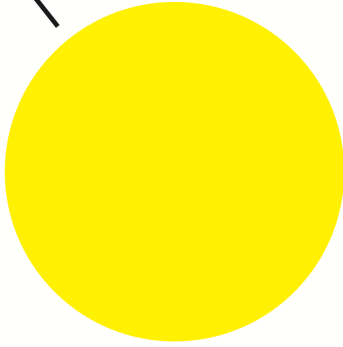


Utrecht, 7 May 2024



'SPRAY AND STITCH' FROM 4 JULY TO 8 SEPTEMBER 2024 IN CENTRAAL MUSEUM UTRECHT

Major exhibition showcases underexposed graffiti and textile art

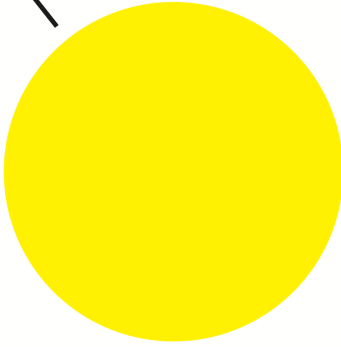
On Thursday 4 July, the major group exhibition *Spray and Stitch: Art with a Message* opens in the Centraal Museum in Utrecht. The exhibition focuses on the underexposed disciplines of graffiti and textile art, but also includes video works, installations and paintings. Featured artists include Carlos Amorales, Keith Haring and Sheila Hicks.

Bart Rutten, artistic director of the Centraal Museum: "Textiles and graffiti are two art forms that are rooted in society but proclaim their messages in very different ways. Both disciplines are being given a well-deserved podium in the Centraal Museum this summer. *Spray and Stitch* promises to be an energetic exhibition that ties in nicely with an important theme from our collection displays: passing on."

Graffiti, installations and textile art

Spray and Stitch features artworks and installations that are rarely shown because of their enormous size, including a 4 x 8 metre painting by Keith Haring from the museum's own collection and installations by, among others, Nadia Kaabi-Linke. Her work *Walk the Line* grows every day as visitors wind coloured yarn around two columns. Kaabi-Linke has developed a new version of the work especially for the Centraal Museum.

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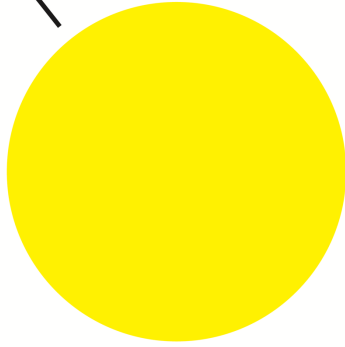


Keith Haring, *No Title*, 1983

There are also spectacular textile works by international artists such as Igshaan Adams, Sheila Hicks and Sonia Gomes, loaned from private collections. The museum's high-profile acquisition *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Too?* by Patricia Kaersenhout will be shown for the first time. The installation is a response to Judy Chicago's iconic work *The Dinner Party* (1974-79) and uses textiles to honour sixty women of colour from world history.

Partnerships and activities

The exhibition has been curated in partnership with the Crafting Resistance Collective and Creative Lab Utrecht. Together with other partners, they are providing a broad programme of activities, many of which take place in the exhibition spaces. For example, Creative Lab Utrecht is inviting graffiti artists and street artists to create wall paintings live in the exhibition galleries and Crafting Resistance is organising textile workshops and artist talks. As part of the national project *Threads of the Netherlands' History of Slavery*, visitors will help to create to a 5.5-metre-long tapestry in the exhibition space.



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Artists

Artists featured in the exhibition include Igshaan Adams, Carlos Amorales, Marlene Dumas, Sonia Gomes, Keith Haring, Sheila Hicks, Esteban Jefferson, Nadia Kaabi-Linke, patricia kaersenhout, Jolanda Schoeten and Koen Taselaar. The Annex, the exhibition's final gallery, presents Lawrence Abu Hamdan's video installation *The Diary of the Sky*, one of the most talked-about works of art during the 2022 Berlin Biennale.

Spray and Stitch: Art with a Message is on show for nine weeks only, from 4 July to 8 September 2024, at the Centraal Museum in Utrecht.