience and clarity. After the implementation of a new content management system in 2023 the range of services of our new website was systematically expanded during 2024. Among the new features we can mention a new and optimized searching page for artists and artworks.

Newsletter and Online Magazine

In its online magazine and newsletters, Sculpture Network consistently offers a window into the world of three-dimensional art, featuring reports on international fairs, exhibitions, interviews, and essays.

Throughout 2024, nine newsletters were distributed globally every six weeks, reaching approximately 18,000 readers pro edition and amassing over 39,000 fans and followers across social media platforms. The focus of our editorial work in 2024 was *"Sensing Sculpture"*. After focusing on major social issues in the last two years (*'Sculpting Society'* 2022 and *"Sculpture and Climate Emergency"* 2023), we wanted to get back to our roots in 2024. Back to the

artwork - how it tastes, how it smells, how we see it and how it feels. Eight newsletters were sent out in 2024, each with at least two new articles in two languages (German and English). There was also a review newsletter at the end of the year. Content was curated by our newsletter editor, Elisabeth Pilhofer.

The online magazine serves as a vital platform for information and inspiration, showcasing emerging trends, promoting our events, and spotlighting our members. It also provides a venue for emerging writers worldwide to publish and connect with the arts community. In 2024 we published 14 additional articles in our online magazine including detailed reports on our live and online events, ensuring that our global audience remains engaged and informed. The audience for these publications spans both the general public and professionals in the art sector, including artists, art students, curators, gallery owners, museums, architects, and collectors.

The Sculpture Network newsletters in 2024 were made possible with the support of the Waldemar-Bonsels-Stiftung to whom we extend our heartfelt thank you.

Artist profiles: over 600 artists from 32 nations

Sculpture Network artist members present photos of their artworks, their CVs and exhibition dates. The new website made it easier to update the profile in two languages and customize it with preferred information such as social media channels. Gallery owners, curators and collectors regularly use this database to discover new artists.

Artworks: over 9,000 works

On our artwork page, you can search for and discover artworks created by the artists featured on our website. In 2024 new filter options were created that allow you to refine your search by criteria such as material, technique, style, and theme. Every artwork can be represented with several photos and a description text.

Locations: 300 places for three-dimensional art

Visitors to the website will find museums and parks specialising in sculpture, sculpture trails, galleries, open-air exhibitions, biennials and relevant publications throughout Europe. Sculpture Network members are highlighted. In addition, service providers from the following sectors can be found here: Foundries, art suppliers, quarries, model making companies, insurance companies, logistics companies, web service providers and graphic designers. Over 20 companies offer their products and services here.

Calendar of events: ca. 200 published events

Exhibitions, openings, workshops, conferences and art fairs - a unique and up-to-date source of information on sculpture events throughout Europe, researched and updated daily by our editorial team.

Calls for tenders / opportunities (members only): ca. 140 published calls for tenders

In 2024, more than 140 new tenders were published, and on average there are about 20 open tenders in this database. Our editorial team selects relevant tenders worldwide and updates the list regularly. This can be filtered according to certain criteria: Competitions, awards, artist-in-residency programmes, calls for public art, etc.

3. Sculpture Network communication

One of the main goals of Sculpture Network is to raise awareness of the uniqueness and social relevance of three-dimensional art and to increase the perception and acceptance of contemporary sculpture among the general public. Communication and public relations are therefore central pillars of Sculpture Network's work.

In 2024, one focus was also the further expansion of our social media work. Increased posting resulted in 1.500 extra followers on Instagram and Facebook, bringing in new members via social media. Our old rubrics #newmember and #memberthursday were as the previous year very well received and made a nice contribution to the spread of contemporary sculpture on social media. Furthermore, we focused in the promotion of our events and posted also nice gallery afterwards. We focused especially on Instagram which is currently the most important social network for visual arts and received 16.700 likes for our 149 posts.

We currently use the following channels to promote contemporary sculptures:

Website approx. 3.000 users and 15.000 page visits per month

Newsletter approx. 18.000 Subscribers (2 languages: English, German)

Social Media (Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn) over 39,000 (+1,500) fans and followers

Direct Mailings approx. 40 mailings about our events and offers

4. Finances / Legal status

The annual financial statements of Sculpture Network e.V. as of 31.12.2024 show a decrease in sales revenues from EUR 113,344 (2023) to EUR 104,249 due to the fact that there was no income from a Forum-Event in 2024 (in 2023 Malaga) and revenues from travel activities (Madrid) have been deferred as the travel took place in March 2025. Although membership has declined from 720 to 671 members, the corresponding revenues increased from EUR 66,833 (2023) to EUR 72,485 in 2024. Funding and donations slightly increased to EUR 30,764.

Personal costs decreased from EUR 48,684 to EUR 43,606. The shared 1 FTE from our back-office staff returned from maternity leave since April/Mai 2024, thus leading to a constant cost structure in administration. Other operating expenses decreased from EUR 60,229 to EUR 56,478 by a number of reverse and partly compensating effects. Solid financial cost management led to a net profit of EUR 1,273 (previous year EUR 3,790) on the basis of regular business activities in line with our status as a non-profit organisation.

The financial year 2024 closes with a balance in the bank accounts of EUR 43,638 (previous year EUR 44,190). This cash balance is offset by provisions and liabilities of EUR 8,943. The solvency of the association was guaranteed at all times. Total assets of EUR 52,846 remain almost on the same level as previous year (EUR 52,388), as our investments in the website and ICT infrastructure were basically completed.

As at 31.12.2024 the association has sufficient equity capital of EUR 26,266 (previous year EUR 24,992). The purpose-built reserve amounts to EUR 4,557 and the free reserve to EUR 21,708.

The Executive Board made cash-reducing decisions about expenditure. The net profit for 2024 and the liquid assets allow the Board to solidly finance the day-to-day business as well as projects and events in 2025 from its own cash flow.

On August 21, 2025 the Board decided on the appropriation of profits in accordance with the tax ordinance for non-profit associations.

The annual accounts for the 2024 financial year were audited by Ms Franziska Büttner, tax consultant, and Ms Karin Lang, both members of the association. The auditors were elected for two years by the general meeting on 14.12.2021. Their report on the 2024 audit is dated 20.08.2025 and ends with the proposal to discharge the Board for the 2024 financial year.

The Berlin tax office has recognised the annual financial statement 2023 and the annual report 2023 with a new notice of exemption 2023 dated 20.09.2024 and thus confirmed the non-profit status of the association.

5. Supporters / Promoters

Special thanks go to the Waldemar Bonsels Foundation, for providing us with funding for our editorial work and also donating office space and technical equipment until August 2024 as part of a structural grant.

In addition, we would like to thank another foundation for the trustful cooperation and the trustworthy financing of the *“Emerging Sculptor Award”* and for the Coordinators-Team Meeting.

6. Members

As of 31.12.2024, the association had a total of 671 members in 32 nations. We gained 73 new members in 2024. The members consist of artists, art professionals, institutions/organisations, service companies (art-related products and services) and friends of Sculpture Network.

The association currently offers the following membership categories at unchanged prices:

Category	Annual membership fee (in EUR)
Artist	120,-
Artist (reduced, students)	80,-
Artist (partner association)	80,-
Institutions	220,-
Service provider companies	220,-
Friends of Sculpture Network	150,-

7. Employees and volunteers

In 2024, Sculpture Network was again largely supported by volunteers and part-time staff.

Employees

The following people worked part-time for sculpture network in 2024:

- Ilaria Specos, Project Manager (in maternity leave until May 2024)
- Julia Weiß, Project Manager (in maternity leave until April 2024)
- Richarda Menger, Accounting (until May 2024)
- Zeynep Ece Sahin Korkan, Social Media (until July) and Opportunities and Art Agenda (from August)

Frelancers who worked for Sculpture Network in 2024:

- Iris Heist, Art Agenda (until July)
- Rebecca Maurer, Opportunities (until August)
- Riccarda Menger, Accounting (from June)
- Elisabeth Pilhofer, Newsletter
- Anemone Vostell, Project Manager (until July)

Volunteers

Sculpture Network has a very active network of volunteer supporters:

- Kris Demuelenaere (Website and Board assistance)
- Willy Hafner (Author)
- Sybille Hayek (Translations)
- Ursula Karpowitsch (Author and translations)
- Elka Parveva-Kern (Translations)
- Helmut Pütz (Board assistance)
- Blake Ward (Website and Board assistance)

Coordinators

Sculpture Network is supported by coordinators representing the organisation in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Denmark, Croatia and United Kingdom. They organise the Dialogues event series in their region and are highly committed to Sculpture Network and its goals.

Our coordinators in 2024 were:

- Susanne Ahrenkiel, Denmark
- Marina Bauer, Croatia
- Neus Bergua in Barcelona, Spain
- Anne Berk in The Netherlands
- Stefanie Krome in Switzerland
- Frank Nordiek, Northern Germany
- Yke Prins in The Netherlands

- Hilde Van Canneyt, in Gent, Belgium
- Ien van Wierst, Mallorca, Spain
- Anemone Vostell, Berlin and Brandenburg, Germany
- Marek Wolynski, London, UK

We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to all volunteers.

8. Board

In 2024, the Board consists of the following voluntary members:

Executive Board

- Frank Evelein, Chairperson (until 01.10.2024)
- José Anne Berkhof, Vice Chairperson
- Yke Prins
- Karl Gadesmann

Extended Board

- Hartmut Stielow
- Laure Debouttiere
- Natalie Bergmann (from October)

Sculpture Network would like to take this opportunity to thank all members, donors, supporters, volunteers, board members, coordinators, employees and cooperation partners for their contribution and engagement for the association. Without their support Sculpture Network would not be possible.

Munich, August 21, 2025

The Executive Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aberk".

José Anne Berkhof

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Yke Prins".

Yke Prins

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gadesmann".

Karl Gadesmann