



400 Years Later - Cite goes Dutch

A satellite ICFE exhibition surveys Dutch furniture and product design and paints a portrait of the Netherlands as a designed and designing nation.

New York, New York – Opening on May 16, in conjunction with the International Contemporary Furniture Fair and New York City’s celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of New Amsterdam by the Dutch East India Company, *400 Years Later - Cite Goes Dutch* - will present everything from furniture and tabletop objects to carpets and jewelry by 23 Dutch emerging designers, 6 manufacturers and 1 emerging photographer. Hosted by the CITE showroom through June 14, the exhibition is curated by Jan Habraken and Alissia Melka-Teichroew in collaboration with CITE, Wabnitz Editions Ltd and Josée Lepage. The products on display will draw an outline of the contemporary design coming out of, and shaped by, the unique climate of the densely populated Netherlands, whose designers grow up below sea level under heavy skies and in an environment that, historically and by geographical necessity, has been intricately designed – from cities to landscape.

Despite their youth, all of the designers presented are well-established in their home country, as well as being recognized by the foreign press and design industry. The exhibit will introduce recent and never-before-seen work by Studio Oooms, Frederik Roijé, Jorre van Ast, Mirjam van der Lubbe, Studio Glithero, Lucas Maassen, Lotte van Laatum, Maarten Baptist, Alissia Melka-Teichroew and Jan Habraken among others, that is both intricate and pared-down, pragmatic and poetic, witty and well-crafted.

Each object in the exhibition will narrate a story by itself, one that comes out of and, in turn has the potential to shape, the story of the place it (and its designer) was made. Beyond being merely a chair, clock or chest, each tells its own tale. Lotte van Laatum’s Tree Cabinet features a drawer handle the shape of which occurred naturally in the bark of the Dutch Elm tree from which it was fashioned. The elm used to construct this cabinet was cut in 1999 in Kloosterzande because the tree was dying from a wood disease peculiar to the nearly extinct Dutch Elm. The shape of the cabinet corresponds to, and memorializes, the shape and proportions of the original tree.

In order to further contextualize the portrait of the Netherlands painted by the products on show, the curators will also include Lisa Klappe’s photography, offering a more literal depiction of the country and its people. The prints will offer an enlightening contrast to the objects, presenting a more cohesive experience of the work instead of mere products on pedestals.

Because the curators want to encourage visitors to take a part of the Dutch experience home with them, much of the work selected for show will be available for purchase, including Yoga Chairs by Lucas Maassen, Solar Birdhouses and USB Sticks by Studio Oooms, Tripod Glasses by Maarten Baptist/Joine, A Ring A Day by byAMT, Plint Lamp Shades by Dave Keune and the Klappe prints, among other pieces. (Anything that is not yet available, will be in the near future.)



Participating Designers

Studio Ooms, Frederik Roijé, Jorre van Ast, Dave Keune, Mirjam van der Lubbe, Studio Glithero, Ilona Huvenaars, Willem Derks, Sander Mulder, Lotte van Laatum, Niels van Eijk, Maarten Baptist, Susan Verheijen, Alexander Pelikan, Laurens van Wieringen, Wendy Plomp, Maarten Kolk, Christien Meinderstma, Anouk Omlo, Greetje van Helmond, Lucas Maassen, Anthony Duffeleer, Martijn Deurloo, Studio Jan Habraken and Alissia Melka-Teichroew for byAMT Inc.

Participating Companies

Kikkerland, Van Esch, Functionals.eu, Royal VKB, Artecnic, Wabnitz Editions Ltd.

Location

Cite 131 Greene Street between Houston & Prince Street New York, NY 10012
Hours: 11:00am - 7:00pm Monday Through Saturday 12:00pm - 6:00pm Sunday

Dates

Saturday, May 16 – Sunday, June 14, 2009

Opening Party

Saturday, May 16, 2009 6:00 – 8:00 pm

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