



Press Release

05.10 2011

Cobra in the open

'Hof van Appel' at Kasteel Keukenhof

22.03 2012 - 21.10 2012

The new sculpture garden *Cobra in the Open* is to open in the attractive surroundings of Kasteel Keukenhof next spring. The garden is an initiative of the Cobra Museum of Modern Art in collaboration with Kasteel Keukenhof in Lisse. The project is supported entirely by the BankGiro Loterij. With *Cobra in the Open* the Cobra Museum will organise exhibitions of Cobra sculptures over a three year period. Many of the selected works by Cobra artists were intended to be installed in a natural environment. *Cobra in the Open* is in keeping with the ambition of Kasteel Keukenhof to become a multifaceted cultural park.

The BankGiro Loterij will enable three editions of *Cobra in the Open*. As befits the motto of the ultimate cultural lottery, this new sculpture garden will enable a wide group of people to become acquainted with the cultural heritage of Cobra in an accessible way. Particularly valued is the original combination of collaborative partners and the attractive, unique location of the castle in the vicinity of the world-famous flower exhibition Keukenhof.

'Hof van Appel'

The first sculpture exhibition, entitled *Hof van Appel* (from 22 March – 21 October 2012) is the first of three editions of *Cobra in the Open*. Exhibited in the gardens adjacent to Kasteel Keukenhof and a stone's throw away from the world-famous flower exhibition Keukenhof, will be some large sculptures by Karel Appel. In 2013 and 2014 works will be exhibited of other Cobra artists. Which these will be has yet to be decided.

The sculptures for the first exhibition *Hof van Appel* will be moved from the *Studio Toscane* exhibition at the Cobra Museum to *Cobra in the Open*. Karel Appel sculpted these works in Tuscany, where he was inspired by the sunlight and the landscape. For this series of sculptures he used winegrowing objects he had found on the estate of his neighbour, art collector and wine grower Giulio Baruffaldi. The sculptures of the 'found objects' were then cast in bronze. Appel produced ten large and medium-sized sculptures for specific locations on Baruffaldi's estate. Eight of these sculptures were taken from their permanent location in Tuscany for the first time for this exhibition. Also on display are several surprising ceramics by Appel. In *Cobra in the Open* these works will soon all be exhibited in the internationally renowned Dutch light.

'Studio Toscane'

From 1 October 2011 to 15 January 2012 a selection of Karel Appel's Tuscan sculptures, together with a few landscape paintings and other contemporary art created in Tuscany, will be on display in the *Studio Toscane* exhibition in the Cobra Museum.

Avro



Media Partner Avro will devote three episodes of the television programme 'Kunstuur' to *Studio Toscane* and the exhibition *Hof van Appel*. The first programme will be broadcast on 19 November.

Public events

During the *Hof van Appel* exhibition several public events will be organised with musical and culinary aspects and a touch of Italy. An educational package has also been developed for both individual visitors and school groups. Details of the programme will be published at a later date on www.cobrabuiten.nl (site under construction).

The MuseumApp will include a *Cobra in the Open* route for Kasteel Keukenhof. The MuseumApp is an iPhone application (soon also available for Android telephones).

Collaborative partners

The Cobra Museum for Contemporary Art in Amstelveen has a unique collection of art created by members of the international Cobra movement. The collection is permanently on display in changing exhibitions. The museum also ensures that the intellectual heritage of the Movement's artists is kept alive. Over a period of fifteen years, the museum has developed into a centre of expertise on collections. Besides presentations of the Cobra legacy, the museum also organises prominent exhibitions of contemporary art.

Kasteel Keukenhof is situated in the heart of the bulb region of the Netherlands, in the middle of the charming Keukenhof Estate, just outside Lisse, opposite the flower exhibition of the same name. Over 200 hectares of woodland, meadows, and a park with more than 18 monuments. The radical restoration of the castle will be completed in 2011. The adjacent historical buildings and surrounding park have also been restored to their former glory. With the development of the house and gardens, Kasteel Keukenhof has contributed significantly to the preservation of the entire estate, combining three key values: art, culture and flora. Interesting detail: in the 17th century the estate also had a sculpture garden where the owner exhibited national and international works of art.

Information for the press

Information and digital images are available via Lieke Fijen of the Cobra Museum, tel. +31 (0)20 5475038 or e-mail l.fijen@cobra-museum.nl. For information about Kasteel Keukenhof please contact Herman Hollander, tel. +31 (0)252-750 690.

'Hof van Appel'

On 1 March 2012 there will be a special ceremony at Kasteel Keukenhof to mark the installation of the first sculpture in *Cobra in the open*. For more information and your request to attend the ceremony, please contact Boudewijn Koopmans via tel. +31 (0)20 5475039 or e-mail b.koopmans@cobra-museum.nl.