



Gemeente  
museum  
Den Haag



Cultural Heritage Agency  
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

*Victory Boogie Woogie*, Mondrian's unfinished masterpiece created in 1942-44, has come to be regarded as not merely the high point of his oeuvre, but also as a dazzling icon of non-figurative art in the twentieth century. Although Mondrian did not live to give the painting its title, it is known that he regarded it as a development of his earlier work. The work was acquired by the Dutch government in 1998 and has since been on permanent loan at the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague. Despite its landmark status in art history, *Victory Boogie Woogie* has never been studied in detail. This pioneering survey tracks the minute detail of the creation and physical appearance of the painting, delving into historical sources, conservation history and microscopic analysis of the paint surface and below.

Maarten van Bommel is senior scientist at the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands.

Hans Janssen is chief conservator of modern art at the Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag, the Netherlands.

Ron Spronk is professor of art history at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, and at the Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

"This important volume explores Mondrian's masterpiece from every angle, tracing its critical and material history while reporting on new technical studies – a heterogeneous approach befitting a painting whose singular achievement was (in the words of its curator) to have 'no dominant components'."

Harry Cooper, Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art,  
National Gallery of Art, Washington

www.aup.nl  
Amsterdam University Press  
Popular Science



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INSIDE OUT VICTORY BOOGIE WOOGIE

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# INSIDE OUT VICTORY BOOGIE WOOGIE

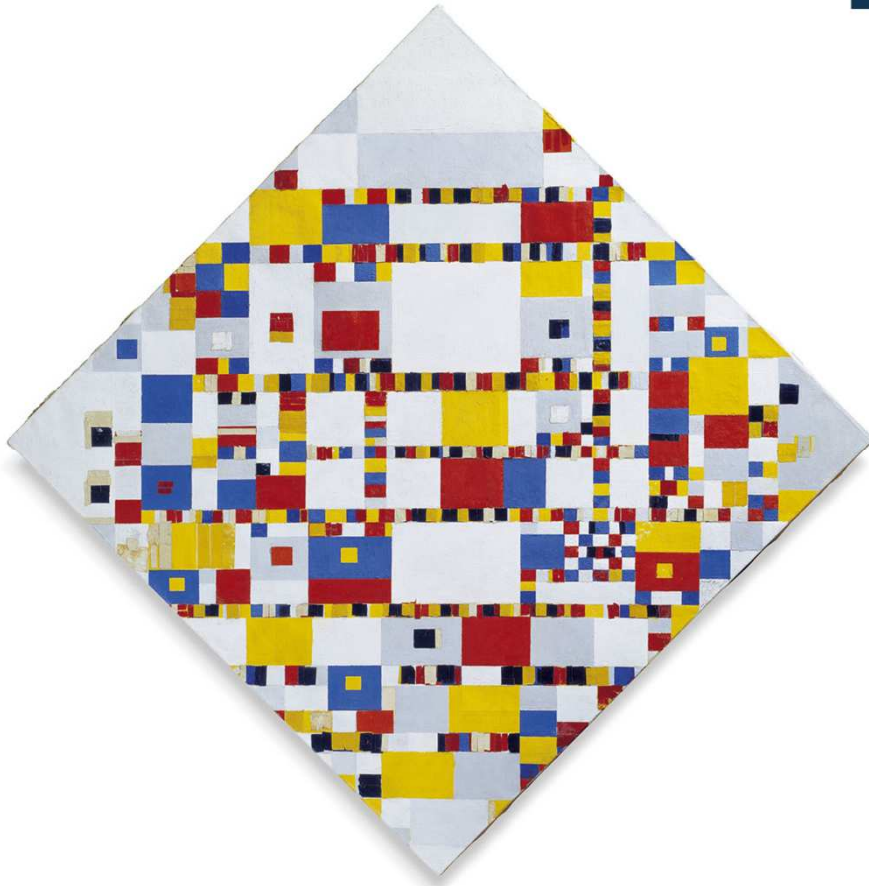
A MATERIAL HISTORY OF  
MONDRIAN'S  
MASTERPIECE

Maarten van Bommel  
Hans Janssen  
Ron Spronk  
(eds.)

**Gemeente  
museum  
Den Haag**



Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed  
*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en  
Wetenschap*



Piet Mondriaan (1872-1944)  
Olieverf, tape, potlood, karton en papier op doek  
127 x 127 cm (diagonaal 161 cm)

## Victory Boogie Woogie **Uitgepakt**

Maarten van Bommel  
Senior onderzoeker  
Hans Janssen  
Hoofdconservator moderne kunst



## Doel project

Achterhalen ontstaansgeschiedenis

Materiaalsamenstelling bepalen t.b.v. conserveringsstrategie





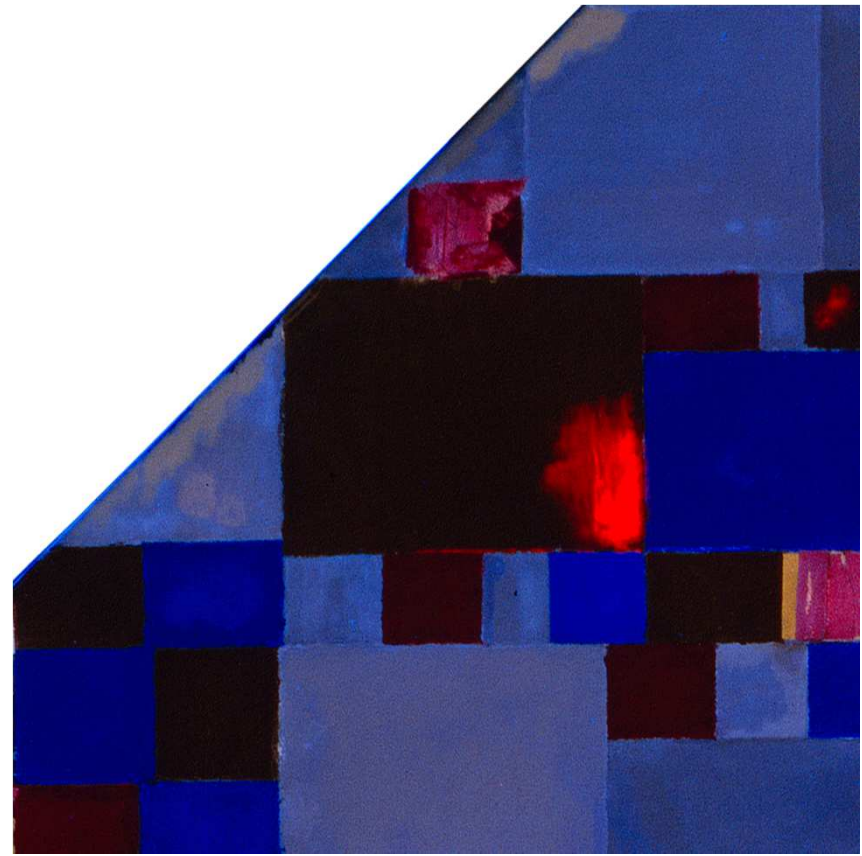
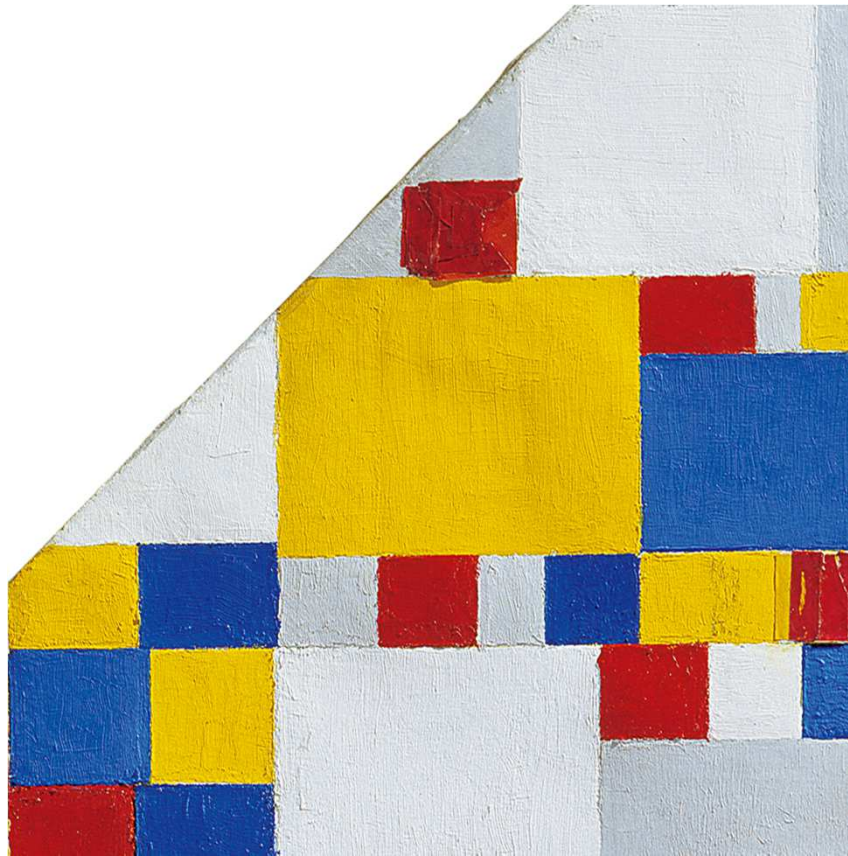


## Non destructief analytisch onderzoek





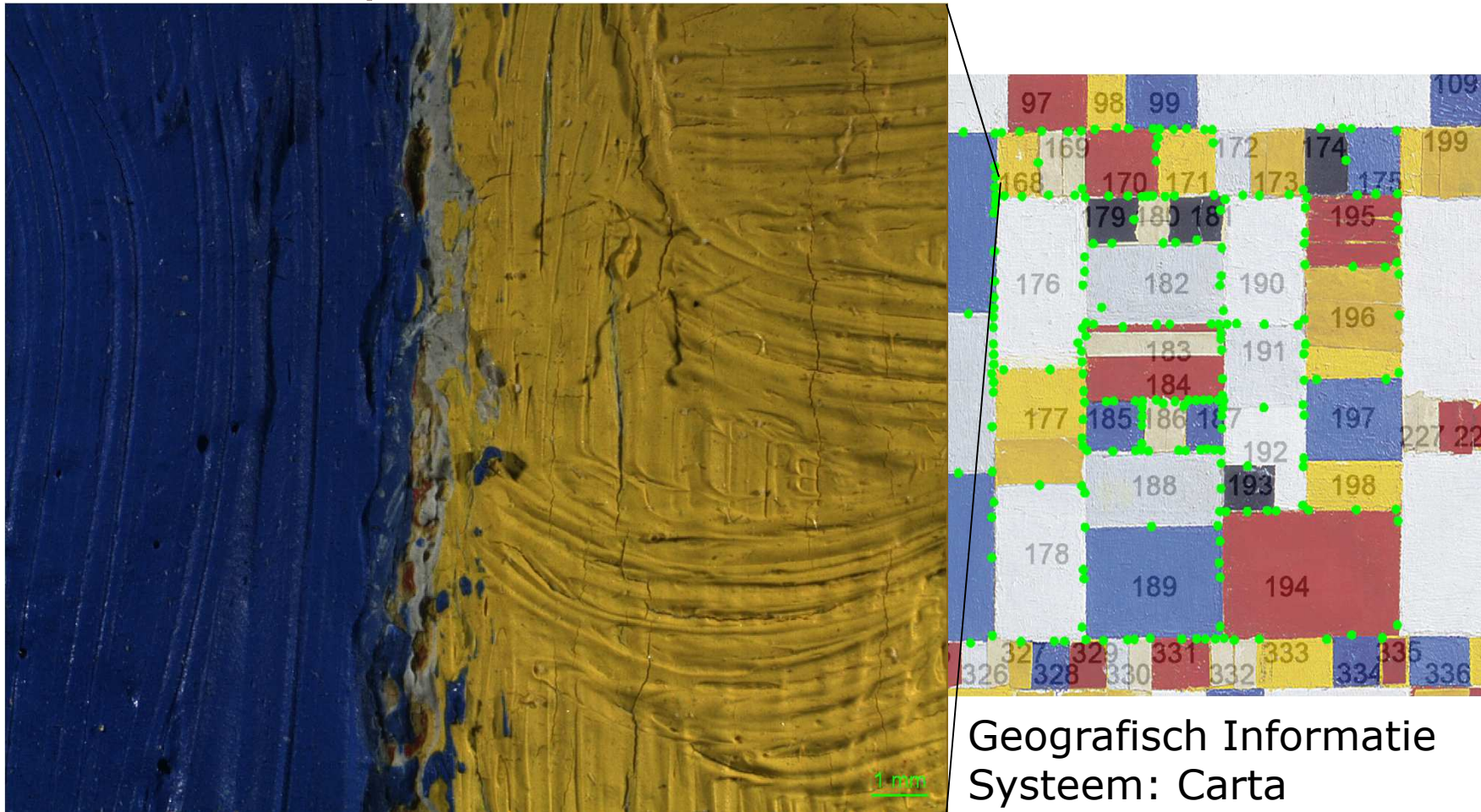
## Voorbeeld: Twee soorten cadmium geel







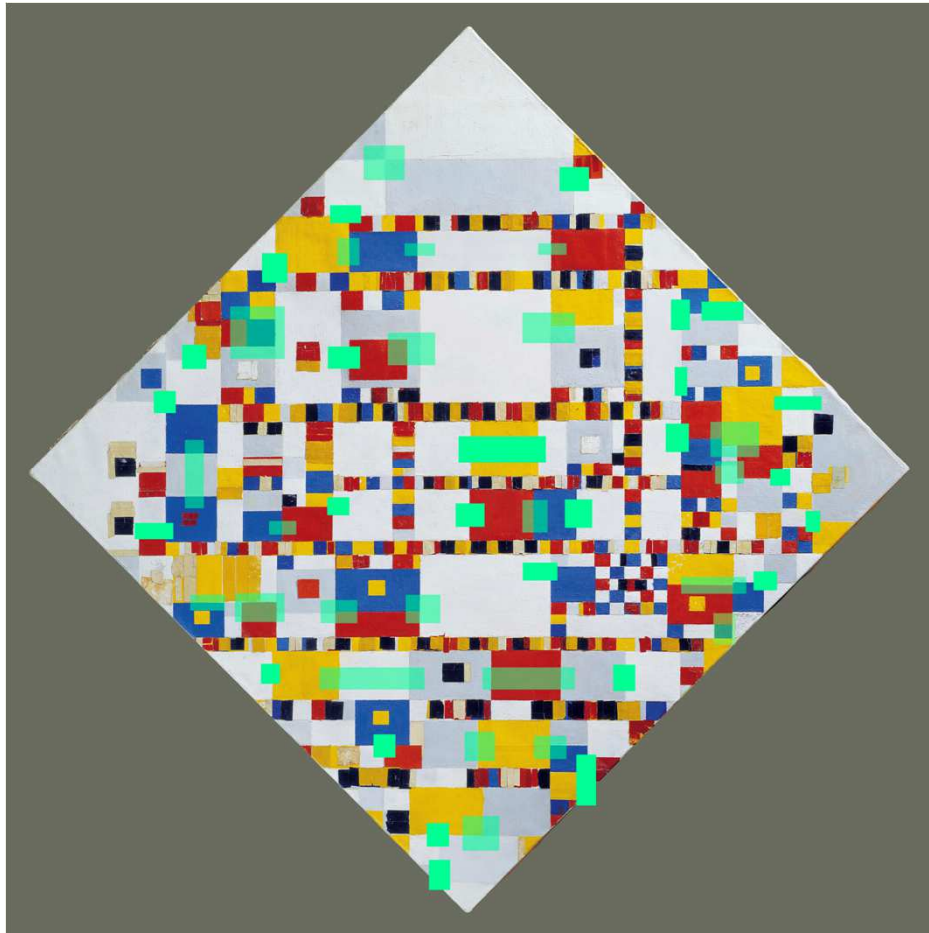
## Eerste aanpak



Geografisch Informatie  
Systeem: Carta



## Tweede aanpak



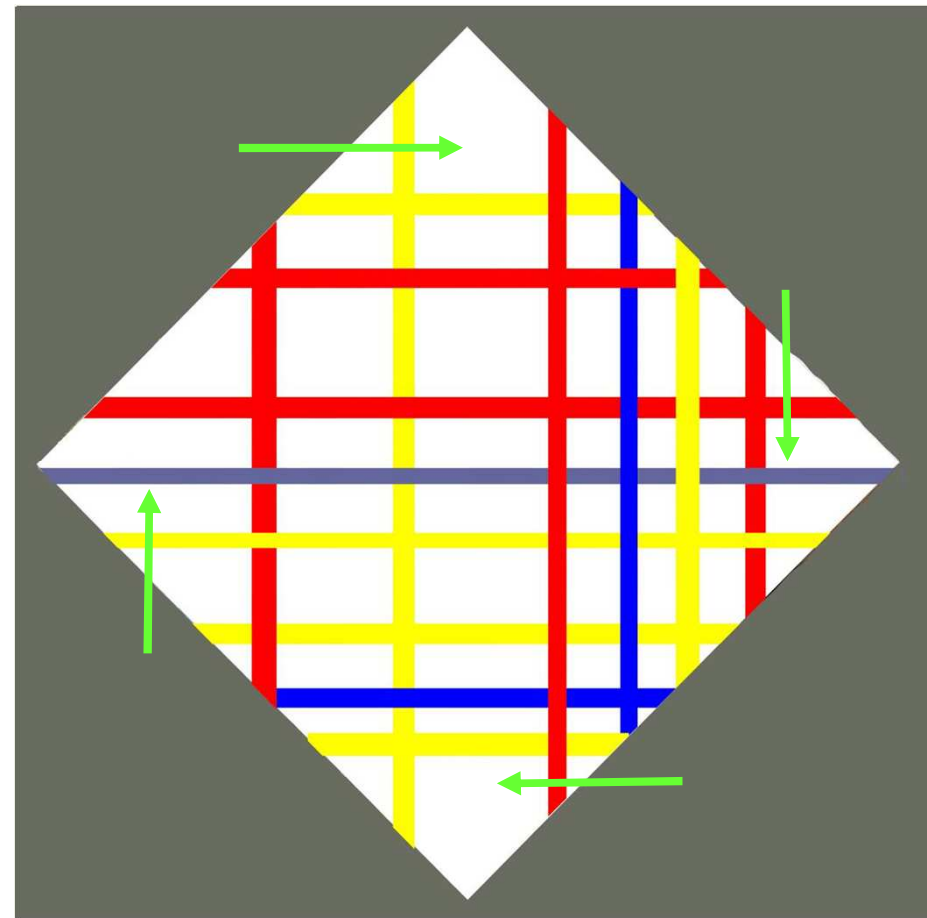
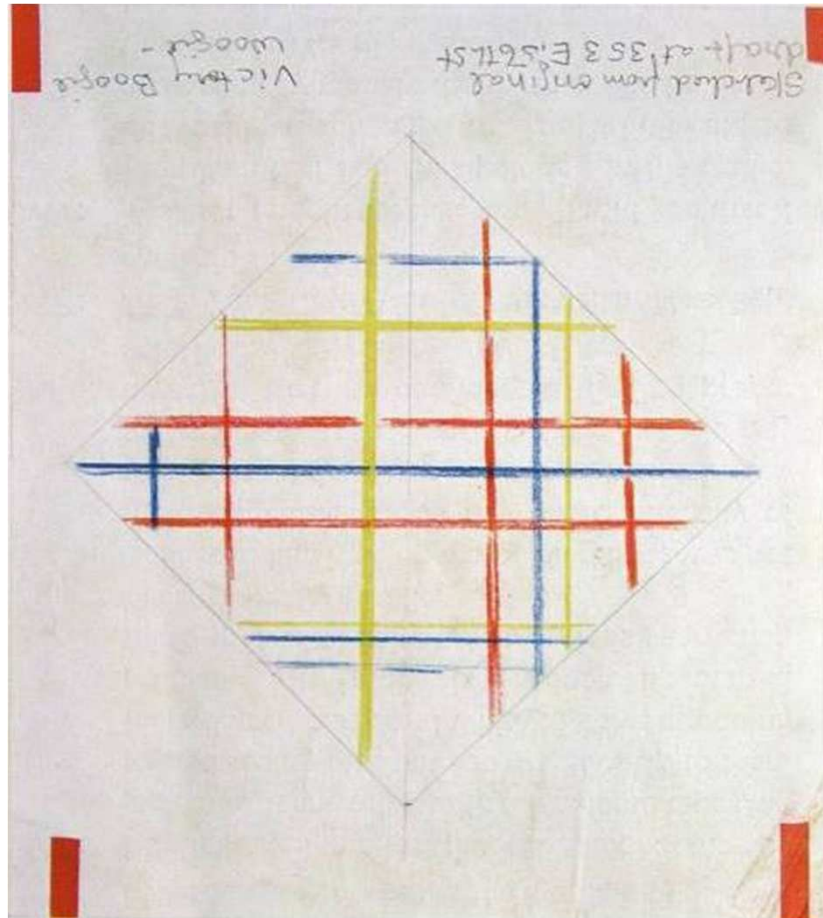
Lijnencompositie

Grote kleurvlakken

Tapes



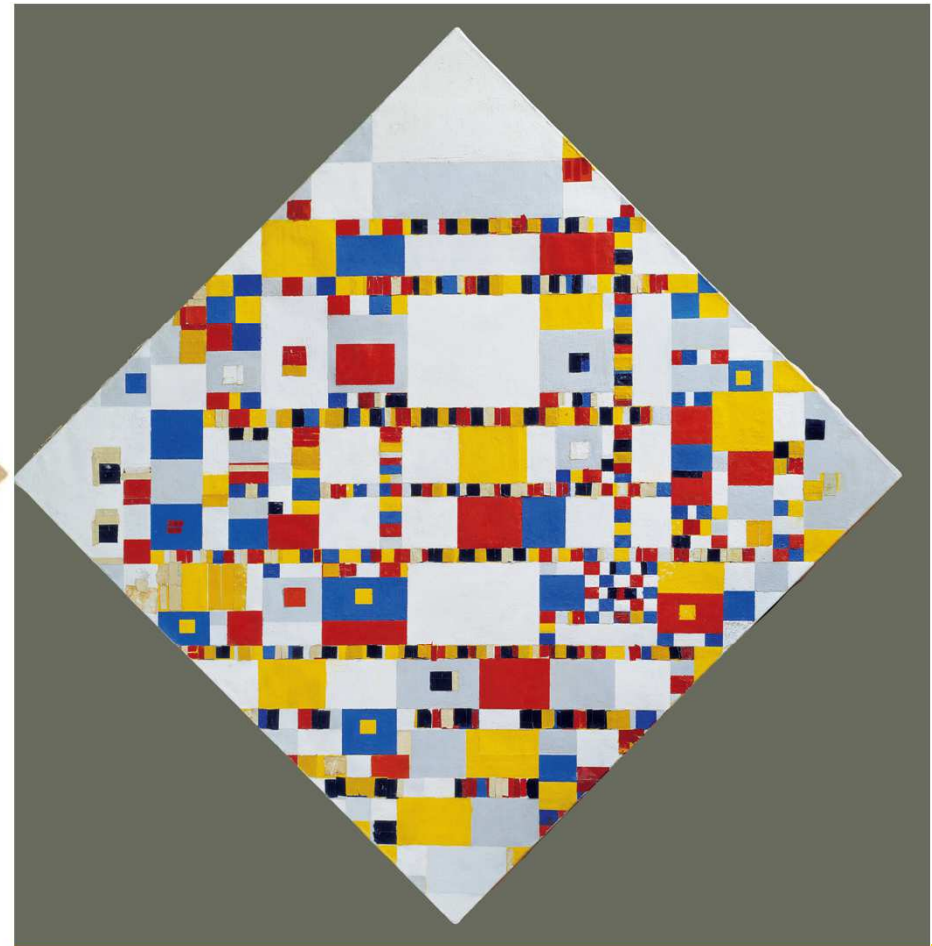
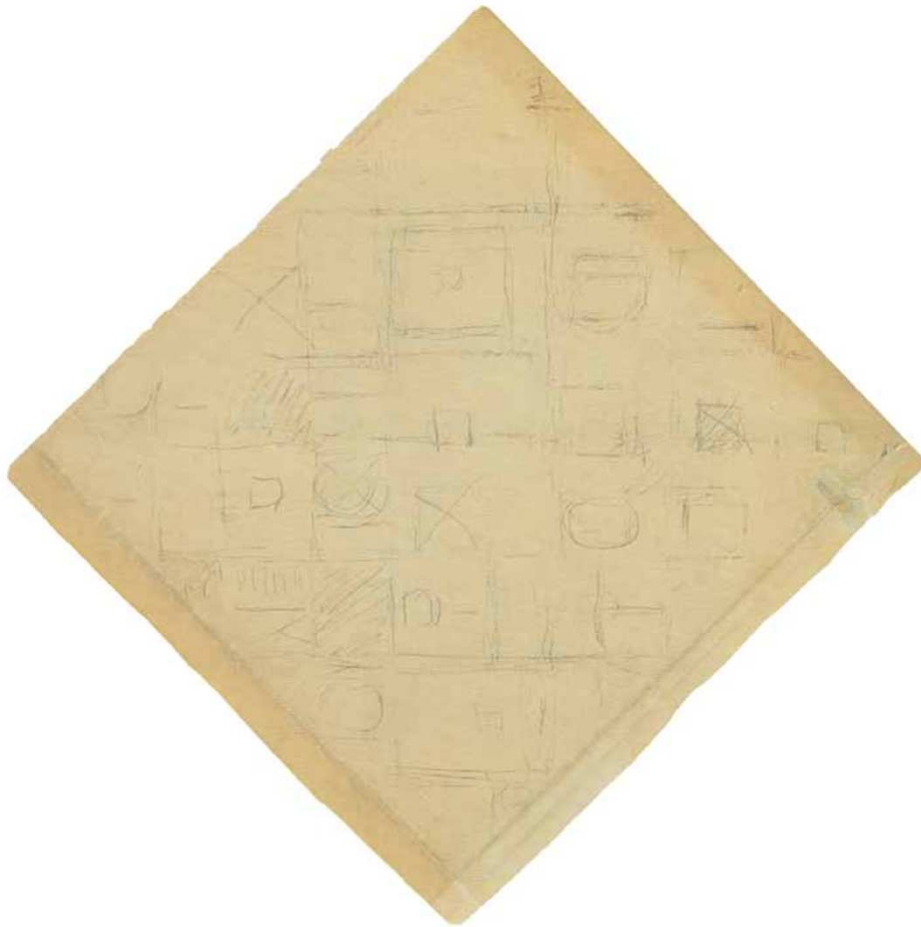
## Lijnencompositie





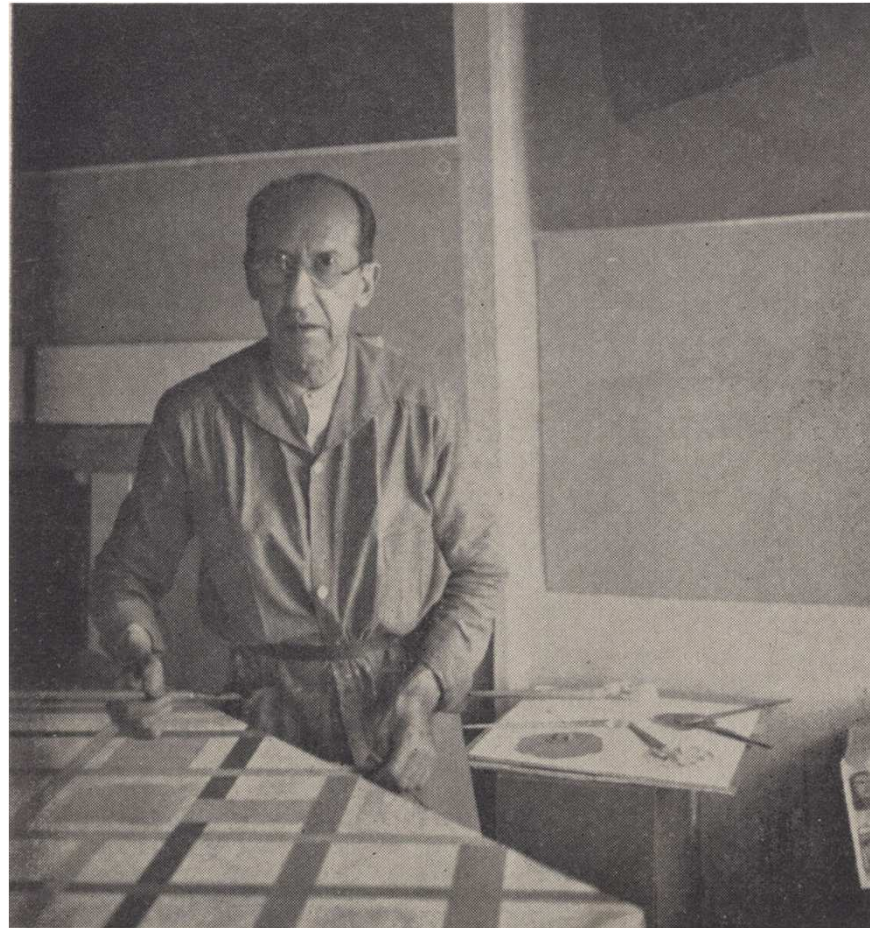


## Eerste schets





## Doorbreken van de lijnen





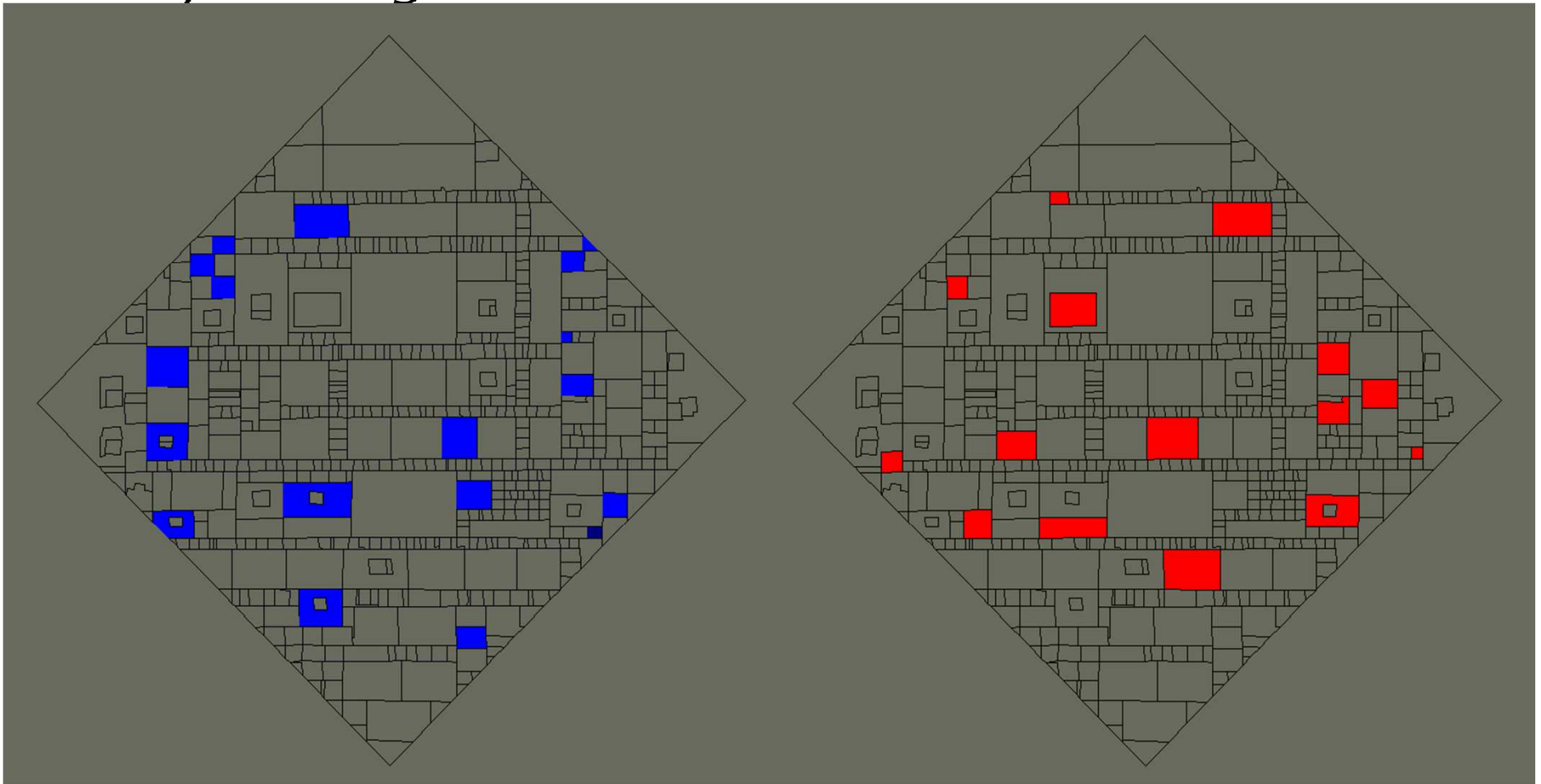
## Compositie grote vlakken





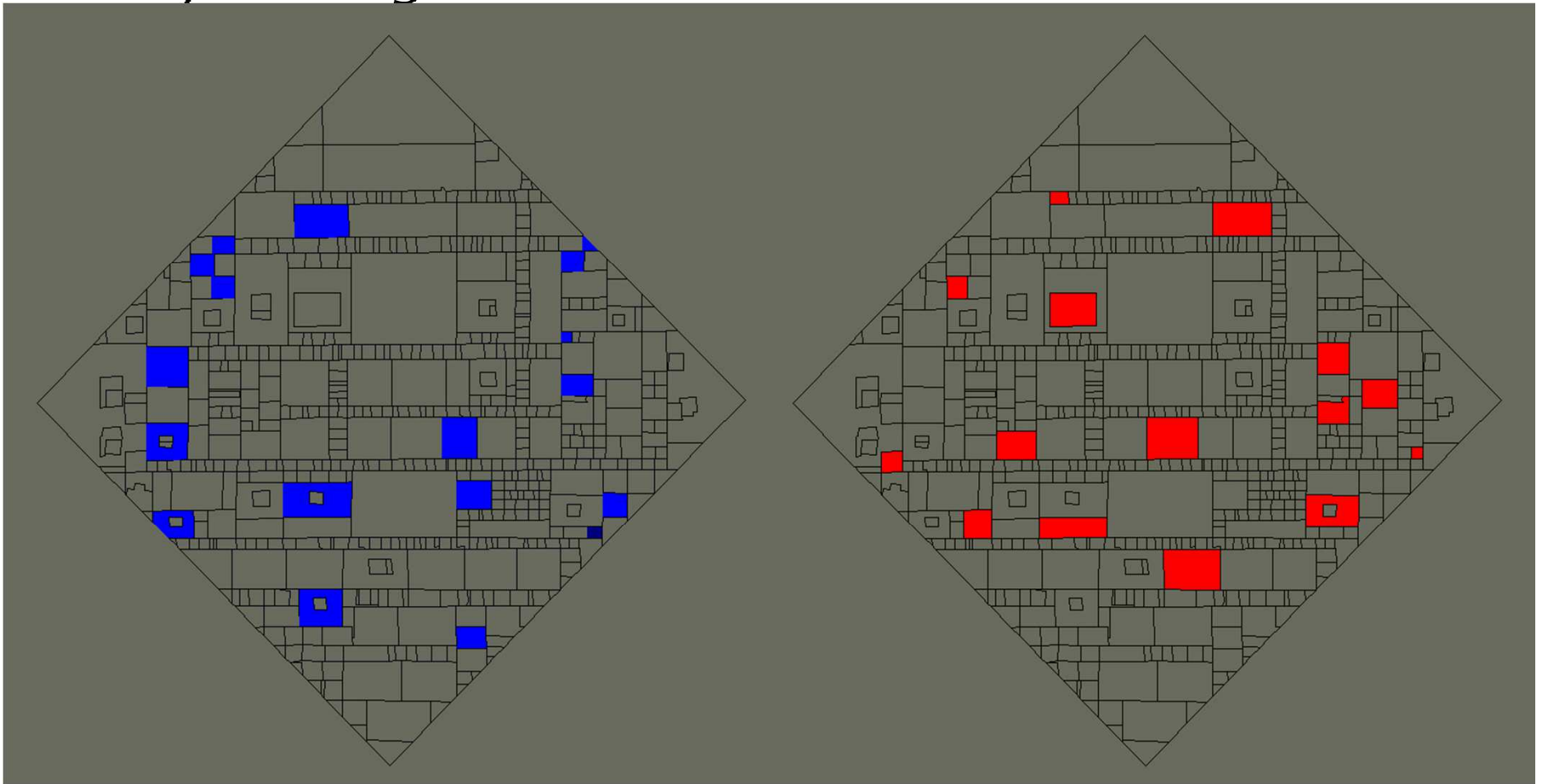


## Compositie grote vlakken



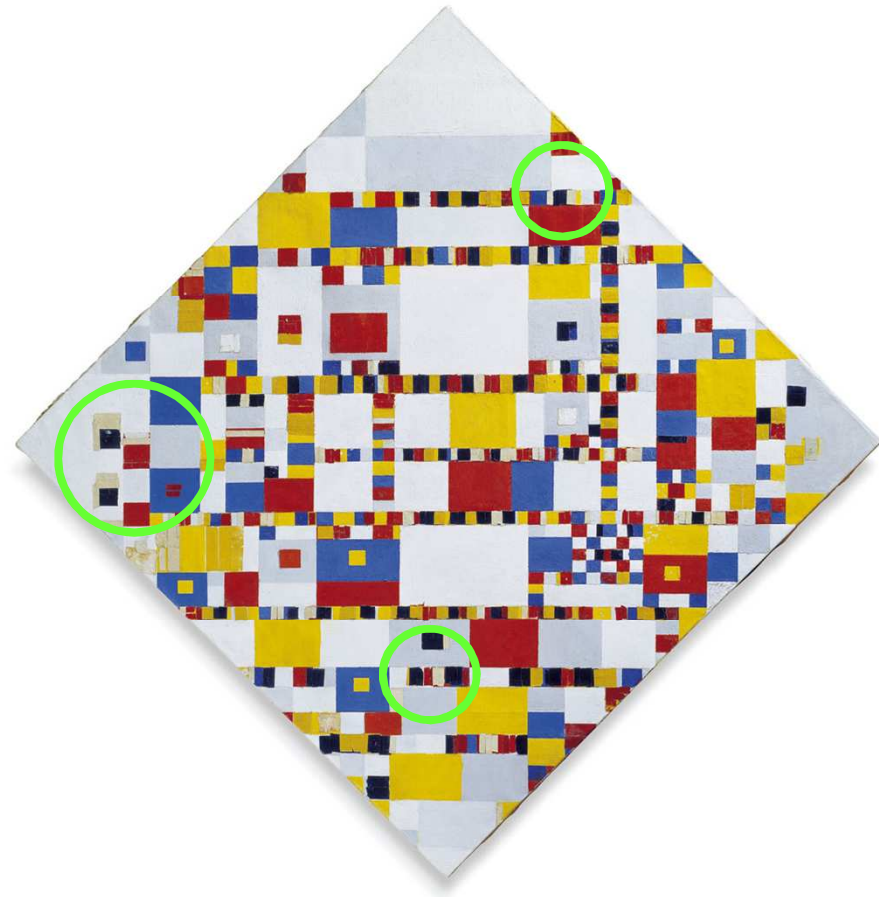
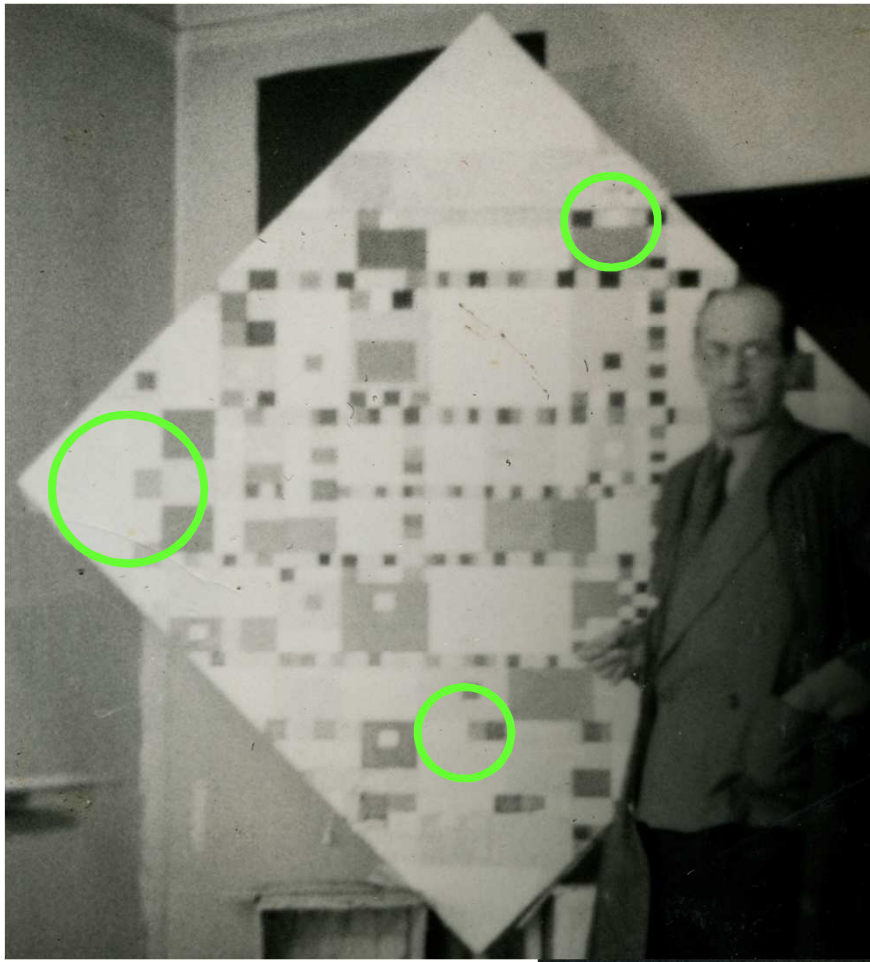


## Compositie grote vlakken





## Nieuw ontdekte foto







## Gebruik van tape, gedurende het hele proces





## Virtueel gestript

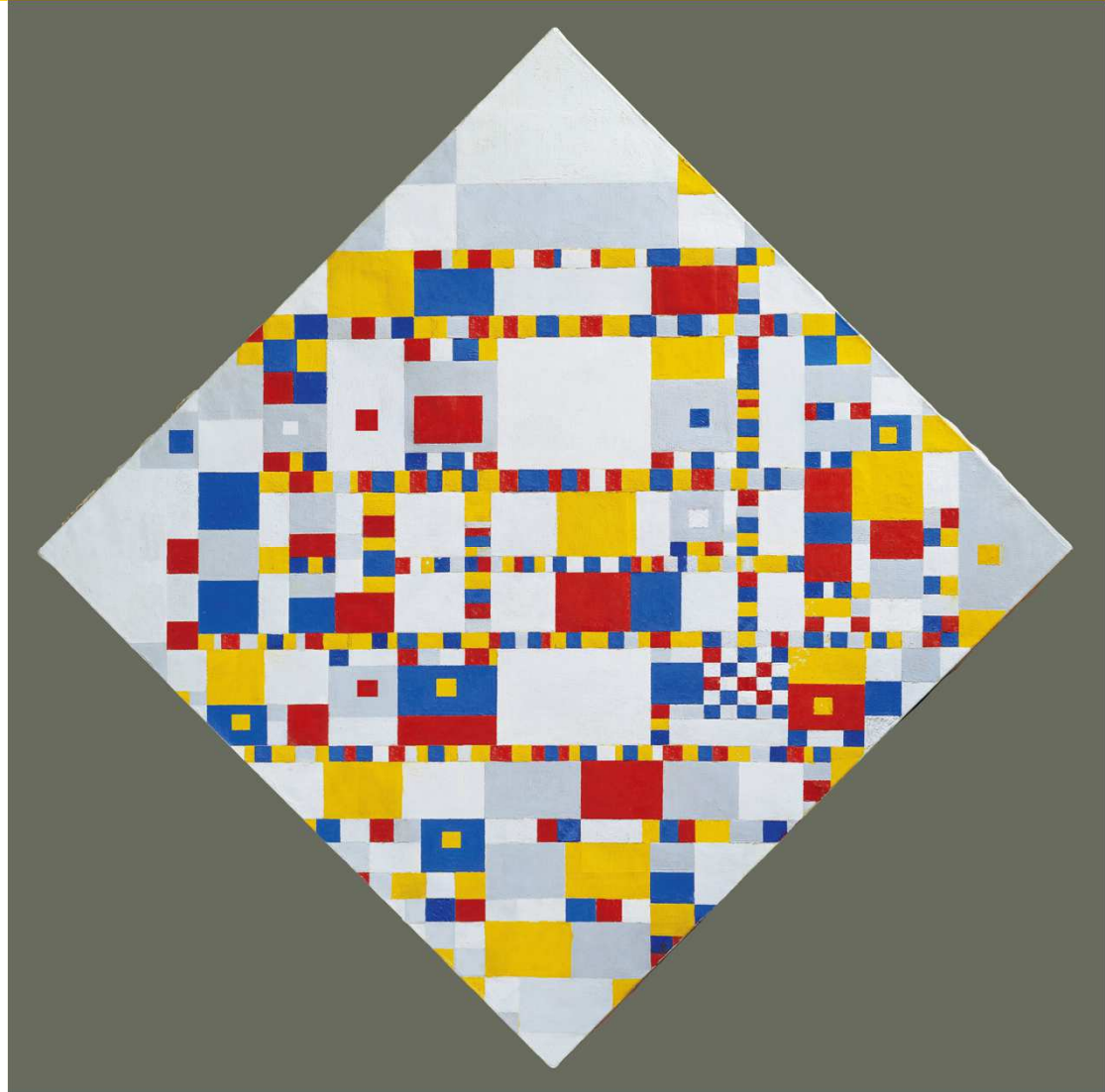
Snel werken

Doorbreekt kruisingen

Tegengesteld ritme

Hoe donkerblauwe  
tape te interpreteren?

Had hij ooit kunnen  
afronden?





## Eindresultaat

Mondriaan start met een basis, past dat radicaal aan en verfijnt vervolgens weer

Door het gebruik van nieuwe materialen komt hij tot nieuwe oplossingen maar ontstaan ook nieuwe problemen

- Doorbreekt ritme
- Witte achtergrond is niet meer aanwezig

Heel veel kennis verzameld

- Komt ten goede aan het object zelf
- Heeft impact op andere werken
- Directe toegepassing in Mondriaan restauratieproject





[www.cultureelerfgoed.nl](http://www.cultureelerfgoed.nl)

[www.gemeentemuseum.nl](http://www.gemeentemuseum.nl)