Curriculum Vitae

Camille L.J.M. Oostwegel

10 February 1950 and brought up in Houthem-St. Gerlach at 'Casa Blanca' (South Limburg)

Education

- Hotel Management College, Maastricht (1969 - 1972)
- Funda and Lettre de Conduite in 1972

Work

1972:
Hotel "Les Mimosas" Tabarka-Tunisia (Assistant Director)

1972-1980:
First foreign employee at rising Novotel concern in France (now ACCOR: the largest hotel and catering enterprise in the world). Following work placements in Lyon, Orleans and Brussels, quickly promoted to "head of construction" and also development director and adviser for the first Novotel branches outside France; e.g. Antwerp, Luxemburg, Saarbrücken, Schiedam, Breda. Was the youngest ever Novotel director.

1980-present:
Function: Propriétaire-Fondateur and General Manager/Owner of Camille Oostwegel ChâteauHotels & -Restaurants.

Prélude

1979:
Initial negotiations regarding the derelict monumental country estate of St. Gerlach with Father Peters, then the parish priest in Houthem-St. Gerlach. Bequest to the church council by the late Baron Robert de Selys de Fanson.

Entrepreneurship

1980:
Takeover of Kasteel Erenstein in Kerkrade, which was losing a lot of money, major renovations, seventeenth century castle with moat. (Developer: Exploitatiemaatschappij Kasteel Erenstein B.V.)

1983:
Opening of Hotel Kasteel Erenstein (Hotel Brughof) with sauna & fitness centre. Camille Oostwegel was initiator and executor of the complete restoration of this authentic eighteenth century Limburg quadrangular farmhouse "De Brughof." (Hotel Kasteel Erenstein B.V.)

1984:
Takeover of Château Neercanne in Maastricht, which was losing a lot of money. Extensive renovations followed by major external restoration work, under the direction of Camille Oostwegel. The only sixteenth century terraced castle in the Benelux region. One year after takeover: awarded a Michelin star (Developer: Exploitatiemaatschappij Château Neercanne B.V.)

1986:
Opening of Hotel Winselerhof and the top Italian restaurant Pirandello. Camille Oostwegel was the initiator and executor of the very large-scale restoration work and additional construction work carried out on this original sixteenth century country house. (Developer: Exploitatiemaatschappij Winselerhof B.V.)

1987:
After renovations: opening of L'Auberge lunch restaurant in Maastricht (former Meuse-country renaissance 'Chapelle' at Château Neercanne), and own vineyard (Pinot Noir).

1989:
Camille Oostwegel took the initiative to carry out historical and archaeological research and restorations on the former baroque gardens of Château Neercanne; establishment of the Stichting Kasteeltuinen Neercanne. Received an award for this from Unesco and the European Commission. Opening of restored castle gardens (first, second and third terraces) on 9 July 1997 by the Provincial Governor of Limburg, B.J.M. Baron van Voorst tot Voorst.

1993-1995:
Restoration and creation of monumental cave complex at Château Neercanne. 250 m² of new caves (1000 tonnes of marl) carved into the Cannerberg hill ("Carrière Poswick"), construction of Orangerie.

Opening: June 1995.

1995:
First brick laid, marking the start of the restorations and extension of the castle, homestead and south wing of the St. Gerlach country estate in the Geul valley (sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth century top 10 monument of the Netherlands). Completed on 1 March 1997.

(Developers: Exploitatiemaatschappij Restaurant Château St. Gerlach B.V., Exploitatiemaatschappij Hotel Château St. Gerlach B.V. and Landgoed Corneli B.V)

1997:
15 September, official opening of Château St. Gerlach by mr. Pieter van Vollenhoven.

1998:
15 September, celebration of 300 years of Château Neercanne with a theatrical performance featuring the most important historical figures, such as Baron van Dopff, Czar Peter the Great, Freule Poswick and Queen Beatrix. The organisation of an exhibition in the Bonnefanten museum of portraits of Governors from Maastricht, borrowed from the Fasanerie hunting lodge in Fulda (Germany).

1996/1997/1998:
Restyling of the suites at Hotel Brughof, rooms and suites at Hotel Winselerhof and the restaurants at Château Neercanne and Kasteel Erenstein.

1999:
- Extension and completion of open kitchen at the Bistrot de Liège.
- Extension and completion of the 'Tea room la Serre,' and the restyling of the lobby at Hotel Brughof.
- 30 April: opening of the Princess Juliana rose garden at the St. Gerlach country estate by mr. A. van Agt, provincial governor B.J.M. Baron van Voorst tot Voorst and Mayor C. Nuytens.
- 31 August: presentation of monograph on the St. Gerlach country estate, produced in

collaboration with the Netherlands Department for Conservation of Historic Buildings and Sites (Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg).
- At the initiative of Camille Oostwegel, Maastricht/South Limburg is included in the renowned series of Capitoolgidsen (Capitol guides).

2000:
- 1 September: presentation of the gastronomic book 'Les cuisines de Camille' (Camille's Kitchens) to mark the occasion of the 20 year anniversary. The first copy is presented to André Rieu.
- In December, initial negotiations commenced with the Municipality of Maastricht regarding the restoration of the Kruisheren complex. Camille Oostwegel takes the initiative to restore the derelict gothic cloister complex and to turn it into a hotel garni with 60 hotel rooms.

2001:
- The Europa Nostra congress took place in South Limburg in March. His Royal Highness Prince Hendrik of Denmark (President of Europa Nostra) stayed at Château St. Gerlach and visited Maastricht. During Europa Nostra, Camille Oostwegel announced to the press that he intended to restore the Kruisheren cloister.
- April: the launch of the Capitoolgids (Capitol guide) to Maastricht and South Limburg (April 2005 saw the release of the eighth edition).
- October/November: extension of the Garden Pavilion at Château St. Gerlach (doubling its capacity).

2002:
- In February, the European Central Bank held its annual meeting in Maastricht. Dr. W. Duisenberg and the Central Bankers stayed at Château St. Gerlach and planted trees alongside the "Euro avenue."
- 1 March: the opening of Luigi´s Trattoria lunch restaurant in the historic vaulted room at Hotel Winselerhof.

2003:
- 29 March: presentation of restoration and refit plans for the Kruisheren cloister complex in Maastricht.
- 15 September: opening of the completely renovated restaurant at Kasteel Erenstein. Restaurant Erenstein has been given a more informal, affordable and contemporary formula.
- 3 December: OSCE Summit at Château Neercanne.
- 8 December: the first brick was laid, marking the start of the restoration and refit of the Kruisheren cloister complex in Maastricht.

2004:
- As the President of Europa Nostra, HRH Prince Hendrik of Denmark visited the Kruisheren complex during the restoration work (March 2004).
- July–December 8: European Summit conferences held at Château St. Gerlach and Château Neercanne.
- July and October: Crown Prince Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands visited Château Neercanne and Château St. Gerlach.
- The highest point of the restorations of the Kruisheren cloister complex was reached on 5 November.
- Various high-ranking European conferences at Château St. Gerlach and Château Neercanne within the framework of the Dutch Presidency of the European Union, including the Gymnich summit led by the then Dutch Foreign Affairs Minister, Dr B. Bot.

2005:
- 25th anniversary of Camille Oostwegel Château Hotels & Restaurants
- January: Michelin-star for Restaurant Château St. Gerlach
- 1 May: Start of operation of Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht
- 7/8 May: visit of US president George W. Bush to the St. Gerlach estate. The president and his First Lady Laura Bush stayed 16 hours at St. Gerlach (including an overnight stay). The US Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, was another member of the White House staff in attendance. On 8 May, Dutch Prime Minister Mr Balkenende and Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Bot met with the American president and his staff in the Selys de Fanson room.
- 4 September: Official opening of the Kruisheren Hotel and 25th anniversary celebrations.
Jonkheer Victor de Stuers prize for the successful restoration of the Kruisheren Hotel.
- 8 November: First prize in the European Hotel Design award for Best Architecture (conversion, restoration or refurbishment), presented in London.

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- 6 December: Visit of HRH Prince Willem-Alexander to the Kruisheren Hotel.

2006:
- 21 March: Best Alumni Performance Award 2006, awarded by the Hoge Hotelschool Maastricht (Maastricht Hotel Management School)
- 23 March: Goltziuspenning (Goltzius medal) for preservation of cultural heritage, presented at the Limburg Museum in Venlo

2007:
- 31 January: French distinction “Le Trophée des Renommées d’Or du Tourisme International 2007” awarded to Camille Oostwegel Château Hotels & Restaurants (with a special mention for the restoration of Château Neercanne and the Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht). This prize was accompanied by the “Diplôme de Mérite et de Prestige National” for the founder, Camille Oostwegel himself.
- 19 April: Bouwfonds Award for Vital Monuments 2007 (category large-scale projects) awarded to Kruisheren Hotel and as a prize for the complete establishment.
- 26 April: Presentation of the book “Alles moet bevochten worden’’. A portrait of Camille Oostwegel, written by Rosalie Sprooten and John Hoenen.
- 8 June: Dutch Hotel Award awarded to the team of Château St. Gerlach. Hereby Château St. Gerlach may be called “Best leaded hotel of the Netherlands’’ for a year.
- 9 June: Opening Kommelterrace at the Kruisheren Hotel.

2008:
- 16 April: Madeleine Albright visited the Kruisherenhotel Maastricht
- 3 September: French Minister Christine Boutin visited the Kruisherenhotel Maastricht
- 9 October: Mr. Oostwegel wins Dutch Gastronomic Award, NCK Uncle Ben’s Ring 2008
- 7 November: Silver Award Prix d’Hôtel et Lodge, category Designhotels for the Kruisherenhotel Maastricht
- 14 November: former President Michaël Gorbatschov visited Kasteel Erenstein
- 28 November: presentation of the book “Joie de vivre” in which the hotels and the restaurants are described and it contains portraits of the chefs.

2009:
- 17 February: Mr. Oostwegel wins the award “Worteletruuj” for his contribute to the cultural heritage in the South of Limburg.
- March – June: Support as Honorair Consul of France to get the Grand Animal de Maestricht, the Mosasaurus Hoffmani, of the Museum National d’Histoire Naturelle in Paris on loan for the Natuurhistorisch Museum in Maastricht.
- 10 and 11 June : Château St. Gerlach welcomes the ministers of defence of 8 countries (United States of America, Canada, Great Britain, Denmark, Estonia, Rumania, Australia and Netherlands).

- November: Gault Millau Award for the most beautiful terrace of the Netherlands (terrace of the year)

2010:
- 30th anniversary of Camille Oostwegel Château Hotels & Restaurants
- January: Horeca Award 2009 for Château Neercanne
- November: Gault Millau Award for Kruisherenhotel Maastricht for “best hotel of the year”

2011:
- 1st of May: Mr. Oostwegel receives the award “Le Muguet” for his contribute to the strengthening of the French language and culture in Maastricht
- 26th of September: Mr. Oostwegel receives the French distinction “Officier dans l’Ordre National du Mérite” by the ambassador of France in the Netherlands, Mr. Pierre Ménat

2012:
- 2 February: “Ton Koot penning”, Mr. Oostwegel receives this award for his contribute to maintenance of the heritage and his example function
- 1st June: Officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau
- 24th June: Grand Chambellan D'Honneur of the Harmonie St.Petrus en Paulus ("De Greun") Wolder, Maastricht

2013:
- 24 April: “Gouden Asperge” and Membre d’Honneur Confrérie de l’Asperge Limbourgondië

Extra curricular activities

- Founder of Amphitryon choir in 1971 (Burgundian choir)
- Former chairman of the culture department of the student society Amphitryon
- Former executive board member of the Association for Hotel Management College Graduates in the Netherlands
- Former member of the board of governors of the Hotel Management Colleges in The Hague and Maastricht
- Former chairman of the Limburg Association of Hotel Restaurant and Catering Employers (Horecaf) from 1983 to 1993
- Former member of the Advisory Council of the Provincial Tourist Board for Limburg
- Former general executive board member of the Hotel Management College in Maastricht
- Former executive board member of the Limburg concert choir
- Former executive board member of the Stichting achtste eeuwfeest St. Gerlach (St. Gerlach eighth century celebrations foundation)
- Former executive board member of the Benelux restaurateurs organisation “Les Etapes du Bon Gout”
- 1992-1996: chairman of the board of governors of the St. Gerlach primary School (Houthem-St. Gerlach)
- From 1989 to 2003, secretary of the Stichting Kasteeltuinen Neercanne (Neercanne Castle Gardens Foundation)
- Member of Europa Nostra (European Monumental Heritage)
- Member of Castella (Benelux Monumental Heritage)
- Member of Thomas More (study association)
- Provost-General of the St. Martinus Shooting Club in Houthem-St. Gerlach
- Chevalier du Tastevin (1987) / Commandeur du Tastevin (2004) Nuits-St. Georges France

- Host to H.M. Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and European Heads of Government on the occasion of a state banquet marking the signing of the Treaty of Maastricht in 1991 at Château Neercanne.
- Member of painting association of the Province of Limburg
- 1992 Official visit of the Romanov family to Château Neercanne (Pretenders to the Russian throne) of the occasion of 275th anniversary of Czar Peter the Great's visit to Château Neercanne.
- 1996–2004 Member of the General Board of Limburg Employers Association.
- Host to the Secretary-General Mr. mr. J.H.E. Solana, the Ministers of Defence and Generals from the NATO countries at Château St. Gerlach during the NATO Summit (Maastricht) in 1997.
  Special guest during the gala dinner:
  Mr I.D. Sergeyev, Russian Minister of Defence
  Mr Cohen, United States Minister of Defence
- Member of the Advisory Board of the Streekmuseum Land van Valkenburg (Regional Museum of the Land of Valkenburg)
- Member of the College of trustees of the Stichting Wagner-de Wit (Wagner-de Wit Foundation), Maastricht
- Executive Board member of the Stichting Museum aan het Vrijthof (Museum Foundation) in Maastricht, since 1998
- President of the Stichting Museum aan het Vrijthof (Museum Foundation) in Maastricht, since 2006
- Executive Board member of the Stichting Wyck Cultuur en Boek (Wyck Culture and Book Foundation)
- Executive Board member of the organisers of the Stichting Festival d'Artagnan (D'Artagnan Festival Foundation) in Maastricht
- Executive Board member of the Stichting Monumentaal Erfgoed Limburg (Limburg Monumental Heritage Foundation)
- Honorary Executive Board member of the Royal St. Cécile Brass Band in Eijsden
- Capitaine Lieutenant van de Compagnie des Mousquetaires d'Armagnac
- Member of the Société Littéraire de Liège
- Patron of the Ondergronds Kerkenpad (underground chapel route: conventicles dating from the French Revolution, within the caves of Valkenburg and Maastricht)
- Membre d'Honneur du Comité de France (honorary member) since 31 January 2007.
- « Quartermaster » branding south Limburg.
- President of the Advisory Board of Contributors for the "Stichting Regiobranding Zuid-Limburg" (Foundation of Region Branding south Limburg) since 3 November 2009.
- Member of Commission Geulpoort (restoration of the historic gate in the centre of Valkenburg aan de Geul)
- Membre correspondant du Comité de l'Europe pour les Études et Informations Parlementaires (CEEIP) (August 2011)
- Stichting Cultureel Programma WK Wielrennen (2012)
- I.s.m. Ontwikkelingsmaatschappij Parkstad Limburg president of the Advisory Board strengthening of the Leisure in the south of Limburg, advisory and implementation of the leisure project together with Stichting LED and Provincie Limburg (ever since november 2012)
- Membre d'Honneur Confrérie de l'Asperge Limbourgondië (24 April 2013)

Decorations and Prizes

- Companion of the Order of Orange-Nassau: awarded on 15 September 1997 by the Provincial Governor of Limburg, mr. B.J.M. Baron Van Voorst tot Voorst.
- Best restaurant of the year award (Gouden Pollepel) – Avant-garde prize
- N.B.T. Promotion prize
- Gouden Jeneverbes prize
- Dutch Host of the Year
- Royal Dutch Hotel, Restaurant and Catering Award for Limburg

- Europa NOSTRA Award, awarded by His Royal Highness Prince Hendrik of Denmark on 28 January 1999 in Paris.
- The Limburg Award 2000
- Délégué d'Europa Nostra pour les Pays-Bas (Europa Nostra Delegate for the Netherlands) (2004)
- Ordo Nobili Papegayi (Antwerp 2005)
- Victor de Stuers Monument Prize, City of Maastricht (September 2005)
- European Hotel Design Award for the Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht (London, November 2005)
- Nominated for MIPIM Award (Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht) on 16 March 2006 in Cannes (France)
- Best Alumni Performance Award 2006, awarded by the Hoge Hotelschool Maastricht (Maastricht Hotel Management School) on 21 March 2006
- Goltziuspenning (Goltzius medal) 2006 for preservation of cultural heritage, presented at the Limburg Museum in Venlo on 23 March 2006
- Nominated for the Prix Villégiature (Paris) in the category "Best Interior Design Europe" (2006).
- Nominated for Greatest Limburgian of All Time in de category "Entrepreneurs" (2006). For more information: http://www.l1.nl/
- French distinction "Le Trophée des Renommées d'Or du Tourisme International 2007" awarded to Camille Oostwegel Château Hotels & Restaurants (with a special mention for the restoration of Château Neercanne and the Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht). This prize was accompanied by the "Diplôme de Mérite et de Prestige National" for the founder, Camille Oostwegel himself (31 January 2007).
- Bouwfonds Award Vital Monuments 2007 for the Kruisheren Hotel Maastricht and as a prize for the complete establishment (19 April 2007)
- Dutch Hotel Award 2007 for the team of Château St. Gerlach (8 June 2007)
- Dutch Gastronomic Award, NCK Uncle Ben's Ring 2008 (October 2008)
- Silver Award Prix d'Hôtel et Lodge, category Designhotels for the Kruisherenhotel Maastricht (November 2008)
- Dutch "Worteletruuj" award for his contribute to the cultural heritage in the South of Limburg (February 2009).
- Award "Le Muguet" for his contribute to the strengthening of the French language and culture in Maastricht (May 2011)
- French distinction "Officier dans l'Ordre National du Mérite" (September 2011)
- Dutch distinction "Officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau" (1st June 2012)
- Grand Chambellan D'Honneur of the Harmonie St.Petrus en Paulus ("De Greun") Wolder, Maastricht (24 June 2012)
- "Gouden asperge" (24 April 2013)

July 2002: Appointed Honorary Consul of France in Maastricht

Miscellaneous

Board of Management Camille Oostwegel Holding B.V.:
▪ Mr. P. Elverding, Chairman of the Board since 2009
▪ Mr. J.W. Janvier, commissioner since 2006
▪ Mr. T.A. Goedmakers, commissioner since 2012

Adviser:
▪ Mr Th. J. Coonen (Orange - France) since 1971

Accountancy:
▪ Deloitte & Touche in Maastricht

Bank:
▪ ING Bank - Heerlen

Supplying Brewery:
▪ Brand Bierbrouwerij B.V. in Wijlre

Notaries:
▪ Ritzen and Smeets notaries, Kerkrade