DUTCH COUNTERCULTURE
Provo and Dutch Counterculture
Dutch Second-Wave Feminism (Dolle Mina)

Provo was a Dutch counterculture movement active in 1965–1976 that sought to provoke violent responses from municipal authorities via non-violent methods and absurdist humor. Provo was founded on May 25, 1965, by anti-smoking activist and performance artist Robert Jasper Grootveld, together with the anarchist philosophers Roel van Duijn and Rob Stolk. It evolved from anti-smoking and anti-war happenings of the early 1960s, and would come to epitomize the Netherlands as a site of international protest and counterculture movements. The movement officially disbanded just two years later, on May 13, 1967, reacting to broad public sympathy and internal differences among members. Provo had been preceded by the Nozem subculture, and was followed by the hippie movement, the anarchist group Kabouters, various squatter movements, and ultimately Dutch Punk.

The present group contains complete runs of Provo’s major periodicals and pamphlet series, as well as a wide range of related publications by the “provotariat.” It documents Provo’s impact not only in Amsterdam, but in Brussels, Den Haag, Groningen, Maastricht, Rotterdam and elsewhere.

Finally, we offer a significant group of journals, publications, and ephemera documenting the important Dutch second-wave feminist group Dolle Mina (Mad Mina), named in honor of Dutch feminist Wilhelmina Drucker (1847–1925), including numerous broadsides and a complete run of the two feminist journals Evolutie and Borsing.

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The official mouthpiece of the anarchic countercultural Provo movement in the Netherlands, including contributions from Roel Van Duyn, Olaf Stoop, and Ab Pruis among others. Provo was used to promote and incite action for concrete social change. Heavily illustrated throughout with political cartoons and images from photographs. The Provo movement was known for its happenings, which were designed to attract police intervention, thereby inciting revolt and action by the municipal government. The group, heavily influenced by performance artist Robert Jasper Grootveld and the philosophy student Roel van Dujin, promoted numerous schemes for the betterment of society, one of the more famous being the White Bicycle Plan that strove to replace cars in the city center with free bicycles. The groups also disturbed Princess Beatrix’s wedding with a smoke bomb in protest to her fiancé’s membership to a Nazi youth group, and demonstrated against the Vietnam war. When the movement began to be accepted by mainstream culture, signified in 1967 with the election of a Provo representative, it was disbanded and a funeral was held to mark the occasion. (44387)

A scarce complete run in eight issues of the short-lived mimeographed Amsterdam Provo magazine, with contributions from Duco van Weerlee, Rob Stolk, Hans Tuynman, Peter Bronkhorst, Th. Holterman, Jan de Leeuw, Louis van Abcoude, and Nico van Apeldoorn, three of the issues each devoted to a single topic including a women's issue, a men's issue, and a special smoking issue.

As of September 2019, WorldCat locates only two holdings in North American institutions. (49038)

Complete run of the Dutch cultural and literary journal with a political edge, including artistic contributions from noted artists, illustrators, photographers, and cartoonists, such as Willem (Bernard Holtrop), Oscar de Wit, Taetske Hellinga, and Ed van der Elskens, with articles discussing topics such as the works of Bob Dylan and Jerzy Kosinski, and the legacy of Che Guevara.

As of September 2019, WorldCat locates three complete runs in North America. (43995)

Complete run of this Dutch anarchist-influenced political and satirical cartoon magazine, closely allied with the Provo movement. Each issue contains a number of provocative and often graphic cartoons depicting international political leaders and social issues. The graphic and provocative cartoons, by illustrators such as Willem (Bernard Willem Holtrop), Topor, and Midas, et. al., regularly led to issues being confiscated and movement members being arrested and prosecuted. In particular, the journal had a strong anti-monarchist bent and vocally opposed the marriage of Princess Beatrix and Claus von Amsberg.

As of September 2019, OCLC locates six holdings in North America, of which only one appears to be complete. (48224)
5. **Provokatie [Provocation], nos. 1–17.** Includes the original edition of Provokatie no. 3, featuring the image of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, later censored and replaced by red pencil annotation “censuur.” Amsterdam: Provo, 1965–1966. Various sizes and formats, mostly 33.8 × 21.5 cm, some smaller. Xeroxed text and image, as well as mimeographed typescript. Very good. **$2,000**

Complete series of these mimeographed and xerox-copied Provo tracts, distributed individually and with the journal Provo (as folded inserts). The third issue, which features the image of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, was self-censured by the group and replaced with the red “censuur.” Our set includes both versions, the censored and uncensored version. Number seven was officially censored, but is also included here. Number 5 contains Provo’s white bicycle plan, a campaign against inner-city traffic.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show two holdings in North America. (50148)
6. **Group of eight documents related to the short-lived Dutch counterculture movement.** Various cities, all circa 1966. Mostly A4 format (29.5 × 21 cm). Five broadsides with illustrations from drawings, cartoons, and photographs, three only typed text. Some minor creasing and toning. Loose as issued. $ 850

On topics including the Witte Scholenplan (White Schools Plan), a photography exhibition, protests, homosexuality, imperialism, the R.T.R. (Revolutionair Terroristische Raad), and animal activism, one with illustrations by Willem van Malsen. (48569)

A substantial run of what is surely one of the most visually appealing journals associated with the Provo movement, an underground magazine with colorful pictorial wrappers and inventively designed contents printed on variously colored paper stock. The publication was not meant to be sold and was created by various authors who each contributed a two-sided leaf of mimeographed text or images. The print run was 500 copies per issue.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show various issues at IISG Amsterdam, Amsterdam University, and Amherst. *Dam hapt* is not held in North America. (50149)

Nearly complete run of this scarce Flemish “paper of the Belgian provotariat” (no. 4 is a reprint of the first issue of Provo, published in Amsterdam and the third issue was never issued). From the cover: “REVO is voor provoos, anarchisten, ban-de-bommers, verdachten, outkatsts, individualisten en pop-fens. En tegen de kapitalisten, pastoors, TV-kijkers, politisikomisarisen, flaminganten, belastingontvangers, sollisitanten, pausen, gezachdragers, voor-huwelelsspaarsters stadsoutomobilisten, directeuren, arrivi-isten, natovrijwilligers, moeders-aan-de-haard en zebrapadloop-ers.”

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC show three holdings in North America (including one incomplete holding that consists only of a single issue). (50151)

Complete run in two issues of these fully illustrated pamphlets of cartoons, similar in style to those in “God, Nederland & Oranje.” Most images signed “KK”.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one holding in North America. (50161)

Rare publication of Provo in The Hague, a “subversive anarchist paper” that contains texts full of violent rhetoric and with the plan for a time bomb. Among the contents: “Demonstration against the Ministry of Defense. Against the murder of the individual.”

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one copy in North America. (50158)

Single issue of this Provo serial published in Den Haag, published by a workgroup titled “Haagse Happening” (Den Haag Happening). With contributions by Robert van Gemert, Anton Venselaar, Dolf Hartsuiker, A. van der Weele, J. de la Rie, Peter Walraven and others, with numerous satirical drawings (by Barney and others). As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one (incomplete) holding in North America. (50163)
12. [Jutte, Jacob] and International Provo. **Provo-pamflet A–F.**
   **International Provo. (All published).** [The Hague?], ca. 1969?. Six
   handbills, measuring 21.6 × 17.3 cm, with reproduced typescript
   and drawings. Fine. $ 450

Rare Provo handbills, in all likelihood issued in Den Haag, by
sympathizers of the Provo movement. One leaflet makes fun of
the right-wing newspaper “Telegraaf”, three others contain an-
ti-Vietnam photographs and caricatures.

As of September 2019, KVK, OCLC only show one holding world-
wide. (50152)

Scarce set of issues of this attractively designed Provo- and squatting-related periodical (“The other newspaper”) from the Dutch North (Friesland), published by Muskus Press.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one (incomplete) holding in North America. (50154)
14. **Scandal, nos. 0, 1–2, and 3 (of five published).** Groningen: self-published, 1966. Slim quartos (29.8 × 10.4 cm). Original staple-stitched decorative wrappers; mimeographed typescript to rectos and versos, often on color stock or using colored ink; ca. 20 pp. per issue. Very good. **$ 650**

Issue called 0 constitutes no. 1. Issue no. 1–2 (unnumbered) is complete with the match and the Hitler postal stamp to front wrapper verso. Of the first issue (no. 0), apparently 30 copies were confiscated by police. Among the authors were Thom Jaspers, Sjoerd Punter, Melle Siepel, Henry de Wolf and Kees van der Hoef.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one (incomplete) holding in North America.  (50155)
15. **Lynx, no. 4 (the peace issue)**. Maastricht, 1966–1967. Slim quarto (27.5 × 11 cm). Original staple-stitched illustrated wrappers; mimeographed typescript and xeroxed illustrations to rectos and versos; very good. **$ 125**

Single issue of this Provo serial published in Maastricht, with the same format as the original Amsterdam Provo periodical. The contributors included Yves van Kempen, Roelof Bos, Wim van Beers, Jaap J. Rosier, Nic Moust, Vic Willems, Jan Moling, Henk Scherff and others. One of the issues was LSD-themed and featured a small pouch of white powder inside...

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one (incomplete) holding in North America. (50162)

A scarce rival edition to the original Provo published by B. A. Lans, Jil, Renie, Vincent and Joost B. The front wrapper features the text “Provo is dood! Leve Provo!” (“Provo is dead! Long live Provo!”).

As of September 2019, KVK, OCLC only show two copies in North America. (50159)
[“PROGRESSIEF/SATIRISCH/AGRESSIEF”]


Scarce Provo-related periodical from the Dutch North (Friesland), subtitled “journal for the New Left.”

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one (incomplete) holding in North America. (50153)
A reprint in an edition of 400 copies of the first issue of *Provo* (1965), which had been largely confiscated. Also included is a handwritten note by the Provo admin Hans Metz thanking their subscriber and apologizing for the unavailability of the first issues: “nr. 1 is zoals u misschien weet in beslag genomen, en nrs. 2 en 3 zijn op.” (50169)
19. *Het slechtste uit “Provo”: een bloemlezing uit alle verschenen nummers van het tijdschrift “Provo”* [The worst from “Provo”: an anthology from all published issues of the magazine “Provo”]. [Amsterdam]: De Bezige Bij, 1969. Slim quarto (29.6 × 10.9 cm). Original decorative wrappers; 257 pp. About very good; tape repair to spine extremities; text beginning to detach from wrappers. $150

Uncommon anthology of texts of the original fifteen-volume journal *Provo*. (50168)

Scarce rival edition in the style of Provo serials, with similar contents and layout. The contributors include Ole Eshuis, Han Zuidhoek, Peter van Besouw, and Koos Zwart. One of 900 copies. Earlier issues had even lower print runs and are extremely scarce.

As of September 2019, KVK, OCLC only show a single holding in North America (only two issues). (50160)

Two issues of “In Dienst” (one duplicate) that were “confiscated” by Provo members and stamped with a large rubber stamp to the cover and issued as a “supplement” to the Provo journal. The stamp reads “Provo – Extra-Kleuren-Klere – Bijlage” (“Provo, extra-color supplement”).

Quite rare thus; as of September 2019 we cannot trace any copies through KVK and OCLC. (50167)

Single issue of this Amsterdam student journal, devoted to Provo and replicating the format of the Provo publications. With contributions by P. Blitz, Hans ten Dam, Roel van Duyn, Ewout van der Hoog, Otto Kamstra and many others.

As of September 2019, KVK, OCLC only show one copy in North America. (50206)

First and only edition. With a printed note indicating that the front wrapper is an original linocut print; with several mimeographed illustrations throughout the text.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show one copy in North America. (50166)

Nearly complete run of this Rotterdam-based Provo journal, which retains the format of the original Amsterdam Provo.

As of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show copies in Dutch institutional libraries. (50156)

Various issues of this striking Utrecht squatters journal, which retained its distinctive xerox aesthetic from the early 1980s into the new millenium. Most issues appear to be from the late 1990s/early 2000s.

Scarce in the trade and institutionally: as of September 2019, KVK and OCLC only show the holdings at Amsterdam’s IISG. (50164)

The Dolle Mina group was formed in late 1969 by a group of 19 male and female socialist activists, in order to highlight female inequality in Dutch society through playful and provocative public actions. It was both more playful and more radical in its approach than the feminist network Man-Vrouw-Maatschappij (Man-Woman-Society) founded in 1967. As a result, historian Alex J. Todd claims that “by the end of 1970, Dolle Mina counted a network of almost 5,000 activists across the Netherlands. This network was made possible by the growth of television in the 1960s and 1970s. On Saturday 24 January 1970 ... an estimated four million viewers ... watched Dolle Mina catcalling and harassing men in a gesture that attempted to subvert the widespread objectification of women on Amsterdam's streets. This action, the *nafluit-actie*, gained particular notoriety in the media, with the *New York Times* running an article the following May with the headline ‘Dutch Women’s Lib: Whistling at Men’”.

Among others, the group includes early manifestos and broadsides documenting the group’s actions, a scarce photo-publication documenting its invasion of a gynecology conference to protest for abortion rights, as well as a complete run of the Dolle Mina journal *Evolutie* (1970–1971). Also included are several later feminist documents, such as a complete run of the later radical feminist journal *Borsing* (1981). (50231)
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