Finding aid for the Piet Zwart Views of Manufacturing and Architecture, circa 1928-1935

Finding aid prepared by Laura Schroffel.
Descriptive Summary
Title: Piet Zwart Views of Manufacturing and Architecture
Date (inclusive): 1928-circa 1935
Number: 2002.R.47
Creator/Collector: Zwart, Piet, 1885-1977
Physical Description: 2.9 linear feet (2 boxes)
Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, California, 90049-1688
(310) 440-7390
Abstract: Photographs taken by designer Piet Zwart to be used in his typographical work for various manufacturing companies in the Netherlands. Also includes photographic prints of architectural exteriors and interiors, and prints that are more artistic in nature.
Request Materials: Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the catalog record for this collection. Click here for the access policy.
Language: Collection material is in Dutch; Flemish
Biographical/Historical Note
Piet Zwart was born in 1885 in Zaandijk, Amsterdam. He was trained as an architect and worked for the architects Jan Wils and H.P. Berlage. While working for Berlage and others Zwart also became adept in the field of interior design. In 1923 Zwart began his typographical career creating advertisements that were published in Tijdschrift voor electrothechniek and Sterkstroom. It was at this time that he produced his most famous work for the Nederlandsche Kabelfabriek, Delft. Zwart also did large projects for the ITF, Internationale tentoonstelling op filmgebied, and the Dutch Postal Telegraph and Telephone Company (PTT), including the design of a postage stamp. In 1930 Zwart was commissioned to design monthly calendar cards for the Bruynzeel Wood Company, which manufactured pencils and doors. Eventually he designed all of Bruynzeel’s printed publications, advertising, packaging, offices, exhibitions and various offices of representatives abroad. Zwart’s oeuvre is strongly associated with the De Stijl movement.
Access
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Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa2002r47
Acquisition Information
Received in 2002.
Processing History
Processed by Laura Schroffel
Scope and Content of Collection
The collection is comprised of 37 photographic prints most likely taken by Zwart for photograms to be used in his typographical work for advertisements and catalogs. Twenty-five prints are 5x7 and 12 prints are other various sizes. The bulk of the photographs depict manufacturing companies. The Bruynzeel Wood Company makes up the majority of the manufacturers prints. Ten prints of Bruynzeel have associated pieces of tracing paper overlays, possibly used to compose Zwart's typography projects. The photographs are mostly details of machinery and views of the factory. Four prints are of the Nederlandsche Kabelfabriek, a cable factory. Three prints are for the Wanning concrete sewer pipe manufacturing company. The collection contains a graphite drawing by Zwart, possibly a layout for an advertisement for the Bruynzeel wood company. Seven prints are of architectural exteriors and interiors, one building is the interior of the Dutch Pavilion, Antwerp, and the rest of the unidentified buildings. Two prints are more artistic in nature.
Arrangement note

Subjects - Topics
Advertising layout and typography--Netherlands--20th century
Architecture--Netherlands
De Stijl (Art movement)
Manufacturing industries--Netherlands

Subjects - Places
Netherlands--Description and travel

Genres and Forms of Material
Gelatin silver prints--Netherlands--20th century
Photographs, Original

Series I. Bruynzeel Wood Company 1928-circa 1935

Physical Description: 21 gelatin silver photographs, 10 tracing paper overlays

Scope and Content Note
Series I contains prints showing the Bruynzeel Wood Company showroom as well as the raw materials, factory, and the factory machinery used in door production. Ten tracing paper overlays are associated with the Bruynzeel prints.

Box 1, Folder 1 2002.R.47-1 Exterior of Bruynzeel wood company
Box 1, Folder 1 2002.R.47-2 - 2002.R.47-6 Interiors of Bruynzeel showroom

Scope and Content Note
Annotation on verso: 2936/38.

Box 1, Folder 1 2002.R.47-7 Stacks of cut wood
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-8 - 2002.R.47-9 Interiors of Bruynzeel showroom
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-10 Stacks of cut wood

Scope and Content Note
Annotation in Dutch on verso in pencil.

Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-10A Tracing paper overlay
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-11 Stacks of cut wood
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-11A Tracing paper overlay
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-12 Stacks of raw materials
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-12A Tracing paper overlay
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-13 Stacks of raw materials on palette
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-13A Tracing paper overlay
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-14 Stacks of cut wood coming off of barge

Scope and Content Note
Annotation in Dutch on verso in pencil.

Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-14A Tracing paper overlay
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-15 Stacks of cut wood coming off of barge

Scope and Content Note
Annotation on verso in pencil.

Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-16 Bruynzeel employee fitting wood on a machine
Box 1, Folder 2 2002.R.47-16A Tracing paper overlay

Scope and Content Note
Annotation in Dutch on recto in pencil.
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-17 | Factory machinery |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-17A | Tracing paper overlay |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-18 | Factory machinery |

**Scope and Content Note**

Piet Zwart wetstamp on verso: rijkstraatweg 200, wassonaar holland.

| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-18A | Tracing paper overlay |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-19 | View of machinery in factory |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-19A | Tracing paper overlay. |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-20 | Factory machinery |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-20A | Tracing paper overlay |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-21 | View of machinery in factory |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | 2002.R.47-21A | Tracing paper overlay |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | 2002.R.47-22 | Drawing or layout |

**Scope and Content Note**

Drawing based on some of the photographs of the Bruynzeel factory for a Zwart typographical project, possibly an advertisement or a catalog.

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**Series II. Nederlandsche Kabelfabriek 1928-circa 1935**

**Physical Description:** 4 gelatin silver photographs

**Scope and Content Note**

Series II contains one photograph documenting cable production and three photographs showing cables on reels and spools.

| Box 1, Folder 3 | 2002.R.47-22 | Cable on reel |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | 2002.R.47-23 | Detail of 2002.R.47-22 |

**Scope and Content Note**

Annotation in ink and crayon on verso.

| Box 1, Folder 3 | 2002.R.47-24 | Empty wood spools |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | 2002.R.47-25 | Nederlandsche Kabelfabriek employee adjusting cable |

**Series III. Wanning Concrete Sewer pipe Company 1928-circa 1935**

**Physical Description:** 3 gelatin silver photographs

**Scope and Content Note**

Series III contains three photographs documenting the manufacturing of sewer pipes at the Wanning company.


**Scope and Content Note**

Annotations in Dutch on verso in pencil.

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**Series IV. Architectural interiors and exteriors 1928- circa 1935**

**Physical Description:** 7 gelatin silver photographs

**Scope and Content Note**

Series four contains photographs documenting various buildings. One building is the Dutch Pavilion, Antwerp, the rest of the buildings are unidentified.

Series IV. Architectural interiors and exteriors 1928- circa 1935

Box 1, Folder 5 2002.R.47-31 - 2002.R.47-33 Interior of a home or office
  Scope and Content Note
  Annotation in Dutch on verso of one print in pencil.

Box 1, Folder 5 2002.R.47-34 Interior of Dutch Pavilion, Antwerp
  Scope and Content Note
  Annotation on verso in pencil.

Box 1, Folder 5 2002.R.47-35 Exterior of factory building
  Series V. Miscellaneous photographs 1928-circa 1935
  Physical Description: 2 gelatin silver photographs
  Scope and Content Note
  Series five contains two photographs that seem to be unrelated to Zwart's manufacturing photography.

Box 1, Folder 6 2002.R.47-36 Package of dried bananas
  Scope and Content Note
  Piet Zwart wetstamp on verso : rijkstraatweg 200, wassenaar holland.

Box 1, Folder 6 2002.R.47-37 View of pond or lake
  Scope and Content Note
  Mounted on board.