

Gaslighting

Sophie Lucas (SL) heeft verslag gedaan van de verbale aanval tegen haar en het afnemen van haar rol als coördinator van de kunstactiviteiten. Jan vM doet het keer op keer voorkomen alsof zijn daad nobel was en louter bedoeld om het slachtoffer te helpen en om haar te beschermen tegen haar eigen “anger and distrust”.

SL beschrijft een deel van deze gebeurtenissen in een document bedoeld om het CAMRAS bestuur te informeren. Daarin staan de volgende tekst en e-mails te lezen.

‘These are emails following the Skype call on 11 September 2018 in which Jan vM [red] took my role of coordinator of the art projects with false accusations against me. It shows his negative and patronizing language, insinuating that – as a laymen – he is more skilled at coordinating the art activities than me as a professional. The board approved of his appointment, preferring him to me despite his complete lack of knowledge in the field.’

E-mail van 11 september 2018

Van: Jan vM

Aan: SL

Hi [Sophie],

I am really puzzled why you react so fiercely and full of distrust even questioning our intentions. The way you reacted strengthened my belief in how right our recent changes to the art team are. This type of behaviour could easily put off other artists that would use the big dish. That’s the last thing we want. That would not only be bad for Dwingeloo but it would also do a lot of damage to your own interests. Your idea to have a curator in Dwingeloo is not a bad idea but having a professional on the payroll of CAMRAS is not something that’s likely to happen. We do not have the money and art is not our core business, we only facilitate.

But you made me think.... And therefore I have a suggestion. Therefore I am only trying

to help you to get rid of your anger and distrust. Being angry does not make you happy.
Not trusting people does not make you happy.

Jan

E-mail van 12 Sep 2018

Van: SL

Aan: Jan vM

Hi Jan,

I was also appalled by yesterday's Skype call. Having on one side Harry screaming at me and learning that without any transparent vote, open discussion within CAMRAS in which I could have had the chance to explain my point of view and why the agreement was written in a certain way, in two days I was outstripped of my role of art coordinator. I am sure there are better examples of an open democracy and non sexist policies in The Netherlands. As the person who co-founded with you the art programme, I would have expected a different treatment and I am still convinced that we should have a meeting with CAMRAS to discuss the art programme: I am not pleased with how decisions were made, considering I am directly involved in the programme. Therefore I still hope we can all have an equal, sensible conversation, based on what actually happened, without taking sides and without bias. Difficult but possible.

Best,

[SL]

E-mail van 22 oktober 2018

Van: JvM

Aan: SL

Hi SL,

I saw some e-mail from Frans. The ZKM project is not secret. I was not 'hiding' this for you. So please calm down, concentrate on COGITO and do not be distracted by things

other people do. Remember my motivation to do the coordination of the art programmes at CAMRAS was to protect and to help you.

E-mail van 25 oktober 2018

Van: Jan vM

Aan: SL

Hi [Sophie],

I am completely, totally and utterly amazed about what is happening right now. I completely do not understand why you are turning against me now.

And my intervention in the art group was only ment to help you and to protect you against confrontations with the CAMRAS board and ASTRON. It seems that you do not believe that and that makes me very very sad.... You are acting against your own best interest now. And I do not understand why you became so distrustful about me. Please believe me, I only want the best for you. I only want to help you. I beg you, also because of your own interest, talk via Skype tonight with me. I do not want to see you destroying your own project. I do not want to see you destroying your future with CAMRAS. I do not want to see you destroying your future as an artist. Even thinking about these options makes me very sad. Almost depressed.

Please [Sophie], do not fight your best friends. I am only here to help and support you.

Jan