

Curriculum Vitae

Hedwig A. M. Fijen

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The Netherlands

Born: 13 January 1961 at Haarlemmerliede/ Spaarnwoude, the Netherlands

Hedwig Fijen studied History and History of Art at the University of Amsterdam. She is founding director of Manifesta, the European Biennial of Contemporary art, since its origin in Rotterdam in 1993.

Under Fijen's direction Manifesta has developed into the fourth most influential biennial in the world. Over this period, Fijen has vastly expanded Manifesta's operations with theoretical and educational projects including the Manifesta Journal, Manifesta Publications and the Manifesta Coffee breaks.

Ms. Fijen is in charge of all aspects of the Manifesta organization including the selection of Host cities, thematic content and the curatorial selection. The final execution of the concept of the curators is her responsibility. Before Manifesta, Fijen worked as a curator at The Netherlands Office for Fine Arts and has worked in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, Cuba and many other countries. She has lectured extensively and wrote many articles in the context of Manifesta as a biennial.

Hedwig Fijen is currently working on concurrent editions of the Manifesta Biennial: the jubilee edition of the biennial, MANIFESTA 10, which takes place from 28 June – 31 October 2014 in St. Petersburg, Russia, in partnership with the State Hermitage Museum; Manifesta 11, to be hosted by the city of Zürich in 2016 and Manifesta 12, which will take place in 2018.

Current Functions:

- ❖ Director of the International Foundation Manifesta, with its headquarters in Amsterdam. International Foundation Manifesta is the initiator and co-producer of Manifesta, the European Biennial of Contemporary Art.
- ❖ Chair of Foundation Manifesta 11 Zürich Board
- ❖ Chair of Foundation Manifesta 12 Palermo Board?

Manifesta Experience:

- ❖ Chair of Foundation Manifesta 10 St. Petersburg Board and Supervisory Board
- ❖ Chair of Manifesta 11 Zürich Curatorial Selection Committee

- ❖ Chair of all Manifesta curatorial selection committees responsible for the selection of the Manifesta biennial curator
- ❖ Executive Director of Foundation Manifesta 9 Limburg responsible for the overall development of Manifesta 9 in Genk, Limburg, Belgium
- ❖ Chair of Manifesta 8, the organisation behind Manifesta 8 responsible for the overall development of Manifesta 8 in Murcia and Cartagena, in Spain
- ❖ Chair of Manifesta 7, the organisation behind Manifesta 7 responsible for the overall development of Manifesta 7 in Italy
- ❖ Initiator and founding director of Manifesta 1, the European Biennial of Contemporary Art in Rotterdam: as project manager responsible for the organisation and execution of the first Manifesta edition, 1993-1997

Professional Experience:

- ❖ Member of the Invitation Committee for Amsterdam Art Weekend, Amsterdam 2016
- ❖ Member of the Jury of the INNOVATION Art Prize, Moscow 2016
- ❖ Member of the Advisory Board for Urbane Künste Ruhr, Ruhr 2015 - present
- ❖ Member of the International Biennial Association (IBA) and presentation at the Conference and First General Assembly, Berlin 2014
- ❖ Member of the International Committee – Palermo 2019 (Capital of Culture), 2013
- ❖ Member of the Advisory Committee for the IJ Triënnale, Amsterdam 2013-2014
- ❖ Participation in the 1st International Culture Industry Summit (ICIS), Jiayuguan city, Gansu province, China 2012
- ❖ Participation in the 2nd Global Economic Leaders Summit (GELS), Changchun city, Jilin province, China 2012
- ❖ Member of the Committee for International Cultural Policy at the Dutch Council for Culture (Raad voor Cultuur)
- ❖ Member of the Committee for Dutch Art in International Context at the Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture
- ❖ Member of the Board of Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany
- ❖ Member of the jury of the Gwangju Biennial, South-Korea 2010
- ❖ Member of the jury of the Carrara Sculptural Biennial, Italy 2010
- ❖ Chairman of the Jury of the National Cobra Award (NL) till 2010
- ❖ Member of the Board of Trustees of Büro Friedrich, Berlin, Germany 2008
- ❖ Member of the Jury of the ABN AMRO Art Award, the Netherlands 2008
- ❖ Member of the Jury of the Grand Prize Award at the Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia 2008
- ❖ Member of the Jury of the Prins Bernhard Cultuur Prijs, David Roëll Award, the Netherlands 2007
- ❖ Member of the Committee for International Art of the Mondrian Foundation, the Netherlands 2006
- ❖ Member of the Board of Locatelli Foundation, Cremona, Italy 2004
- ❖ Member of the Jury for Rietveld Academy, the Netherlands 2005
- ❖ Founder of the Manifesta New Network Programme, 2001-2005
- ❖ Advisor for the European Commission culture grants, Jury member, 2003
- ❖ Senior Consultant for Arts & Culture (1999-2002), working on conceptualisation of developments of new architectural projects, monitoring innovative processes in

contemporary arts, architecture and culture commissioned by museums, ministries, city councils and arts organisations

- ❖ Freelance curator of exhibitions for several art institute's in the Netherlands, such as W139 and Montevideo
- ❖ Curator at The Netherlands Office for Fine Arts, 1989-1993

Education:

- ❖ Gymnasium A, Fons Vitae Lyceum Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- ❖ BA in Historical Sciences at the University of Amsterdam
- ❖ MA in History of Art and Archaeology at the University of Amsterdam
- ❖ Extra Academic year in Conservation and Restoration at Delft University, the Netherlands

Languages:

- ❖ Dutch (Mother tongue)
- ❖ English (Fluent)
- ❖ German (Fluent)
- ❖ Italian (Strong)