

Stichting m/other voices

Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Kamer van Koophandel no: 61739995
RSIN: 8544.69.400

Yearly Report: 24.10. 2014 - 24.10.2015

Stichting m/other voices was found in Rotterdam on the 24th of October 2014 for the purposes of initiating, supporting, doing, promoting, raising awareness and giving visibility to maternal thinking, - theory and -research within the arts, culture, philosophy and the society at large, as well as to increase the participation of mothers in the production of art, culture and theory.

The foundation undertakes activities to further the cause of mothers, and others engaged in maternal labor, as thinkers and as producers of knowledge, through activities including, but not restricted to, to the organization of reading groups, field trips, exhibitions and publications, community involvement groups, dialogue, seminars and conferences, and the building and maintenance of local and international communities and networks between mother artists, researchers and others interested in engaging in the doing of maternal theory. Its activities take place under the three categories of: *Art, Research, Theory / Dialogue / Community Involvement*

Goals: In 2014 - 2015 the foundation's activities were mainly focused on *Art, Research, Theory*:

- Building local and international visibility of mother- artists and mother-scholars.
- Building an international networking platform for mother- artists, -scholars and cultural producers engaging in caring labour.
- Publishing artistic- and scholarly works and research by mother-artists.
- Initiating questioning and research on artistic practices of mother-artists and others engaging in cultural production and caring labour.

Activities: In 2014 - 2015 the foundation's active programs consisted of the following:

- Field Trips (*Art, Research, Theory - Dialogue*)
- Reading group (*Art, Research, Theory - Dialogue*)
- Monthly column's (*Art, Research, Theory*)
- *The Mothernist's* conference (*Art, Research, Theory / Dialogue / Community Involvement*)
- Legacy of Love Doulas (*Community Involvement*)
- Mother's Day Family Special – Deep Listening walk (*Art, Research, Theory / Dialogue / Community Involvement*)

Funding:

In 2014 - 2015 the foundation received €2000 funding from the municipality of Rotterdam towards *The Mothernists* -conference.

Plans: In 2014 - 2015 the foundation's plans under the three categories include the following:

Art, Research, Theory:

- Continue publishing monthly columns.
- Publishing a series of research on contemporary Russian mother artists.
- Publishing a series on motherhood, art and activism in the Middle-East by Shira Richter.
- Continue with the *Field Trips* -program for artists living in Rotterdam and The Netherlands.
- Continue with the *Reading Group* for artists living in Rotterdam and the Netherlands.
- Organising public events comprising of cross disciplinary discussions, screenings and seminars.

Dialogue:

- Continue developing the foundation's vision, artistic strategies and programming together with new and existing partners and participants.
- Launching an artistic research project in Beverwaard, Rotterdam.

Community Involvement:

- Building and stabilising the *Legacy of Love Doulas* -program through expanding existing networks, support structures and creating new and sustainable partnerships.

Deirdre Mirjami Donoghue
Founder / Director
m/other voices foundation
www.mothersvoicesfoundation.org
deirdre@mothersvoices.org

**The Mothernists:* Three-day-long transatlantic conference, bringing together the work and thought of practicing international artists, art historians, educators, curators and writers on the topic of caring labor and cultural re-production. The conference attempted to open up philosophical, political, aesthetic and social questions made visible through the co-existing practices of mothering and cultural re- production, bringing these into the diverse discourses that the participants professionally as artists, writers, philosophers, curators, historians and educators are part of.

***Legacy of Love Doulas:* Free nationwide doula service for single mothers, low- and no-income families, refugees and sex workers in The Netherlands run by the Community Involvement -program of the m/other voices foundation.

****Field Trips:* The Field Trips are informal gatherings for mother-artists and are based on mutual exchange and engagement through which a common vocabulary and a collective understanding of contemporary sociopolitical issues related to art- and maternal labor can be built upon. Participants are asked to reflect on their art practice from an axis between their *mothering labor* and their *art production labor*.

*****Monthly Columns:* Monthly columns are contributed by mother artists, scholars and cultural producers from across the world. Moving between philosophy, theory and the everyday life, the space of the column is open for personal stories of how ones motherhood and professional practice effect, connect and touch each other.

