

Nabuurs&VanDoorn use palimpsest and erasure as tools to create living associations. In their paintings, transcoding historical archives reveal abstract traces as meaningful; the document becomes an act.

The artists paint over archival documents to leave all but simple geometric shapes which come alive and reveal a new shape, or corrective, or compulsion in our understanding of the inherited past. The pleasure of colors and dynamics are used to highlight the possibility for change. Paint is discreetly applied in a graphic rhythm and their hand leaves traces in ragged brush marks. Nabuurs&VanDoorn installed the paintings on clipboards and express the original condition of the document, an effort to reactivate public memory and contextualize today's cancel culture. The scale of works exposes the standardized nature of archives, dynamics and style seem formal, but remain experimental.