**FACT SHEET GRONINGER MUSEUM 2023**

Groninger Museum

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Groninger Museum @groningermuseum

**History of the Groninger Museum**

* The Provinciaal Kabinet van Oudheden (Provincial Collection of Antiquities) was founded in 1874 and in 1891 became the Groninger Museum van Oudheden (Groninger Museum of Antiquities), today known simply as the Groninger Museum.
* In 1891 the new Groninger Museum moved into temporary accommodation on Ubbo Emmiusstraat in anticipation ofthe opening of its new building on Praediniussingel.
* In 1894 the Groninger Museum on Praediniussingel opened to the public.
* On 29 October 1994, Queen Beatrix officially opened the new Groninger Museum building on Museumeiland.
* The museum became independent on 1 October 1996.
* On 19 December 2010, the museum reopened after a renovation.

**Organisation**

Board of Trustees

Mr J. (Jacques) Wallage (chair)

Ms C. (Cathy) Jager

Ms A. (Agnes) Koops

Mr S. (Sander) Prinsen

Mr prof. dr. E. (Elmer) Sterken

Ms C. (Charlotte) Wekker

Director

Mr. prof. dr. A.R.W. (Andreas) Blühm

Business director  
Ms drs. E. (Esther) Moesker

**New Groninger Museum building**

Architects

* Chief architect: Alessandro Mendini
* Guest architects 1994: Philippe Starck, Michele de Lucchi and Coop Himmelb(l)au
* Guest architects 2010: Studio Job, Maarten Baas and Jaime Hayon
* In partnership with: Team 4 Architecten, Albert Geertjes and Geert Koster

Besides being an architect, Alessandro Mendini (b. 1931, Milan; d. 2019, Milan) was also a designer, artist, theorist and poet. His collaboration with other designers and architects gave us the series of pavilions, each with its own atmosphere, that house the museum’s collections and exhibitions.

Mendini’s basic design consists of three simple, austere building volumes that sit lengthwise in the water of the Verbindingskanaal, linked by corridors. Each volume is made up of multiple pavilions positioned on top of or beside each other. Each pavilion’s exterior materials and decoration hint at what can be seen inside: cultural history, applied art, fine art, design. The Groninger Museum is regarded as a national and international highlight of postmodern architecture.

A renovation in 2010 gave the building back its original lustre. All the colours were restored, and Maarten Baas, Studio Job and Jaime Hayon revamped the interior, respectively designing the MendiniRestaurant, Job Lounge and InfoCenter. Hayon also designed the new studio and a discovery space in 2015. The Groninger Museum acquired the *Grand Stairwell Installation* by the American artist Dale Chihuly in 2019. The largest purchase in the museum’s history, the work is on permanent display. The building contains more than 5,000m2 of exhibition space.

**Mission statement**

The Groninger Museum is extroverted, individualistic and colourful. Its collections and exhibitions constitute its heart. All its activities are geared to the public. The Groninger Museum seeks to amaze the broadest possible audience, encourage people to form opinions, and invite them to visit often.

**Collections**

* Groningen archaeology and history
* Fine art from 1500 to 1950
* Art after 1950
* Current and contemporary art, design, photography and fashion
* Ceramics

**Employees**

Staff members of the GM: 91

Staff members (including interns, temporary employees) : 127

**Who’s who at the Groninger Museum**

Director: Andreas Blühm  
Business Director: Esther Moesker

De Ploeg and Groningen Art from 1850: Nadia Abdelkaui

Curator of 20th-Century and Contemporary Art: Ruud Schenk

Curator of Archaeology, History, Older Regional Art and Applied Art: Egge Knol

Head of security: Sietse Bijsterveld

Head of Collections: Marlon Steensma

Head of Communication, Public Relations and Marketing: Karina Smrkovsky

Head of Education and Public Information: Ellis Hendriksen

Head of Facilities Management: Henk Jelijs

Head of Personnel and Organisation: Jeanine Bekker

Controller: Geert Slagter

**Patrons**

* Fonds 21
* Groninger Museum Salon
* J.B. Scholtenfonds
* Ministerie OCW
* Mondriaan Fonds
* Prins Bernard Cultuurfonds
* Rabobank
* Stichting Beringer Hazewinkel
* Stichting De Ploeg
* Stichting Fondsbeheer Culturele Relatie-evenementen Gasunie/GasTerra
* Vereniging Rembrandt
* Vereniging Vrienden van het Groninger Museum
* VriendenLoterij
* VSB Fonds
* ELJA Foundation

**Admission fees**

Adults €15

CJP cardholders, students studying outside Groningen €10

Museumkaart cardholders Free

Students studying in Groningen Free

Visitors 18 and under Free

Friends of the Groninger Museum Free

Vriendeloterij VIP Card holders Free

Rembrandtpas cardholders Free

ICOM members Free

Stadjerspas cardholders (one visit per year) Free

Wheelchair user’s companion Free

\*For some exhibitions an allowance is asked

**Visitors**The Groninger Museum receives an average 200,000 visitors each year.

**Social media**

The Groninger Museum is active on Twitter (with more than 84,000 followers), Facebook (more than 26,000 likes) and Instagram (2465 followers), LinkedIn (more than 7200 followers) and TikTok (2085 followers).

Figures from February 15th 2023

**Opening hours**

The Groninger Museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays and on Dutch public holidays from 10am to 5pm.

It is closed on Sunday 25 December 2023 and open on Monday 26 December 2023 from 10am to 5pm. It is open on Sunday 1 January 2024 from 12am to 5pm. Open on Mondays during school holidays.

**Menkemaborg, Uithuizen**

The Groninger Museum has owned the Menkemaborg estate and the surrounding gardens since 1921. The house is furnished with 17th- and 18th-century objects from the museum’s collection. Address: Menkemaweg 2, Uithuizen.

**Wall House #2**

The Groninger Museum programmes the unique Wall House #2, designed by the architect John Hejduk. It stages small design exhibitions there as an instrument for talent development. Wall House #2 is located beside the Hoornse Meer lake in Groningen. Address: A.J. Lutulistraat 17, Groningen.