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NOSTALGIA

embrace

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COLOPHON

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NOSTALAGIA:

**“A SENTIMENTAL LONGING OR WISTFUL
AFFECTION FOR THE PAST, TYPICALLY
FOR A PERIOD OR PLACE WITH HAPPY
PERSONAL ASSOCIATIONS.”**

PICTURES



PICTURES

PICTURES



PICTURES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This issue marks the start of EmbrACE 2019-2020, and thereby my first ever column as Editor-in-Chief. It marks the dawn of a new occupation and excitement about the creative year ahead with the Editorial Team. Although this positive prospective view might hint towards a focus on the future, this issue of EmbrACE rather tackles feelings that come with being retrospective. Looking back on the past, on the things you have accomplished and the struggles you have faced, is not necessarily deterring from a future focused attitude. Like the infamous saying prescribes: “Don’t forget where you came from”, reflecting on the past is a healthy way to evaluate your current position and future desires.

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However, being retrospective is not always such a conscious thought. One might have a more unconscious and inherent, deep affection for a period of time that has passed, based on memories and experiences. When one experiences this rather involuntary, yet warm and fond feeling for past times, we speak of nostalgia. This feeling is personal to individuals, and sometimes rather hard to put into words. Based on the diversity and ambiguity of the concept, it is open to many interpretations. To find ex-



planations for- and illustrations of nostalgia is a tough task, yet one that challenges the mind. To take on this challenge, the first issue of EmbrACE 2019-2020 is all about **nostalgia**. In the remainder of the magazine you will be indulged in the variety of modes and experiences that come with nostalgia.

My first association with the concept of nostalgia has always been that of a “feeling”. However, there

appear to be more functions to it. When looking at the narratives of contemporary politicians, they seem to be using nostalgia as a political tool. Especially in populist narratives, the

“POLITICS OF NOSTALGIA”

are rather popular – they reject current political structures and situations by promising to reinstall the “good old times”. We can see these nostalgic narratives being practiced by for example pro-Brexit politicians. The call for the UK to regain its power hints towards old times in which the country was “better off”. For example, these politicians refer to old political power structures in which the UK was the most powerful player on the world stage. This is clearly a romanticized view of “the good old days”, for the obvious reason that over time many aspects of life have also progressed tremendously. By romanticizing past times, politicians play into any nostalgic feelings that the public might have, trying to steer and strengthen these feelings. It becomes apparent that nostalgic feelings are powerful within hu-

man beings. Many of the nostalgic narratives used by populist politicians have gained great numbers of supporters.

Since the less “romantic” aspects of older periods are swept under the rug, politicians create a sort of distorted view of the past –

A PRETTY PICTURE

which the public is quickly drawn to. However, what one must remember is that many of these pictures are often fabricated, referring to characteristics of the past that did not even exist in the time they are referring to. The question, then, is as follows – are politics of nostalgia another form of fake information and manipulation? I’ll leave the answer to that question up to you.

What I have tried to demonstrate with this narrative about nostalgia (spot the difference with a nostalgic narrative), is that a feeling we as individual might have, and which feels very personal, might have serious and powerful effects when those around you play into it. With this issue, the Embrace Editorial Team will undoubtedly make you reflect on your nostalgic feelings and thoughts, and what effects they might have.

Happy retrospecting,

Dané van Hemert
Editor-in-Chief





Dear ACE,

Time has flown by since we all spent our long summer days on beaches and festivals, and took in some sunshine in the Dutch parks or abroad. We have switched our breezy summer outfits for thick sweaters and winter coats, and the academic year is in full swing. With a new academic year comes many new experiences, opportunities and challenges. For the board, the summer break ended a little earlier than September – in the months prior, we spent our days preparing for our positions in order to start our year as the 38th board as smoothly as possible. For most however, the dawn of the

new academic year kicked off with Eureka week or the first lecture of your newest course. During the Eureka week, we were happy to see so many new faces join our beautiful association – welcome to the family! From the impressive beer cantus to the festival on the last day, ACE surely enjoyed all the fun and people.

In the past months, ACE has organized some events at which we saw many new faces, and also caught up with those who have been in the association for longer. The board kicked off the new year of ACE with some fun activities – in true Dutch style, we set sail on the Pancake Boat. After our Committee Interest Drink, many ACE members took on the opportunity to join one of the committees – very wise decision! Ever since, the committees have organized some inspiring and exciting activities. A Pub Lecture about Online Shaming and Cancelling culture was educational, and also very

tasty – yes, Stalles pizza's truly are amazing. As a variation on our regular Social Drink, we moved to Club Vibes for a beerpong tournament. Whilst it became apparent that the hand-eye-coordination skills of some are better than others (oh well, just blame it on the drinks), it was an intense competition. We hope our winners are very happy with their prize of Beer Hats! One of the biggest events of the past months was the Christmas Market Trip to Cologne, where we all got into the festive spirit and practiced our German (es ist leider sehr schwierig).

In between all of this, the First General Assembly took place where the 37th board officially handed over their duties to us, the 38th board. We are very excited, sometimes also stressed and tired, but mostly very excited to put our best foot forward for ACE this year! All us students come together, united in Rotterdam, friendship and...

Okay, we will save you the rest of our anthem for now. To celebrate this festivity, we hosted our Constitution Drink for all other boards on campus and for our members. In a fully packed Pardoën, there was singing, shouting, and a lot of appropriate gift-giving.

So what is next? First of all, during a Social Drink the destination of our Short Trip was announced – we’re going to Napels and Pompeii! We’re already looking forward to all the delicious Italian food and beautiful sights. Moreover, on the 31st of January ACE will host, in collaboration with four other associations, one of the biggest galas of Rotterdam – The Interfaculty Gala! This year, the theme of the Gala is “The Roaring 2020s”

(get it?). So, dust off your glittery dresses and smoking’s and come dance the night away. Our committees have also been working hard on some of our biggest events of the year – for example, the preparations for the Career Days are in full swing. Soon, you will all find out more about this and all other things that are to come.

All in all, a big thank you to all of you guys for making all our events so far a success, and for providing us with fond memories of this board year already. Cheers to what 2020 has to bring!

All the love,
The 38th Board of IFA ACE

Dané van Hemert, Kai Chen, Albert Jan van Dalen, Demi Heijboer



HOW THE “MAUERFALL” INFLUENCED THE WAYS OF TECHNO

BY TABEA NORDHAUSEN

Within the 30th anniversary of the fall of the *Berlin Wall*, we are reminded of an empowering milestone in history, that created a new and free generation. The importance of freedom is illustrated through the remembrance of the past, that is responsible for the way the world is today.

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During the division of Germany, the Berlin Wall was a border fortification system of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), which existed for more than 28 years, from 13 August 1961 to 9 November 1989. It was intended to hermetically seal off the GDR from West Berlin. When the fall of the Berlin Wall finally happened, it paved the way for the simultaneous unification of Germany, the collapse of the GDR,

and a new era for Germany and its people. Moreover, this significant milestone in the history of Germany shaped a whole generation.

The youth was especially affected by the “*Mauerfall*”, celebrating the new life they did not know before. One of the most prominent outcomes was the emergence of the techno scene in Berlin as a sign of the regained *freedom* of the city and the people themselves. Although techno’s origins go back to the 1980s, the fall of the wall influenced the ways of techno in Germany, especially in Berlin. For the first time in their lives, they were able to visit the other part of Germany and do other things. The youth started to throw illegal parties in abandoned buildings, which led to the consideration of techno as an underground movement, but throughout the time it has made its way to become one of the biggest electronic music movements today.

The youth of the 90s is still enjoying the freedom of techno that once extricated them and showed them a new way of living. Techno is

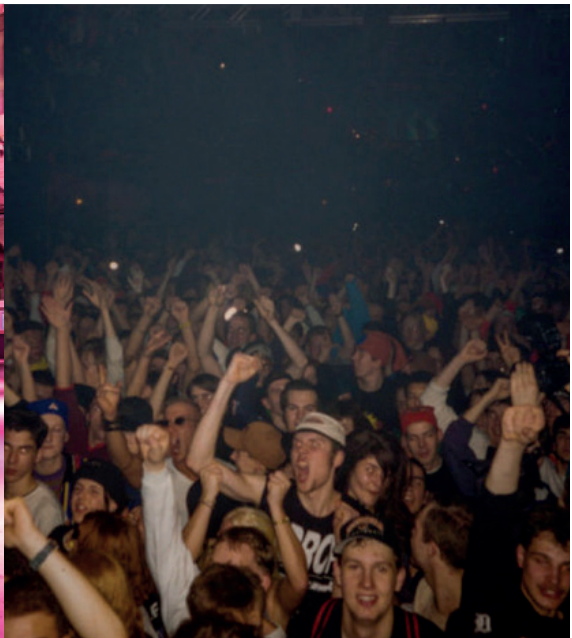
becoming more and more popular among young adolescents again, staying true to the origins of techno through portraying freedom in many ways.

Today, the touch of warehouses and abandoned buildings can still be found in most techno clubs that keep the legacy of techno's origins. Techno clubs have very different opening hours to usual clubs, as the ones in Berlin are open for 24 hours and other clubs close either at seven in the morning or two in the afternoon. Therefore, they keep the sense of freedom preserved since most of the illegal parties were going on non-stop.

Techno clubs in Rotterdam include *Perron*, *Maassilo*, *Toffler*, and the *Now and Wow club*, which all have things in common with the old venues. *Maassilo* and the *Now and Wow club* are located in the same

building at Maashaven. The building is a former grain silo and grain elevator, being in use as an entertainment and event location since 2004. Moreover, both of these clubs keep the original concept of the illegal parties with a similar atmosphere. *Perron* is situated close to Rotterdam Central Station and also has the vibe of an old building, while *Toffler* has a more modern design. However, all of these clubs offer a wide range of techno music, including festivals and “all night” raves.

It is significant to notice that some people who used to throw illegal raves are now the owners of the most famous techno clubs, keeping the original meaning and relevance of techno in conjunction with freedom where it needs to be.



THE ROARING 20'S

BY JOOSKE ARNOLDUSSEN

With the arrival of yet a new decade, 2020 marks the 100th birthday of the 1920's, better known as the Roaring Twenties.

Perhaps a few historical facts to brush up your memory; The First World War ended in 1918. Returning soldiers and their families celebrated life, and by 1920 more Americans lived in cities than lived on farms. This brought about some political and social changes, as well as a change in consumer behavior (which later caused the Great Depression). This decade is well-known for its parties and its Jazz music, and perhaps names like Charlie Chaplin and Louis Armstrong might ring a bell?

F. Scott Fitzgerald portrayed the 20's ambiance well in his famous book *The Great Gatsby*, but is this what life really was like? The sketched image of women in this decade usually consists of white women with blonde hair cut short in a bob, who drink, smoke, and speak in un-

ladylike manners. This “Flapper Girl” image may have derived from the rightful decision to grant women the right to vote (as stated in the 19th amendment, commissioned in August, 1920) and the role women fulfilled during the war by taking over their men's jobs. The famous bob hairstyle was introduced by Coco Chanel – a trend the media rapidly spread over the Atlantic. Chanel also greatly influenced fashion in these years. By taking her inspiration from men's clothes, she shifted the attention in women's dresses from the waist line to the hipline which then allowed women to stop wearing corsets.

The decision to no longer wear corsets was visible in the fashion industry as well as on the dance floor. A rather large part of the African American community moved from the farmlands to the cities, bringing with them Jazz and Blues. Jazz music was a big hit in speakeasies; underground bars



denying the alcohol prohibition that was introduced in January 1920. Dancing to Jazz music made the young generation feel free, and perhaps even rebellious seeing as the older generation thought little of it.

The radio helped spreading Jazz music to the mainstream American public. Due to all sorts of inventions such as the radio, but also refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and cars, normal life at home radically changed. Cars quickly rose to be seen as a token of wealth and freedom, and a necessity for most.

Another characteristic of the twenties, besides the music and the fashion industry, is the architecture. This new found style was the “Art Deco” style. A well-known example of Art Deco is the Chrysler Building in New York city. Industrialization and the development of new materials, techniques and machines made it possible to divert from the former used craftsman techniques. Art Deco can easily be recognizable by its bright colors and geometric forms, and the use of materials like stainless steel.

The Twenties are marked by contrasting values and cultural contradictions. “New Women”, or Flapper Girls, versus the old fashioned, family valuing women. But also religious contradictions, political contradictions (“The Red Scare” – the scare of the communists), and racial contradictions. All these changes and contradictory behaviors and values led the decade of the 20’s to become a rather notorious one.

When we think about the 1920’s, we often think about this Gatsby-like world, filled with lots of exciting parties, lots of alcohol, fancy silk dresses with low waist lines, feathers on headbands and of course, Jazz music. The twenties left their mark on our society today, both in terms of fashion and style, as well as economic prosperity that eventually led to the Wall Street Crash. Considering the big cultural impact the Roaring Twenties have had, we can’t help but wonder; what will the 2020’s be known for, a hundred years from today?



NOW PRESENTING: NOSTALGIA!

BY: ANNA WIVEL BOUCHARD

The film industry over the past decade slowly transferred from an industry with new ideas and trends to one which thrives off the past. One cannot help but notice how various media industries, especially film and television, seem to be living off of nostalgic/vintage/classic content, which the audiences appear to be craving more and more. Hollywood seems to be using nostalgia in 2 different ways, either by simply rebooting or remaking old films and series or by creating 'original' content which is then fil-

led to the brim with big and small references to the time the content is set in.

Let's begin with what some may consider the less creative, 'money wanting' side of this trend. Many companies have chosen to pick up classic film or television series and give them a modern spin, some better than others. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, *IT* and *A Star is Born* are just a few examples of well-made and successful remakes and reboots of classics. These films demonstrate how nostalgia in the film industry actually can produce well-made content while simultaneously modernizing and introducing classics to a new generation of viewers. However, for every good reboot, there is a bad one to show how some classics should have remained untouched. One of the most famous examples to have come up in the past 10 years is provided by the Walt Disney Corporation, arguably the most influential company in the film industry.

Disney has been stealing the hearts of children everywhere since *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* debuted in 1937, leading to nearly everyone having a child-





hood memory tied with the company and its many, many films. Disney then got the miraculous idea of creating live-action versions of their animated classics. Some of these broadened the world of the original films, such as *Maleficent* or *Alice in Wonderland*, while others, such as *The Lion King* or *Beauty and the Beast* simply took the originals, used real actors and/or CGI, and re-released them to a generation who can't seem to get enough of their childhood films (until the new versions were released).

Remakes and reboots are not the only way the film industry has managed to capture their audience's nostalgia. Many industry superpowers have taken a certain decade and made films and television series surrounding that decade and the trends which are tied to that decade. Recently, content such as *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *Rocketman*, *Stranger Things*, and *The Crown* are all paying tribute to past decades, while also making the vie-

wer nostalgic for what that time is known for and how it affected our world. These films, unlike those stated above, don't overtly try to use nostalgia to make money but the nostalgia is simply a side effect of these films. I'm pretty sure that most of you don't remember a time when Freddy Mercury was alive or when Don't Go Breaking My Heart hit radios or when Queen Elizabeth met John F. Kennedy, but this decade specific works all bring back certain iconic events and trends from their respective decades.

Looking back on this observation, one may interpret it as a criticism of the film industry and its lack of originality in recent years, however, it is not. Although some of these releases can be clearly seen as marketing campaigns to make more money (which is a criticism), some of these releases are merely trying to remind the world of what we once loved. Some of these films and television series can be seen as cinematic museums of a time we did not or can no longer experience, but shouldn't forget.

NOSTALGIA: A DARK PAST THAT IS NO LONGER

BY ANNA ZWETTLER

18 We often hear that nostalgia is a bad thing because apparently those engaging in it are stuck in a past reality that keeps them from opening their eyes to the real present. For creative minds, it is also said to hinder creativity and innovation. Within the world of art, creating nostalgic content is seen as a way to manipulate people into liking your work more than they should, due to its familiarity. Also, I must mention that a societal step backward into previous years should evidentially not ~~literally~~ be taken, as the world has progressed a substantial amount in terms of better treatment for minorities and women, as well as significant advancements in the areas of science and technology. However, if you are one of those people filled with bittersweet reminiscence of simpler times a little too often, and you often catch your mind wandering to the lovely time you spent with your family during that one holiday many moons ago, I have good news for you: ~~Nostalgia has a positive side that you may have never even heard of.~~

Fortunately for those who love to dress like the characters of the sitcom *Friends*, live their best imaginary life partying to 80s hits at decade parties, or shoot artsy film of long lazy days on their analogue cameras, nostalgia no longer has the gloomy image it once did. During the 17th to 19th centuries, being nostalgic and yearning for the past was considered a mental illness or, to be exact, a psychopathological disorder. Johannes Hofner, a Swiss doctor, explained it to be a “neurological disease of essentially demonic cause” and over the following years, it became one of the most studied illnesses in Europe. Anyone who experienced symptoms varying from melancholy, loss of appetite, suicidal tendencies, but also hearing voices of people you missed (ignoring the fact that these may have just appeared in people’s dreams) might have led you to be diagnosed with nostalgic homesickness. If you had been alive during that time and would have been pronounced to be suffering from this, the repercussions could have ran-

ged from bullying, a one-way ticket to an asylum or even threats of being buried alive.



In the present we know, no one will be stigmatized as insane due to a longing for the “good old days”. In fact, the spectrum of research on nostalgia has taken a turn for the better. It has shown that feeling nostalgic can actually benefit you quite considerably in your current life, as well as for your future. As Dr. Erica Hepper, lecturer of Psychology explains,

“NOSTALGIA IS THE WARM, FUZZY EMOTION THAT WE FEEL WHEN WE THINK ABOUT FOND MEMORIES FROM OUR PAST”.

It has been widely agreed upon that nostalgizing is a very natural human tendency and that, on average, a person can find themselves reminiscing about once a week,

triggers including smells, songs, cooking familiar meals, sharing stories, or looking at photographs. Therefore, the next time you catch your gaze wandering through your window at the rainy, endless Dutch darkness and think about all of the fun you had last summer, remember that nostalgia can prove to be very beneficial for you.

Constantine Sedikides, a psychologist at the University of Southampton, was interested in exactly what benefits nostalgic thought could evoke in individuals. He conducted several experiments, both online and in a laboratory, where the participants were asked to listen to a sentimental song or memory that would trigger them to reminisce. A validated index then asked the subjects the extent that they agree with statements, such as “I feel connected with my past” and “important aspects of my personality remain the same over time”. Results showed that people reported greater self-continuity, after having experienced the induced nostalgia, due to an increased sense of social connectedness and



remembering their social web of those they love. This pattern was observed in American, British and Chinese participants, among which several also reported nostalgia to grant them feelings of vitality and energy. For that reason, in the future, when that early morning yoga class you signed up for just does not seem too appealing, maybe you could give that sentimental song that you listened to with your childhood friends a quick listen and find yourself effortlessly energized.

Further research directed at the positive aspects of nostalgia was conducted in 2012 and published in the journal *Memory*. It showed that engaging in nostalgic thoughts allowed people to relate their past experiences to their present identities and make greater meaning of it all. This could account for reduced

stress, higher self-esteem and put one in a better mood overall. Also, remembering fond, bittersweet memories will permit individuals to be more connected to those they love and may allow for a generally more optimistic mind-set towards the present and even increased mental health. Physically, it can also make us feel warmer, so if you are ever walking or biking to university on a cold morning, try remembering some cheerful memories from your childhood and maybe that 9am lecture you really don't want to go to will be a bit more bearable.



**DISTANCE NOT ONLY GIVES NOSTALGIA,
BUT PERSPECTIVE, AND MAYBE
OBJECTIVITY.**

- ROBERT MORGAN

PICTURES



PICTURES

PICTURES



PICTURES

RELEARNING MUSIC

BY LAURA SLEE



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Talking with my parents about music brings a nostalgic mood. Hearing them on (and on?) about spinning their records and fully listening to an album sounds nice for a change. Endlessly scrolling through different spotify playlist and repeatedly using the shuffle button in my ~~discover weekly~~ and ~~new music friday~~ is not doing the job anymore. All these different streaming services have created an overkill in content. ~~There's simply too much, too many, of the same~~. A lot of people turn to vinyl collecting again because it feels good to be able to hold a record in your hands. Listening to an album in its original form, from beginning to end, without skipping a song. Frank Ocean is an artist that reaches his fans in a different way. He has quite a big discography that is not ac-

cessible on Spotify. He uploaded a live-stream on his website where you see him building a staircase for 140 house, finishing up to the end of his album: *endless*. Later, this was distributed to Apple music to get out of his contract. Two years later, the album has been exclusively made physical on vinyl and cd. Check out the website for more (unreleased) music: <http://blonded.blog>

Frank understands that making his music exclusive adds to its charms. But there are many more artists experimenting with the way we perceive music to reach new audiences. A Dutch artist *Sticks* who used be known from *Great Minds* and *Rico* and *Sticks* was done with mainstream music. He found a new way to tell a story in the museum "de Fundatie" in

Zwolle he will temporarily exhibit his new album Onrust (restlessness).

“DOES THE PERCEPTION OF THE AUDIENCE CHANGES UPON THE NEW TRACKS? WILL I WRITE DIFFERENT? BECAUSE THE WORK IS ONLY TO BE HEARD OR SEEN IN THE MUSEUM, I CREATE A NEW EXPERIENCE”



Besides listening to his album there are installations, texts and projections translating his music into visuals. (<https://www.museumde-fundatie.nl/nl/sticks/>)

My friend who's a great music expert told me about another experimental artist, Nicolas Jar. She went to his concert and told me enthusiastically about his work. He is a composer and recording artist from Chili, who used be an active DJ in the nightlife scene. But there he had to adjust to the demand of the public. His true passion is to make music no matter the form, as long as it is art.

For ten days he locked himself up in the **Oude Kerk** in Amsterdam and experimented with the acoustics. Here, he created an improvisational piece and took part in Playing the Cathedral, starting at 6 a.m. and finishing three hours later. An incredible performance explicitly designed for the recently renovated Vater-Müllerorgan.

We could thank these artists for creating a different sound and presenting it in a new way to the public. These small bright spots in the music industry which only are visible when looking beyond my worn out Spotify playlist.



NOT QUITE THE SOCRATIC SEMINAR ON ART; WHAT IS ART?

BY: LARA DOMARADZKA

Let me ask you, have you ever walked into a museum and immediately needed to throw up?

As an international student, I like to think of myself as a cultured person. This is why after moving to Rotterdam I decided to visit its most well-known museums and art centers. While exploring the Witte de With Contemporary Art Center I stumbled upon a quite unusual exhibition.

New work by Rossella Biscotti is one of the most nostalgic exhibitions that can be found in Rotterdam, at the moment. It is a sentiment towards forgotten and unknown events that happened during the Dutch colonial period in Southeast Asia. She is focusing on the exploration and exploitation of living forms, giving them a voice through her art.

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Rossella Biscotti, *Sanikem—Nyai Ontosoroh—Madame Le Boucq, Maiko, Annalies, Mei, Surati, Princess of Kasiruta*, 2019, material line natural rubber, food coloring. Exhibition overview Rossella Biscotti, *new work*, 2019, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam. Photographer: Kristien Daem.

So, what does any of this have to do with throwing up?

One of the protagonists of the exhibition is Clara, a female Indian rhinoceros, brought to Europe in the 18th century, by the Dutch East India Company. As one of her artistic tools to bring back the memory (and smell) of Clara, Biscotti uses rubber mats soaked in fish oil. The smell dominates the room.

It is not uncommon for contemporary art exhibitions, such as *new work*, to challenge not only our noses, but our general understanding of art.

Just as Plato or Aristotle tried to answer questions such as: '*What is knowledge?*' or '*What is truth?*', today we get to ask a similarly structured question:

WHAT IS ART?

Living in a world where art has lost many of its initial functions and transformed almost fully from perception to conception, it can be difficult to find an appropriate definition.

However, even though we might not be able to find a global, universal, and always applicable definition of art, we can attempt to find a more local, individual meaning. To put this into context, I asked the students to describe Art in Rotterdam with only one word. Here are some of their answers:

ALIVE
EVERYWHERE
COMMON-GROUND

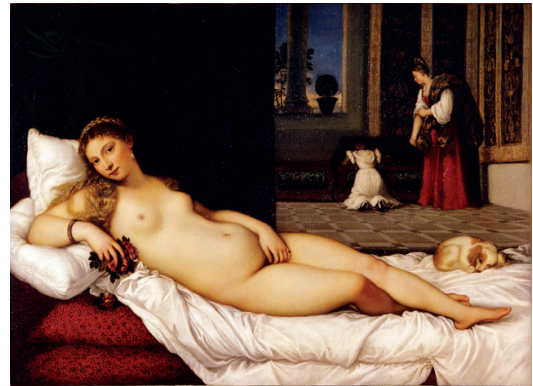
ECLECTIC
BUTTPLUG
MINIMAL
ALL INCLUSIVE
'NOT EVEN DUTCH'
ARCHITECTURE
INTERNATIONAL
VARIED
APPRECIATIVE
IMPORTANT
FUNKY
PROVOCATIVE
YOUNG
MASS CULTURE
LOCAL
WESTERN
FOREIGN
IMPORTED
COMMERCIAL
ALTERNATIVE
INSPIRING

With 7.53 billion people in the world we might find that there are as many individual definitions of art. Maybe to answer this tricky question we should look from a more sociological point of view and simply say: art is what people say it is.

The question *What is Art?* Invites us to look deeper into the art world. It makes us wonder what inspires artists, what themes are often addressed in art, how do we judge and compare art, and finally what is, or makes, good art.

WHAT IS GOOD ART?

Let's take a quick look at art history. In the Renaissance Italian painters



and sculptors considered antique art as superior and beautiful in comparison to art from the middle ages. Similarly, in the 18th century there was a trend of returning to antiquity. Later in the Romantic era, a renewed interest in arts, literature, and architecture from the middle ages took place. Even later, painters such as Edouard Manet (left) took inspiration from Rafael and Titian (right), thus the art of the Renaissance.

What people considered good art changed with time, however there was a certain trend of returning to the past in search for it. This is what we could call nostalgia.

WHAT IS NOSTALGIA IN ART?

What is nostalgia, and why is it so important? Nostalgia in art can be seen as quite a powerful force driving the artists. It could be demonstrated by emphasizing, embracing, or simply remembering the past. In history we can see how different art movements were more or less nostalgic. For example, *futurism*, a pre WW1 Italian movement that focused on progress and technological developments, wasn't particularly nostalgic. However, *romanticism*, a

19th century movement, was one of the most nostalgic periods of Western art history.

There are multiple theories nowadays, coming not only from the art world, that *romanticism* and its nostalgia are coming back. They are becoming a fashion or even a worldview once again, thus changing the way societies behave and the way we deal with art. Nostalgia is gaining a new meaning. Not only, there is a new wave of giving voices to subjects previously oppressed and unable to speak up, what Biscotti does in her exhibition, but also trends from past epochs come back and strongly influence the media. The aesthetics of the 1970s, 80s and 90s dominate the cinema and fashion trends. Which opens yet another window into the constant change of the art world.

THE END

WOMEN'S TERRITORY: A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

BY: LIZE VAN LOOIJ

Social media has been embedded with posts, tweets and videos about feminism. Feminists today, young and old, take their stand and share this online. Even icons like Beyoncé and Emma Watson use their social media platforms to inform their followers about the feminist movement. Due to the rise of social media it has been much easier to address the problems women are facing in this world. We all know the movement of *#MeToo*, where women started addressing problems like sexual harassment. This can be seen as a form of activism against sexism. Alongside this, more forms of activism have occurred: numerous women have freed their nipples and enough



articles have been written about women not wanting to shave their armpit hair anymore. But we should not forget about the women who came before us, they have freed the path for us so we can perform our activism more visible to the world. So let's take a trip down memory lane.

To start off with this trip let's talk about Aletta Jacobs (1854-1929), she is the most famous and well known Dutch feminist. Multiple times Aletta was the "first woman to...". She was the first woman to go to university, the first woman to become a doctor and the first woman to get promoted. It is safe to say that she has freed a lot of paths for us to walk on now. Today we do not

always stop to think about the fact that a hundred years ago it was not this easy for women to get good education or even have a right to vote, which is another topic Aletta felt strong about. And it is only fair to mention all the women who have fought for this. For me it is unthinkable that I would not be able to express my vote because of my gender. Luckily for me, I do not have to think about it.

Making a jump from the early 1900s to the 1960s, when the Dutch feminist organization Dolle Mina (= Mad/Crazy Mina) was created. Dolle Mina fought for equal rights for

men and women, just like all of the feminist organisations, legal abortions, better birth control and better schooling for women. The catch with them was the way they performed their activism. Dolle Mina used ludic ways to perform their activism. One example: the tying up of public urinals with pink ribbons to protest against the lack of public toilets for women. And more of these examples could be presented. Due to these actions they could draw a lot of attention to themselves from media and politics. Making their name big throughout the whole country and gaining lots of followers within a



short amount of time.¹ It is safe to say that the creation of this action group was a big success, especially because it did not just stay in the Netherlands, but also got foot on the ground in Belgium.

Now, let's return to the action of women freeing their nipples. The current day is not the first time women try to perform their activism using their breasts. During the sixties women in the United States burned their bras or stopped wearing them to show their independence of men. Because of all the backlash they got from men not a lot of bras got burned, but a lot of wo-

¹ Retrieved from <https://atria.nl/nieuws-publicaties/feminisme/feminisme-20e-eeuw/dolle-mina-ac-tiegroep/>

men did support the feminists who did take action.

Until the 1980s not all women who really wanted joined the public activism of feminism. Not all women felt comfortable enough to associate themselves with the movement, due to the negative connotation to the word feminist. But more and more movements came forth out of feminism. One well known example are the Riot Grrrls.² Within this movement women stepped out of the world of expectations and started following their own interests. They protested against the norm. At first the movement got spread using pamphlets, but with the arrival of internet it became even easier for more women, especially younger women, to take part in this feminist talk. The internet was a good place for the women to share their ideas and communicate about it with each other.

² Retrieved from <https://haenfler.sites.grinnell.edu/subcultures-and-scenes/riot-grrrl-2/>



And these are just a few of the many things women have done to perform their activism before the quick and easy era of social media came upon us. A quick little disclaimer: this is not to overshadow the feminist activism of today. A lot of women are still performing their activism to achieve their goals. But we should not forget who came before us and created the foundation we are standing on now, and how they did that.

THE ROTTERDAM TIMEMACHINE

BY NOAH VINK

As Erasmus University students, we have the privilege to study in the most diverse and interesting city in the Netherlands. Rotterdam, with its historic port, is international-oriented as no other city. Hosting the Eurovision song-festival next year is a piece of cake and the city skyline is the only proper one to be found in the Netherlands. 'Manhattan aan de Maas': where the people are down to earth and the no-nonsense attitude is boss. Since we are proud of our city, this rubric will take you back in time to show some of Rotterdam's history.

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Rotterdam was bombed during World War II, the 14th of May 1940 to be exact. The whole historic inner-city was destroyed, so it's no wonder Rotterdam looks nothing like Amsterdam or Utrecht. However, after the war, the city grasped its chances to reconstruct itself in a whole new and functional way. Rotterdam became the biggest example of the 'reconstructing period' (1945-1968). Numerous construction projects arose and the people of the city followed these projects proudly. It was time for a newer, better and more beautiful Rotterdam. From 1946, the city organized 'Wederopbouwritten', or translated in English: Reconstruction rides. To promote Rotterdam,

visitors and all who were interested could take a bus ride that would take them to all the building and construction projects in the city. The ride was 31 kilometers long.



This picture, from the Rotterdam city archive, was taken on one of those reconstruction rides and was estimated to be taken in 1959. In the picture, you see the 'Veerhaven', a small port in the center of Rotterdam. The historic sources about this place date from the 15th century. The 'little house' that shows in the picture is where the Royal Rowing and Sailing Association 'De Maas' is located and was built in 1909. If you take a closer look, the biggest differences can be spotted on the other side of

the river. Where in the old picture, mainly cranes and construction can be identified. Nowadays, bigger buildings dominate the sight on the background. Besides, the boats seem to be bigger as well nowadays.



If we zoom in to this background, which is now known as 'Katendrecht', there are more historic stories that can be discovered. This photo was actually taken from 'the Veerdam', which is located nowadays just behind the little house of the Royal Rowing and Sailing Association, shown in the first picture. The photo is estimated taken between 1908 and 1916. What we clearly see is a building on the static building on the side of the river, which was the management building of the Holland-America Line,

a cruise company still existing today. The building was delivered in 1901. Only in 1917, the towers that are recognizable today were added to the building. In 1984, the company decides to move to Seattle and the building to the township of Rotterdam. In 1993 is became the pretty prestigious hotel 'Hotel New York'. Fun fact: the water taxi was specifically created for better accessibility of the hotel in 1993. It is by far not the only building on the shore anymore. Now you can spot high residential towers as 'Montevideo' and 'New Orleans', The World Port Centre and the building all the way to the left on the picture literally called 'The Rotterdam'.

The neighborhood around the Veerhaven is one of the most historic parts that can be found in Rotterdam. It is close to the Erasmusbrige it's where Rotterdam's World Museum is located. Besides, the view of the skyline of Southern Rotterdam is spectacular, especially when the sun is going down and the little lights are coming out. If you have never been in this part of the city (since it is a pretty long way from campus) make sure you visit soon. You can't miss the magic feel this place gives you: true nostalgia.

PICTURES



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PICTURES

PICTURES



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PICTURES

UPCOMING EVENTS

9TH OF JANUARY 2020



SOCIAL DRINK: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WEEK 3, JANUARY 2020



HISTORY COMMITTEE

WEEK 4, JANUARY 2020



DISCOVERY COMMITTEE

31ST OF JANUARY



INTERFACULTY GALA

36

MARK THE DATE

18/02 TO 20/02



ACE CAREER DAYS

28/02 TO 01/03



SHORT TRIP

**FASHION IS INSPIRED BY YOUTH AND
NOSTALGIA AND DRAWS INSPIRATION
FROM THE BEST OF THE PAST**

- LANA DEL REY -

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Photo 1: Frank Ocean's endless

Photo 2: Sfeerimpiressie © Circus Family

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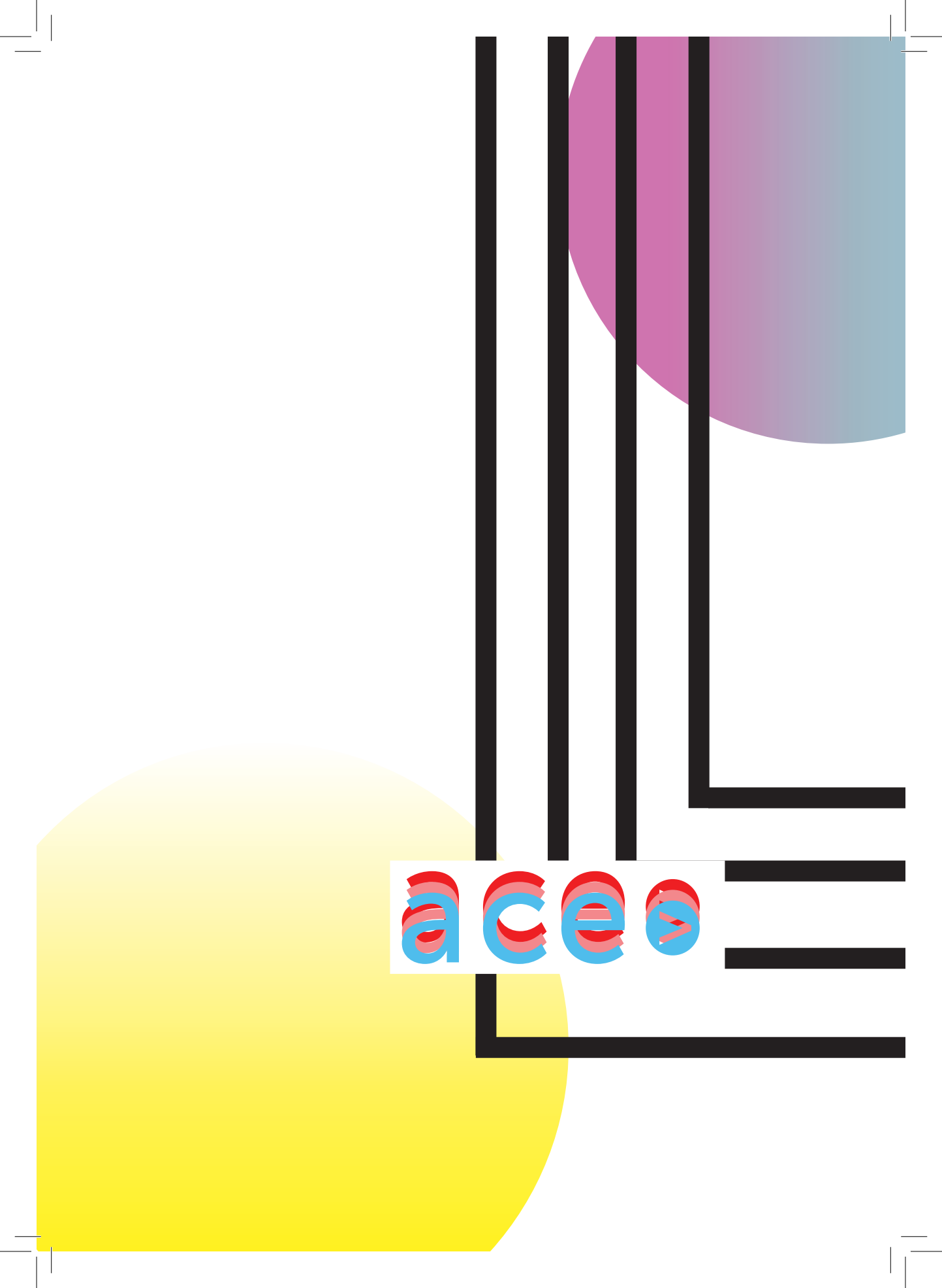
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The image is an abstract graphic design. It features a large yellow semi-circle on the left side. On the right side, there is a large purple-to-blue gradient semi-circle. In the center, the word "ace" is written in a stylized, colorful font with red and blue outlines. The letters are positioned on a white rectangular background. To the right of the word, there are several thick black vertical and horizontal lines that form a grid-like structure. The overall composition is modern and geometric.

ace