

History of Association CA/CNV KUNSTENBOND (Trade Union)

Elsewhere is mentioned the history of the annual Christian Artists Seminar. Besides personal stimulation, challenging, inspiration, learning, it had as well effect on the participants in a very unique way. It was the year 1985, after that seminar and much more after the seminar in 1986 participants started to call in, telling that even after months they still 'felt part of Christian artists'. We discovered that a movement was born. Unplanned, happening in our midst. As result we started to unite the participants in Holland in local meetings. This unique development crystallised into 'christian artists associations for visual arts, music, performing arts'. In 1989 those associations became member of the Christian Trade unions of the Netherlands (CNV), well those associations needed a trade union name, so they were called: "CNV Kunstenbond" (CNV Artists trade union).

And they got stronger with the shared missionstatement:

"Called to participate in the Kingdom of God means: to practice love, compassion, freedom, solidarity and justice with the result to shape the culture in a creative way and to influence society by various forms of proclamation".

With this official profile, much could be done for the benefit of the members and for arts and culture in general.

The Yearbook EXPRESSIE became the major promotion tool for the members. The magazine was Music & Art. All the associations had it own board under the umbrella board of CNV Kunstenbond.

In 2003 the Nederlandse Toonkunstenaaars Register(NRM) joined, see www.nederlandstoonkunstenaaarsregister.nl

In 2004 came problems with the dutch tax system, if the memberassociations would stay independent, they would get taxed (sales tax, etc), only if they really would be a section of the CNV Kunstenbond, this would not happen, as the trade unions were free from such taxes. So within that year the CA associations were dissolved and changed into a SECTOR/Branch of the CNV Kunstenbond. Each sector/branch having its own board. From each sector/branch has one member in the board of the CNV Kunstenbond

In 2006 we got the gospelmagazine Bottomline, this magazine merged with our Music & Art till a new magazine SIGNS; the former subscribers became a new Sector/branch: 'gospel'. Signs being THE magazine of CNV Kunstenbond

In 2011 decided was to change the name from CNV Kunstenbond into CNV Kunst & Cultuur, would sound much better for the whole world of arts and culture.

November 2011: big changes are unavoidable, as we lost the annual subsidy of the ministry of youth. That gave us massive financial problems. We got help from a colleague trade union: CNV Vakmensen. The only good way out was to merge with CNV Vakmensen, so this happened. CNV Kunst en Cultuur is now a special SECTOR of CNV Vakmensen. CNV Kunst en Cultuur keep having the branches: visual arts, music, performing arts, gospel, literature, ntr/nrm.

For the members a powerful and positive change, as they are assured of ongoing legal help, pension/retirement, insurance provisions, etc etc.

This important change was as well needed, as Leen La Rivière got official retired in 2011, but stays on in leadership, but without the day-by-day trade union heavy duties.