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Photo: Joey Roberts

## Too small and too vague

Albert Einstein looking out over the Kennedysingel. A nice idea: since last Monday, the head of the most famous physicist adorns the building on Duboisdomein 30, where ET PathFinder is housed, the test set-up of the Einstein Telescope. But the result appears to be disappointing.

“The image (top left) is too small and can hardly be seen at a distance,” says Ralph Herben, project leader at Facility Services. The faculty had a larger head in mind, but the municipal building inspector set the limits at 3.5 by 3.5 metres. We will sit down with the designer and the architect next week to discuss the matter.”

The Einstein Telescope is the high-tech detector of gravitational waves that may be installed in Zuid-Limburg, three hundred metres underground. Sardinia is the other candidate. *MT*



Photo: Manny Moss/Flickr

# SPLINTERS

A funny incident, a striking piece of news, something interesting that happened elsewhere in the country: it is in this column.

## Student wins court case against letting agent for 200 euro



Is a letting agent allowed to charge a one-time booking fee of 200 euro just like that, a Rotterdam student wondered? He took the matter to court and won. In 2018, Joris Pijpers, student of Erasmus University College, came to live in the Lucia complex in Rotterdam. Monthly rent: 718 euro for 18 square metres. But beforehand he had to fork out an additional amount, *Erasmus Magazine* reports. That 200 euro was charged for things like a viewing, an introductory interview, assistance in applying for rent subsidy, advertisements “to inform students about the accommodation beforehand”, printing costs and a portal to upload the contract. The judge gave short shrift to that. The letting agent was only allowed to send a bill for a key ring and attaching a nameplate to the letter box. That amounted to less than eight euro. The tenant will now be reimbursed with legal interest, so that the total amount is now higher: 232 euro. It wasn’t about the money, but about the principle, he said to *AD*. (HOP)

## Precipitation radar for depression

Who is sensitive to depression and who isn’t? Psychologist Eiko Fried from



Leiden is the research leader of the WARN-D project, a study of many years into the prevention of depression. Four groups of five hundred students are being followed intensively for months, university newspaper *Mare* writes. They have to fill in a survey four times a day about their frame of mind and wear a smart-watch that measures their heartbeat and sleeping rhythm. Fried hopes to discover patterns in all those data. “We still don’t know which data we can eventually use to predict depression. We first have to get a firm hold on the complicated system behind it.” Once they have discovered that, Fried wants to develop an app. Users feed the app with information – about how they are feeling and whether they have slept well – and the app then warns them when they are running a higher risk of depression. “If you intervene on time, for example by learning to deal with stress properly, you can prevent a depression.”

## Dirty water



Is it unhygienic to refill your water bottle in the toilets? And no, not in the toilet bowl, but just from the tap in the sink. This question arose during the last faculty council meeting for the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences. The student fraction wondered during question time at the end of the meeting whether it would be possible to have

some taps installed at the faculty. Not because of worries about hygiene, but because it was “rather awkward” to keep having to go to the toilet. A few staff members reacted; some people never fill their water bottles in the toilets because they find it dirty. Is there really something wrong with that, dean Annemie Schols wondered, before she promised to look into tap water points. The Nutritional Centre has a page about the reuse of water bottles. Be aware of what you are doing: refresh your water

regularly, don’t leave your bottle lying in the sun and especially clean it regularly. There are millions of bacteria in those bottles, but because they are mainly your own bacteria, you aren’t likely to get ill from them. Not a word about where you should best fill your bottle. Water authority WML, the RIVM and local health authority (GGD) say nothing about the matter. Anyone who is nevertheless worried, can always buy an E-coli Dipstick: this can be used to quickly test the water itself, to see if it contains faeces bacteria.

## The benefit of the doubt

Not too long ago, during one of the lockdowns, I got angry with a colleague on the phone. It wasn’t a moment of “functional anger”; no, I genuinely lost my temper. He was shocked, and so, afterwards, was I. It was one of the mistakes I have made during my 25 years in a leadership role. I apologised, as it wasn’t the right way to express my annoyance. He kindly accepted my apology. I once attended a five-day management course. One important message from the course stuck with me: managers and leaders are not gods. They, too, make mistakes. The sooner you accept that, the better. Another lesson I learnt from a quote on a coffee mug in a place where I worked early in my career

as a journalist: “Sometimes your colleague knows best.” And then there’s the general rule I always keep in mind (except for the time when I lost my temper): treat your colleagues the way you want to be treated. I want my boss to listen to me, to respect me and take me seriously, and to give me space. That’s how I try to manage our small team of professionals, a group of people who know very well what our profession – journalism – is all about. We each have our own areas of expertise and work independently. It’s like Harro van Lente told *Observant* last week: “With professionals, you don’t have to breathe down their necks or excessively scrutinise their work.” What is it like to be the one in charge? What is the hardest part of being a leader and what



is the best part? Who is your role model? These are the kinds of questions we ask people in management and leadership positions in our new series Leadership styles at UM. They’re difficult questions, I’ve realised since trying to formulate my own answers to them. The best part is being the lynchpin who is kept apprised of (almost) everything and (partly) pulls the strings. The hardest part is always having to be on alert, and being on the front lines when something goes wrong. My role model? That’s a more difficult one. When I first started out in the early 1990s,

## letter from the editor

there were hardly any female editors-in-chief in the Netherlands, and there were few women in leadership positions at UM. One of the first I remember is Marja Verhulst, the highest officer of the university. She was an inspiring person who, sadly, soon became terminally ill. One of the last jobs she did here was related to *Observant*. We were having a problem with our all-male foundation board: they didn’t want me (still an editor at the time) to apply for the position of editor-in-chief. Why? They refused to say. I ended up going through the Executive Board and talking to Marja Verhulst. Her open and critical mind was a breath of fresh air. She listened, asked questions, saw my strengths and showed me what I still had to learn. She saw me and gave me the benefit of the doubt. The rest is history.

Riki Janssen

Every week, the editor-in-chief writes about what has been happening at the *Observant* office

## Robert Serry, top diplomat and first Dutch ambassador in Ukraine, speaks at Studium Generale

# “Putin gave enough signals, but the West looked away”

In 2014, “Putin’s green men” forced Robert Serry – who was going to mediate in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine in his capacity as UN envoy – to leave the Crimea. Even then, he felt that the relations between Russia and the West had changed. Now, there is a devastating war. Tuesday evening, at Studium Generale, Serry explained how it got this far – and how the war can end.

As a former top diplomat for the UN, he is used to only expressing himself behind the scenes, but since the Russian invasion, Serry is now also speaking out in public. He has no other choice, he says, his connection to Ukraine is too strong. His wife is from there; he met her when he became the first Dutch ambassador in the country between 1992 and 1996. He still has a lot of contacts there. Also, his in-laws still live in Kyiv – they don’t want to abandon the president.

Until the moment war broke out, he also moderated talks between Russian and Ukrainian

experts in the mutual relations. “Even the day before the Russian invasion, they thought that war was still unthinkable: the consequences for both countries would be catastrophic – which has now indeed become apparent. Both the Russians and the Ukrainians saw no rational explanation for an invasion.”

### Fascist clique

Serry is clear: this is Putin’s war. But the West also has itself to blame. “We have been too naive. In his speeches, Putin has said often enough that he does not accept Ukraine as a country, but people continued to underestimate him.” At the same time, there were those vague promises about Ukrainian NATO membership. “That led to false expectations in Kyiv, and suspicion in Moscow. We see the same thing again at the EU top in Versailles, where there was no clarity about a possible EU membership for Ukraine.”

He reckons that it is of great importance that the West properly understands the situation

in Ukraine. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, both Russia and Ukraine had a tough transition to a market economy. “Both countries reacted differently to the economic adversity: the Russians yearned for a strong leader, the Ukrainians were completely against that. They wanted to be like us, in the West.” This became clear in 2014, when the pro-Russian Ukraine president at the time, Yanukovich, did not want to sign the association treaty with the EU. The Ukrainians revolted; Yanukovich fled to Russia.

In Putin’s world view, this was a Western coup, in which a fascist clique had seized power. The Russian annexation of the Crimea and pro-Russian revolts in Eastern Ukraine followed. “I experienced myself how diplomatic relations deteriorated. Nevertheless, the West chose to look the other way. There was hardly any attention for the on-going conflict. We thought that this is as far as it would go, while in actual fact this was the beginning of something much bigger.”

### Peace talks

What to do next? First, both countries have to reach the conclusion that to continue fighting is pointless. “We have to wait until Putin accepts that he has failed in achieving his war objectives. I think that that could take a while.” After that, peace talks will have to yield results. The Ukrainian president Zelensky has already offered a way out. “He suggested that maybe Ukraine must recognise that it will not become a NATO member. That is bitter for the Ukrainians, but he also wants his people to be free from this war. The question is whether Putin accepts this as being enough. Other demands from him, including a complete demilitarisation of Ukraine or handing over the Crimea and the two people’s republics in the east, are a lot more sensitive.”

Dennis Vaendel

## Exams in June not in the MECC but at UM Sports

The exams of June will not take place in the MECC as usual, but at UM Sports. Students have to change location once because airt fair Tefaf was postponed due to corona.

Maastricht University is not obliged to move, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board Nick Bos told the University Council in the beginning of February. There is a contract and “contract is contract, but the MECC has been a valuable partner of UM for years.”

UM and MECC therefore went in search of a solution, in which the MECC would bear all the costs. Even if busses had to be used for transportation. The latter is not necessary; the sports center is in walking distance from the MECC. There are also plenty of sanitary facilities available at UM Sports. However, there are a number of obstacles to overcome.

For example, there are currently not enough WiFi points in the sports halls for all Chromebooks



Photo: Loraine Bodewes

that students use for their exams, says Margriet Schreuders, director of the Student Service Center. “We need more of those. The MECC will arrange this.”

To ensure that the sports center does not have to close completely for a number of days, all tables and chairs are removed from the sports halls every day after the exams, says Schreuders.

The members of UM Sports will receive a proportional part of their membership fee back. The MECC will also bear these costs.

YM

## Why we need to fail

Shy and timid, she walks into my office with her mother. Two weeks ago, she was admitted to our hospital following a failed suicide attempt. Fortunately, it was just a scare; but the damage was already done for her parents and siblings. You could still notice the mother’s anxiety and worry.

So as the story goes, the young girl was rushed to hospital after school because she had taken an overdose of sleeping pills. She had just seen the result of a school test she took, and her score was 2.6 out of 10. The girl was shocked and disappointed. Because of the intense



shame she felt, she decided that the best thing to do was end her life. She could not dare to face her mother because high grades were

expected from her.

Sitting in front of me, head bowed and staring at the floor, I calm her down and take her back to my third year in medical school when things were rough and my dad and I were not on the best of terms. My studies were buckling under the pressure of the challenges I was facing. On this occasion, we had just finished a test and I knew I had performed poorly. Traditionally, printed scores are unceremoniously pasted on a scoreboard open for everyone to see. So, as I get to check my results, other students are already there. One of them suddenly laughs out loudly: ‘Can you believe this? Someone scored three out of a hundred, hahaha.’ That ‘someone’ was me. I broke down in tears.

Meanwhile, in my office, I notice I had caught

the young girl’s attention. She is sitting up straight and staring at me. I tell her that I know what failure means and that I have also experienced the fear of disappointing parents. “Today, I am here in front of you as a doctor. Imagine that I had committed suicide then; we would not be having this conversation now.” The mother embraces her daughter, and it is a moving sight to witness the pain and love between them. As they stand up to leave, I say: “See failure as an opportunity to learn. Fall down five times, get up at six, but believe in yourself no matter what.”

Jamiu Busari, associate professor of medical education at FHML and dean Health Professions Education (HOH Academy Aruba)

This column reflects the personal views of the author

## series leadership styles

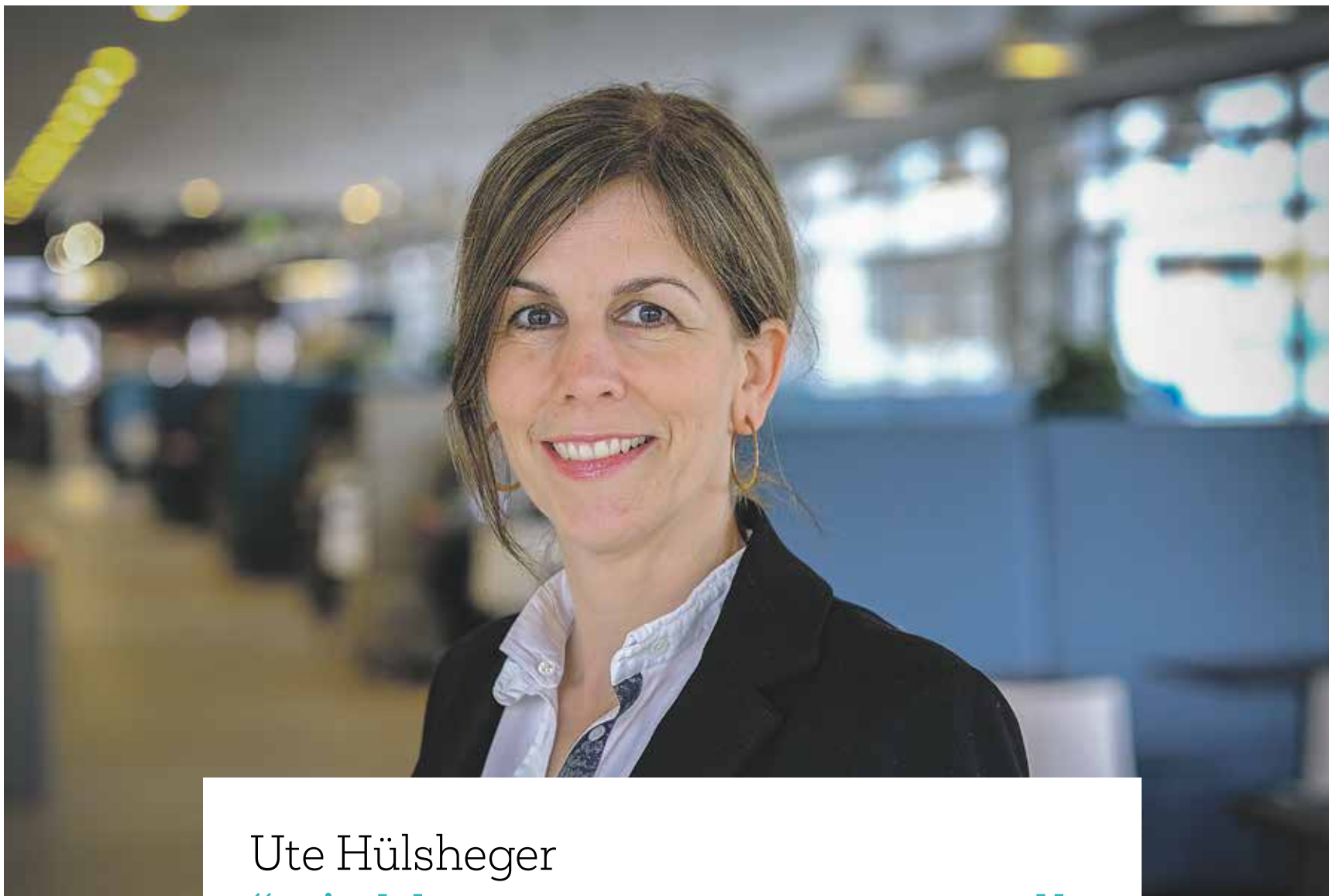


Photo: Joey Roberts

Ute Hülshager

“It’s like parenting, you will encounter situations that were never discussed in literature”

*As head of the section Work and Organisational Psychology, Ute Hülshager (45) from Germany seems like just the right person to ask about leadership. What makes a good leader? And does she see herself as an example of one?*

“To be quite honest, theories are not much help in practice”, she laughs. “You will encounter situations that were never discussed in the literature. It’s like parenting. Before you have children, you read all these tips in books and magazines, and you’re so sure you will do things a certain way. As the mother of a ten-year-old and a twelve-year-old, I can assure you: this does not work more often than it does work. Every child is different, every person is different, and everyone has a different ‘user manual’. You must always keep that in mind if you are in a leadership position.”

### Mess

And in addition to different personalities, says Hülshager, you must also be mindful of “cultural differences, the norms and values people grew up with, whether they have a family, and so on. I became very aware of this during the Covid-19 pandemic. We were all working from home and meeting on Zoom every week. It literally gave us a glimpse into each other’s lives. Every now and then, children would wander into the frame to ask their

parents something or dance around in the background. And it wasn’t a problem at all. Sometimes my room was a mess, too. With toys spread everywhere. I recognised my own search for a new work-life balance in many colleagues. But we also have colleagues who live alone and suffered from lockdown loneliness. Some struggled to find a rhythm; they would work until two AM and then pick up work again in the afternoon. That didn’t seem healthy to me. As soon as it was possible, we gave people – particularly our youngest employees, the PhD students – the opportunity to come into work again.”

### Meditation session

Hülshager is a professor of Occupational Health Psychology whose research focuses on work stress and employee health and wellbeing. “I exercise yoga quite a lot and I like to meditate. I’ve thought about starting meetings with a two- or three-minute meditation session, but I don’t want to force my hobby onto other people. I do think it’s important to show them that there is more to life than work. I don’t bother my colleagues with questions on Friday evenings. I subscribe to ‘practice what you preach.’”

### Obama

She brings up the subject of different leadership styles that have been described in the

literature, from democratic to authentic and from strategic to servant leadership. “I’m very critical of it. You can’t just pigeonhole people like that. But if you made me choose, I would say that I try to be a humble and empowering leader. You do not always need to play the power card. When things go well, you are just part of the team, but I square my shoulders and take the lead when I have to. I think Barack and Michelle Obama are typical visionaries. I love how they do it. Rianne Letschert, the President of Maastricht University, also has a vision. And she is very charismatic.”

### Experiment

Hülshager has about 22 ‘subordinates’, but she will never refer to them that way. “I think of myself as a member of the team.” She became head of the section in December 2017. The umbrella department of Work and Social Psychology had grown too big for the head of the department to manage, so section heads were appointed. “I was the most senior staff member, so it made sense for me to do it. I also thought it would be fun. I saw it as a great opportunity to learn.” In the beginning, she was quite preoccupied with the fact that she was becoming the boss of her peers – how would they react? “But maybe the person struggling with it the most was me. I just needed some time to adjust.”

### Personality tests

She passed up the UM leadership course she was offered. “My children were young, I was teaching, publishing articles, and I had just been appointed section head. I just didn’t have the time. But to be honest, I was also a bit sceptical about it. The people around me were often not very enthusiastic about the leadership courses they had taken, including courses outside of UM. They were critical of the material and felt like it wasn’t evidence-based. I think that’s bad. Don’t come to me with personality tests you created yourself. People in my discipline know how much effort and evidence-based knowledge should go into creating those tests.”

### R&R

Head of Department Professor Fred Zijlstra showed her the ropes. “I observed how he handles difficult situations, like giving feedback or when you have multiple candidates that are eligible for promotion but only one position. I’m struggling with the new Recognition & Rewards programme in that sense. Often, multiple people deserve a promotion because they are excellent researchers, excellent teachers or great team players and did a lot for the organization, for example. But we can’t promote everyone, simply because there are not so many positions. This can be tough and we need to find other ways to reward people in these situations.”

Wendy Degens

*This is a new weekly series in which we interview people in leadership positions at UM about their leadership style. In January 2022, Maastricht University launched the Leadership Academy as part of the Recognition & Rewards programme, which aims to create more diversity in academic career paths and foster quality academic leadership.*

# “The West has to make an impossible choice”

Years ago, political scientist Giselle Bosse could see some strategic logic in Putin’s military violence, but now she can’t make head or tail of it. “It wouldn’t surprise me if Putin were to start using nuclear weapons on a small scale.”

Each time Giselle Bosse (40) was in Kiev – where she carried out research into the relations between Ukraine and the EU – she visited a monument in the city: a light blue and an orange tank. “It is an anti-war monument, which for me was a symbol of the phase in which Ukraine found itself. The country had been independent for about ten years and cities such as Kyiv and Lviv were coming to life more and more. With fashion, art, culture. At the same time, Ukraine was a big player in the world in the field of IT software. Truly a country that was developing, with a new generation that was working on a better future.”

By now, almost all hope has gone. “Look at Mariupol, which has been destroyed for 90 per cent, says Bosse. “Just like Grozny. The capital city of Chechnya was completely flattened by bombs in 1999 and 2000, and schools, hospitals, and maternity facilities were not spared; the population was starved and safe corridors were not respected. Does the same fate await Odessa and Kyiv?”

## Escalate

As objectionable as it is, until recently there was a certain strategic logic to be found in Putin’s ‘imperialistic’ politics, says Bosse. “In 2014, he invaded the Crimea, where a considerable number of ethnic Russians live. That annexation was unacceptable, but from a strategic point of view understandable. Just like the war in the east of Ukraine, Lugansk and Donetsk, also with a lot of Russians.” That local conflict, moreover, offers Russia a maximum result with minimal effort. “It creates permanent instability and increases the influence of Russia in Ukraine. Putin followed the same tactic in Georgia, where he supports the separatist republics of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, as well as in Moldova, where he assists Transnistria. It also gives him room to issue threats, to keep tensions high, to escalate. So, in every way an understandable strategy.”

## Enemy no. 1

But then he suddenly invaded Ukraine, says Bosse. “Something nobody expected. Neither the Ukrainians, nor the experts. Because what is the added value? The only thing you could think of is that Putin intended it as a *Blitzkrieg*, expecting to quickly install a puppet regime.”

A plan that had no chance of succeeding anyway, according to Bosse. “Ukraine has been ruled by foreign powers – such as the Turkish, Austria-Hungary, the Russians – so often that the population has regarded its independence since the nineteen-nineties as a great good. Even the ethnic Russians in the east did so.”

But no matter what, a ‘strong leader’ such as Putin will always have to win, says Bosse. “He sees himself as a descendant of St Vladimir, who declared Christianity as the official religion in Kievan Rus’ at the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. After his death,

he was revered as the man who converted Russia. Putin also feels connected to Catherine the Great, which is worrisome, because she was responsible for the great Russian expansion to the west, including parts of Poland.”

His ideas have become more radical the past few years. “Anger against the West has also increased. I heard from people who know Putin that the idea for the invasion in Ukraine took root after Biden declared that China was from then on the US’s enemy no. 1. True or not, that will have hurt someone like Putin in his soul.”

## Air force

Those who are optimistic, says Bosse, hope that Russia will only occupy the southern strip of Ukraine and will relinquish the idea of further conquests. “That Putin will be satisfied with the ports of Mariupol and Odessa, from where Ukraine ships 70 per cent of all exports. In doing so, he is holding

the country in a painful grip and he connects Russia to the Crimea.”

But as far as Bosse is concerned, that scenario is unlikely. “Ukraine will not accept that, but neither will the West. For Zelensky, neutrality may still be negotiable, but nothing else.”

Should the West offer Putin a way out to prevent him losing face? “How can you do that if you don’t know what his strategy or objectives are? The comparison that is sometimes made, is that of a bear in a cage. You can offer the animal a way out by setting the door ajar slightly, and allow the bear to return to the woods. But who is going to do that, after everything that has happened?”

The violence is only escalating, says Bosse. “Putin is not making headway on the ground, also because he has too few troops to capture all those cities, so I expect that he will start to use the air force intensively. It wouldn’t surprise me if he is going to use small-scale chemical and nuclear weapons.”

## Nuclear war

Bosse is less afraid that the Baltic States are next. “Hopefully, he won’t be quick to attack NATO countries, but I am worried about countries such as Georgia, which has always been pro-Western. Such an invasion would actually also harm the West, because the gas that the EU imports from Azerbaijan runs via Georgia. And that pipeline, the so-called Southern Gas Corridor, is crucial to the EU, especially now, because people want to be less dependent on Russian gas.

So the question that remains, is: What should the West do? “It is an impossible choice, with potentially apocalyptic consequences. Not becoming involved will lead to the most horrifying humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. Becoming involved could lead to a Third World War. Putin may take a step back, if the NATO becomes involved. If not, the risk of a nuclear war is great.”

Maurice Timmermans



Photo: Jean-Pierre Geussens

Curator Mieke Derickx (1955) has retired and this month she has handed over Maastricht University's art collection to Barbara Strating, programme maker at Studium Generale. Especially for *Observant*, she chose three works of art that she is very fond of. A difficult choice for someone who has had hundreds of them pass through her hands.

# “You see how taste changes”

Text: Wendy Degens Photos: Joey Roberts



Mieke Derickx was never averse of experimenting. When artist **Hadassah Emmerich** painted the walls of the Student Services Centre (SSC) from top to bottom in gigantic plant motifs in 2006, it wasn't to everyone's taste. "It was her first official assignment," Derickx remembers. While Emmerich

was at work in the renovated university library on the Ezelmarkt, Derickx heard things like "Take that paintbrush away from that child," "Much too wild" and "It's like being in a squat," mainly from SSC employees. "I stuck to my guns." Derickx shrugs her shoulders: "There is always someone who

thinks something is ugly. Well, then, don't like it." Fortunately, the mumblings became less and less.

And then came Derickx's experiment. "Sometime later, I told – especially the critics – that the walls were to be painted over. I thought: I will just drop a word. I wasn't even

planning on doing that. Oops, they thought that was terrible." She laughs. "You see how tastes change. Now people are actually proud of Hadassah's work. It is even used as 'branding'. If a piece of the mural comes away, then it is the people from SSC themselves who repair it."

## background



On more than one occasion, Derickx managed to rope in a big name for the UM. Such as photographer Robin de Puy, with her project *Screening Diversity*, a series of portraits for the renovated square building at Tapijn. But Derickx takes us to a different work of photography, in Randwyck: *Scans* by **Florentijn Hofman** (you know, from the enormous yellow rubber duck).

The portraits of *Scans* can be found on the outer wall of Oxfordlaan 55. It's not just because of Hofman's creativity that she chooses this work. She also wants to provide insight into the process: how the need for a piece of art arises and how it is discussed with the 'users'. "We tried to find out what the employees on the Oxfordlaan (which includes the Faculty of Psychology and research centre Scannexus) wanted. Even though some people say that they know nothing about art, the good thing about such joint consultation is that we reach a consensus. This occurs because the right questions are asked: what is the object of the art, what colour should it have, what effect should it create, et cetera."

It should definitely have something to do with MRI scans. Also, it would be installed outside against the grey concrete facade, because "that would create more openness". Unfortunately, all the money was used up when the building was completed, says Derickx. "Purchasing art is the first thing to be scrapped when building costs go beyond budget. Fortunately, a small fund of about 25 thousand euro was found." Not a huge amount, she says, but Hofman knew what to do with it. Together with photographer Inge Hondebrink, he portrayed a number of volunteers, with their head and hand on a copying machine: "Pressed down flat, but at the same time as if they were trying to press themselves out."

**B**rainwave, a luminous 'convolution of the brain' on the ceiling in the central hall on Universiteitssingel 40 "is at the very beginning" of her career as a curator. "I had put **Jan van Munster** forward to the Art and Heritage Committee. This Dutch artist made a light sculpture for us in 2000 that has become part of the interior. Some people don't even notice it, it looks just like a modern lamp." Van Munster had an EEG made of his own brain activity, which resulted in a pattern of lines – his inspiration for the object. The choice of *Brainwave* brings Derickx, who is a graphic artist herself, to her first years as a curator: "In or around 1996, I was asked to become a member of the Randwyck Art Committee. At the time, I worked as a research assistant at Medical Sociology and thus came in contact with a few committee members. It was a club of fanatics, with Gerjo Kok (retired professor of Psychology) and Hans Philippsen (former rector). It became more and more serious too. We had a nice budget for purchasing art, at the time it was a reasonable percentage of the renovation or sale of government buildings, the so-called percentage regulation." The city centre has a smaller art committee in the library and there was also a group that dealt with museological collections from the Jesuit inheritance. Now there is a single Art and Heritage Committee at the UM. Where Derickx was a volunteer member in the early years, the curator positions (there are three – for Heritage, Art and Exceptional Collections) are now compensated for a fixed number of hours by the UM. The purchase of art is financed from the housing fund and partly by the Executive Board. "The university has grown, the collection has grown, it has slowly dawned on faculties what we do. Employees know how to find us when they have questions about works in their corridors; they even initiate their own exhibitions and we get tips and criticism. I take them seriously." She remembers the 'little row' about the gateway on the Grote Looiersstraat, at the entrance to the university library. Czech artist Borek Sipek



created a gate with glass-blown flowers. "Students felt that we should spend the money on laptops and lockers. In reaction, we made

a film about it, for on social media, in which we had students, passers-by, but also Sipek himself talk about the work of art."

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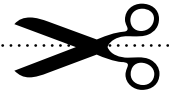
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