

# DIVID I FOUNDATION

PERIODIC ACTIVITY REVIEW  
2021-2024



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Stichting DIVIDI postal & office address:  
Wolga 16  
2491BJ in The Hague  
The Netherlands  
info@dividifoundation.com

DIVIDI Foundation is registered at the Chamber of Commerce under reference number 73159107.  
The RSIN number of Stichting DIVIDI is NL859379255.

Stichting DIVIDI is the full name of the organisation, but will be used as Stichting DIVIDI for Dutch speakers and DIVIDI Foundation for international stakeholders. In this document we will use the name DIVIDI Foundation, or DIVIDI for short.

DIVIDI is currently located in the conservation atelier Studio Redivivus in The Hague, The Netherlands.

## ABOUT

The policy plan presented here marks the official starting point of the activities of the foundation. The plans established in the following will represent our main priorities from 2024-2025 until the end of 2023. Some of the tasks presented here have been worked on through 2022 and 2023 as well.

### DIVIDI FOUNDATION

Information gained through the conservation of art works is unique and plays a key role in the advancement of art historical and art technological knowledge.

Art conservation professionals present this knowledge and information about treatment results almost always in extensive documentation that is rarely published.

This has resulted in the loss of valuable information about the artists, the artworks, the materials, and the treatments; all lost to posterity.

DIVIDI Foundation's mission is to share otherwise unpublished information and images to preserve the extensive knowledge gained during the technical investigation of paintings.

As a non-profit, non-governmental organisation established in 2018 by Gwendolyn Boveé-Jones, our vision is to be the initiator and provider of a platform for private paintings restoration studios to share important technical imaging, analysis and technical art history projects online. Also, we see ourselves being established as a postgraduate learning center for innovation in technical imaging.

ART  
CONSERVATION

RESEARCH

+

IMAGING

+

TREATMENT

DOCUMENTATION

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# PERIODIC REVIEW OF DIVIDI'S ACTIVITIES

As we reflect on the work of the foundation through the last years, Stichting Dividi celebrates a new year that will be marked by significant advancements in technical art history and documentation as well as the beginning of various collaborations through our educational activities. Our commitment to education, research, and collaboration has propelled us to new heights, fostering collaboration with other professionals. In this periodic review we want to inform of DIVIDI's activities for the last 4 years:

## A. WORKSHOPS AND EDUCATION

- Education remains at the forefront of our mission. In the last years, we expanded our reach by providing hands-on training to professionals worldwide through the organization of various workshops. Meetings were held with various institutions to plan collaborations for the data-base as well as planning future internships.
- Modular Cleaning Program (MCP) Workshop with Chris Stavroudis (2022): Participants engaged in advanced cleaning techniques, mastering solvent selection, pH adjustments, and resin gel applications. This workshop not only enhanced practical skills but also introduced the latest advancements in tailored solvent systems. Recognizing the importance of inclusivity, we offered financial assistance to international applicants, ensuring diverse participation and knowledge exchange. Various participants were aided in receiving additional.
- Hyperspectral Imaging Workshop with Erik Uffelmann (2023): In collaboration with students from Washington & Lee University, attendees explored non-invasive analysis of paintings. The focus on material identification, pigment mapping, and layer structure analysis provided invaluable insights into conservation imaging applications.
- Multispectral Imaging Workshop with Spectraltek (2023): Specializing in multispectral imaging, this session covered theoretical principles and practical applications for art examination. Topics included equipment calibration, revealing underdrawings, retouchings, and integrating MSI into conservation workflows.
- XRF Hitachi Training – Basic Knowledge & Device Control (2024): This hands-on workshop delved into X-Ray Fluorescence analysis, emphasizing elemental analysis in paintings. Participants learned device operation, calibration, and spectral data interpretation, essential for pigment identification and material composition.

## B. STRATEGIC PLANNING OF PARTNERSHIPS

- Throughout **2022 and 2023**, our weekly planning sessions with the core-team focused on planning and developing various funding applications as well as having various meetings to establish industry partnerships, and developing long-term financial strategies.
- Due to health reasons of multiple board members, activities paused for some time during 2023 and 2024, re-initiating in 2024 with the planning of the Van Dongen Project.
- Meetings were held with members of the RKD leadership to discuss how we can work together within the RKD Technical branch whereby the Dividi database can have a portal through the RKD and they will preserve the metadata for open access in the future. With this initiative documentation remains central to our goals.

## C. "VAN DONGEN - SCHILDER VAN TOETS EN KLEUR"

- In **2024**, we embarked on a collaborative research initiative with Anita Hopmans of the Van Dongen Research Project. This project centers on the technical and material analysis of Kees van Dongen's works, uniting institutions from the Netherlands and abroad. Our involvement underscores our commitment to open-access publication, integrating technical imaging, pigment studies, and historical research to enrich understanding of Van Dongen's techniques.

## UPCOMING INITIATIVES

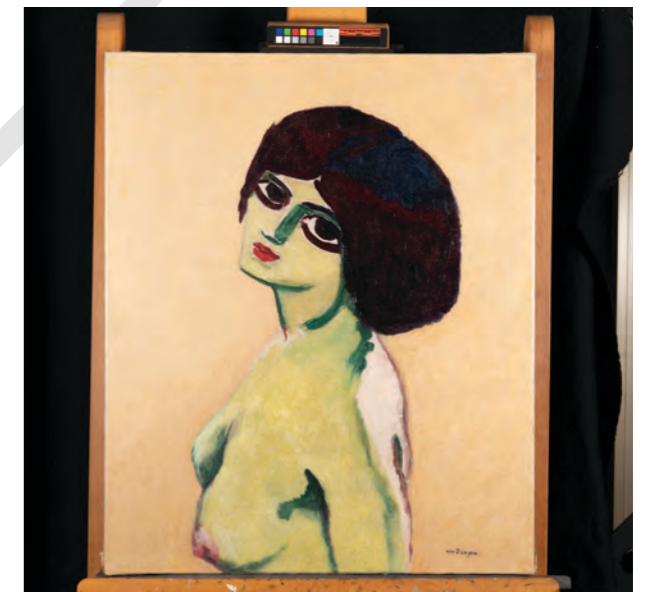
Looking ahead to **2025**, we are organizing the "Unveiling the Layers: A Hands-on Approach to Technical Imaging and Conservation in Art History" workshop. Aimed at art historians, this program seeks to enhance proficiency in acquiring and interpreting technical imaging data, fostering collaboration with conservation scientists and conservators. The inaugural session will focus on Infrared Reflectography, bridging the gap between art historical research and scientific analysis.

Beyond the first session, we plan to expand the program to cover a wider range of imaging techniques, including X-ray fluorescence (**XRF**), multispectral and hyperspectral imaging, and photogrammetry. These methodologies provide valuable insights into artistic techniques, materials, and conservation treatments, offering art historians a deeper understanding of the physical history of artworks.

To maximize impact, we aim to integrate hands-on case studies, allowing participants to analyze real artworks with expert guidance. Additionally, we are exploring collaborations with museums, universities, and research institutions to provide access to imaging facilities and further interdisciplinary research. The long-term goal is to establish a recurring series of workshops that evolve with technological advancements, ensuring continued professional development for art historians and conservators alike.

## CONCLUSION

Stichting Dividi's dedication to advancing technical art history and conservation is evident in our educational programs, strategic collaborations, and research initiatives. As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering innovation, inclusivity, and a deeper appreciation for technical imaging results and their incorporation into art historical, as well as conservation practice.



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# OBSERVING CLEANING ON PAINTINGS: MCP WORKSHOP WITH CHRIS STAVROUDIS

**Dates:** 27th - 30th of September 2022  
**Instructor:** Chris Stavroudis

**DIVIDI** was honored to host its first workshop with the renowned scientist and paintings conservator Chris Stavroudis from the 27th – 30th of September 2022.

The Modular Cleaning Programme workshop, imparted by Chris Stavroudis and hosted by DIVIDI, aimed at combining imaging techniques and the Modular Cleaning Programme to adequately customize cleaning solutions and objectively characterize the paint surface before and after cleaning.

The workshop incorporated examination with the HIROX Microscope, ultraviolet light, and infrared reflectography to identify and visualize the layers while also verifying the efficacy of the tailored cleaning solutions. After a week of lectures and practical hands-on work with paintings, attendees were able to work comfortably and independently with various types of cleaning solutions.

Attendees became acquainted with the use of silicone solvents and gelling agents and understood how material changes affected the cleaning solution and its relation to the chemistry of the surface and cleaning system. Workshop participants also learned how to use the MCP software package to effectively tailor stock solutions to formulate optimal cleaning solutions.



## ATTENDANCE AND COLLABORATIONS

DIVIDI was proud to receive 20 participants from around the world to participate in the workshop was diverse in having people from multiple different countries, including Turkey, Kuwait, Poland, United Kingdom, USA, Portugal, Italy, France, China, Switzerland, and The Netherlands.

Participants in need of financial aid were supported in their registration fees partially through some organisations such as The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (Opportunities Fund), as well as HIROX Europe, Cultural Heritage Science Open Source and Opus Instruments.

Participants had the chance to see the devices and evaluate cleaning results with some of the devices, but they were also able to see other devices that are useful for other research.



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## GOVERNING STRUCTURE

Stichting DIVIDI has a Supervisory board and a Management Board.

Per February 2021 the Management Board consists of:

- G.P. Boevé-Jones MA
- mr. E.H. Boucher
- Professor dr. J. Boon

Per January 21st 2018 the Supervisory Board consists of:

- drs. F.J. Duparc
- drs. M.G.E. Roeloffs-Cordia
- Mrs. R.H. Drake-Bloch
- D. Dwyer-Modestini MA

The following rules apply to the DIVIDI management and or supervisory boards:

1. The Management Board shall consist of three or more members, whose exact number is to be determined by the Supervisory Board and shall be appointed the first time by (means of) the present deed.
2. The Supervisory Board determines which Management Board members perform the offices of chairman, secretary and/or treasurer. In deviation of the provisions of the preceding sentence the first Management Board members are appointed in office by (means of) the present deed.
3. The Management Board members shall be appointed for a period of seven years with an extension of seven years possible at that point.
4. If one or more vacancies are created on the Management Board the Supervisory Board shall fill it or by the appointment of one or more successor(s) within three months after the creation of the vacancy or vacancies.
5. Should the Management Board have one or more vacancies, then the remaining Management Board members or the sole remaining Management Board member shall nevertheless remain Management Board.
6. Should at any time all the Management Board members be lacking before the vacancy/vacancies created has/have been filled and, furthermore, if the Supervisory Board should fail to fill the vacancy/vacancies within the period mentioned in paragraph 4 of this article they shall be filled by the court on request of any interested party or on demand of the public prosecutor's office.

## TEAM AT DIVIDI

Stichting DIVIDI has a project team appointed to develop DIVIDI Foundation and organise board meetings, applies for funding, and organises events such as workshops and networking activities. The team meets on a weekly basis to discuss the next steps to take and keep the activities within the foundation working.

Per February 2025 the Team at DIVIDI consists of:

- G.P. Boevé-Jones MA
- J. Boevé
- M. Escamilla Martínez
- Julia Piekarz

## MAIN TASKS & ACTIVITIES

- Organise recurring Board Meetings
- Organise workshops and expert meetings
- Manage fundraising activities
- Management of task force
- Project planning and budgeting
- Event organisation

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