

Press Release – 3rd announcement

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Klee and Cobra: A Child's Play

28/1/2012-22/4/2012

Alexander Rinnooy Kan to open *Klee and Cobra*

Children's drawings from the Henk Pijenburg collection on view during *Klee and Cobra*

On 27 January, 2012, at 6:00 p.m., Alexander Rinnooy Kan, president of the Dutch Social Economic Council, will open the major international exhibition, *Klee and Cobra: A Child's Play*, at the Cobra Museum. *Klee and Cobra* (28 January-22 April 2012) reveals the shared fascination of both Paul Klee and the Cobra artists with the wondrous, imaginary world of the child. Never before has an exhibition investigated this theme so thoroughly. In conjunction with *Klee and Cobra*, the Cobra Museum also presents children's drawings from the collection of former teacher and highly respected collector of contemporary art, Mr. Henk Pijenburg.

Klee and Cobra

The exhibition includes more than 130 masterpieces by Paul Klee and 120 by the Cobra artists, including Karel Appel, Constant, Corneille, Eugène Brands, Asger Jorn and Pierre Alechinsky, brought together from international collections. Some of the works by Paul Klee, now on loan for this exhibition, have never before left Switzerland. Visitors experience how both Paul Klee and the post-war generation of Cobra artists interpreted the free expression of the child into a radical new art, which even today remains colourful, spontaneous, raw and pure. This exhibition has been made possible with the financial support of the Turing Foundation, the Mondriaan Fund, the Prins Bernhard Culture Fund, SNS REAAL Fund and the Business Club of the Cobra Museum. *Klee and Cobra* has been organized in collaboration with the Zentrum Paul Klee in Bern and the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebaek, Denmark.

Children's drawings from the Henk Pijenburg collection

In the 1960s and 1970s, at the St. Sylvester School in Helmond, Henk Pijenburg introduced what was at that time a trailblazing teaching method. This inspired teacher took his pupils to museums and exhibitions, introducing them to all kinds of art, not to have them reproduce them in some academic fashion, but to stimulate their own creativity. Pijenburg's method resulted in countless exceptional drawings – powerful, clear and completely unaffected. Fifty highlights from this collection, created between 1964 and 1973, have been selected for this exhibition.

Information for the press

Additional information and digital images are available by contacting Heidi Vandamme, at the Cobra Museum on Tuesdays and Thursdays at T +31 (0)20 547 50 48, other days at +31 (0)6 295 32 686, or by e-mail at h.vandamme@cobra-museum.nl.