

# Off the Grid

Remy Jungerman

## Inhoud

Piet Mondriaan & Remy Jungerman .....	1
Off the Grid I Remy Jungerman .....	2

### **Piet Mondriaan & Remy Jungerman**

**Piet Mondriaan** (1872-1944) is known to the general public for his abstract work in primary colours. However, the artist began his artistic career by painting realistic landscapes in earthy tones.

**Remy Jungerman** (1959), a visual artist with Surinamese roots, was inspired by Mondriaan's work, among other things. A selection of his work can be seen in rooms 6 and 7 in the exhibition Off the Grid.

In this space, where some of Mondriaan's early works are on display, Jungerman honours his artistic 'ancestor' with the sculpture Posu Yaw.

Posu means shrine or altar in Sranan Tongo, the language of Suriname, and Yaw refers to a Ghanaian custom of naming children based on the day of the week on which they are born. Enslaved Africans who arrived in Suriname from Ghana continued this naming tradition. Mondrian was born on Thursday, March 7, 1872 and Yaw is the Ghanaian word for Thursday.

## **Off the Grid | Remy Jungerman**

Remy Jungerman (1959) draws inspiration in his work from Piet Mondriaan and modernism as well as from the Surinamese Maroon culture. He brings fragments of Maroon textiles and other materials from the African diaspora into contact with colours and compositions from Western art traditions, thereby broadening our view of art and society.

Off the Grid refers to breaking away from conventions and structures and exploring new forms of expression. The exhibition shows a snapshot in Jungerman's ongoing research into his own visual language and a search for his own expressiveness as an artist. In doing so, he is aware of his (artistic) ancestors and the history from which he comes.

Jungerman created the wall installation Three Rivers especially for the Mondriaan House. This work is constructed from a grid and filled with strips of Maroon textile and photographs of taking water samples from three rivers that are important in Jungerman's life and work. In Three Rivers, the artist connects the Cottica River from his birthplace Moengo with the Hudson in New York and the Amstel in Amsterdam. It is an invitation to a broader reflection on the historical connection between New York, the Netherlands and Suriname that stems from the transatlantic slave trade and the enormous impact that this great movement of people and art traditions has had on art history.