



Moon Gallery Foundation
Report 2023

Intro

2023 has been a pivotal year for Stichting Moon Gallery Foundation, marked by the successful conclusion of major projects and the beginning of new initiatives that lay the groundwork for our future ambitions. The ISS Test Flight culminated with the return of the Moon Gallery Test Payload from the International Space Station, symbolizing the intersection of art and space exploration. Similarly, the Essence of Home art residency brought together international artists to reflect on the concept of home, exploring themes of belonging, displacement, and identity through deeply resonant exhibitions and dialogues.

Alongside these achievements, we began outlining plans for our upcoming Moon Mission. By engaging with potential partners and organizing community meetings and think tanks, we have started to define mission objectives, formulate fundraising strategies, and build the capacity required to realize this bold vision. These efforts have strengthened our foundation and reaffirmed our commitment to bridging art, science, and humanity's exploration of the cosmos.

Composition of the Board

In 2023 the foundation stopped working with its Treasurer- Charlotte ten Holder. At the end of the year the board consisted of:

Chair	Bernard Foing
Vice Chair	Anna Sitnikova
Secretary	Elizaveta Glukhova

Representative Activities/Events

“Moon Gallery Test Payload return to Earth”

11th of January, 2023, Florida

On January 11, 2023, the Moon Gallery Test Payload returned to Earth, splashing down off the coast of Florida aboard the SpaceX Dragon cargo capsule at 11:19 AM GMT+1. The payload, part of a larger mission carrying approximately 4,400 pounds of scientific experiments, marked the successful completion of its journey aboard the International Space Station.

This milestone was made possible through the efforts of the Nanoracks team and the dedication of everyone involved in the project. The return of the gallery set the stage for its first Earth gravity exhibition, offering a new opportunity to reflect on the intersection of art, science, and space exploration.

“The Essence of Home” Art Residency Final Presentation

3rd of March 2023, ALab, Amsterdam

The Moon Gallery Foundation concluded its Artist-at-Risk: The Essence of Home residency program with an exhibition featuring the works of Ukrainian mixed media artists Anna Kakhiani and Katerina Lymar, curated by Anna Buyvid and Ismay Dotinga. The exhibition explored the concept of home from the perspective of displaced individuals and humanity’s shared longing for connection, both on Earth and beyond. Through their creative process, the artists delved into narratives that intertwine personal experiences and the dream of space exploration, offering a profound reflection on the essence of belonging.

LIVE Panel on “The Essence of Home”

22d July 2023, YouTube and Facebook live

To celebrate the “The Essence of Home” project’s conclusion, we hosted a [panel discussion](#), where we explored diverse narratives related to the notions of belonging, displacement, and the impact of migration on artistic expression as well as questioned what it means to have a home as a human being.

Panel speakers:

Elizaveta Glukhova

Lejla Sarcevic

Anahita S Babaei

Téa Boyarchuk

Pedro César Melo

Natalia Papaeva

“Elements” - exhibition at Space Resources Week

19th- 21st of April 2023, Luxexpo The Box, Luxembourg

From April 19th to 21st, the Moon Gallery Foundation participated in the annual Space Resource Week in Luxembourg, organized by the European Space Resources Innovation Centre, Luxembourg Space Agency, ESA, and Luxembourg Institute of Science & Technology. The event focused on fostering an inclusive and efficient ecosystem for space resource utilization, bringing together experts from science, economics, law, and business.

As part of the program, the Moon Gallery presented its exhibition Elements, showcasing the artistic exploration of materials in the context of human and space exploration. The exhibition highlighted the materials chosen by artists for space missions and the conceptual motivations behind them, including a display of Moon Gallery’s demo payload.

“Desert Island” - Community Dinner x ISS gallery handover

21st of May 2023, The Gray Space in the Middle, The Hague

To celebrate the return of the Moon Gallery Test Payload from the International Space Station, the Moon Gallery Foundation hosted a community dinner featuring a special handover ceremony. Scott Rodriguez, Vice President of Government Programs at Nanoracks, officially returned the gallery to the Moon Gallery Foundation team and shared insights from the payload’s launch journey.

“The Essence of Home” exhibition

5th of July 2023, ALab, Amsterdam

The Moon Gallery Foundation concluded its year-long exploration of the concept of home with The Essence of Home exhibition, showcasing works by eight international artists under the curation of Ismay Dotinga. This journey began with a commitment to fostering dialogue around the complexities of home, identity, and the profound impact of migration on artistic expression.

The exhibition offered a deeply personal and collective reflection on what it means to have a home. Through diverse narratives and creative approaches, the artists — Anna Kakhiani, Ghita Skali, Kateryna Lymar, Mary Kuiper, Nosh Neneh & Esther van der Heijden, Omar & Desiré van der Berg, Peng Zhang, and Post Neon—explored themes of belonging, displacement, and the interplay of cultural and personal identity.

Full Moon Concert

27th of November 2023, Het Concertgebouw, Amsterdam

On November 27th, under the light of the Full Moon, the Moon Gallery Foundation participated in a unique evening of multidisciplinary art at Het Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. The event featured the finalists of the Goodmesh Concours, an art competition celebrating collaborations between musicians, dancers, and visual artists. This year’s theme, Full Moon, inspired five extraordinary performances ranging from classical pieces to avant-garde compositions, culminating in an awards ceremony with jury-selected prizes and an Audience Award.

The Moon Gallery Foundation contributed to the event by showcasing its ISS payload exhibit and being represented on the competition jury.

End of the Year Community Happy Hour

16th of December 2023, Moon Gallery Foundation Discord

Meetup to conclude the progress of the year 2023 and share the outlook for 2024.

Publications

Lejla Sarcevic has made a public summary of The Essence of Home Exhibition on [Medium platform](#).

As a part of Space Week 2023 we have shared our story with the “Space Tourist Amsterdam” podcast series.

Website and Social Media

The secretary has kept the website up to date.

News messages were circulated to our following through Newsletters, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Outlook 2024

In the upcoming year, we want to reflect on and plan strategically for the Moon Gallery Foundation's future. As we look back on our achievements, we also aim to define the changes needed to evolve and strengthen our work.

Key initiatives include rebuilding our website to enhance the visibility of our artists and projects, as well as launching a podcast to foster deeper connections within our community. We will continue building relationships with the space sector to pave the way for future Moon Mission opportunities and prepare for the highly anticipated Moon Gallery Moon Flight open call.

Additionally, we will need to prepare for the reelection of the board, ensuring a fresh perspective on the Foundation's goals and operations.

This year will not only be about maintaining momentum but also about laying the groundwork for the Foundation's next phase of growth and impact.

2024 will be a year of reflection and transformation. With the continued support of our community, donors, friends, and ambassadors, we are excited to chart the next steps for the Moon Gallery Foundation, building on our mission to inspire creativity and collaboration in the exploration of humanity's cultural legacy beyond Earth.

Finances

Administratie- en advieskantoor Iking has compiled financial statements 2023 for Moon Gallery Foundation. The financial report, including the operating statement and the balance sheet as of the end of 2023, is attached as an appendix to the annual report.

Colophon

Year report 2023 is published by Stichting Moon Gallery Foundation.
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