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With the institution in 1979 of the Mondrian Lecture, a public lecture to be held every two years, the Sikkens Foundation contributed to the debate about the cultural significance of color. Attention was specifically devoted to the way in which color, the development of color and the theory of color was used and thought about in the visual arts, science and technology. Giving these lectures the name of Piet Mondrian was intended in the first place to honor that artist, but also to express the fact that the foundation wished to devote continuing attention to problems in modern art which were raised at a very early stage by Mondrian in his works and in his theoretical reflections. The immediate intention of the Piet Mondrian Lecture was to establish inspirational confrontations between Dutch cultural life, on the one hand, and national and foreign scientists and artists, on the other hand.