

Annual Report sculpture network 2013

Activities of the Organisation to Meet the Statutory Objectives

1. Program Development

sculpture network is Europe's leading platform for contemporary sculpture, founded in 2004. Our objectives are to promote sculpture and to create networking opportunities amongst individuals and institutions interested in three dimensional art: artists, art mediators, sculpture parks and museums, galleries, curators, collectors and friends of the arts.

"stand up for sculpture" is our motto. In keeping with this motto, sculpture network organised 17 individual events in 2013. Approximately 2,500 persons met within this context, discussed about contemporary sculpture, exchanged ideas and networked.

By means of our written invitations, newsletters, social media channels and flyers, at least 50,000 professionals and friends of arts were kept informed of our work in support of sculpture. In addition and above all, during the XII International Forum in the Netherlands and on the occasion of the 4th International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture – our New Year's Brunch 2013, considerable PR work was accomplished. Our intentions are, through communication and programme development, to cultivate and foster a network of contacts, creating greater enthusiasm for this type of art. In terms of communication, our social media channels gain more and more importance and we are proud to have 6,875 fans on Facebook, 800 followers on LinkedIn, 100 followers on Google+ and 477 group members on the German portal XING.

4th International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture - our New Year's Brunch 2013

The 4th International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture took place on January 20, 2013. On this day contemporary sculpture was celebrated all over Europe. More than 2,000 artists, collectors, art professionals and friends of the arts took advantage of this opportunity to discuss three-dimensional art with fellow enthusiasts, to discover new artists and their work, and to make productive contacts. At 39 different venues, in 12 countries, a flag was hoisted for sculpture. Participants followed the events at other locations throughout Europe, via Live-Stream connection. Thus a feeling of "community" was conveyed within the sculpture groups. The connection was possible thanks to our sponsor Vivicom.

New Year's Brunch 2013's 39 hosts made their facilities available for the event and planned attractive, and varied programmes. We herewith express our heartfelt thanks to all of them. A short live interview was emitted during the event, where our Chairman Ralf Kirberg emphasized the fantastic leverage effect of such an event, highlighting the need for discussion and ideas exchange, which result in incentives for new initiatives. The event was hosted in a great variety of venues, such as artists' studios, art centres, galleries, sculpture workshops, foundries and other cultural institutions.

International Forum 2013

The XII International Forum "Sculpture lives on: from modernism to globalization", curated by the Dutch art critic Anne Berk, took place in the Netherlands from 3 to 5 October 2013. 130 artists, art mediators and art enthusiasts from 15 different nations participated. The Museum Beelden aan Zee welcomed our participants with a cocktail at the exhibition of "Contemporary Russian Sculpture". The following day, our conference venue, Kröller Müller Museum in Otterlo's art collection was the starting point for the conference. This provided an opportunity for international experts, artists and the participants to reflect on modernism in 20th century sculpture and the globalization of sculpture today. Judith Collins, former Senior Curator at Tate London and author of the benchmark publication "*Sculpture Today*" (Phaidon, 2007), gave the keynote talk. Speakers included Jaap Bremer (Netherlands), former Deputy Director of Kröller Müller Museum and the artists, Riyas Kom (India), Heri Dono (Indonesia), Eylem Aladogan (Netherlands/Turkey) and Nick Ervinck (Belgium). We would like to thank the patrons Stichting Stokroos and Cultural India Foundation for their financial support.

sculpture network's Artist Showroom gave member artists the opportunity to show their catalogues, during conference breaks, with the aim of stimulating interest in their works.

The conference was followed by a visiting day which took us to the famous Atelier Van Lieshout in Rotterdam, the highly interesting European Ceramic Work Centre (ekwc) Sunday morning in Den Bosch and the avant-garde art production and exhibition space DordtYart in Dordrecht. 10 sculpture network members presented their art works in the sculpture network programme "90 seconds on sculpture" at this last venue: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvxBHIS9pF8>

Experience - Sculpture trip

This year's sculpture network Experience trip took us to Tuscany in Italy, where 40 people discovered one of Italy's most beautiful regions including artists' studios, hidden sculpture parks and the cradle of sculpture, Carrara and Pietrasanta. The trip took place from 12 - 15 September 2013.

Dialogues

During 2013, approximately 300 members and friends of sculpture network participated in our 14 Dialogues throughout Europe:

- Meet the artist Francesc Torres Monsó and visit of Fundació Pla and Can Mario, Palafrugell, Gerona, Spain, on 16 March
- Meet the artist Blanca Muñoz in Madrid, Spain on 2 April
- Meet the artist Alberto Bañuelos in Madrid, Spain on 13 April
- Meet the artist: Karsten Konrad in Berlin, Germany on 27 April
- Meet the artist Mateo Maté in his studio, in conversation with Art Critic Francisco Carpio in Madrid, Spain on 23 May
- Curated visit: a look at the conservation of contemporary sculpture at MACBA in Barcelona, Spain on 7 June
- Gallery visit Neuhauser Kunstmühle in Salzburg, Austria on 17 June
- Exhibition visit Call of the Mall Hoog Catharijne & Meet the artist Ruud Kuijer in Utrecht, Netherlands on 21 June
- Exhibition "room is music is room" – Artist talk & Concert in Munich, Germany on 28 June
- Curated Visit: A look at teaching sculpture in the workshop of Düsseldorf Art Academy with Lothar Krüll, Director of plastic workshop in Düsseldorf, Germany on 25 July
- Curator guided tour "Anish Kapoor in Berlin" in the Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany on 20 September
- Curator guided visit of the Sculpture Park Heidelberg and curator guided tour through the exhibition "Nur Skulptur!" of the Kunsthalle Mannheim in Germany on 20 October
- Curated Visit: 3-D Sculpture Park Verbier and Foundation Giannada in Switzerland on 26 October
- Sculpture tour: Parc Art Sculpture Park and exhibition visit Emili Armengol in Gerona, Spain on 19 October

Interesting contacts and innovative projects have emerged from these meetings. We would like to thank all sculpture network Coordinators and Board members who organized these great events as part of their voluntary commitment to sculpture network and our idea.

2. Website, services and publications

Our website was re-launched in June 2013. The new layout, structure, improved usability and additional services, such as the members' dashboard, have been widely appreciated by members and

users. Website visits increased considerably since then, approximately 10,000 visitors per month have made use of information offered on our website (as opposed to 7,000 in 2012).

Artist Profiles: Over 700 artists to discover - represented with images and videos of their art works, CV and exhibition listings.

Members' Profiles: Not only artist members present their profiles online. Art professionals, suppliers and art institutions, such as galleries, sculpture museums and parks, workshops and others, also do so.

What's on: Is a unique and up-to-date source of information on sculpture related events, going on around Europe today, including exhibitions, events, workshops, conferences and art fairs. We published more than 1,000 events in 2013.

Our **Newsletter** was re-launched in April 2013. It is becoming consolidated as one of Europe's most significant, specialised digital sculpture publications for spreading sculpture information and therefore, also as a reference media tool for reaching target audiences in Europe. The Newsletter is published in English, German and Spanish and received by 15,000 subscribers throughout Europe, constituting is as an instrument for practical and cultural exchange as well as a mechanism for contemporary sculpture promotion.

Members only website services:

Opportunities Database: Members have access to an updated listing of running calls for proposals, competitions, awards, artist-in-residency programmes, etc. Our research team selects worldwide relevant opportunities for sculpture-related art professionals, especially artists. In 2013 we published around 500 opportunities.

Supplier Database: A listing of approximately 170 suppliers including foundries, material suppliers, quarries, model making companies, insurance, logistic companies, etc. which have been recommended by our members.

Sculpture by Country: In-depth information by country on its relevant sculpture venues aims at providing members a comprehensive listing for easy reference and saving them the trouble of having to do the research themselves. The listing includes specialized sculpture museums and parks, trails, galleries, open-air exhibitions, biennials, publications, amongst others. Information on the Netherlands is currently available in this section. Further information on other countries is ready and stored for formatting and uploading to the website. We expect this to be ready during 2014.

Selected Books – is an open source of recommended reading on contemporary sculpture. The content in this section is growing fast, so we foresee needing to re-organise it to a data-base with filtering search engine options.

3. Members

In 2013 sculpture network gained 139 new members. Member figures have more than doubled in the past 5 years, totalling 992 by the end of 2013.

The **Members' Annual Meeting** 2013 was held in The Hague, on 5 October 2013, during sculpture network 2013 International Forum. The annual financial statement, approved and avowed by Deloitte & Touche GmbH, was unanimously accepted. The Board was announced and duties approved for 2013.

4. Staff and Volunteers

sculpture network's headquarters moved from Pöcking to Fäustlestrasse 3, 80339 Munich, Germany in June 2013. Staff at Munich headquarters included:

- Isabelle Henn - Managing Director
- Sophie Peikert (formerly Schmidpeter) – Event Organisation, Accounting, Membership Care
- Carla Schäfer - Intern (5 months)
- Mariam Kamiab - Intern (5 month)

Staff working in other offices in Europe included:

- Beatriz Blanch, part time in Madrid, Spain (Strategy & Development)
- Paulina Tsvetanova, part time in Berlin, Germany (Fundraising & Marketing)

By the end of 2013 sculpture network had six Coordinators who are the organisation and its members' contact in that area. They work on a voluntary basis to promote and develop sculpture network and its objectives. They are:

- Beatriz Blanch in Madrid, Spain
- Neus Bergua in Barcelona, Spain
- Paulina Tsvetanova in Berlin, Germany
- Anne Berk in the Netherlands
- Christiane Tureczek in Switzerland
- Claudia Schwind in France

Additionally, a team of around ten volunteers contribute regularly to different areas within the organisation.

5. Board

As of 31 December 2013 the Board consists of the following:

- Ralf Kirberg, Chairman of the Board
- Hartmut Stielow, Vice-Chairman of the Board
- Peter Fischer-Piel
- Beatriz Blanch
- Helmut Pütz

The Board received unanimous thanks and recognition at the Annual Members' meeting in The Hague, for the substantial engagement, service and effort invested during the year.

6. Finances

sculpture network's financial situation has developed positively throughout 2013, but it nevertheless, still does not cover Munich office costs or the Managing Director's post (i.e. Isabelle Henn's salary). In-kind financing from Ralf Kirberg provides both these sums.

Membership fees financed our extensive 2013 Programme. However, to cover full costs of the 2013 International Forum in The Netherlands, further funding was necessary and was achieved from participation fees, sponsoring and in-kind donations by cooperation partners.

For further information we refer to our financial statement dated 31.12.2013. Administration costs slightly increased compared to 2012, because of advisory costs for European tax issues. In spite of our considerable efforts and reiterated dunning notices, loss through unpaid membership fees amounted to 6% of total membership fees in 2013 (7% in 2012).

Realisation of our extensive programme was only possible thanks to the comprehensive voluntary efforts of our members, coordinators, volunteers and Board, which meet regularly throughout the year. We herewith extend our heartfelt thanks to all our supporters.

7. Charitable Status

The fiscal authorities in Berlin responsible for our organisation have confirmed our “charitable status” for the years following the founding of sculpture network until 2010 on 19 October 2011. This decision cannot be challenged. Should there be no alteration in our statutory goals, there should be no change of status for the years 2011 until 2013 and in the future.

8. Preview 2014 and 2015

Programs 2014

- New Year’s Brunch - 4th International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture - Following great success, (more than 2,000 participants in 12 different countries), the event will take place again on the third Sunday of January 2014. Artists, friends of the arts and art mediators will gather all around Europe to celebrate sculpture on January 19, 2014.
- International Forum was planned in the UK in 2014. It will unfortunately not take place due to late developments of major refurbishments at the agreed venue. Currently discussions are under way for the International Forum 2015.
- Dialogues: Extension and development of the series will be an important and fundamental part of our 2014 programme. With expected Coordinator number growth, approximately 30 Dialogues should take place in 2014
- Experience sculpture trips will take us to Scandinavia and South of Spain in 2014.
- Coordinators: increase the number of Coordinators around Europe, to provide members and interested parties a local contact – sculpture network has a face and to give sculpture network activities continuity in the region.
- Teaching Sculpture: “Teachers in Practice” is the planned project for 2014. Teachers around Europe will work on a same assignment and will get together in May to share experience and input and discuss working methods and problems.
- Various Calls for proposals to members are planned.
- To celebrate sculpture network’s 10 year anniversary, a call for curators will open the network to a group of specialists and provide expert texts on the subject for publication in 2014.

Marketing: We foresee extended marketing actions to reach a greater audience. These will specifically involve cooperation with other cultural organizations and companies.

Membership Structure: We plan to grow our institutional, company and friends member base through specific targeted actions and collaboration projects. In doing so, we will reinforce our aim to provide interdisciplinary networking possibilities for our members.

Finances: Plans to increase funds include

- Selling more advertising in our communication channels: newsletter, website, social media
- Getting more sponsors, donors and public funds by offering visibility at our events, communication and media channels and direct mailings.

We are looking forward to a future where we will continue to grow, to adapt to changes and to continue being one of Europe’s key organisations for sculpture.

Munich/ Germany, 15.03.2014



Ralf Kirberg
Chairman



Isabelle Henn
Managing Director