

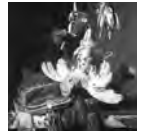
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**Still Life Paintings
of Willem van Aelst**

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The Netherland-America Foundation
SPRING 2012 NEWS

naaf

The Preservation of Public Housing: A Perspective from The Netherlands



afb. Collective garden in
Amsterdam-Buitenveldert
Photo credit: cantua.nl, Biografie
Mien Ruys, Nieuwsbrief Nr.3,
Oktober 2007

Following World War II, the United States and Europe sought to address the dire need for public and affordable housing through new building. The decades after the war saw the development of many innovative design, construction and social arrangements. This legacy represents an important part of our collective architectural and cultural heritage, but its preservation is plagued by many practical and social issues.

DOCOMOMO US, 2012

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THE NAF

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OUR MISSION

Building on the enduring heritage and values shared between the peoples of the Netherlands and the United States, the Netherland-America Foundation seeks to further strengthen the bonds between our two countries through exchange in the arts, sciences, education, business and public affairs.

The NAF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by U.S. federal and state tax laws. The NAF welcomes membership by individuals and corporations.

Contributions to the NAF made by Dutch-resident individuals may be eligible for a full deduction against the individual's Dutch personal income tax, at a maximum Box 1 rate of 52%.

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from the chairman



Ennius E. Bergsma

Dear Members,

This will be my last newsletter message as Chairman of the NAF, a role in which I had the privilege to serve since June of 2004. When I took over from Lane Grijns, Chairman from 1998 to 2004, we were well along with a strategic planning effort, chaired by Theo Prudon, that resulted in the formal adoption of a plan in our September 14, 2004 Board meeting. While some of the ambitious aspirations needed to be scaled back when they met reality, the plan did provide the impetus for many initiatives that since have become established elements of the NAF, such as the expansion of the organization beyond the greater New York area, our graphic "house style", our programs to stay connected to our Fulbright Fellows and loan recipients, seeking to provide benefit to members while supporting cultural initiatives, expanded grant and loan support, the production of national tours, the establishment of an IT infrastructure to cost-effectively serve a growing network of chapters, improved budgeting and financial controls and strengthened finances, despite the 2008 meltdown.

Jan Joosten, our Secretary, led the expansion via chapters, resulting in an agreement signed in December 2004 between the Foundation and the Netherlands-American Amity Trust (NAAT) in Washington, D.C., establishing the **Washington D.C. Chapter** of the NAF. The first initiative was the resumption of an annual dinner in Washington, which had been suspended in 1998. In anticipation of the eventual agreement, the first NAF Awards Dinner in D.C. was held in April 2003 with William Tucker as Chairman.

In 2005, the NAF redesigned its graphic presentation for all communications—web, email bulletins and the NAF Newsletters and Annual Review. The Foundation's presence in Washington, D.C. increased with the addition of regular NAF lunch meetings. Also during this year, the **Dutch Chicago Business Exchange**, headed by Andrew Enschedé, was established with regular breakfast and lunch meetings.

Agreement was reached in 2006 with the Dutch-American Heritage Foundation in Los Angeles to become the **Southern California Chapter** of the Foundation. Dick van Hoepen, organizer of their Dutch American Heritage Day Gala, joined the Board. Dick and his wife Yvonne established the immensely popular Princess Christina Concours Concert tour, traveling to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver and, in more recent years, to Washington, D.C. A new **Northern California Chapter** was established, first led by Inez Hollander, who was succeeded by Pauline Schrooyen. The chapter has undertaken an ambitious series of local events, initially focused on entrepreneurship and innovation, many in cooperation with the Consulate of the Netherlands in San Francisco.

Also in 2006, the NAF's first national lecture series, featuring historian Geert Mak was organized with lectures in Washington, D.C., Boston, Holland, MI, Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York. The series served as a model for producing high value programming across chapters. Late in 2006, the NAF lost its former Chairman, Maarten van Hengel, who had served in that role from 1994 to 1998. Upon his death, the NAF received a large bequest from his estate, which funds the *Maarten van Hengel Study Loan Program* for interest-free loans to highly qualified Dutch and American students. These loans are increasingly necessary as costs of education continue to rise well ahead of inflation.

Prior to the establishment of a **Boston Chapter** in 2007, its eventual chair and member of the Foundation's board, Hans Gieskes, orchestrated the alignment of several partly overlapping Dutch American organizations, including a forum for discussing business topics. When Hans stepped aside in 2011, in part due to his new role as honorary Consul General of the Netherlands in Boston, Jos Scheffelaar assumed leadership and expanded the already ambitious schedule of networking events. Home to many Dutch academics, Boston and Harvard was the site of a two-day seminar that explored how Dutch Academia may better tap into the experience and know-how of Dutch academics in the United States. The seminar was spearheaded by Gajus Scheltema, Consul General in New York, with support from the NAF.

In Western Michigan, home to a large population of Dutch American ancestry, a chapter was established in early 2009 on the initiative of NAF Director J.C. Huizenga. In the same year, following the examples in Chicago, Boston, Northern and Southern California, Naboth van den Broek initiated the **NAF-Biz Washington D.C. Committee** which organizes business networking meetings amongst the large number of Dutch professionals in that international community. Similarly, a **NAF-Biz New York Committee** was started by Jacob Willemsen, which has organized

numerous events (in English), often with prominent Dutch speakers.

Also, 2009 was the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's journey to these shores. The NAF made significant contributions to the success of the year-long celebration, initiating and securing some of the key cultural events, including *The Worlds of Henry Hudson* exhibition at the Museum of the City of New York. We organized the *Transatlantic Dialogue: Dutch American Insights on Learning and Society*, with direct satellite connection between panels and audiences in New York orchestrated by the NAF and in Amsterdam by the Fulbright Center, and supported the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg's seminal production *Four Centuries of Dutch American Relations, 1609-2009*. NAF Director Bas NieuweWeme and Gaius Voutê organized 400 Dutch runners in the 2009 ING New York City Marathon to raise funds for NAF-Fulbright fellowships for research in childhood cancer. Equally productive was the agreement with the Duisenberg school of finance to offer two NAF-Fulbright Fellowships annually. The NAF thus began to diversify its sources of funding, another objective of its Strategic Plan.

Over the course of 2009 and 2010, the Investment Committee, led by Maarten van Hengel, Jr., reviewed and updated the NAF's Investment Policies to better reflect the new economic realities and, following a rigorous review process, selected two investment managers whose styles were deemed to provide more comprehensive diversification and risk management of our assets than the NAF traditionally had needed. The professionalism of the NAF's investment management should reassure prospective donors.

2010 saw the ambitious 13-city tour of Rembrandt authority Ernst van de Wetering, co-presented by the Foundation and the Otto Naumann Gallery of New York, further testimony to the NAF's ability to produce national tours. Also in 2010, former Peter Stuyvesant Ball Chairman, Mark Pigott, Chairman of PACCAR Inc, owner of DAF Trucks,

established the *Pigott Family Education Fund*, making study loans available to NAF-Fulbright Fellows. Along with the *Maarten Van Hengel Study Loan Program*, this fund provides additional financing for Dutch and American NAF-Fulbright Fellows.

Throughout these years, two **NAF Alumni Committees** have been active, one in the Netherlands, headed by Margje Lafourcade-Haverkamp and one in the United States, headed by Renée Joosten. Current and former NAF-Fulbright fellows and recipients of NAF study loans gather periodically at cultural or social events, and thus continue to build on the relationships established during the exchange. The development of strong networks between future leaders is essential for a continued close relationship between our countries.

In 2011, the Foundation celebrated its 90th anniversary, kicked off with the NAF Heritage Society Luncheon in May, and culminating at the 30th Peter Stuyvesant Ball in November, sponsored by Rabobank International, itself celebrating 30 years in the United States. In the interim, Professor Hendrik Edelman wrote *The Netherland-America Foundation, A History: 1921-2011*. This definitive history of the NAF is currently on the press and will be available to members shortly. On behalf of Professor Edelman, I thank all who contributed to this effort. In December, 2011, the Samuel Freeman Charitable Trust awarded the NAF's Education Committee a substantial grant to be used for further expanding its study loan program.

During the summer and fall, a debate erupted about the role of chapters, triggered by the financial success to date of the Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C. While the NAF structured its Education and Cultural Committees to have subject matter expertise and geographic diversity, several members from D.C. felt that the local chapter should have direct control over part of the funds it generates. This debate was generalized to include the role of chapters vis-à-vis a national organization. A framework was agreed to where, after

meeting some threshold, a chapter will be able to designate part of its net revenues to local programs and charities. Also, the Governance Committee was asked to review the governance needs of the NAF and the role of the Board, the Executive Committee, other committees and their composition. Our Foundation is different from eight years ago. We are less centralized, and more networked via our chapters. Strengthening and further expanding this network, while maintaining cohesion, will be the challenge of the next few years.

On February 5th, 2012 the NAF lost yet another one of its most respected and committed Board and Executive Committee members, Fred G. Peelen. Chairman of the Peter Stuyvesant Ball Organizing Committee since 2004, Fred dedicated untold numbers of hours to the NAF. We mourn his loss.

Let me close by taking this opportunity to thank my fellow members of the Executive Committee, the Board, our Royal Patrons, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, you, our NAF members, donors, volunteers, and friends, and last but not least, our excellent professional staff, for making our progress over these past eight years possible. Together, we have built an expanded national network, dramatically increased programs and activities, broadened our funding and laid a solid base for going forward. My successor will have ample opportunity to continue shaping the NAF to become the more effective and impactful organization that is needed. I am confident that you will give him or her the same terrific level of support that you have given me!

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Chair over the last eight years and I look forward to continue seeing many of you at future NAF events!

Ennius E. Bergsma
Chairman

The Preservation of Public Housing: A Perspective from The Netherlands

On Saturday, March 31, 2012, the Fitch Colloquium at Columbia University brought together a panel of American and international experts to discuss preservation of post World War II affordable and public housing. The Netherland-America Foundation provided funding for Professor Dirk van den Heuvel from the Department of Architecture at TU Delft to participate in the sessions. Following is a conversation between Theodore H.M. Prudon, Professor in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University and Chairman of the Foundation's Cultural Committee and Dirk van den Heuvel.



Dirk van den Heuvel

Theodore H.M. Prudon:

Can you address the difference between pre- and postwar public housing in the Netherlands? It would seem that most prewar projects were generally low-rise, while much of the later building stock is high-rise. Is that also an issue in its use and demographics?

Dirk van den Heuvel:

This is a common misconception. In fact, the vast majority of postwar housing concerns low-rise row houses of two stories high plus an attic space, and front and back gardens. They were built everywhere throughout the Netherlands, from the smallest village in the country to the suburbs of Amsterdam: an ordinary, modest house type which the Dutch call a 'doorzonwoning' (something like a floor through house) and which does not translate very easily into English, I'm afraid. Usually 5,40m (18 feet) wide with two bays, one narrow bay containing the hallway and toilet at the front and kitchen at the rear, the other bay of about 3,60m (12 feet) wide for the living and dining space. They are still in high demand.

Of course, in the larger towns and cities like Amsterdam many high-rise slabs were built too, and in the public eye these modern structures represented the image of postwar progress and welfare for all. This was certainly so in the case of such prestigious, large-scale projects as the Bijlmermeer, a new town. Yet, the Bijlmermeer and its vast honeycomb shaped slabs were an exception and were already criticized when they were built. The new town of Almere, which was planned while the Bijlmermeer was being constructed, was planned according to an entirely different model of low-rise blocks with a high density, mimicking the urban structure of the Amsterdam working-class neighborhoods.

The one big, fundamental difference between pre- and postwar housing in Holland concerns the urban configuration. Generally speaking, prewar housing used the closed perimeter block as its model with a clear



Early example of the Dutch 'doorzonwoning', or mass produced, row houses in the town of Delft, 1951, designed by the Rotterdam architect Willem van Tijen (1894-1974).



Early example of the Dutch 'doorzonwoning', or mass produced, row houses in the village of Rheden, 1949, designed by the Rotterdam architect Willem van Tijen (1894-1974).



Bijlmermeer, Amsterdam
Photo credit: Design as Politics,
The first Chair at the Architecture Faculty
of Delft University of Technology,
led by Wouter Vanstiphout,
"Retopia Bijlmermeer",
May 25, 2010

separation between a public street and an inner courtyard only accessible to the block's inhabitants. Postwar housing on the other hand deployed open block typologies with vast, public green spaces in between the rows of houses and the slabs with its walkup flats. The most representative examples were the new districts of Pendrecht in Rotterdam, or the Western Garden Cities in Amsterdam. High-rise slabs became more prominent only from the mid 1960s onward due to a powerful and innovative construction industry that succeeded in forcing architects and city planners to follow the logics of massive, industrialized building systems. The industry's grip on national planning collapsed after the first oil crisis and subsequent housing crisis in Holland during the 1970s.

The trouble with the open block configuration is that not only public safety but also the *sense* of safety becomes an issue. In many renovation projects these open, collective greens are being recaptured, fenced in and transformed into private spaces.

Most of the prewar public housing was developed by mutual benefit societies (cooperative housing societies), in which tenants were akin to shareholders in a corporation and had a vested interest. Have ownership models for postwar housing changed and has public housing become truly "public", that is, owned or operated by a government agency? How did that change public housing, its use or perception?

The overall image is much more varied, certainly when one considers the neo-liberal politics of the mid-1990s and onward, which saw the politics of a so-called 'retreating government' in the Netherlands and the subsequent privatization of the housing corporations. This allowed them to also develop commercial projects, while still being responsible for providing affordable housing. The former, locally organized societies merged into regional conglomerates, each of which may control as much as tens of thousands of houses, especially in the western part of the country. The latest change of policy by our current right-wing government is the introduction of a new law that gives all tenants a right to buy.

Postwar housing deployed open block typologies with vast, public green spaces in between the rows of houses...



Pendrecht, Rotterdam.
Photo credit: Architectureguide.nl,
Pendrecht, C.I.A.
Stam Beese, 1949-1953

Regarding the shift of housing policies after WWII and the management of the social housing stock in relation to the prewar societies, one might observe how at the time a former war economy enabled governments to gain almost full control of housing construction and distribution. This happened throughout all of Western Europe and for good reasons. Yet again, at the end of the 1960s, early 1970s, when the welfare state institutions were all firmly established to great economic success, the national economic model started to shift. Larger corporations began to outsource their production to low-wage countries and new waves of migration started to come to Western Europe in general and also to Holland. Usually, the first opportunities for the new migrants to find a home were either in the dilapidated, inner-city neighborhoods, which had been abandoned by the Dutch working classes or in the newly built, large-scale social housing estates, of which the Amsterdam Bijlmermeer became probably the most notorious example. In hindsight, one might argue that the Western European welfare state model was not prepared for the arrival of so many newcomers and the changes it would bring. It is also a point Tony Judt made in his monumental history of postwar Europe: the

most successful welfare states were smaller nations with a relatively homogeneous population. Migration flows upset the delicate balance between unions, middle classes and the private élites.

How have the demographics of public housing changed over the years and is the change in perception tied into that?

Of course, demographics tend to direct perception and hence intervention (either full scale demolition or renovation). It is probably much too strong a statement to say that there is reluctance by the decision-makers in dealing with an overall Moroccan and Turkish community, but there surely is a strong negative populist view in Holland today, even in Amsterdam, particularly with regard to the Western Garden Cities where most Muslims live. Cultural differences, between ethnic groups, but surely between the urban élites and the new lower classes currently make up a very complicated social context, and very different from the egalitarian and homogeneous model of the earlier welfare state. Within this politically charged context, architectural quality of the existing housing stock is, unfortunately, hardly ever a real issue that concerns policy-makers. Even prewar



Contemporary streetview of the Hoofdweg in the direction of the Mercatorplein, classic Amsterdam School architecture by H.Th Wijdeveld (1885-1987), editor of the renowned avant-garde journal *Wendingen*.

housing ensembles cannot escape the psychological tricks of the mind it seems. For instance, during the 1980s the prewar Mercator Square, which was designed by as prominent an architect as Hendrik Pieter Berlage, faced complete demolition, because the whole neighborhood was taken over by drug-dealers and junkies. They would hang out in the shopping arcades of the Berlagian brick architecture. Only a tremendous advocacy campaign could prevent such a disaster. Over the last couple of years, a new urban class of young, highly educated professionals has been moving into the same neighborhood. The prewar architecture of Berlage and the Amsterdam School enjoys a much greater appreciation now, but only after awareness was raised by this intense advocacy campaign. During the 1980s and 1990s the architectural quality of all the 1930s and 1940s districts in Amsterdam was mapped and classified, an enormous project taking many years, but today this is relatively well integrated into



afb. Collective garden in Amsterdam-Buitenveldert with a playground designed by architect Aldo van Eyck
Photo credit: cantua.nl, Biografie Mien Ruys, *Nieuwsbrief* Nr. 3, Oktober 2007



Aerial view of the Amsterdam Western Garden Cities, urban planning by Cor van Eesteren (1897-1988), who was a member of the Dutch avant-garde movement of *De Stijl* and chairman of the international CIAM organization of modern architects.

the urban planning departments of the city council and its governing bodies. Yet even in 2012, certain prewar neighborhoods (e.g. the Van der Pek neighborhood in Amsterdam Noord), run-down and neglected, and with a poor social coherence are subject to planner's blight and a target for demolition by its very owners, those privatized, regional housing conglomerates.

Architecturally speaking, how is planning different for the pre- and postwar period, both in terms of individual units and urban planning? Size of units, amenities, planning and layout of the complex (urban versus non-urban) etc.?

The paradoxical thing occurs that prewar housing is more flexible than postwar housing. While the prewar units are largely built in brick and timber, the postwar housing usually is built with a mixture of concrete for party walls and floors with various types of brick infill. The current building standards are naturally much higher than the performance of those of the 1950s and 60s and these structures are not so easy to improve. Especially bare, unclad concrete is of course notoriously difficult to deal with, also because it belongs to the specific form language of the period, which was so characteristically clear, optimistic, elegant and rationalist in appearance.

Arguably, the prewar holds some other big advantages over the postwar housing complexes in terms of the housing market and hence their desirability. Most of the time, the prewar housing blocks are part of high dense neighborhoods with plenty of shops and other amenities, and relatively close to the inner city. As a result they are in high demand, especially in Amsterdam, unlike large parts of the postwar neighborhoods, which are more often located in the outer areas and are likely to have far less amenities. When lower income groups dominate the demographics, the extent and quality of the amenities also tends to be less desirable, independent of the urban typology or architectural design qualities. At this point, a classic comparison can be drawn between the districts of Amsterdam Buitenveldert and again the Western Garden Cities. Both are planned by the modernist and CIAM member Cornelis van Eesteren and the blocks and houses are typical dry, functionalist slabs. Yet, in Buitenveldert these are populated by the (upper) middle classes, hence with good services in the neighborhood and high market value. In contrast, the Western Garden Cities, or at least large parts of it, have an accumulation of social problems and, until recently, a large-scale demolition program to better the district was in full swing, probably one of the largest operations of this kind in Europe.

Size is definitely a problem when we are looking at the large-scale housing complexes. This was one of the main reasons the Bijlmermeer slab blocks had to go, for instance. They were simply too big to keep up properly under a conventional maintenance regime. When built, apparently no one had foreseen the different kind of management and maintenance models that came with these new modern typologies. Size is also a problem today, when these large-scale projects have to be redeveloped, because the housing market has changed so much. Demand is much more differentiated and these days it is simply impossible to put as many flats as found in a complete Bijlmermeer slab on the market all at the same time. It would kill the market. One of the remaining Bijlmermeer slabs will therefore be redeveloped in an entirely new way: namely as a Do-It-Yourself project. The old units go on the market as basic 'lofts' for a very low prize, the individual buyers can therefore afford relatively big units but they also oblige themselves to a proper renovation. The whole process is overseen by a special project organization, which advises the new home owners and coordinates the refurbishment.

Although this highly experimental Bijlmermeer project offers larger units, the general tendency in renovation of the urban social housing schemes is toward small/individual units, certainly compared to suburban standards. This fits the new urban lifestyles: in the near future the largest segment of household types will be single person households, among others, due to an aging population. The latest trend is to offer 35 m² (315 square feet) studios to students and starters on the housing market; often their parents buy these tiny flats. The former GAK-office building by the modernist architect Merkelbach will be redeveloped in this way with 320 studio units and 2000m² (18,000 square feet) of office space, a redesign by Wessel de Jonge who is well-known for his restoration work on such masterpieces as Duiker's Open Air School



GAK Office Building, Amsterdam.
Photo credit: designblog:rietveldacademie.nl,
April 15, 2009

and the Zonnestraal sanatorium. Interestingly enough, this project is in the Amsterdam Western Garden Cities and more or less announces the impending regeneration of this part of the city.

Although there is an obvious demand for small houses, the dominant planning of (relatively) small individual units also aggravates the lack of family houses for both the middle and lower income groups in a market that already suffers from a shortage of larger houses for these particular groups—especially so in the larger cities and in Amsterdam. Market forces tend to take over from social demand (with smaller units one can make more money) and the original diversity of unit type as a social dimension of the built stock of public housing—affordable housing for all segments of society in order to sustain a coherent community—is gradually diluted.

In many of the countries, postwar housing stock is being demolished and sections of the Bijlmermeer have seen a similar fate. Are there plans to demolish any more of the public housing stock in the Netherlands? Has any been designated as a monument and why and how does that relate to the perception? For instance, France has listed a number of the 'grand ensembles' and is there a similar process in the Netherlands?

The built legacy of the welfare state...houses, schools, universities, hospitals...need updating, not obliteration.



Van Eesteren Museum, Amsterdam.
Photo credit: Archined.nl, November 2010

The current economic crisis, which in Holland is also accompanied by a housing crisis, has put all large-scale projects for demolition on hold. A good moment for reflection one might say. Awareness of the specific qualities of the postwar legacy is still rather low, among the general public, but also among officials, one senses outright prejudice against modernism in all its guises. Just as happened before for the period 1920-1940, architectural and urban qualities are now gradually being mapped and classified, in order to become part of the formal urban planning, review and decision processes. These processes are of course bureaucratic, but under the current circumstances less detrimental than the alternative of laissez-faire planning policies, which could simply erase the recent history of the welfare state, in itself a unique period, just as it would replace complete communities.

Surprisingly, 'museumification' is part of the strategies to raise awareness. For instance, in the Western Garden Cities, a Van Eesteren Museum has been founded, which consists of a modest, community based gallery space for exhibitions and lectures. The museum also organizes all sorts of tours, for architects and tourists as well as for local residents and politicians when a specific housing project is under debate. The other part of the Van Eesteren Museum consists

of a specially designated area of the whole neighborhood, which is declared protected from demolition, something that was done in the Bijlmermeer as well. This strategy partly freezes developments in a neighborhood, thus preventing immediate demolition and other possibly disastrous renovation projects, but on the other hand, this does not solve the actual social problems either.

At a national level the government has started to list so-called young monuments by compiling a 'top 100' of the most important buildings. In the Netherlands buildings can be listed when they are over 50 years old, so the production of the 1950s and 60s has come under renewed scrutiny of professionals and preservation advocates, which will trigger new policies as well as design strategies for the revitalization of this vast built heritage.

What can the U.S. learn from the Dutch?

I tend to be very careful in telling other people what to learn from the Dutch. What I like about the U.S. especially, and what the Dutch may learn from the U.S. perhaps, is the strong belief in active grass-roots movements. For someone who happily grew up in a perfect welfare state this remains refreshing to see. What both the U.S. and the Dutch might reconsider with regard to the current crisis is indeed our current system of welfare provision. We need new and more effective politics of redistribution, which should aim at empowering the people and fostering civic mindedness, rather than the welfare state politics of patronizing, I would say. Providing good housing in one way or another will remain part of such politics. For architects and planners there is plenty to do. The built legacy of the welfare state, the vast amount of houses, schools, universities, hospitals, infrastructure and so forth and so on, they all need updating, not obliteration.

Age B. Diedrick:

Member of the Order of Orange-Nassau

In a private ceremony taking place on Saturday, November 19, 2011, Age B. Diedrick received from the Consul General Rob de Vos and pinned on by Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, the medal belonging to Member of the Order of Orange-Nassau.

Age has served as Director of both the Peter Stuyvesant Ball in New York (since 1990) and the NAF Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C. (since 2003). Both events have become the premier gala events for their local Dutch American communities, and Age has been instrumental in building them into such prominence. Age has served as the pivotal fundraiser for the NAF, also managing the NAF's membership program during the same period. Her personal effectiveness has been key to helping raise over \$6.5 million for the NAF and its Fulbright Fellowships. Upon the recommendation of Ine Laverge Schade, seconded by Loet Velmans, then NAF chair, Age took over from Ine the position of Ball Director in 1990 with the 9th Ball, sponsored by KLM and Merck. Over the subsequent 21 years, the scope, visibility, prominence and financial contribution of the Ball has grown quite dramatically with attendance at the ball typically ranging from 350-500 guests. More than 130 NAF-



Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Netherlands and Professor Pieter van Vollenhoven congratulating Age Diedrick following her decoration.
Photo credit: Melanie Einzig

Fulbright Fellowships, which support students to pursue graduate studies in the the Netherlands, will have been raised, most by Age personally. Supported by a well-connected and energetic Organizing Committee, chaired since 1996 by Mr. Hans van den Houten and since 2004 by Mr. Fred G. Peelen, Age has been the engine behind the Ball with a highly distinctive and effective personal style, coupled with an unusually efficient ability to organize and execute.

Age has played a similar role for the NAF Awards Dinner. While smaller in size than the Peter Stuyvesant Ball, the NAF Awards Dinner has been turned into a prominent event, attended by 200-220 guests, with a steadily increasing net contribution to the NAF. Here too, Age manages all aspects of the actual event with support of an Organizing Committee, chaired by Mr. William Tucker.

All told, Age has played a central role in the Dutch-American community and for the NAF over many years. It is fair to say, that without her ability to reach out to the NAF's individual members and corporate supporters, as well as members of the public, the cohesion and visibility of the Dutch-American community would have been far less. Please join the NAF in congratulating Age Diedrick for her many contributions to the Dutch community over the past 22 years!

IN MEMORIAM

Fred G. Peelen

1941-2012

On February 5, 2012, Fred G. Peelen, Member of the Board, Member of the Executive Committee and Chair of the Peter Stuyvesant Ball Organizing Committee, unexpectedly passed away.

Fred, after graduating from The Hague Hotel School in 1962, came to the United States as trainee, sponsored by the Netherland-America Foundation. Upon completion of his traineeship and graduate work at the Cornell School of Hotel Administration, he joined InterContinental Hotels where, after a stellar career over 35 years, he retired in 2000 as President for the Americas of InterContinental Hotels and Resorts and Crowne Plaza Hotels and Resorts.

While Fred had supported the Peter Stuyvesant Ball since 1988, he formally joined the Ball's Organizing Committee upon his retirement in 2000, became a Member of our Board in 2001 and assumed the Ball Committee's Chairmanship in December of 2004. At that time he also became a Member of the Foundation's Executive Committee. During his tenure Fred significantly enhanced the visibility and quality of the Ball, including putting top Dutch chefs in charge of the dinner's kitchen. During his tenure as Chairman of the Peter Stuyvesant Ball Orga-



nizing Committee, the Ball gained further prominence, raising significant funds for the NAF and its Fulbright Fellowship program.

In a special ceremony at the 2009 Peter Stuyvesant Ball, His Excellency Mr. Frans Timmerman, Undersecretary for European Affairs in the Dutch Cabinet, decorated Fred with the insignia of "Knight in the Order of Oranje Nassau". Fred's knighthood is acknowledgment of his commitment to 'give back' through charity work after a highly successful career in the hotel industry.

Those of us who have had the privilege and pleasure to know Fred and work with him will remember his personal loyalty, generosity and operating manager's attention to detail. With Fred's passing, the Netherland-America Foundation has lost one of its most effective and supportive members, and many of us have lost a good friend.

Our thoughts are with Fred's partner of 34 years, Alex de Bolzan, and his family.

Ennius E. Bergsma
Chair

Dutch-American Entrepreneurs— First Canadian Army in The Netherlands, and a Guide to Dutch Literature

Following are additions to the NAF's Books of Interest at thenaf.org.

Johan de Voogd

C. Carl Pegels, Prominent Dutch American Entrepreneurs—Their Contributions to American Society, Culture and Economy, 2011, Information Age Publishing

During the past four decades, economic history has emphasized the important roles of "institutions" in the Western world's economic growth. Yet, the pivotal roles of entrepreneurs have only recently come to the forefront. Thousands of readers have devoured bestsellers on high-tech entrepreneurs like Steve Jobs (Apple), Bill Gates (Microsoft), and Robert Noyce (Intel), but also the biographies of entrepreneurs who spawned less glamorous breakthroughs such as Malcolm McLean, who invented the cargo container or Sam Walton (Walmart). Carl Pegels, professor emeritus at the University of Buffalo business school, reminds us that, in earlier days, enterprising Dutch immigrants left their mark and built many of America's major corporations.

During the first two hundred years—from 1600 through 1800—the Dutch were primarily engaged in farming. It wasn't until the late 19th century that entrepreneurial Dutchmen began making significant contributions to American economic development. At first, money was to be made by opening up the country through new modes of transportation. DeWitt Clinton and Stephen van Rensselaer III oversaw the opening of the Erie Canal in 1826. Not long thereafter, Cornelius "Commodore" Vanderbilt (1794-1877) and his son William Henry Vanderbilt (1821-1885) began building what became the largest nationwide transportation system. Starting with a ferry service between Staten Island and Manhattan, by 1840 Vanderbilt's fleet of 100 steamships was the largest US employer. Fully embracing technological change, by the 1870s the Vanderbilts had converted their shipping business into the largest nationwide railroad empire. At the time of the Commodore's

death, the family fortune—in the range of \$30-160 billion in today's dollars—was the country's largest. William became the country's first major philanthropist (e.g. Vanderbilt University, Columbia College of Physicians), other family members followed (Whitney Museum). Other Dutchmen in the transportation field were Iowa-based Martin Bekins, founder of Bekins Van Lines, and Henry Jansen's Lynden Transport Corporation (Washington/Alaska). Anthony Fokker pioneered the building of aircraft, first in Germany, then in the Netherlands before moving to the US in 1922, but returning to the Netherlands in 1933 where Fokker Aircraft became one of the world's aircraft technology leaders. In more recent times, Utah-based David Neeleman founded JetBlue in 1998.

In 1888, Harry Koch left Friesland and settled in Texas. Armed with a degree in chemical engineering from MIT, his son Frederick (1900-1967) became a true pioneer in oil refining. Charles and David Koch, two of Fred's four sons, now run privately-held Koch Industries, headquartered in Wichita, Kansas. Koch Industries is the country's largest privately-held energy, chemicals, asphalt and fertilizers conglomerate, valued in the area of \$100 billion. The Koch brothers are amongst the most prominent and generous philanthropists in the US.

Energy efficient windows are synonymous with Pella, the leading brands launched in the late 1940s by the Kuyper family of Pella, Iowa. Also

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in Pella, Gary Vermeer built Vermeer Corporation into one of the largest agricultural and industrial equipment manufacturers and leading US exporter, now headed by the founder's daughter Mrs. Mary Vermeer Andringa. Headquartered in South Dakota, Prince Manufacturing, designs and manufactures process technologies in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. Omaha-based Kiewit Corporation was founded by Peter and Andrew Kiewit in 1889 and has grown into one of the largest infrastructure builders in the US. Family members have been involved ever since, and along the way funded the Peter Kiewit Foundation, one of the largest national charities. All four companies remain privately held.

Hendrick Meijer (1883-1964) was born in Hengelo, immigrated to the US in 1907, and in 1934 established his first food store. Now a 190-store super chain across the Midwest, it's run and owned by third-generation Meijer family members. Amway (now called Alticor) pioneered door-to-door selling of household and personal products. Founded by Jay van Andel and Richard DeVos, 2010 sales were estimated between \$8-9 billion. Few areas of education, culture, medical research and arts in the Midwest have not been touched by the three families' foundations.

Whereas most entrepreneurs stayed with the companies they founded, Wayne Huizenga (1939) gained prominence by founding, growing and then selling no

fewer than five companies all of which remain industry leaders. Starting as a waste hauler in Florida, Mr. Huizenga's first firm grew into giant Waste Management Inc. Then he founded Blockbuster Entertainment, AutoNation (currently the largest network of "super dealerships" across the US), followed by Extended Stay America and Republic Industries (waste hauling). An unusually long and brilliant record of entrepreneurship, across several very competitive industries. Along the way, the Huizenga family gained prominence through their support of education.

Stokeley-Van Camp (sealed cans) was founded by Gilbert van Camp. John Scheepers (1878-1938) was born in Arnhem, Netherlands and founded what became America's largest tulip bulb importer and grower, still managed by family members. Mr. Scheepers became quite influential in fostering Dutch-American relations and, in the 1930s, was an active supporter of the Netherland-America Foundation.

During the second half of the 20th century, scientists of Dutch descent began to leave their mark. We all know about the inventions of Thomas Edison, descendant from original New Netherland settlers. Lee de Forest (1873-1961) made major contributions to vacuum tube technology before selling his business to Radio Corporation of America (RCA). In more recent times, Willem Kolff (1912-2009) invented artificial human organs. Ray Noorda, (1924-2006) founded Novell and was a true pioneer

in information technology. Hubert Schoemaker (1950-2006) earned a PhD in biochemistry at MIT before founding one of the US's early biotech firms, Centocor, (now part of Johnson & Johnson). Centocor developed remedies against Crohn's disease and rheumatoid-arthritis.

Also, Michigan saw the emergence of a group of publishers—Van Nostrand, Eerdmans and Zondervan—all of which remain prominent in their field.

Professor Pegels's 200-page volume presents an overview of the achievements of a number of remarkable Dutch-American individuals and their families. Family involvement in ownership and management was and remains a common thread. Many of these entrepreneurial families capitalized on the growth opportunities prevalent during their days (transportation, retailing, energy, manufacturing). Most of them resided in the central states, not the East and West coasts. Importantly, virtually all of them shared their wealth through their charitable giving. Each entrepreneur and their families deserve a more extensive biography, but Professor Pegels's short volume is proof that Dutch-American entrepreneurship was and remains a powerful force for prosperity.

Mark Zuehlke,
Terrible Victory—
First Canadian Army and the
Scheldt Estuary Campaign:
September 13 -
November 6, 1944,
paperback edition, 2008,
Douglas & McIntyre

Not a year goes by without a new crop of titles about the Allied armies' liberation of Europe. As the ranks of "the greatest generation" are rapidly dwindling, fortunately a new generation of historians is unearthing new archival sources, and conducting interviews with eyewitnesses of the liberation of Europe and the Netherlands. Mark Zuehlke is Canada's leading writer of popular military history and author of eight volumes on the Canadian army's feats in World War II. His "Terrible Victory" describes the First Canadian Army's conquering Dutch Flanders and the southern islands of Zeeland. After the aborted "Bridge too Far" battle in September 1944 (with about 8,000 American, British and Polish casualties), the First Canadian Army, under Major-General Guy Simonds, over the October 1–November 8, 1944 period, did finally secure access to the harbor of Antwerp. At the terrible price of about 13,000 casualties, Antwerp became the Allies' most important supply line for the push into Germany. "Terrible Victory" describes what Canadians have called the First Canadian Army's finest, and most costly, victory.

Mark Zuehlke,
On to Victory—
The Canadian Liberation
of the Netherlands.
March 23 - May 5, 1945,
paperback edition, 2011,
Douglas & McIntyre

Areas north of the Meuse river, including the cities of Rotterdam, Amsterdam and The Hague, weren't liberated by the Canadian Army until April 1945. In spite of that, there was a secret agreement between the Canadians and the German command in the Netherlands to supply millions of starving Dutch during the "hunger winter" of 1944/45. After eight months of fighting, on May 5, in Wageningen, German Colonel-General Blaskowitz surrendered 117,000 German troops to Canadian Lieutenant-General Foulkes, commander of First Canadian Corps. A compelling read!

Denis Whitaker & Shelagh Whitaker,
Tug of War—The
Allied Victory that Opened
Antwerp. 2nd edition, 2000
Stoddard Publishing Co.

After numerous post-war visits, Lieutenant-Colonel (later Brigadier-General) Denis Whitaker (1915-2001) co-authored his personal account of liberating the Scheldt's river Northern banks to secure access to Antwerp. Whitaker interviewed hundreds of Dutch people, describes the November 1944 bombardments by the British Royal Air Force, the inundation of the isle of Walcheren, and how Canadian, English, Scottish, and Norwegian troops (all part of First Canadian Army) drove Germans from the Dutch part of Hitler's Atlantikwall.

Theo Hermans (ed.),
A Literary History of the
Low Countries,
2009, Camden House

Literary writing in the low countries encompasses some thousand years. While the visual arts of Bosch, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Van Gogh and Mondriaan are famous across the world, Dutch literary works—aside from a few texts that have been translated into English—are much less well-known. This book provides a historical narrative of the literature of "the low lands" (Netherlands and Flanders). Edited by Theo Hermans, professor of Dutch and Comparative Literature at University College, London, the book includes twelve essays by prominent scholars of Dutch literature—from the Middle Ages, to the Dutch Revolt and Golden Age, Enlightenment (1700-1800), Nineteenth Century, and the pre- and postwar periods of the 20th century. Did you know that the anonymously written Dutch national anthem (of the 16th century) may well be the oldest national anthem in existence? Why does the literature from Dutch-speaking Flanders take such a prominent place in Dutch literature? What has been the influence of the Latin, French and Frisian languages on Dutch literature? How unique is the literature of the former Dutch East Indies? Why the fascination of so many modern authors with WWII? With a steadily growing number of Dutch literary works being translated in English, this book is a first-rate overview of and guide to Dutch literature for American readers.

The NAF Connection New York City

New York Committee Members

Renée Joosten, Chair
Eulani Labay
Erwin Maas
Bart-Jan Polman
Philip Ugelow
Christina van Hengel
Elisa van Joolen

On the 16th of March 2012, over 60 guests gathered at the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation in New York City for a reception honoring the 2011-12 Dutch NAF-Fulbright Fellows. Joining the event this year was Ms. Yvette Daoud, Deputy Consul General for the Consulate General of New York who, along with NAF Board members, members and friends, renewed old acquaintances, made new friends and celebrated the many connections between the Netherlands and the U.S. made possible by the NAF.



NAF Alumni Committee with current NAF-Fulbright Fellows*. From left: Eulani Labay, Renée Joosten, Sjeff van Stiphout*, Elisa van Joolen, Mattias van Oomen*, Abdelkhalik Zirar*, Xiao Yang Fang*, Lilian Kreutzberger*, Maral Noshad Sharifi*, Judith Ament*, Jacqueline Mulders*, Erwin Maas, Bart-Jan Polman, Philip Ugelow

The 2012 reunion carried on the NAF tradition of honoring fellows on both sides of the Atlantic. Current fellows submitted photos of their experiences abroad which the Alumni Committee added to a slide presentation of Dutch and American fellows from the previous six years. The compilation ran throughout the evening, giving evidence to the growing numbers of young people whose studies abroad, and whose future careers, have been enabled by the Foundation.

Mr. Ennius Bergsma, Chairman of the NAF, opened the formal portion of the evening by welcoming special guests and highlighting the role of the NAF's Education Committee in promoting Dutch-American exchange via NAF-Fulbright grants, interest-free study loans, and institutional grants. Alumni Committee member Mr. Erwin Maas followed with an introduction of the evening's program. Current fellows addressed how the NAF-Fulbright awards had availed them of specialized courses of learning in the United States. **Ms. Maral Noshad Sharifi** (Journalism, The New School) presented a slide show representing her work covering residents from underserved and economically depressed areas of the Bronx. Maral's experiences clearly stimulated a burning enthusiasm for her chosen field. The evening concluded with Fellows adjourning to a nearby club. The next day, Fellows joined each other and friends for a brunch at a New York City restaurant.

Close Up: Elegance & Refinement: The Still Life Paintings of Willem van Aelst

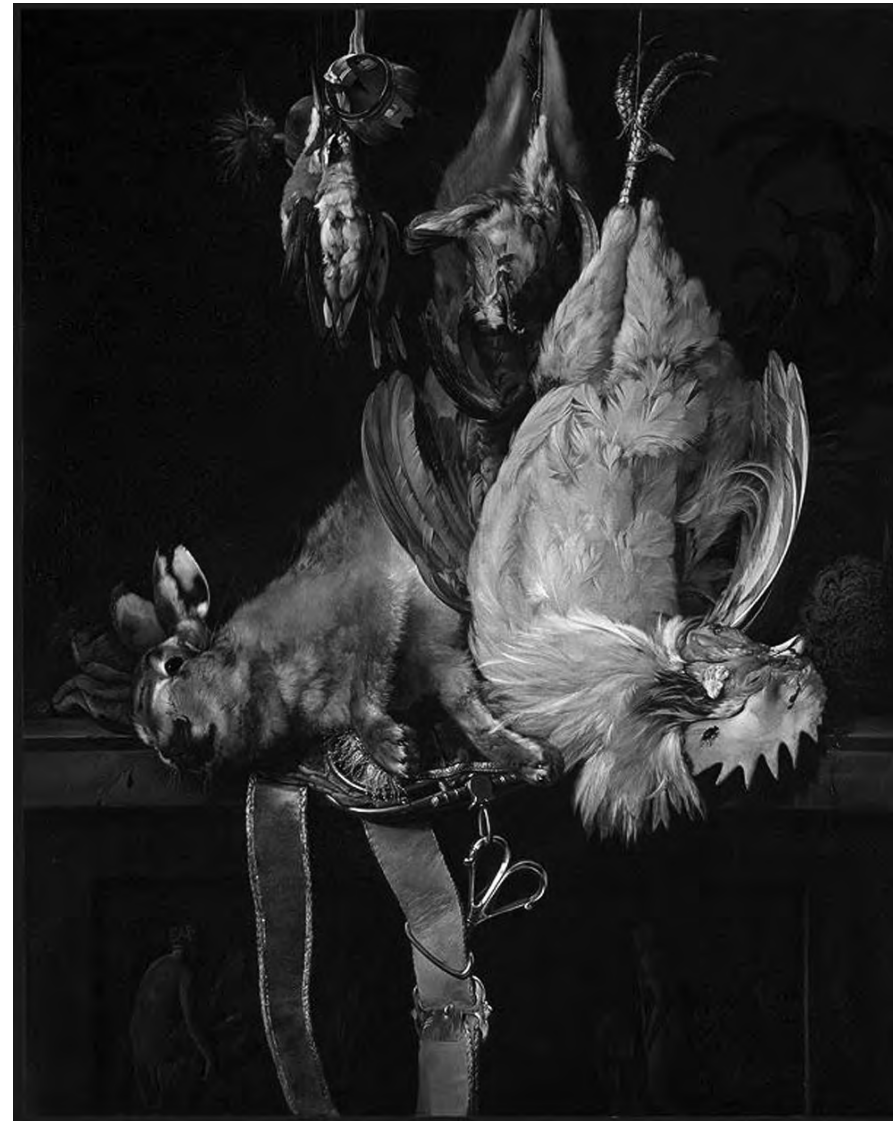
**Museum of Fine Arts
Houston**
March 11 – May 27, 2012

**National Gallery of Art
Washington, D.C.**
June 24 – October 14, 2012

Willem van Aelst (1627-1683) is not a household name today, but this exhibition will acquaint visitors to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and the National Gallery of Art with a remarkable seventeenth-century Dutch artist. Van Aelst was one of the most famous still life painters of his day, “renowned,” as one contemporary art lover wrote, “the world over.” The artist painted with such illusionism that one can almost feel the softness of fur and feathers or smell the aromas of fruits and flowers. Poets described how Van Aelst could convey the inner spirit of objects, even when depicting dead game, fabrics or elegant gilded vessels.

Van Aelst earned his international fame in part because of the unusual trajectory of his career. He was born in modest circumstances in Delft, where he received his artistic training from his uncle, Evert van Aelst. Willem van Aelst joined the artist’s guild of Saint Luke in Delft in 1643, and quickly demonstrated his ability to render delicate fruit in modestly-scaled tabletop still lifes. After a few years he left for France, perhaps because he wanted to develop a repertoire of subjects beyond the rather restrictive range of pictorial elements that appealed to Dutch patrons. He stayed for about five years in Paris, where he became part of a small community of northern artists, during which time he further refined his manner of painting to appeal to the very sophisticated Parisian market. He also made large *pronk* still lifes remarkable for their ostentatious display of luxury objects.

In the early 1650s Van Aelst made his way to Florence, where he became a favorite at the Medici Court. In the short time he stayed there he painted at least fourteen sumptuous still lifes, some of which depict decorative arts objects in the Medici collections. He also painted pendants of fruit and flowers that demonstrated his sophisticated sensitivity to color and compositional design. He also began to paint game pieces that



Willem van Aelst (Dutch, 1626 – 1683),
Still Life with Game, 1661, oil on canvas,
National Gallery of Art, Washington, Pepita Milmore Memorial Fund, 1982.36.1 (ref: DEX 1)

featured dead animals hanging from ropes, a motif that he would often return to during the course of his career.

When Van Aelst returned to the Netherlands in 1656, he had been away from his native land for more than ten years. He was now a mature and respected artist, almost thirty years of age, and ambitious. His successful years in France and Italy, where he had been feted by the highest echelons of society, had brought him into direct contact with wealth and power. In those courtly circles, he had painted luxury objects, including fine jewelry and elegantly fashioned precious metals and glassware as well as the spoils of the hunt, including pheasants and other game birds. He particularly delighted in rendering the exquisite beauty of silver gilt-fringed satin game pouches and carefully crafted rifles and hunting horns.

By 1657 Willem van Aelst had settled in Amsterdam, the most dynamic and prosperous of all Dutch cities. He quickly established himself as an artist for the upwardly mobile elite by painting the types of still lifes that had met with such success at the Medici court: refined flower pieces and game pieces. He emphasized his Italian pedigree by signing his name "Guielelmo" rather than "Willem." This affectation indicates how thoroughly he marketed himself as a painter who had worked at the Medici court, a distinction that would have greatly appealed to collectors who were impressed by an artist's pedigree and who valued the Italianate ideals then fashionable in Dutch culture.

Although Van Aelst arrived in Amsterdam as an established artist, his late style reflects the fluid and flowing compositions of still lifes by Jan Davidsz. de Heem. This monographic exhibition, the first ever devoted to this remarkable artist, will consist of about twenty-five paintings and his only known drawing. The exhibition has been organized by James Clifton, Director of the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation and Curator in Renaissance and Baroque Painting at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and Arthur Wheelock, Curator of Northern



Willem van Aelst (Dutch, 1626 – 1683), *Hunt Still Life with a Velvet Bag on a Marble Ledge*, 1665, oil on canvas, Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation** (ref: DEX 19)

Baroque Paintings at the National Gallery of Art. Tanya Paul, who wrote her dissertation on the artist at University of Virginia in 2008, was the driving force behind the show. The fully illustrated catalogue also includes an essay by conservation scientists at the two institutions that reveals much new information about the artist's painting techniques.

The exhibition will be on view at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston until May 24, after which it can be seen at the National Gallery of Art from June 24 through October 14. The exhibition has been supported, in part, by a grant from the Cultural Committee of the Netherlands America Foundation.

Arthur K. Wheelock, Jr.
Curator, Northern Baroque Paintings
National Gallery of Art

The following upcoming events are made possible, in part, through grants awarded by the NAF's Cultural Committee.



Approach to the Philadelphia Museum of Art
Photo credit: Theodore H.M. Prudon

Conferences

International Conference on the Conservation and Deterioration of Stone
Columbia University
New York, NY
October 2012

To support the *12th International Conference on the Conservation and Deterioration of Stone at Columbia University*. Funds will be used to support travel costs of Dutch scholars.

Exhibitions

Van Gogh Up Close
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Philadelphia, PA
February 1 – May 6, 2012

To support *Van Gogh Up Close*, presented at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Forty-five masterpieces by the renowned Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) are brought together, including eleven works loaned by collections in the Netherlands, including Gemeentemuseum, The Hague; Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo; and Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam. *Van Gogh Up Close* offers an original look at one of the most beloved and fascinating artists of all time. The exhibition makes known previously unexplored aspects of van

Gogh's approach to still life and landscape painting, revealing the influence of Japanese artists in his work and his interest in highlighting a specific detail or close-up within a larger motif.

Rineke Dijkstra: A Retrospective
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA)
San Francisco, CA
February 18 – May 28, 2012

To support an exhibition of the photography and video work of Rineke Dijkstra. In collaboration with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, SFMOMA organized *Rineke Dijkstra*, the first major exhibition and catalogue in the United States dedicated to Dijkstra (b.1959), the pre-eminent Dutch contemporary photographer and video artist. Dijkstra has developed an international reputation through her portraiture. The artist's brilliantly-colored, life-size photographs and videos are celebrated for capturing the universality and transitory nature of youth. Her images of children and adolescents, alone and in small groups, possess a formal classicism, psychological depth and social awareness inspired by the work of photographers Diane Arbus and August Sander.

Elegance and Refinement: The Still Life Paintings of Willem van Aelst
Museum of Fine Arts
Houston
Houston, TX
March 11 – May 27, 2012

The National Gallery of Art
Washington, D.C.
June 24 – October 14, 2012

To support the exhibition catalogue for *Elegance and Refinement: The Still Life Paintings of Willem van Aelst* exhibition. The exhibition is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH) and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. Willem van Aelst (1627–1683) has never been extensively discussed in contemporary art historical literature, therefore both the exhibition and catalogue will serve as a much needed introduction to, and consideration of, his art. The MFAH, in cooperation with Skira Rizzoli Publishing, published a 150-page, fully-illustrated catalogue, with essays on van Aelst's life and work and catalogue entries on each object within the exhibition, along with a full bibliography.

**Graphic Design:
Now in Production**
Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt
National Design Museum
New York, NY
May 26 – September 2, 2012

To support the exhibition *Graphic Design: Now in Production* at Governors Island. The exhibition focuses on the twenty-first century, examining the cutting edge ideas and breaking cultural revolutions in the international world of graphic design. Over 360 works by 200 designers will be on view, including those of 25 Dutch designers and firms. Additional components will include workshops and programs exploring exhibition themes, a fully-illustrated catalogue, and a retail store featuring work of graphic designers.



From the exhibition *Graphic Design: Now in Production*, des2011qd: Jop van Bennekom, *The Gentlewoman*, issue 3, Spring/Summer 2011. Courtesy the publisher.

**Camp Out: Finding Home
in an Unstable World**
Laumeier Sculpture Park
St. Louis, MO
June 2 – September 16, 2012

To support an international group exhibition titled *Camp Out: Finding Home in an Unstable World*. Rotterdam-based Studio Dré Wapenaar will participate with a seminal work from their Treetent series. Treetent, 1998-2009 is a monumental interactive sculpture, a teardrop tent made from a steel frame and canvas clamped to a tree trunk, and will be a key outdoor work for Camp Out as its ingenuity will engage visitors and provide a physical manifestation of the ideas presented in the exhibition.

**The Musical World of
Pieter Teding Van Berkhout**

Rebekah Ahrendt
U.S. and the Netherlands
Spring/Summer 2012

To support the project of "The Musical World of Pieter Teding van Berkhout" (1669 – 1712). The project has two major goals: to produce an academic article (eventually part of a book on music in the Dutch Republic) and to develop and perform concert programs with the music ensemble Les Graces, coinciding with the tercentenary of the diary's completion. Programs will be presented in San Francisco, Boston and the Netherlands in Spring/Summer 2012.

Residencies

Blue and Black Notes

Juana Valdes
's-Hertogenbosch,
Netherlands
May 28 – August 24, 2012

To support a three month residency of Juana Valdes at the European Ceramic Work Center in Holland (EKWC). The project combines formal and multi-disciplinary practices in art by combining the process of printmaking and ceramic. Aesthetically, it was initiated by its formalist aspects, by combining ceramic materials with a printmaking process resulting in a ceramic tile that is crafted like a collagraphic print.



Dré Wapenaar, *Treetent*, 2005. Canvas, wood, powder coated steel, ed. 2, dimensions variable. Courtesy of Studio Dré Wapenaar.



Juana Valdes, *Sed_Thirst*, 4" x 48" x 48, cast porcelain, audio. Courtesy of the artist.

member news

NAF Annual Members Meeting Wednesday, June 27, 2012

The Annual Meeting of the Members will take place at Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP in New York City. The meeting will begin at 12:00 noon and will be followed by a meeting for the Board of Directors at 1:30pm. All NAF members are encouraged to attend.

An agenda, nominations for candidates to the Board of Directors, and other meeting information will be mailed in mid-May.

Five Dutch Days Five Boroughs October 31 – November 4, 2012

Five Dutch Days is a five-day event that takes place in New York City every November. It celebrates the continuous influence of Dutch arts and culture in New York City and brings together arts and cultural organizations from across the city. Programs include walking tours, lectures, concerts and contemporary art offerings.

For more information, visit:
www.5dutchdaysnyc.org.

The 31st Peter Stuyvesant Ball Pier Sixty, New York City Friday, November 16, 2012

On popular demand, the Ball will again be held at the spectacular venue Pier Sixty on the Hudson. This annual black tie event is the primary source of funds for the NAF's U.S. Fulbright Fellowship Program.

For information about tables, tickets, advertising or sponsorship of NAF-Fulbright Fellowships, please contact Ms. Age Diedrick, Event Director, at 212.355.6363 or age.diedrick@verizon.net.

21st Annual Gala to Celebrate Dutch American Heritage Day Saturday, November 17, 2012

The Southern California Chapter's gala will honor an outstanding American of Dutch descent who will be inducted into the Dutch-American Heritage Hall of Fame.

For more information, contact Mr. Guido Keijzers, President of The NAF Southern California Chapter at guido_keijzers@yahoo.com.

membership

Join Us!

Please join us as a member by detaching and returning the 2012 Membership Form today. Your support is both an investment in the mission of the NAF and a vote of confidence in the organization. Through membership, you join a network of individuals and organizations that share your interest in U.S.-Dutch interaction and

heritage. Thank you for your support, and welcome to the NAF! Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator, gave the NAF a second consecutive 4-star rating—their highest—for "its ability to efficiently manage and grow its finances, demonstrating to the public it is worthy of their trust."

2012 Membership Form

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212. 825. 9105 fax

Alternatively, you can join the NAF or renew your membership online at: thenaf.org (bottom, homepage)

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