

the catalogue

The Art Catalogue is an online project for the definitive and scientific cataloguing of all the artworks and projects realized by herman de vries (1931). The project started in 2014 and is conceived as a work in progress. The earliest works by herman de vries date from c. 1953 and new works are still added on an almost daily basis. The Art Catalogue will incorporate physical details, inscriptions and marks, and provenance and bibliographical and documentary information.

description

- catalogue number [still in an experimental phase]
- title

The catalogue is arranged chronologically according to the date of production. The titles are derived as much as possible from the work itself (in Dutch, German, French or English). Sometimes the title is taken from external sources written by de vries as notes and correspondence. In that case the title is placed between []. If the title in its original version is long, the complete title will be quoted in the category 'signature, marks and inscriptions' in its original wording. In artists' books the name of the artist is included in the title.

- date created (year)

Details referring to the date when a work was produced are added to a particular year. They reflect the information provided by the artist in conjunction with the work in question. If the artist himself has specified the dating of a piece of work by including the day and the month of its completion, then such details are listed up in the category 'signature, marks and inscriptions'.

- classification
- medium
- dimensions

The sizes are given in cm, height × width × depth. In the case of works on paper, the size of the paper and also the size of the frame and motif size are stated. For pressed plants the size of the frame is listed.

- signature, date, title, marks and inscriptions

Details regarding the signature of a work follow its titling. If no comments have otherwise been added, such signatures stem from the

hand of the artist. In all cases the work number (1966-1975) was added and occasionally stamps, engravings, imprints, labels, stickers or personal dedications. / separate words or phrases that are placed below or above each other.

- edition

Information on the size of the edition relates to copies consecutively numbered in Arabic or Roman numerals and designated as a.p. (artists' proof), h.c. (hors de commerce) or e.a. (epreuve d'artiste).

- current repository and current repository number
- collecting history/provenance
- related works
- comment

In this category background information can be accessed which is directly relevant to a particular work. Such information includes the following: references to important documents, comments about possible dating discrepancies and disputes relating to features and qualities attributed to the artwork, background details on the motifs and the characters represented and any possible special features regarding the techniques used in the creation of the work.

- photo/scan
- rights and reproduction

extended description

history of exhibitions

published references

Textual and bibliographic references.

At this moment the works in the digital catalogue are partly numbered. Only for the years 1966-1975 herman de vries kept a record of all the works made. A work number consists of 3 (or 4) elements: hdv [= vries] + year of completion + number in the year of completion + (optional) attachment [s for susanne, b for Biddle, ws for Wolfgang Sprang and t for (Na)Tasja Kaindl]. de vries' use of (english) language is sometimes inventive. In all cases his own forms have been retained. For all his texts de vries uses lower case letters (including work titels). However, in the 1960s and 1970s some titles have capitals. Both have been

retained: lower case in the work number and capitals where appropriate in the signed, titled, inscribed.

It was not always possible to reproduce top-quality images, as either the necessary reproduction copies were not available, or because the works could not be located. This deficiency in quality has been accepted as it seemed more important to at least present an image of the work.

Low-resolution versions of the images included in the project are available for download. These images are for educational and reference purposes only. All images, unless otherwise specified, are courtesy the photographer/institution. Copyright for the artworks is held by herman de vries.