

For immediate release

GRIMM plays instrumental role in the acquisition of a large part of the Estate of Ger van Elk by various Dutch museums



Installation view | *...Therefore, Art is Splendid* | GRIMM, New York, NY (US), 2019

GRIMM gallery is proud to announce the acquisition of a large part of the Estate of Ger van Elk (1941-2014) by Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Centraal Museum and Kröller-Müller Museum, ensuring the works will remain accessible to future generations.

Van Elk was one of the most important conceptual artists of his generation. His oeuvre plays with art history, visual traditions and critiques of 'high art'.

The Kröller-Müller Museum is currently working towards a large-scale retrospective exhibition.

With thanks to the Hartwig Foundation and the Rembrandt Association (in particular its Titus Fund, its Robert and Marijcke Willink-de Langen Fund, and its Post-War and Contemporary Art Fund) for making the acquisitions possible.

For a full list of the acquired works, please [contact the gallery](#).

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For more information, interviews, and royalty-free image requests,
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About the artist

Ger van Elk (1941 - 2014, Amsterdam, NL) is internationally recognized as a pioneer of conceptual art. Van Elk was an interdisciplinary artist whose range of works relentlessly challenged the traditions and conventions of the art establishment. The artist parodied and repurposed the canon of modern western painting and its inherited representational language of the Dutch Golden Age to serve his conceptual framework. While many of the artist's early works display a witty, ad hoc sensibility, others dive into personal narrative with an acute reflexive confidence.

Van Elk realized at a young age that *"theory was nothing but a construct, a work of artifice"* after his mother remarried and they converted from Protestantism to Catholicism overnight. This experience proved to be a crucial moment for his art practice; from this he gained the insight that truth is not always truthful, and that one theory is interchangeable with another.

Selected collections: Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (FR); Musée de Peinture, Grenoble (FR); Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam (NL); The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (US); Centraal Museum, Utrecht (NL); The Scottish National Gallery, Edinburgh (UK); National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (AU); Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam (NL); Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo (NL); S.M.A.K., Ghent (BE); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (NL); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (NL); Art Institute of Chicago, IL (US) and many international private collections.

About the gallery

GRIMM is an international contemporary art gallery representing over 35 artists, with locations in Amsterdam (NL), London (UK) and New York, NY (US). Since its establishment in 2005, it has been the gallery's mission to represent and support emerging and mid-career artists who work in a diverse range of media. In addition to the exhibitions that the gallery programs internationally, GRIMM maintains a publication series that offers further critical insights into its artists' practices.



Ger van Elk at RA3, Arte Povera +, Azioni Povere, Amalfi (IT), 1968

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