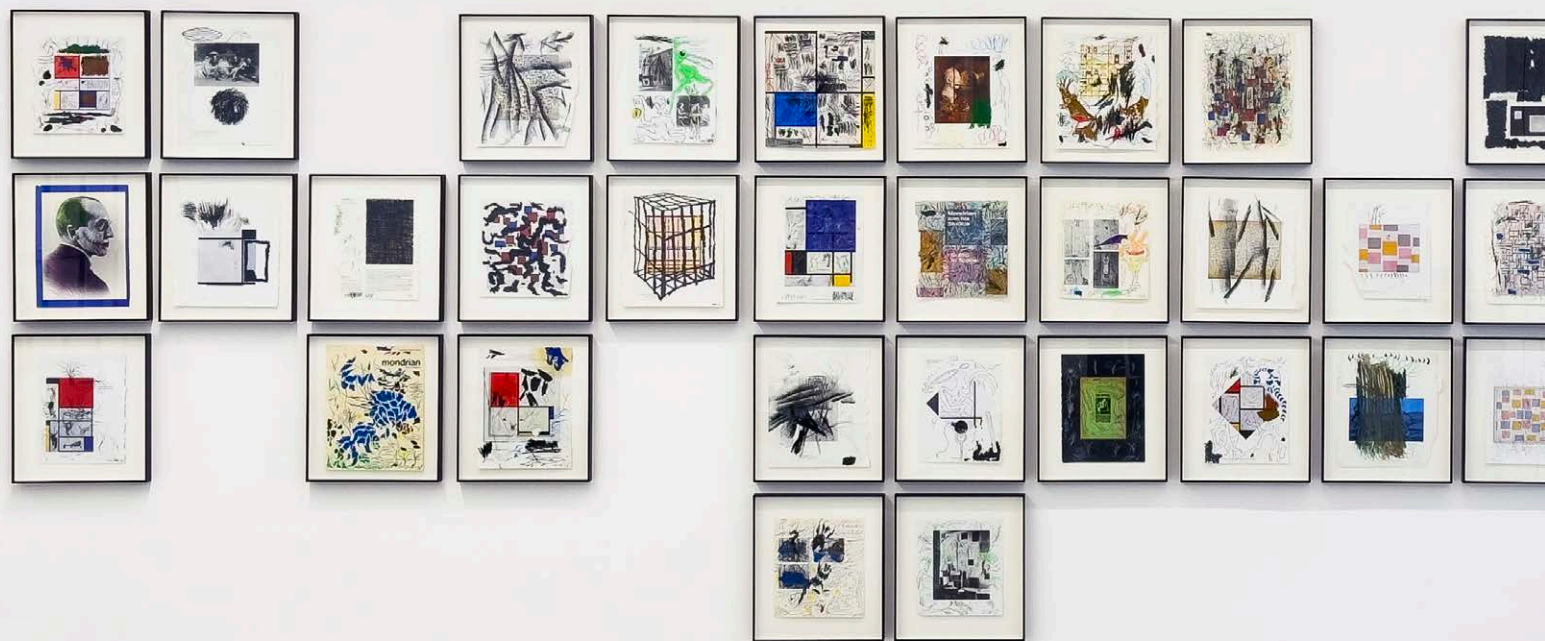




31 October - 20 December 2025

ZANDER BLOM OOM PIET

STEVENSON



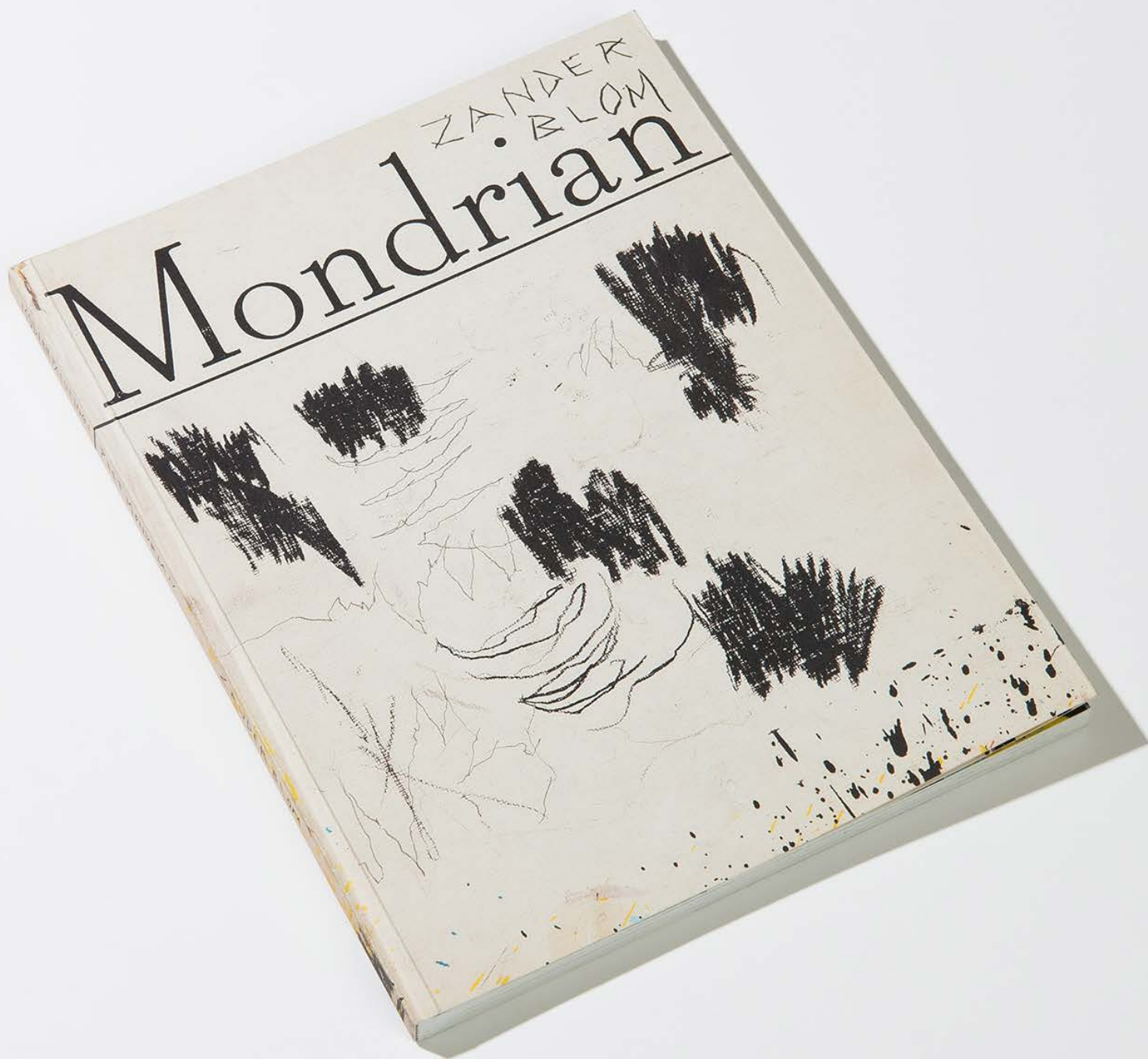
Modern Painting: Piet Mondrian, 2015-17
Mixed media on paper
122 panels, 36.3 x 32.3cm each framed

STEVENSON is pleased to present *Oom Piet*, a solo exhibition by Zander Blom.

In 2016, Zander Blom published the artist book *Modern Painting: Piet Mondrian*, containing what came to be known as his Mondrian drawings. Blom draws in black grease-pencil on pages torn from books and catalogues on Mondrian, his irreverent iconography ranging from rats and alien-lizards to palm trees and abstract scrawls. While it may initially seem disrespectful, the gesture comes from admiration rather than disdain.

Growing up in Pretoria, South Africa, before the advent of the internet, the big names of modern painting felt remote to Zander Blom. He had access to a limited range of reproductions, sometimes in black and white, in books and magazines. Yet, as an aspiring artist, he felt a deep longing to understand that moment in Western art history. He internalized the notion of the modern artist in a studio, breaking convention in search of pictorial truth. For his early practice in photography and painting, Blom painstakingly reproduced the conditions under which these artists worked, buying the same materials, living a life as similar as possible on a small budget in Brixton, Johannesburg, far away from London, Paris and New York. Besides Bacon and Picasso, Mondrian was one of the absent artistic father figures with whom Blom grappled.

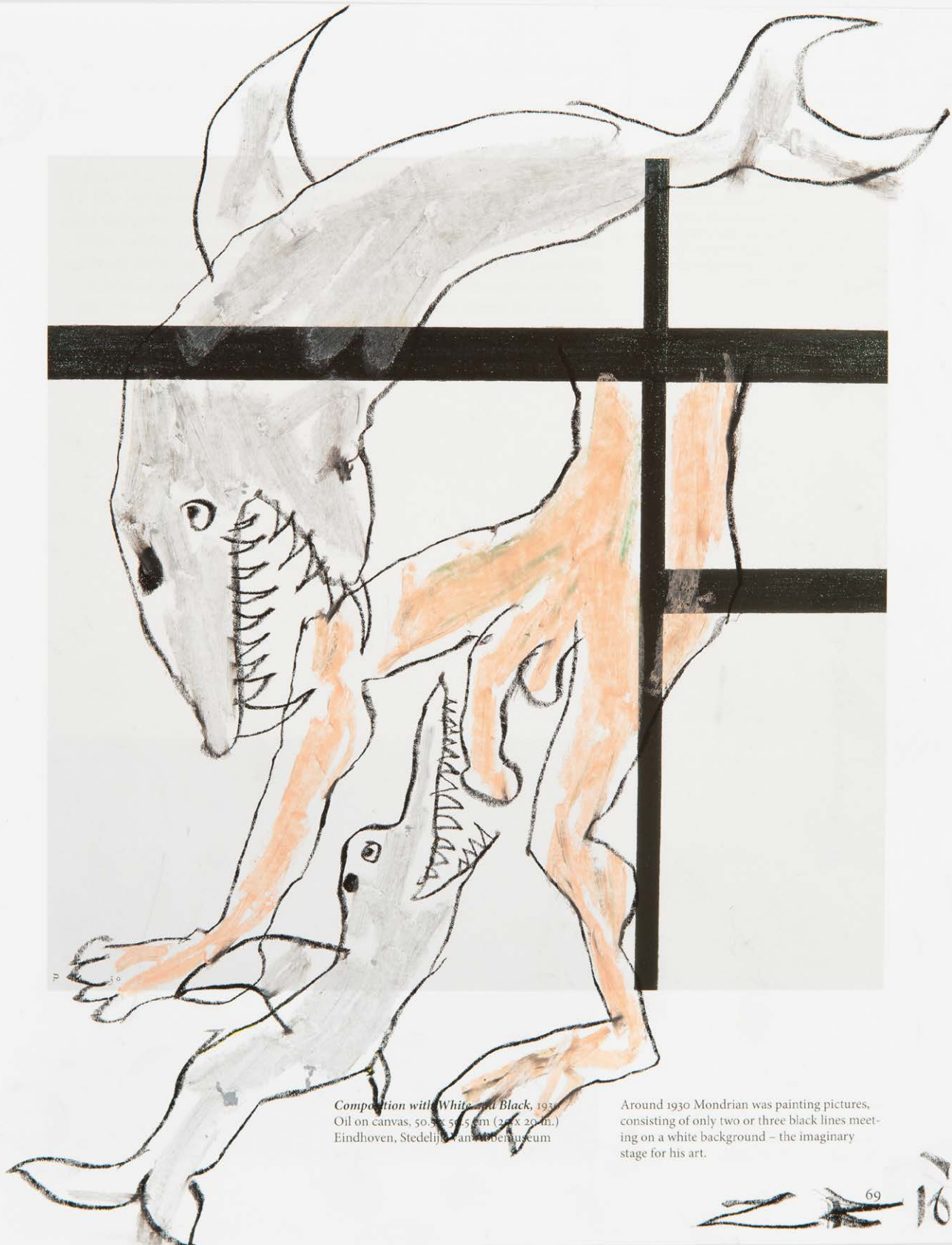
Oom Piet is an exploration of the power of context to determine meaning. Exhibiting this work in South Africa in 2016, Mondrian felt as distant a figure to most of his audience as he did to Blom. During a studio visit earlier this year, discussing what to exhibit in our Amsterdam gallery, the idea emerged to re-present this body of work in the Netherlands, where Mondrian is a towering national figure. If anything, the audience's attitude might be shaped by overfamiliarity rather than inaccessibility: between 2017 and 2023 many Dutch institutions, including the Stedelijk Museum, De Lakenhal, Het Nieuwe Instituut and Centraal Museum, celebrated 100 years of De Stijl with exhibitions and catalogues. Instead of an absent father, Mondrian could be described as an overbearing one. In Amsterdam, Blom's gesture retains its Freudian charge, but takes on an entirely new life.



Modern Painting: Piet Mondrian, 2016

Published by Stevenson

Softcover, 120 pages



Composition with White and Black, 1930
Oil on canvas, 50.5 x 50.5 cm (20 x 20 in.)
Eindhoven, Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum

Around 1930 Mondrian was painting pictures, consisting of only two or three black lines meeting on a white background – the imaginary stage for his art.

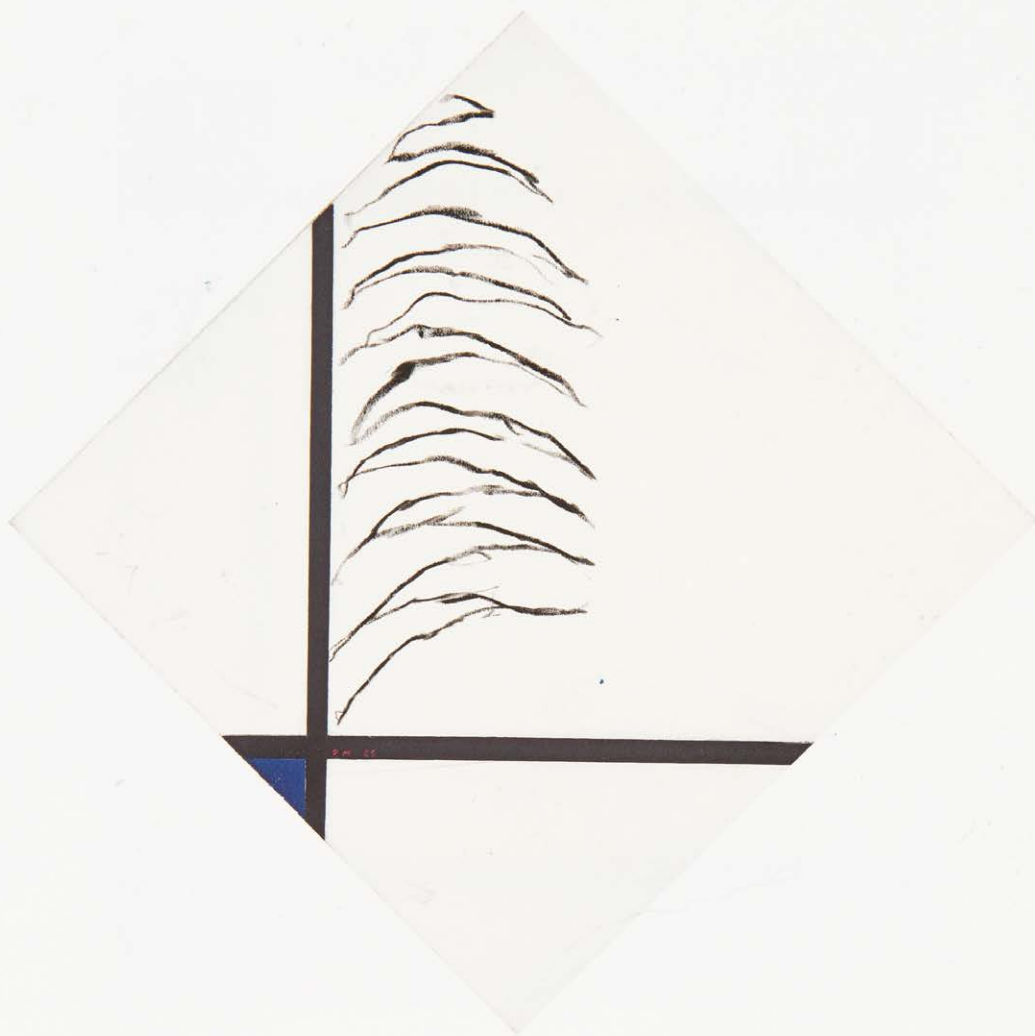
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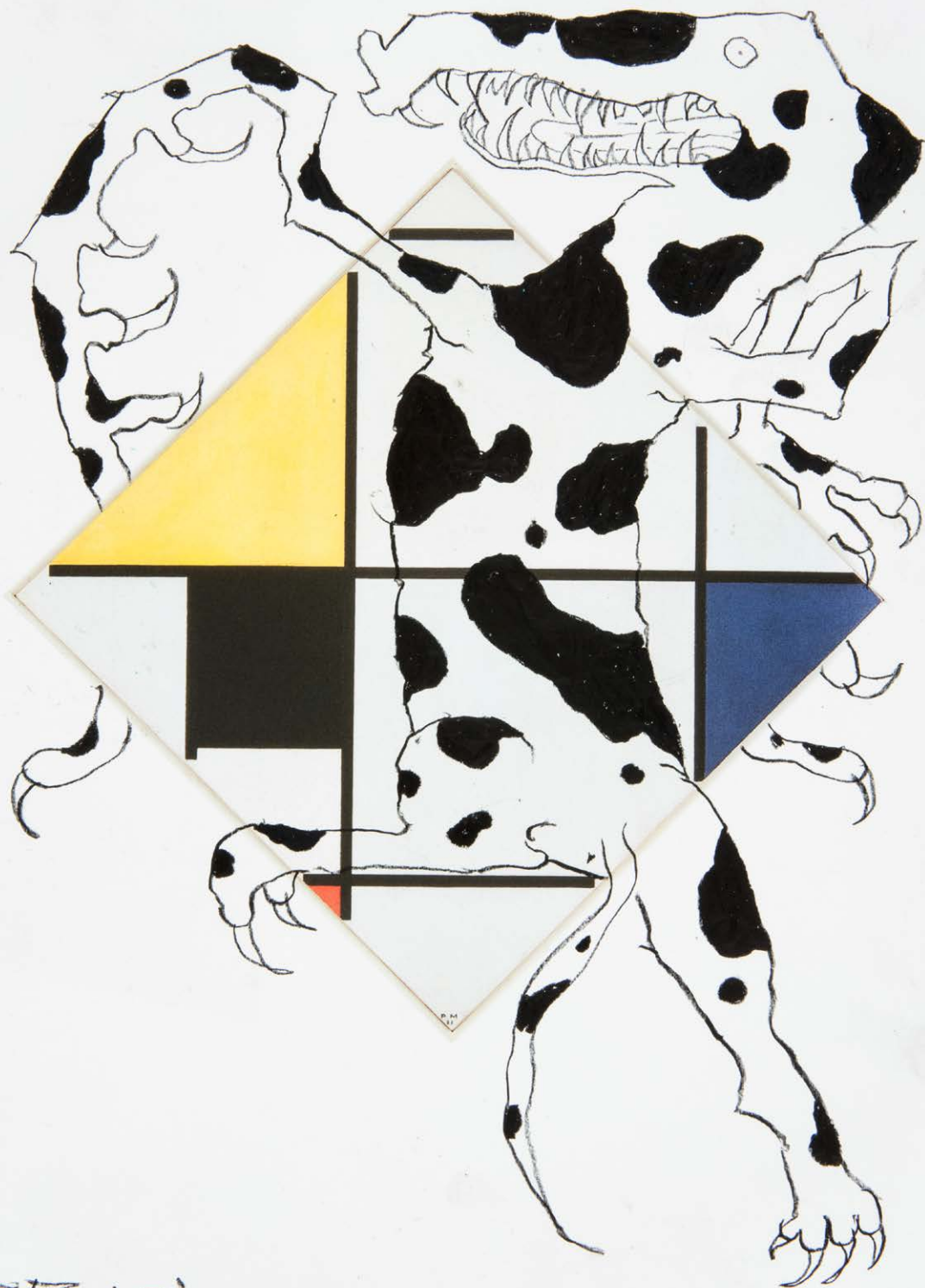
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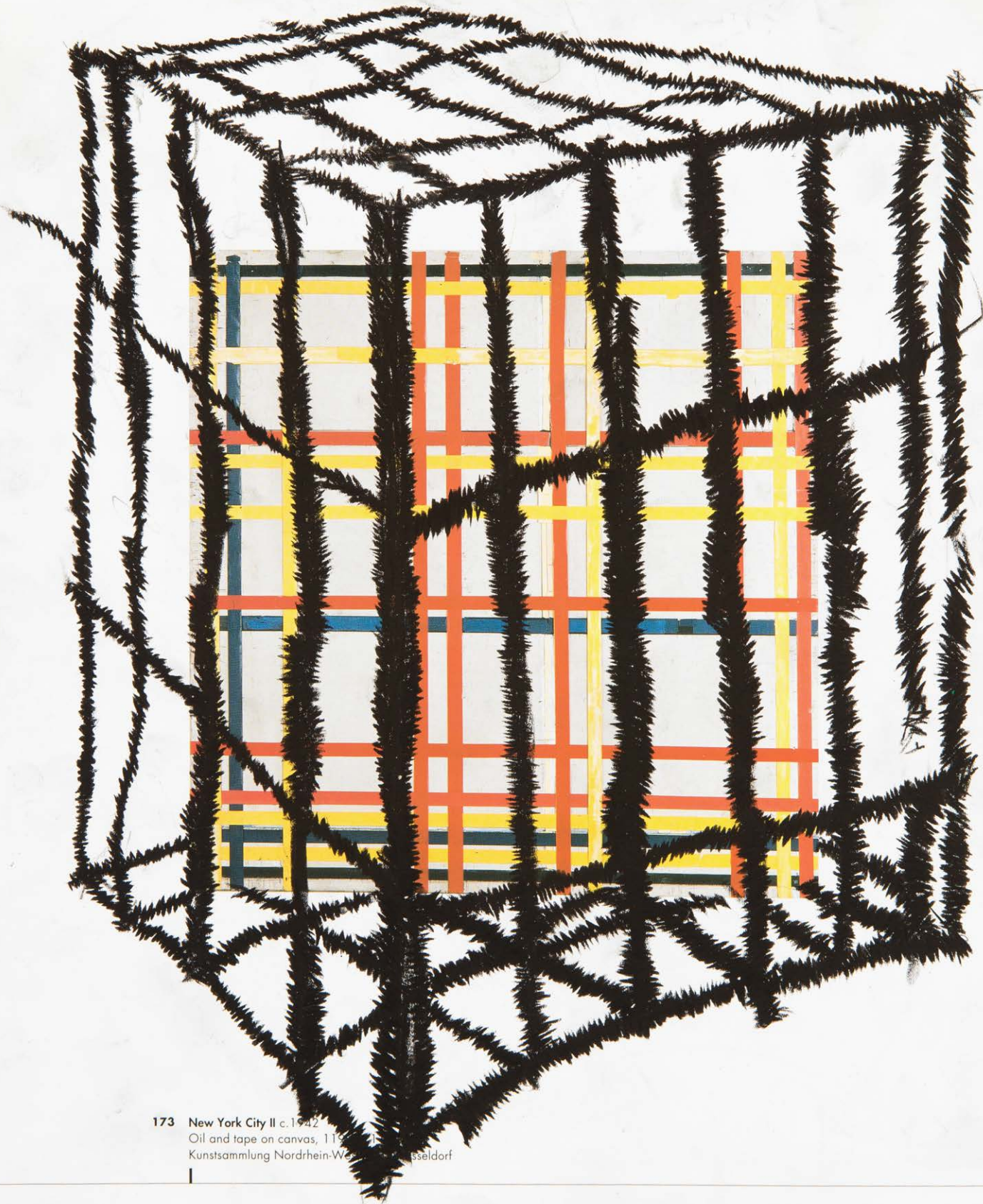


34. *Schilderij No.1: Lozenge with Two Lines and Blue* 1926, oil on canvas, diagonals: 84.9 x 85, sides: 61.1 x 61.1
Philadelphia Museum of Art: A. E. Gallatin Collection, 1952
© 2014 Mondrian / Holtzman Trust c/o HCR International USA



ZK 17

173 New York City II c. 1942
Oil and tape on canvas, 115 x 115 cm
Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf





Installation view

Oom Piet, 31 October - 20 December 2025

Stevenson Amsterdam

www.stevenson.info
info@stevenson.info

@stevenson_za

STEVENSON

Prinsengracht 371B
1016HK Amsterdam
+31 (0)62 532 1380

Buchanan Building
160 Sir Lowry Road
7925 Cape Town
+27 (0)21 462 1500

46 7th Avenue
Parktown North
2193 Johannesburg
+27 (0)11 403 1055