

## Press release

Otterlo, 8 April 2015



### The Kröller-Müller Museum presents:

#### ***Van Gogh & Co***

#### *Criss-crossing the collection*

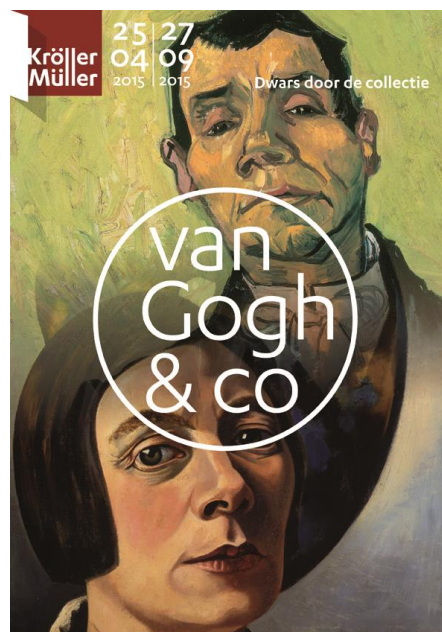
25 April – 27 September 2015

Focusing on the traditional genres of the 19th century, still lifes, nature themes, cityscapes and the human figure – in *Van Gogh & Co. Criss-crossing the collection* (25 April – 27 September 2015) over a hundred works from the Kröller-Müller Collection can be viewed from a different perspective.

Works by Van Gogh – more than fifty paintings and drawings from various periods are displayed alongside those of his predecessors, contemporaries and followers. The works date from the mid-19th century until well into the 20th century and include artists such as Jean-François Millet, Henri Fantin-Latour, Paul Cézanne, Auguste Renoir, Paul Signac, Jan Toorop and Johan Thorn Prikker. An unexpected role is played by De Stijl painter Bart van der Leck.

The exhibition is divided into four sections according to the genres that play an important role in Van Gogh's work: the human figure (and by extension self-portraits); nature themes; village- and cityscapes; and still lifes. The works from the collection make it possible to place all these genres of Van Gogh's work in a context. A number of works by Bart van der Leck are exceptional. Van der Leck became familiar with Van Gogh's oeuvre thanks to Helene Kröller-Müller and her advisor H.P. Bremmer and he made several peculiar variations on it.

Visitors will discover interesting parallels between the various works and genres of Vincent and his famous contemporaries, and also gain a broad insight into the Kröller-Müller Museum's extensive collection.



#### **To Vincent**

Besides the exhibition *Van Gogh & Co. Criss-crossing the collection*, a smaller presentation with tributes to Van Gogh is also on display. Among other things, this includes a sculpture of a tormented Van Gogh by Joseph Mendes da Costa and a number of posters. These were made in 1990 to commemorate Van Gogh's death, at that time a hundred years previously. A variety of artists, such as Roy Lichtenstein, Giuseppe Penone and Mario Merz had made works that emphasized their admiration of Van Gogh and these are compiled in the series of posters.

### **Vincent and Helene**

The Kröller-Müller is Vincent van Gogh's second home. With nearly 90 paintings and over 180 drawings, the museum boasts the second-largest Van Gogh collection in the world. The museum is the life work of Helene Kröller-Müller. Together with her husband Anton Kröller, she acquired almost 11,500 works of art between 1907 and 1922. Helene first discovered the work of Van Gogh in the summer of 1905 when she began taking lessons in art history from the art historian H.P. Bremmer. She became completely fascinated by art and began collecting. Van Gogh was her personal favourite and his works formed the core of her collection from the outset.

### **A summer with Van Gogh (June – September)**

*A summer with Van Gogh* is an extensive side programme organized by the museum to accompany the exhibition. Events include Van Gogh Concerts in association with NJO (Dutch Youth Orchestra Ensemble), *Painting with the masters* (Van Gogh digital painting game), special lectures *Vincent and Helene* (the founder of the Kröller-Müller Museum), drawing, painting and photography workshops and a cycle route in the Hoge Veluwe National Park.

### **An extraordinary combination: art, architecture and nature**

A visit to the museum is an experience in itself. A voyage of discovery that starts at the entrance to the Hoge Veluwe National Park. Visitors are free to walk around or borrow one of the white bicycles (free of charge) to discover the natural beauty of the Netherlands' most breath-taking treasure trove. The combination of the art collection, glorious sculpture garden and the beautiful landscapes is totally unique.

Public information: [www.krollermuller.nl](http://www.krollermuller.nl) and [www.vangogh2015.eu](http://www.vangogh2015.eu).

Partners of the Van Gogh Year 2015:



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The Kröller-Müller Museum is open from Tuesday to Sunday from 10.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs; the sculpture garden closes at 16.30 hrs. More information: [www.krollermuller.nl](http://www.krollermuller.nl), [Facebook.com/krollermuller](https://www.facebook.com/krollermuller), [Twitter.com/krollermuller](https://www.twitter.com/krollermuller).