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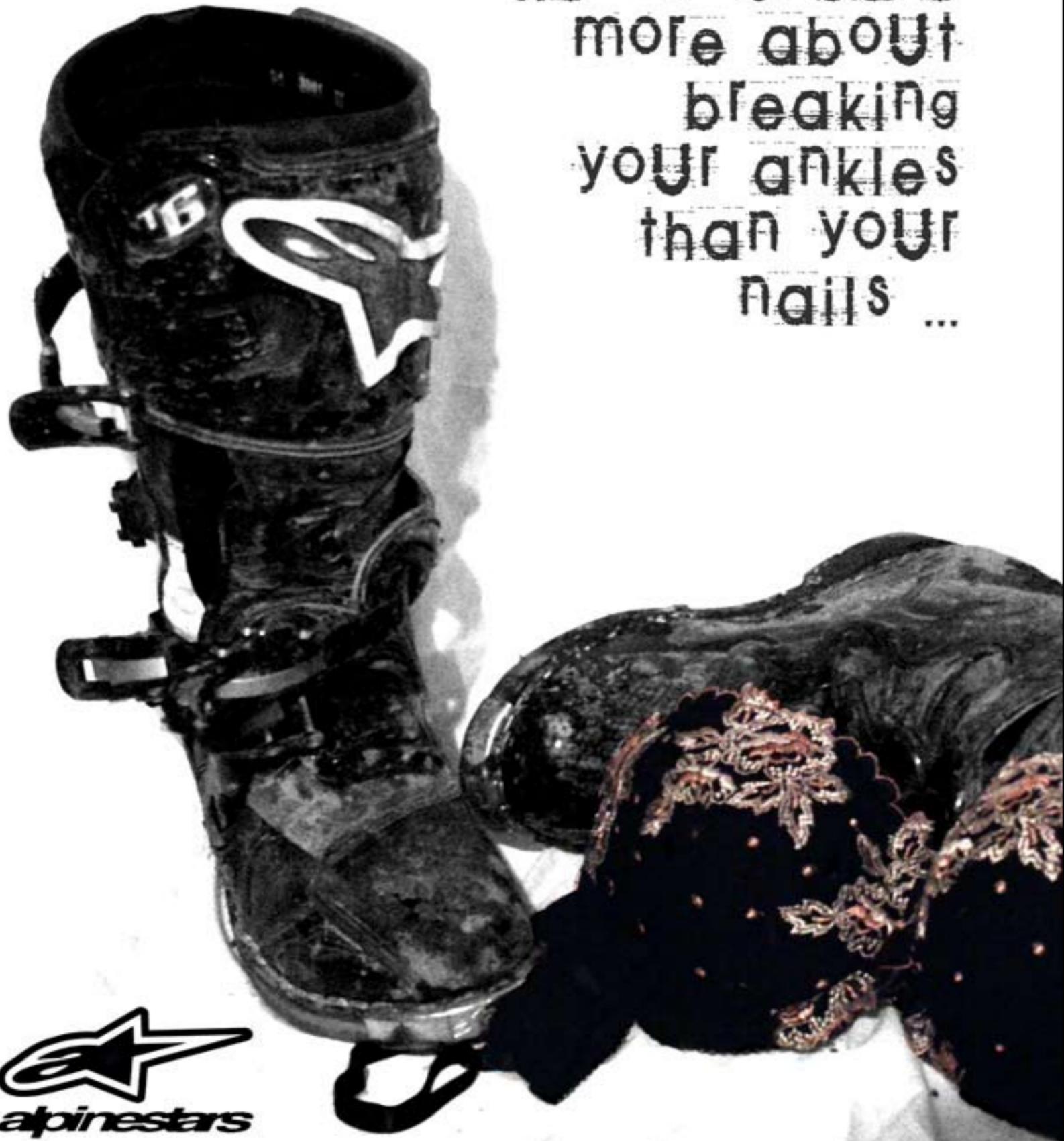
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CITYMAGAZINE FOR VISUALISTS*

AMSTERDAM

GO://AMSTERDAM GRAPHICDESIGN: THONIK * PRODUCTDESIGN: DROOG * COMIC: LAMBIEK

When you care
more about
breaking
your ankles
than your
nails ...



EDITORIAL

CITYMAGAZINE

Amsterdam

!!! Cityguides, Citymagazines, Designmagazines, you can have them dime a dozen. But most citymagazines- and guides are for tourists, while most Designmagazines are for Designers only. Why not combine and do something everyone with a focus on visual culture can enjoy? A warm and kind welcome to the first issue of GO!!!

Inside these pages, you'll find anything you need to experience the most attractive cities on the globe. Featured in this issue is a city of beauty, charm and chaos. With its proud multicultural tradition, Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands has always been a melting pot of ideas and styles. Combined with its royal, European flair you have a perfect spot fully to satisfy a visualist's needs.

So what exactly can you find here? We introduce you to the playful, edgy world of Droog Design, Amsterdam's finest address for product design. You'll find out about Amsterdam's most famous graphic design agency that has now turned its face from orange to green: Thonik. Also, we take a peek into countless racks and boxes, filled with the finest in European comics at Lambiek. Further, you'll get all the information you'll need to survive in this puzzling metropolis - at least for 48 hours! We present you the most interesting spots to watch, dine, rest and - of course - party. Finally, the last words are saved for a true child of the city: Dave. Like most people in Amsterdam, he has a unique story to tell and we let him do that.

So we hope you enjoy what we came up with and you are looking forward to the next issue, featuring Marokko. We certainly do!

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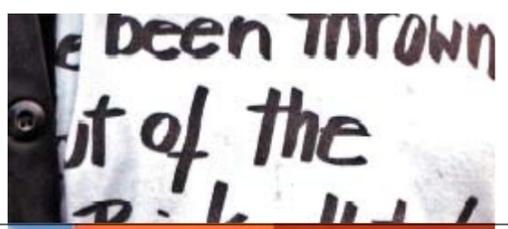
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"I knew physically we could make it if we weren't blown up and killed, you know? Which obviously we weren't, because I wouldn't be here talking to you."



INTRODUCING

Amsterdam

From its humble beginnings as a 13th century fishing village on a river bed to its current role as a major hub for business, tourism and culture, Amsterdam has had a strong tradition as a centre of culture and commerce.

|| When the last millennium was still quite young, a handful of adventurers came floating down the river Amstel in hollowed-out logs. Out of the marshlands and swamps surrounding the Amstel River, a structure of dams and dikes were forged - the first of which is marked by the Dam square at the heart of the city today. These canny 'Aemstelledammers' began exacting toll money from the passing beer and herring traders of the roaring Eastern Sea Trade of the Baltics, quickly becoming expert boat builders and brewers and attracting more curiosity in the emerging town. In 1275, Count Floris of Holland formalised these activities by granting special toll privileges to the merchant town and in 1300 the town got its first charter.

But the city's growth was not without struggle. As King Philip II of Spain and his representative Catholic aristocrats began to clash

with the merchant population, a Reformation swelled. A wave of Protestantism grew amongst the new money, and as the sober, hard working and deeply worshipping Calvinists began to revolt, the 80 Years' War ensued. The Calvinists eventually overthrew King Philip II in 1578. Shortly thereafter, the celebrated William of Orange-Nassau declared the eight Northern provinces - including Amsterdam - as the independent Republic of Holland and became himself the first on the Dutch royal throne. Having been brought up as a Lutheran as well as a Catholic, the stoic 'Vader des vaderlands' (Father of the Fatherland) became a symbol for tolerance.

Cross-Cultural Roots

Between 1570 and 1640, Amsterdam's population increased from 30,000 to 139,000 and over the centuries, the thriving trade industry brought with it waves of various cultures, making the city a haven to diverse groups of refugees. Flexibility and tolerance of these cultures soon proved a key to Amsterdam's success. Protestant settlers, such as the French Huguenots, and Portuguese Jews fled to Amsterdam. Foundations were laid for a lively diamond cutting industry and valuable news came of new trade routes to the east. Pathways to business, trade and prosperity were forged into what ultimately became the country's 'Golden Age'.

In the 17th century, the voyages of the famous Dutch East India Company (VOC) to the Spice Routes helped make Amsterdam one of the wealthiest and most influential cities in the world, thanks to a trade that brought with it new opportunities for a myriad of commercial possibilities. By 1687, the Amsterdam Wisselbank was one of the biggest commercial banks in existence, its notes of exchange recognised as valid tender everywhere. This 'Golden Age' left a magnificent cultural heritage -- including pain-

tings by the likes of Rembrandt and ornate Classicist and Louis-style buildings. The city became a printing center thanks to prolific poets and playwrights such as Bredero, Vondel and P.C. Hooft and the respected philosophers Spinoza and Descartes. It was during this Golden Age that the city's famous concentric crescent of canals took form, becoming what to this day remains an intricate web of circa 90 islands, 100 kilometres of canals and 400 stone bridges. By 1806, Amsterdam had finally earned its title as the Dutch capital and was booming by the end of the century.

Industrial Revolution

While wars with France and the United Kingdom meant the city's prosperity suffered, by the time the Kingdom of the Netherlands was finally established in 1815, Amsterdam began to witness a surge of developments in architecture, infrastructure and industry. Dutch revival styles sprang up in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque-inspired buildings, such as the Central Station and Rijksmuseum of P. J. H. Cu-

ypers or the Concertgebouw of A.L. van Gendt. Meanwhile, the ingenuity of the Amsterdamers saw improved communication and trade as the North Sea canal and the Rhine where joined by the Amsterdam-Rijn Canal. The city was fortified against attacks by the network of forts known as the Stelling van Amsterdam.

While World War I saw minimum damage thanks to the Netherlands' neutrality, the same can not be said for World War II. With German SS troops occupying the city, Amsterdam saw its Jewish community - a pivotal influence in the city's buoyant trade, business, and cultural growth - practically wiped out. Protest and resistance from the Calvinist and Communist communities, such as the 1941 February Strike commemorated by the Jonas Daniël Meijerplein statue, proved insufficient. The city was devastated by the effects of the occupation. The lively areas once so highly populated and influenced by the Jewish community - such as the Jodenbuurt (Jewish quarter) of the Waterlooplein/Nieuwmarkt area - saw its inhabitants practically disappear. Anne Frank is perhaps the most well-known of the over 100,000 Amsterdam Jews that were deported and killed. But this population's influence can still be found today. For exam-

Although the seat of Netherlands government is in The Hague, Amsterdam is the nominal capital. It is also the country's largest city, with a population of 750,000, and the most visited, with over 3,5 million foreign visitors a year.

Population: 751,000
Time Zone: GMT/UTC +1
Telephone area code: 020
Currency: the Euro (EUR)

Climate:
The warmest weather is from June to August, with temperatures between 21 - 26 degrees Celsius. There are rarely extreme temperatures. The air is relatively humid and fog is common in autumn and spring. There are stronger winds from October to March.

le, the Amsterdam dialect is sprinkled with Yiddish. In fact, the city's beloved nickname, 'Mokum', stems from the Yiddish word for 'town'.

In spite of the devastation of World War II, Amsterdam was even more determined to remain an international crux of culture and trade. The airways opened with the construction of Schiphol airport -- which now ranks high among European airports in terms of volume and service. The Port of Amsterdam, now the 6th largest European port, became a gateway for commodities such as grain, cacao and - later - Japanese cars. The economy received a new impulse from development of the area around the South Axis, the chief transport route between the city and Schiphol. Concentrations of office buildings and companies sprang up, including the Amsteltoeren, the World Trade Centre Amsterdam, and the Teleport business

complex in Sloterdijk. Of the total working population of more than 400,000 people, some 10% now works in the information technology sector.

Thanks to movements and measures that began in the sixties, the city once again picked up its socially progressive path. A hotbed of social activism during the era made famous by the 'Provos' eventually influenced the formalisation of a consensus society, with social policies and planning determined by neighbourhood councils. The city slowly managed to re-gain its diversity. The decolonisation of Surinam in 1974 saw the first influx of new immigrants and Amsterdam soon opened its doors even further to its first migrant workers from Turkey and Morocco. More recently, the free-labour movement sparked by new European Union legislation has seen an influx of European neighbours and new legislation for 'knowledge migrants' promises that the city will continue to attract highly-skilled and educated workers. Further, in another historical measure of tolerance, the city celebrated its first legalised civil marriages for same-sex couples in April 2001. With about 45% of the population belonging to one of the cultural minority groups, Amsterdam's 740,000 residents now consist over circa 150 nationalities.

A Unique City

Thanks to Amsterdam's unique mix of classic and contemporary, the city is now a leading tourist destination, a coveted place to live and a prime spot for business. The city's beauty and cultural attractions alone drew over 7 million overnight stays in 2004. Cross-streets lined with shops, cafés, creative businesses, and cultural venues assure a lively and contemporary scene for its residents. The warehouses once used for trade have now been converted into lovely apartments that mix comfortably with international financial institutions nestled in 18th-century mansions. Bicycles, trams, metros, boats and even skates now carry the city's inhabitants through their day. Impressive modern architecture from the past decade provides for unique living and office space in what was once old factories on the outskirts and surrounding islands. The Amsterdam Area itself continues to produce and innovate, competing with metropolises around the world and proving a vital and inspiring setting for the creative industries in the broadest sense.



Xangaii, Paranormal Attack

Ícone do movimento eletrônico de Portugal, o grupo Paranormal Attack, liderado pelo músico Xangaii, gravou recentemente uma participação no novo CD de Charlie Brown Jr. intitulado "Ritmo Ritual e Resposta" que tem lançamento previsto para o outubro em todo Brasil. As músicas fazem parte da trilha sonora do filme "O Magnata".



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Somehow familiar

PRODUCT DESIGN //
DROOG AMSTERDAM

Droog is one of the Netherland's leading addresses in product-design. We take a closer look inside Amsterdam's favorite playground for adults.

|| When Renny Ramakers showed a few pieces of furniture assembled by young Dutch designers from cheap industrial materials or found objects, like old dresser drawers and driftwood, at exhibitions in the Netherlands and Belgium in early 1992, she sold so little that she barely covered her costs.

Even so, the pieces - a bookcase made from strips of paper and triplex by the Jan Konings and Jurgen Bey; a driftwood cupboard designed by Piet Hein Eek and a chest of drawers constructed by Tejo Remy by tying half-a-dozen wooden drawers into a bundle with thick cord - attracted so much attention that Ramakers, then editor-in-chief of the design magazine *Industrieel Ontwerpen* was convinced that she had dis-

covered "a clear break from the past", in other words, a genuinely new approach to design.

Hearing that Gijs Bakker, the product designer and professor at the Design Academy in Eindhoven, was planning to exhibit the work of his present and past students at the 1993 Milan Furniture Fair, she suggested that they collaborate on a joint show. "Before we started out Gijs and I agreed," recalled Ramakers. "If we've made a mistake and they think it's worth nothing we'll shut up shop. If it catches on, we'll keep going."

The fourteen objects they showed in Milan ranged from Konings and Bey's paper bookcase and Remy's bundle of found wooden drawers, to Marcel Wanders' Set Up Shades stack of ready-made lamps, Hella Jongerius' bubbly polyurethane bath mat and a chandelier of lightbulbs devised by Rody Graumans. They called the collection Droog Design after the Dutch word 'droog', which translates into English as 'dry' as in the dry wit, or wry, subtle sense of humour that characterised all the pieces they exhibited.

Droog Design did catch on. It was the hit of the 1993 Milan Furniture Fair. The French newspaper *Libération* suggested that the "unknowns" responsible for Droog should be given a medal for spiritual *savoir vivre*". Many of the pieces unveiled in that first Droog exhibition - like Graumans' 85 Bulbs Chandelier - are now regarded as iconic objects of the early 1990s. And many of the young designers featured in that show, such as Hella Jongerius and Marcel Wanders, have since emerged as pivotal figures in contemporary design.

Looking back it is easy to see why Droog made such a splash. By the early 1990s contemporary design had rebelled against the self-parodic cacophony of candy coloured plastics and kitsch motifs of the mid-1980s Memphis movement by adopting a restrained, sometimes overly retentive minimalist aesthetic. As Renny Ramakers put it: "Design became much more sober."

Droog was different. It shared the simplicity of minimalism and its careful choice of materials, but deployed humour - albeit a dry or 'droog' humour - to strike an emotional bond with the user. Rudy Graumans' 85 bulb chandelier is an inspired example of lateral thinking in design, but it is impossible not to smile at the verve with which the designer transformed an everyday object like a standard light bulb into a spectacular chandelier. The stack of standard lampshades that Marcel Wanders turned into his Set Up Shades lamp and Tejo Remy's bundle of battered old dresser drawers elicited the same response. "It is a comment on many things: on plenitude, over-consumption, the pretensions that beset the profession," said Ramakers of Remy's piece.

Cheered by the response to their Milan exhibition, Bakker and Ramakers established the Droog Design Foundation in the following January and struck an agreement with the Voorburg-based company DMD (alias Development Manufacturing and Distribution) to make and market its products, mostly as limited editions. Those products, according to Droog's statutes, would be those which "in terms of

quality and content fit with the image and way of thinking communicated by Droog Design: original ideas (and) clear concepts which have been shaped in a wry, no-nonsense manner".

Droog staged a second show at the 1994 Milan Furniture Fair and began discussions with the Centraal Museum in Utrecht which would eventually acquire and exhibit the entire collection until 1999. Bakker and Ramakers realised that the designers championed by Droog would have more impact if their work was shown collectively, than they would by exhibiting individually. "All those designs would never have become as well known if we had not shown them together," observed Gijs Bakker.

Rather than simply select a collection of designs for the 1995 Milan Furniture Fair, the Droog duo decided to initiate new work by liaising with the Delft University to experiment with new materials on the Dry Tech I and II projects and later the Dry Bathing collection of bathroom products in collaboration with DMD. Droog then began work on its first collaborative project with a private sector partner in 1997 by developing a collection of ceramics with Rosenthal, the German porcelain manufacturer. One of these pieces was the white porcelain Sponge Vase modelled by Marcel Wanders on a natural sponge.

Bakker and Ramakers have since developed the Droog concept not by repeating and refining the original formula but by experimenting with new products, new desig-

ners and new industrial partners while adhering to the same principles. From creating visionary concepts for a New York Times millennium competition and designing a (cont. p.9) flagship store on rue Saint-Honoré in Paris for Mandarin Duck, the Italian luggage company, to devising the Dry Kitchen made from different variations on the same modular white ceramic tile, Droog has continued to reinvent its core principles on different scales and in different disciplines in industrial projects, books and exhibitions.

For the 2001 Milan Furniture Fair, it commissioned a group of young designers to dream up visionary ways of reconceiving the wooden cigar boxes made by Picus, a traditional Dutch box maker. The following year Droog commandeered a flophouse hotel in central Milan where another group of designers was each allocated a room and invited to create an intervention.

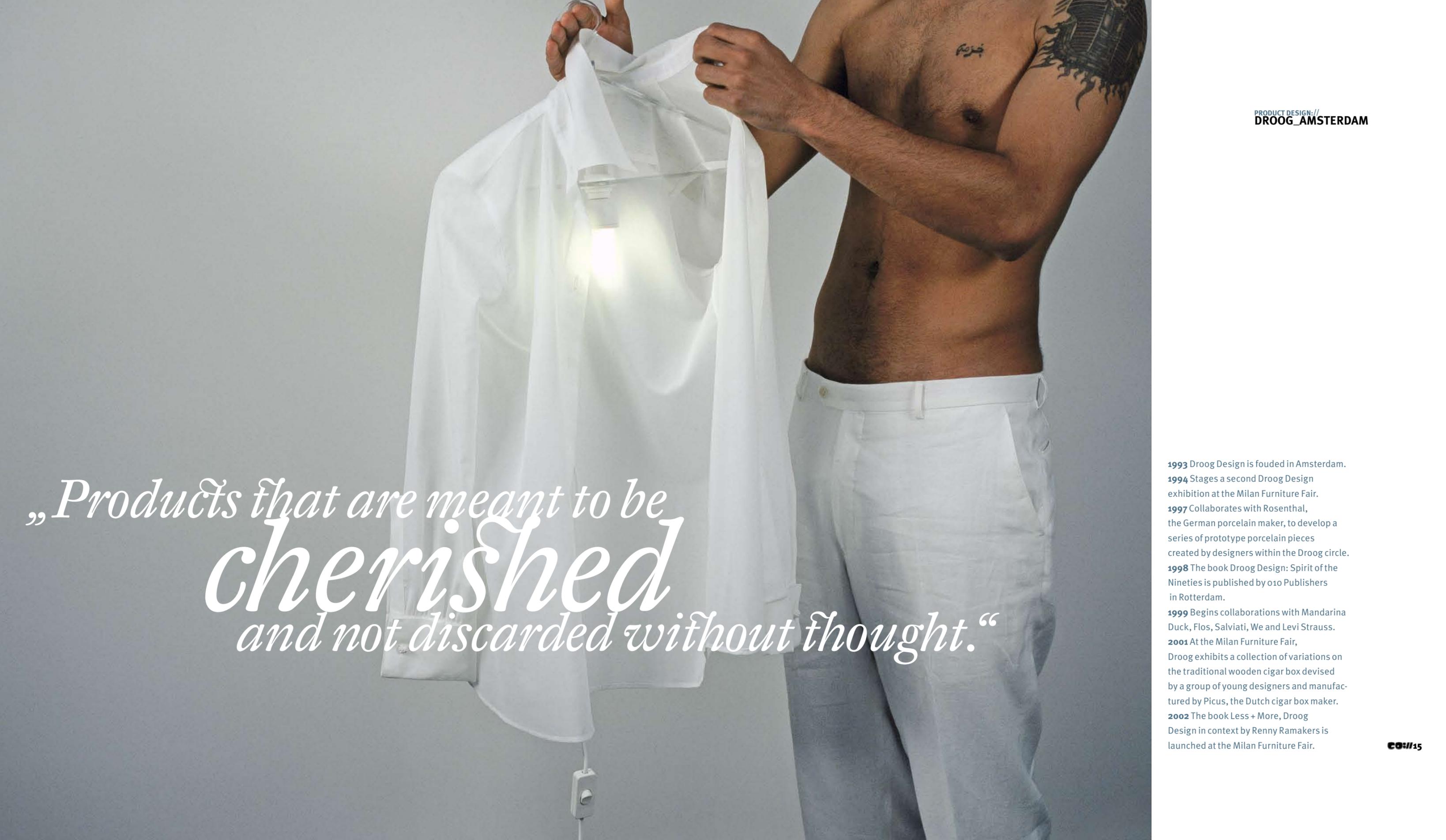
The core of Droog's work is its collection of more than 120 products, which were either created by one of its group projects or commissioned from their designers by Bakker and Ramakers. "The criteria are flexible and shaped by developments in product culture and the designers' own initiatives," states Droog. "The only constant is that the concept has validity today; that it is worked out along clear-cut, compelling lines; and that product usability is a must. Within this framework literally anything goes."

Do Hit-Chair

designed by marijn van der poll in 2000 for droog design. taking full control, the do hit chair is one that is custom made by you. smash, hit and pound it into your own perfect piece of functional art. just keep going until you get the desired form.

made of 0.04" thick steel, this cube is just begging for you to bring out its true form. sledge hammer included. also available are do hit chairs pre-formed by designer marijn van der poll himself.





*„Products that are meant to be
cherished
and not discarded without thought.“*

1993 Droog Design is founded in Amsterdam.

1994 Stages a second Droog Design exhibition at the Milan Furniture Fair.

1997 Collaborates with Rosenthal, the German porcelain maker, to develop a series of prototype porcelain pieces created by designers within the Droog circle.

1998 The book Droog Design: Spirit of the Nineties is published by o1o Publishers in Rotterdam.

1999 Begins collaborations with Mandarina Duck, Flos, Salviati, We and Levi Strauss.

2001 At the Milan Furniture Fair, Droog exhibits a collection of variations on the traditional wooden cigar box devised by a group of young designers and manufactured by Picus, the Dutch cigar box maker.

2002 The book Less + More, Droog Design in context by Renny Ramakers is launched at the Milan Furniture Fair.



Highchair
designed by maartje steekamp in 2003 for droog design. this childrens highchair is anything but the norm. an infant in this chair can sit higher so that it can be at eye level with the parent. as the child gets older, the lower the chair gets. a small saw is supplied with the chair so that it can be altered when needed. made of wood, the highchair has also won the prestigious red dot award.



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The Dutch Font

Johann Michael Fleischmann is considered master of typesetting; Paul Renner called him the most important of his time. Not only did Mr Fleischmann continue the rich tradition, but lead Dutch typesetting to a new level.

At the end of 1728, 21-year old Type designer Johann Michael Fleischmann is driven to the Netherlands where he hires at different font-factories. After four years of waltzing, he starts working on his own. From 1743 on he mostly works for the well known factory Enschedé in Haarlem. For them, he develops more than twenty latin fonts until his death in 1768.

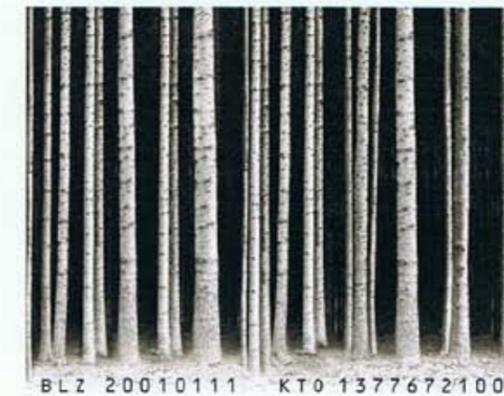
In December 1992, Erhard Kaiser from Leipzig gets the assignment from DTL to redesign a digital version of the Fleischmann-antiqua. Kaiser studies deeply on the shapes of the original Fleischmann fonts, whose typeface he wants to preserve - as good as possible.

After 4 years of work, we have two variations of Fleischmann; One Roman- and one Display-version, either two Italic-types included. As demanded by the market, he also develops the Semi-Bold and Bold versions, without any histo-

rical background. Caps, 30 Ligatures, Alternates and different Sets of numbers complete the DTL Fleischmann.

So what distinguishes Fleischmann's fonts? Baroque in style, they consist of timeless beauty, full of character and very carefully crafted; they come across as being self-confident and playful, which may resemble to the former Dutch attitude towards life. Fleischmann's Fonts seem pretty headstrong due to their details in style, making their appearance diversified and full of life. In terms of style, Fleischmann's Fonts are bound to the baroque. As typical for this time of change, you can find in his characters formal elements of the renaissance, some even neo-classical. The italic fonts bask in baroque and are extraordinarily beautiful. Big antiques are crystalline and noble, very close to classicism.

www.dutchtypelibrary.com



GRAPHIC DESIGN://
THONIK_AMSTERDAM

Thonik is considered the Netherlands' creative agency of the hour: „Without style and with a minimum of form.“ According to this attitude, Thomas Widdershoven and Nikki Gonnissen do their work, thinking of research, analysis and stylelessness as their major grants of success. They see themselves as conceptual artists, strategists and experts in media, putting logic and intuition above style or taste. So you may hear from Thonik things like: „It's not very attractive but the idea is good!“



The tougher the problem, the more fun!

THONIK Thomas Widdershoven und Nikki Gonnissen gelten in den Niederlanden als die Kreativagentur schlechthin: „Without style and with a minimum of form.“ Nach dieser Devise arbeiten Thonik, halten Research, Analyse und Stylelessness für existenzielle Erfolgsfaktoren im Designprozess und beleuchten das „Kundenproblem“ im Briefinggespräch bis ins Mark - „The tougher the problem, the more fun“. Selbstverwirklichungs-Grafikdesign und dekorative Verhübschung verachten Thonik, sie sehen sich als konzeptionelle Künstler, als Strategen und Media-Experten, die Logik und Intuition (im Sinne von John Cage) über Stil und Geschmack stellen. Damit sind sie Vorreiter und Vorbild einer neuen Generation niederländischer Kreativer, die der „visual soup of post-modernism“ ebenso wie den ungeschriebenen Gesetzen guter Gestaltung zu entfliehen versucht. Da hören Sie von Thonik auch mal: „It's not very attractive but the idea is good!“ Dennoch: „Thonik“, die erste Publikation über die gemeinsame Arbeit von Widdershoven und Gonnissen ist nicht nur voll extrem guter Ideen, sondern durchaus auch ein attraktives Buch. Kaum wird das Wort „Künstleratelier“ erwähnt, denken die Architekten vorwiegend an „optimale Lichtverhältnisse“, an mindes-

tens vier Meter hohe Räume, an Zufahrtsrampen für tonnenschwere Lastwagen. Ein Grafikatelier muss aber keine hohen Räume haben. Der Großteil der Arbeit findet am Bildschirm statt und „optimale Lichtverhältnisse“ bedeuten hier eher: etwas schummrig.

Als Atelier ist die neue Arbeitsstätte des Grafikbüros „thonik“ nicht auf Anhieb zu erkennen. Dass es sich aber um ein besonderes Gebäude handelt, wird auf Anhieb deutlich. Grell leuchtet der kubische Klotz im Chaos eines halb gewerblich, halbzuWohnzweckengenutztenHinterhofs.

Und dass es ein Block werden sollte, darüber waren sich Auftraggeber und Architekten einig. Anpassung hätte hier Untergang bedeutet. Der Block hat ein Flachdach und Flachdachverächter glauben zu wissen: Flachdächer sind nicht dicht. Was Flachdachverächter wahrscheinlich noch nicht wissen: Polyurethan ist dicht, immer und unter allen Umständen. Entsprechend dicalso auch Dächer, die – wie dieses - mit Polyurethan beschichtet sind. Polyurethane dämmen Kühlschränke, Pipelines, Fernwärmeleitungen.

Man kann aus ihnen Duschtassen, U-Bahn-Waggon-Decken, Schuhsohlen, Rollen von

Inline-Skates und Parkdeckbeschichtungen herstellen. NL-Architects hatten bei einer Wärmetauschstation in Utrecht einen Versuch mit diesem Material als Decken- und Wandbeschichtung gewagt (Baumeister 12/2000). Bei diesem Ateliergebäude in Amsterdam wurde der Kunststoff jetzt erstmals an einem bewohnten Bau eingesetzt. Polyurethan ist farblos, kann aber durch Farbpigmente beliebig eingefärbt werden. Thomas Widdershoven und Nikki Gonnissen entschieden sich dafür, ihr neues Haus in die „Hausfarbe“ ihres Designbüros zu tauchen: Orange. Zur rettenden Form am gestaltlosen Standort tritt so die rettende Farbe.

Durch das holländische Königshaus, die Oranier, ist Orange in den Niederlanden, unabhängig von Moden, durchaus nichts Ungewöhnliches, als Farbton für ein ganzes Haus ist es das schon. Auf ein gestaffeltes Gebäude wollte das Architekturbüro MVRDV wegen der gewünschten klaren Form verzichten. Seine Abmessungen ergeben sich deshalb aus den Vorschriften für die Abstandsflächen: Grenzbebauung im Osten, sieben Meter Abstand zum nördlichen, sechs zum südlichen und fünf zum westlichen Nachbarn waren die Vorgaben.

Sie erlaubten eine maximale Gebäudehöhe von sieben Metern bei einer Grundfläche von 150 Quadratmetern. Auch wenn da klein wie ein Modell wirkende Haus nicht so aussieht, es nutzt das größtmögliche Volumen bei

den zur Verfügung stehenden 400 Quadratmeter des Grundstücks. Schummrig ist es im Atelier „thonik“ in Amsterdam zwar nicht, dafür aber angenehm designarm. Neon-Deckenlampen und Vorhänge stammen aus dem Baumarkt.

Die von Richard Hutten entworfenen hölzernen Tische verströmen so viel Selbstverständlichkeit, wie die sich darauf türmenden Computer der drei oder vier letzten Generationen. Die Arbeitsplätze sind gar nicht chic. Designer mögen kein Design. Von der spektakulär orangen Haut des Hauses ist innen kaum etwas zu sehen. Hier dominieren Weiß, Grau und Himmelblau. Wie eine Skulptur steht das hellblau gestrichene Treppenhaus in der Mitte des Arbeitsraums. Über den kleinen Räumen für Toilette und Haustechnik läuft die Deckenbeleuchtung durch und verstärkt so den Eindruck, dass es sich hier um einen hölzernen Einbau handelt.

Obwohl ein hoher Raum nicht zwingend nötig ist, ergibt sich durch unterschiedliche Höhen doch ein jeweils unterschiedlicher Raumcharakter. Im Zahlenspiel der Proportionen liegt ein Teil der Entwurfsidee: In Halbmeter-Schritten steigt

die Raumhöhe von Süden nach Norden im Erdgeschoss von 2,50 Meter auf 4 Meter an, im Obergeschoss fällt sie entsprechend ab. Prinzipiell ergeben sich die Proportionen des Hauses aus denen der 1,20 Meter breiten und 8 Meter langen Beton-Fertigdeckenteile. Durch Unterzüge von jeweils vierzig Zentimetern Breite ließen sich die Raumlängen bei gleichbleibender Breite von Süden nach Norden annähernd von sechs über fünf und vier auf drei Meter verringern. Im Obergeschoss, das als Wohnung zu nutzen ist, werden dabei natürlich jeweils ein paar Stufen nötig, mit der die fünfzig Zentimeter Höhenunterschied zur nächsten Ebene überwunden werden können.

Die im Norden liegende Dachterrasse ist – weil innerhalb des geschlossenen Baublocks liegend - durch einen hölzernen Boden und weiße Wände als „Innenraum“ definiert. Nur für besondere Anlässe soll auch die große, mit Polyurethan beschichtete Dachfläche des Hauses als Terrasse genutzt werden. Eine Treppe gibt es absichtlich nicht, denn man soll sie auch in Zukunft nur provisorisch über eine angestellte Leiter erreichen können. Wie Skulpturen wirken auf dieser Dachfläche ein „Tisch“ und ein „Planschbecken“, beide ebenfalls mit der orangen Polyurethanschicht überzogen.

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„Orange isn't a colour to attract attention“

Das Grafikbüro Thonik und BIS-Publishers brachten 2001 das Buch „Apple and Oranges“ heraus, das einen bunten Querschnitt durch die Grafik-Design Szene der Niederlande präsentiert. Die dargestellten Arbeiten reichen vom straighten Corporate-Design über Zeitschriften- und Buchgestaltungen und „normaler“ Werbung bis hin zu provokanten Plakatlösungen.

Thonik gestaltet aber nicht nur die Identität Anderer, sondern auch ihre eigene, indem sie sich eine „Hauschrift“, die Avenir, und eine eigene „Hausfarbe“, Orange zulegte. Die Farbe Orange, ist nicht nur zum Erwecken der Aufmerksamkeit gedacht, sondern hat auch einen gewissen Beliebtheitsgrad bei den Niederländern, durch das holländische Königshaus, die „Oranier“. Diese Farbe präsentiert nicht nur die Thonik Agentur allgemein, sondern wird auch bei dem Atelier der Grafikgruppe aufgegriffen. Ihr Atelier steht seit 2001 in einem Hinterhof in Amsterdam. Das Gebäude, was auch gerne als kubischer Klotz bezeichnet wird, wurde von dem Architektenbüro MVRDV entworfen. Das Gebäude hat ein Flachdach, und erstreckt sich 7 Meter, auf 2 Etagen und 150 Quadratmetern verteilt, in die Höhe. Das gesamte Gebäude ist mit einer wasserdichten Polyurethanschicht überzogen, die in die leuchtende „Hausfarbe“ einge-

taucht wurde. Die Fenster und Türen des Hauses sind im Stil der Siebziger, ähnlich wie französische Fenster, und von außen sind Nylonnetze angebracht, die vor dem Absturz schützen.

Im Inneren des Ateliers ist es angenehm designarm, und durch die Farben Weiß, Grau und Hellblau, wird das Gebäude hell und freundlich. Die Inneneinrichtung ist schlicht gehalten, und Elemente wie Neonlampen und Vorhänge sind sogar aus dem Baumarkt. Einige Möbel wie die Tische sind von Richard Hutten designt. In der Mitte des Erdgeschosses steht eine hellblaue Konstruktion, die als Treppe in das 2. Stockwerk dient. Auf dem flachen Dach des Ateliers, befinden sich skulpturähnliche Elemente, wie ein Tisch (Ping Pong-Tisch) und ein Planschbecken (Swimmingpool), die ebenfalls mit der Polyurethanschicht überzogen sind. Das komplette Dach ist ebenfalls wie die Fenster, mit den Nylonnetzen gesichert. Das Gebäude hat seinen ganz eigenen Charakter, und fordert den Betrachter heraus. Thonik wollte sich nicht anpassen, sondern auffallen, was zu einigen Streitigkeiten zwischen dem Grafikbüro und den Anwohnern führte, doch heute steht das Atelier für einen bekannten Designertreffpunkt.





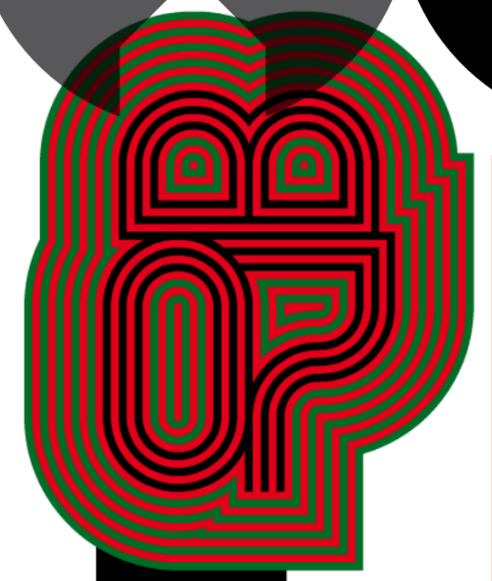
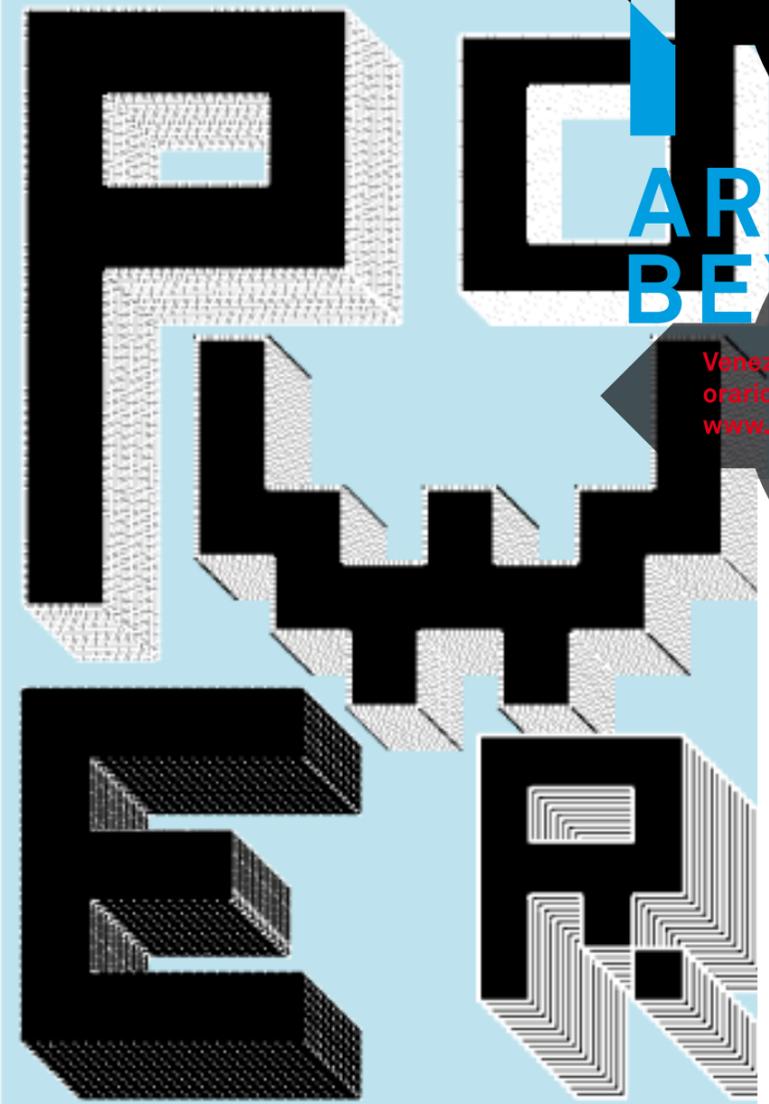
la Biennale di Venezia
11. Mostra Internazionale di Architettura

14/09 – 23/11/2008

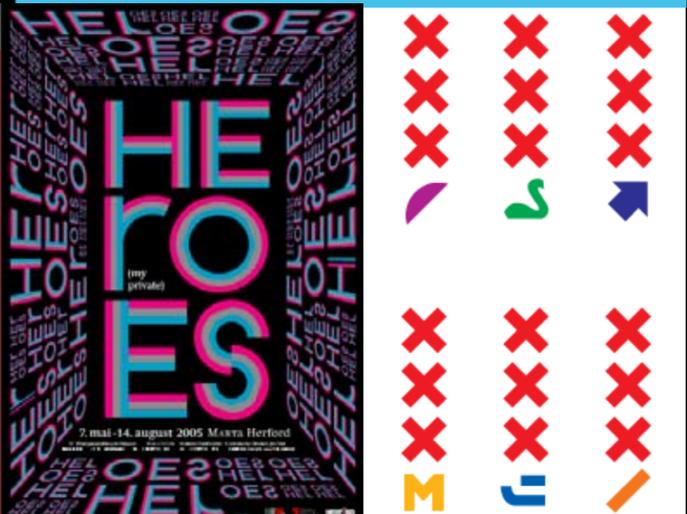
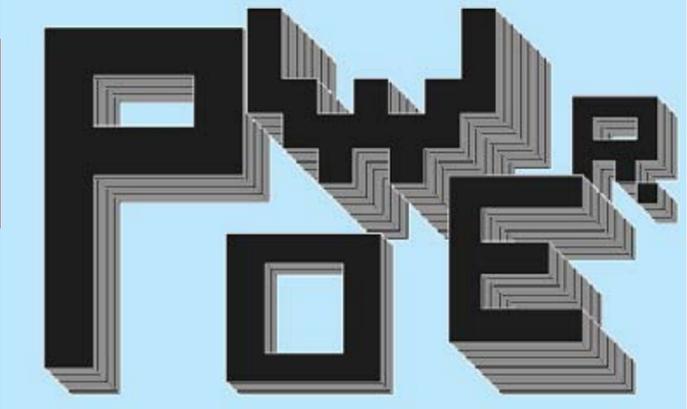
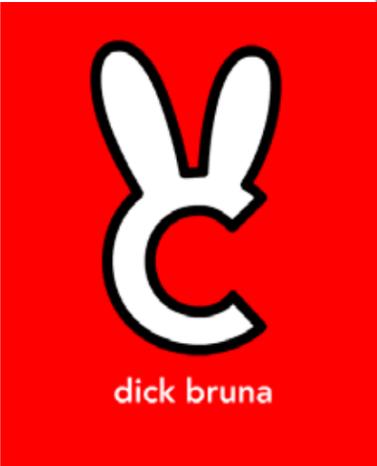
OUT THERE

ARCHITECTURE BEYOND BUILDING

Venezia Giardini della Biennale – Arsenale
orario/opening hours 10.00-18.00
www.labiennale.org



museum van boijmans van beuningen



gemeente Amsterdam
20.000 ambtenaren
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www.n8.nl

THONIK
Weesperzijde 79 D
1091 EJ Amsterdam, Netherlands
+31 20 4683525 / www.thonik.nl

ACCOMODATION

** HOTEL V ... VICTORIEPLEIN

If you want to enjoy Amsterdam like the locals stay at hotel V. We, the enthusiastic V crew, all live, work and for the bigger part, are born in Amsterdam. We are very passionate about our city. Especially about the genuine and funky part of it. So if you'd like to get to know Amsterdam the way we do and see more than just the canals, museums, coffee-shops and the red light district, you've come to the right place. We'll be more than happy to show you the trendy and unexpected side of our wonderful town. There are two different V locations: Hotel V victorieplein opened in 1999 and is located at a perfect location just outside the closeby city centre near the Rai centre at the southern edge of the bohemian Pijp area. Hotel V frederiksplein opened in march 2008 and is located in the city centre at crawling distance of the canals and the northern edge of the Pijp very close to the inspiring Albert Cuyp market.

Victorieplein 14, 1011 AD Amsterdam

*** LLOYD HOTEL ... HANDELSKADE

The Lloyd Hotel is a Dutch hotel centrally situated in the fashionable heart of Amsterdam's Eastern Docklands Area. Renowned Dutch architects, designers and artists have transformed this monument dating from 1921 in a hotel where many inhabitants of Amsterdam, international artists, tourists and business people feel at home. The service is the same for everybody: 24 hours room service, free WIFI and satellite television on all rooms. There is a restaurant, a bar, a library and even a "corner" shop.

Handelskade 34, 1011 AD Amsterdam

**** COLLEGE HOTEL ... HAVENS OOST

Housed in a stunning listed 19th century structure, the luxury hotel was originally built in 1895 as a school. The College Hotel and restaurant in Amsterdam pays homage to this scholastic tradition - the staff are all students of the Amsterdam Hotel Management School, Bakery and Tourism, working under the expert eye of experienced professionals.

Balancing technological facilities with discreet aspects of modern design, you will enjoy a truly eclectic and idiosyncratic hotel; from high ceilings to oversized period fireplaces and sweeping staircases, The College Hotel is markedly different. The hotel also has spacious and stylish meeting and events spaces ideal for private meetings, dinners and weddings. The gourmet College Restaurant is a noted culinary destination in its own right, serving artfully rendered Dutch cuisine.

Roelof Hartstraat 1, T AD Amsterdam





DINE & WINE



BAR ONASSIS VICTORIEPLEIN

Club-bar-restaurant on the border of IJ-river, with a large outdoor terrace. Sunbathing, lounging, dining, dancing, it's all possible here. The restaurant serves delicious Italian food, and as far as the club in the basement goes: think jazz bar meets beach club.
Westerdoksdiijk 40, Amsterdam

BRASSERIE HARKEMA HANDELSKADE

Brasserie Harkema is a contemporary version of the classic Parisian brasserie in the heart of Amsterdam. The establishment is a pleasant and stylish meeting place where you can enjoy excellent meals and/or special wines at reasonable prices. Brasserie Harkema is open seven days a week, offering at each moment of the day a cosmopolitan environment in which to lunch, to have coffee after shopping, to dine, to drink a bottle of wine with bar snacks or to have supper after a theatre visit.
Nes 67, T428 2222 LA Amsterdam

SHOPPING

PHARMACIE LAIRESSE APOTHEEK ...❖ OUD ZUID

The back-lit periodic table that arcs around the facade of the Lairesse chemist near Jacob Obrechtsstraat gives an initial indication of the state of the art interiors in this futuristic pharmacy. Architects Concrete designed glowing green medicine cabinets, containing both herbal and conventional cures for every affliction imaginable.

De Lairessestraat 40, 1071 PB Amsterdam

OUTLET POL'S POTTEN ...❖ KNSM ISLAND

What does Pol's Potten stand for? The answer to this question can be found in our retail outlet on Amsterdam's KNSM Island. This store features the latest trends in home and garden design. Press the 'Products' button for information on our products and the many extra services provided by Pol's Potten.

KNSM-Laan 39, 1019 LA Amsterdam

SHOES SHOEBALOO ...❖ VICTORIEPLEIN

Heading to Amsterdam? Got a shoe fetish? Perhaps even with an inclination towards the extraterrestrial? Well, then check out the Shoebaloo store located at PC Hooftstraat 80. The interior of this designer footwear boutique was created by Meyer En Van Schooten. It's scifi interior not only looks the part, but also functions as such as well. The shop entrance is hidden behind mirrored doors that reflect the street. Once inside, the consumer is held within a rather sterile containment area (and all those lovely shoes!) with walls that connect seamlessly to the floor and ceiling. The retailer is able to change the atmosphere of the shop by adjusting the colors within. Cue the music! And let out that alien sex fiend hiding deep within!

Hooftstraat 80, 1019 LA Amsterdam



MUSEEING

MUSEUM STEDELIJK MUSEUM OOSTERDOCKSKADE

Please notice: Only exhibitions on art and design after 1968 are to be seen in the Stedelijk Museum CS. The climatological circumstances of this temporary location unfortunately make it impossible to show our classic modern highlights from the collection. These are back on show in our new building at the Museumplein, opening the end of 2009.

Oosterdockskade 5, 1011 AD Amsterdam

MUSEUM ANNE FRANK HOUSE JORDAAN VIRTEL

The former hiding place, where Anne Frank wrote her diary, is now a well-known museum. The museum tells the history of the eight people in hiding and those who helped them during the war. Anne Frank's diary is among the original objects on display.

Prinsengracht 267, 1011 AD Amsterdam

MUSEUM VAN GOGH MUSEUM MUSEUMSPLEIN

The Van Gogh Museum houses the world's largest collection of work by Vincent van Gogh. This summer features some Van Gogh presentations. The museum is also welcoming a presentation of works from the Stedelijk Museum.

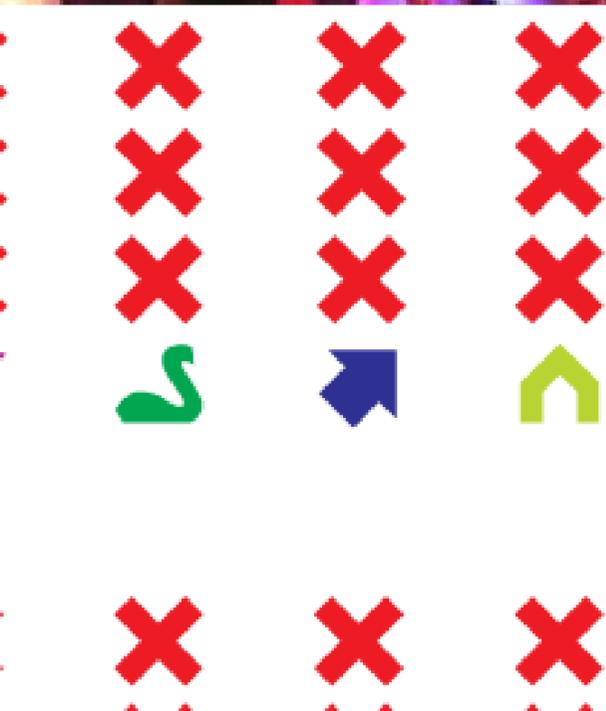
A visit to the Van Gogh Museum is a unique experience. The museum contains the largest collection of paintings by Vincent van Gogh in the world. It provides the opportunity to keep track of the artist's developments, or compare his paintings to works by other artists from the 19th century in the collection. The museum also holds an extensive offer of exhibitions on various subjects from 19th century art history.

Paulus Potterstraat 7, 1070 AJ Amsterdam





CLUBS



NIGHTCLUB MORE ... JORDAAN VIRTEL

In the former Roothaanhuis club RoXY seems to have risen from its ashes. Though the new venue lacks the charisma of the old movie theatre, it has ample space to live up to the expectations. More is a brightly lit club, with white walls, a white ceiling and pink concrete flooring, and in contrast with the fashionable lounges it clearly focuses on dancing. RoXY-diehardes will recognise the programming.

Jonge Roelensteeg 21, T344 6400 Amsterdam

LOUNGE SUPPERCLUB ... OUDE ZUID

Love it or hate it, Supperclub launched the city's lounge culture. Around a decade ago, architectural practice Concrete gave an abandoned church a futuristic facelift and created a club that has since become an international brand. A cross between a Friday night and Saturday morning, Supperclub serves film producers, starlets and mafiosi lying prostrate on extra-wide white banquettes. The waiting staff are gorgeous and the DJ plays the latest lounge and club tracks set to psychedelic visuals, interspersed with lip-synching drag acts, crooning cabaret singers and performance artists best described as experimental.

Jonge Roelensteeg 21, T344 6400 Amsterdam



Comic Relief

Lambiek is Europe's first and most famous antiquarian comic shop, based in Amsterdam.

Join us as we dive into a world of panels and speech balloons.

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CO://50



MUSEUMS //exhibitions

ALLARD PIERSON MUSEUM TRAM 4,9,14,25 ... SPUI

//ARCHAEOLOGY 09:00-20:00 ENTRANCE 06,00 EUR

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Etnisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer, Arabic, Latin or African electronic dance music.

www.allardpierson.nl

ANNE FRANK HUIS TRAM 13,14, 17 ... WESTERMARKT

//EXHIBITION 10:00-18:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.

www.annefrankhuis.nl

DIAMANTMUSEUM TRAM 16,24 ... MUSEUMSPLEIN

//EXHIBITION 10:00-18:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds.

www.diamantmuseum.nl

RIJKSMUSEUM TRAM 7, 10 ... SPIEGELGRACHT

//MUSEUM 09:00-20:00 ENTRANCE 08,00 EUR

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Etnisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer, Arabic, Latin or African electronic dance music.



www.rijksmuseumamsterdam.nl

NEMO BUS 8 ... KADIJKSPLEIN

//EXHIBITION 09:00-21:00 ENTRANCE 05,00 EUR

In 2005, Antipodean band, OPSHOP, brought in Manic Street Preachers producer, Greg Haver to help shape their songs.

www.nemo.nl

SCHEEPVAARTMUSEUM BUS 22,42,43 ... KATTENBURGERPLEIN

//MARITIME 10:00-18:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.

www.scheepvaartmuseum.nl

MONUMENTS //attractions

BEGIJNHOF TRAM 1,2,16,25 ... SPUI

//COURTYARD 10:00-23:00 ENTRANCE 07,50 EUR

We are happy. The lovely Ninthe is back in our Wicked Jazz arms and back on stage at Sugar. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember. The ladies are ably accompanied with some amazing riffs obn guitar by Micha Schellhaas.

www.begijnhof.nl

DE OUDE KERK TRAM 1,2,16, 18 ... DAM

//CHURCH 10:00-18:00 ENTRANCE 05,00 EUR

In 2005, Antipodean band, OPSHOP, brought in Manic Street Preachers producer, Greg Haver to help shape their songs. Releases earlier last year, „Second Hand Planet“ entered the charts at #5, hitting #1 32 weeks later.



www.amsterdam.nl/oude-kerk

THEATRES //live performance

CONCERTGEBOUW CONCERT HALL TRAM 3,5,12 ... SPUI

//THEATRE 09:00-20:00 ENTRANCE 15,00 EUR

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Etnisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer, Arabic, Latin or African electronic dance music.

www.concertgebouw.nl

CARRE METRO 51,53, 54 ... WEESPERPLEIN

//THEATRE 18:00-00:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.

www.carr.nl/amsterdam

MUZIEKTHEATER TRAM 51,53,54 ... WATERLOOPLEIN

//THEATRE 10:00-18:00 ENTRANCE 06,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent .

www.muзикtheater.nl

VARIOUS //tourist highlights

VAN BAERLESTRAAT TRAM 2, 3 ... VAN BAERLESTRAAT

//SHOPPING AREA

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Etnisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside.

ALBERT CUYP TRAM 4-25 ... STADHOUDERSKADE

//MARKET GENERAL GOODS

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth.

BLOEMENMARKT TRAM 1,2,5 ... KONINGSPLEIN

//MARKET FLOWERS

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth.

AMSTERDAMSE PORT METRO 50 ... STADION

//SHOPPING AREA

In 2005, Antipodean band, OPSHOP, brought in Manic Street Preachers producer, Greg Haver to help shape their songs.

www.amsterdamseport.nl

AMSTERDAM ARENA METRO 50 ... STATION BIJMER ARENA

//AYAX MUSEUM

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.



www.amsterdam-arena.nl

CAMPING VLIENGBOS BUS 32 ... ZAMENHOF

//CAMPING SITES

We are happy. The lovely Ninthe is back in our Wicked Jazz arms and back on stage at Sugar. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember. The ladies are ably accompanied with some amazing riffs obn guitar by Micha Schellhaas.

www.vliegenbos.nl

REMBRANDTPLEIN TRAM 1,2,16, 18 ... DAM

//ENTERTAINMENT AREA

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Etnisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer.

www.rembraqundtplein.nl

CLUBBING //musicprogram

FRIDAY //16 AUGUST ETNISCH HYSTERISCH

//PARTY 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 10,00 EUR

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Et-nisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer, Arabic, Latin or African electronic dance music.



www.sugarfactory.nl

SATURDAY //17 AUGUST EARTHAREA

//PARTY/SHOW 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, like it was played back in the early days, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again.

www.earth-link.nl

SATURDAY //17 AUGUST WICKED JAZZ SOUNDS

//PARTY 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 07,50 EUR

We are happy. The lovely Ninthe is back in our Wicked Jazz arms and back on stage at Sugar. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember. The ladies are ably accompanied with some amazing riffs obn guitar by Micha Schellhaas. Your Disjockey is Leroy.

Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, like it was played back in the early days, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again.

www.wickedjazzsounds.com

SUNDAY //18 AUGUST OPSHOP

//PARTY 20:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 13,00 EUR

In 2005, Antipodean band, OPSHOP, brought in Manic Street Preachers producer, Greg Haver to help shape their songs. Releases earlier last year, „Second Hand Planet“ entered the charts at #5, hitting #1 32 weeks later. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again.



www.opshopmusic.com



SATURDAY //24 AUGUST VERSCH FESTIVAL ELEKTRONIC MUSIC

//PARTY/SHOW 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

Conforce began a love affair with electronic music at 10, influencing his Detroit tech-house style. Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, like it was played back in the early days, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again. He cross funky house with a blend of techno and groove.

www.verschfestival.nl

SUNDAY //25 AUGUST WARMBAD

//PARTY 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 10,00 EUR

What the folk is all the fuss about? The first edition of Et-nisch Hysterisch saw punters lining up around the block in the hope of getting inside. Obviously we're not the only ones who are crazy about the sounds of sexy tango, Balkan beats and the latest in gypsy, Indian, klezmer, Arabic, Latin or African electronic dance music.

www.warmbad.nl

CONCERTS //live performance

THURSDAY //22 AUGUST THE CLIPSTERS

//LIVE MUSIC 21:00-01:00 ENTRANCE 08,00EUR

Do you like soul music? Sam & Dave, Carla Thomas, the wicked Wilson Pickett, Amy W? Then you'll definitely dig The Clipsters, a 10-piece vintage 60's soul outfit from Amsterdam. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, like it was played back in the early days, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again.



www.myspace.com/theclipsters

FRIDAY //23 AUGUST STAD VAN SPINOZA

//LIVE MUSIC 21:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 12,00 EUR

STAD VAN SPINOZA is a new club experience where great line-ups are supported with art, performances and a scent of ideology. This time the focus lies in giving actuality to your own identity. Famous philosopher fought for the right to freedom of expression. The lovely Ninthe is back in our Wicked Jazz arms and back on stage at Sugar. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember. The ladies are ably accompanied with some amazing riffs obn guitar by Micha Schellhaas. Your Disjockey is Leroy. Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.

www.stadvanspinoza.nl

Monday //19 AUGUST KONRAD KOSELLECK BIG BAND ORIENTAL XPRESS

//LIVE MUSIC 21:00 ENTRANCE 09,00 EUR

We are happy. He cross funky house with a blend of techno and groove. The lovely Ninthe is back in our Wicked Jazz arms and back on stage at Sugar. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember. The ladies are ably accompanied with some amazing riffs obn guitar by Micha Schellhaas. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients.our Disjockey is Leroy. Be invited to the birth of a brand new Sugar concept by the people behind earth. Eartharea is a special and invigorating concept with only pure ingredients. He cross funky house with a blend of techno and groove. Of course, Earth's own front dj Per holds a fine residency this night, inviting a diverse selection of his favorite ferent electronic sounds, like it was played back in the early days, blended in with our own distinctive yet smooth choice of cutting edge video art that makes you feel like coming home again. She and Bernice Leer will give you some soaring vocals to remember.

www.koselleck.com

WEDNESDAY //21 AUGUST LIVE SALSA WITH RUBIO

//LIVE SALSA MUSIC 20:00 ENTRANCE 05,00 EUR

Here's some of the rave Rubio has received from the press: „The Netherlands best and most authentic salsa orchestra. Enjoy live salsa with the one and only Rubio.

www.salsarubio.nl

SATURDAY //24 AUGUST FUTURE MUSIC MASTER CONFERENCE 2008

//LIVE MUSIC 21:00 ENTRANCE 09,00 EUR

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www.conference2008.com

SUNDAY // 25 AUGUST SHIT AND SHINE PSYCHEDELIC MEETING

//PARTY/SHOW 23:00-05:00 ENTRANCE 12,50 EUR

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www.shitandshine.nl



DAUGHTERS & SOMS
FAMOUS LAST WORDS ... ❖

Dave

Dave enlisted in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers when he was 17 years old and was sent to Vietnam in 1967, two years later. In Vietnam, he was a bulldozer operator with the 19th Engineers, a heavy-equipment company that provided support to various battalions. He was dispatched to the First Cavalry Division (the „First Cav“) at Bong

What were you doing there?

I was tearing down Two-Bit South -- the bunkers and stuff like that -- finding claymore mines, and, the night of the Tet offensive, the gooks went and got smart. They tore down Two-Bit South for me. I was doing it anyway. I don't understand why they wasted explosives and stuff on it. There was nobody there. Just me and a couple other dozers would go there every day and rip it down. Pushing the bunkers out -- the perimeter bunkers out -- knocking everything over, burying it, you know?

What did you do then?

After the night of the Tet offensive, I wasn't doing anything. That's when I made a run for south. I ran for my home field, 19th Engineers, which was 40 miles south. They gave me a Bronze Star for that. They said that I couldn't go south, because the road was tore up, the bridges were blown. I



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blown up and killed, you know? Which obviously we weren't, because I wouldn't be here talking to you. First, they said we couldn't go, and I explained to them what I could do, and they said, „What the hell, we need to find out if the road's open anyway.“ I told ,em, „I'd rather die with my people than die with you.“ Because I was just attached to them. So they said, „Make a run for it.“

You were attached to who?

The First Cav. They were not my outfit. The 19th Engineers was my outfit. I was just dispatched to them to help tear that LZ down, and [the Viet-cong] did it. Done. Job was over. We went down there, and then we went north to Da Nang and put in the road that connected Da Nang to Hue. There was a fierce battle going on in Hue. Heaviest fighting of the war, completely. (He continues eating) We cut a trail to ,em so they could get all their supplies and stuff like that. Then I was done. My tour was up.

You were there for a year?

Uh-huh. I'm putting it in a nutshell. I'm putting it in a nutshell to make it simple.

So, you joined the army, and you went to Vietnam. Were you in favor of it?

Uh-huh. I volunteered for it.

Did being in Vietnam change your attitude?

Immediately.

Can you explain?

It took two weeks for the dumbest troop to realize that we didn't belong there.

What made you realize that?

Just the layout. Just, the whole situation was wrong. We were over there a couple months, and they said they were going to have the first free democratic election in their history.

Nobody showed up. Nobody showed up to vote. They didn't want us there. They didn't need us there. We were not saving them from themselves. We were invaders. It was just obvious as hell. No question about it.

Being an engineer, did you see a lot of active combat?

An engineer saw very little combat, but the little combat he sees kills him. There was 180 of us that went over -- 120 of us came back. And, in the Tet offensive, we were all firing.

So, a lot of you made it back?

Two-thirds. Yeah.

I wouldn't call that a lot.

Right. And the third that was casualties are dead. You know, you blow up a bulldozer, and you can imagine what the person on the bulldozer looks like.

Were you friends with a lot of people you went over there with?

We were a small company of 185 men. We were together over nine months before we went over, training. You know all these guys. First-name basis, every one.

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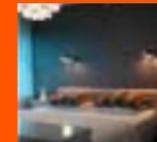


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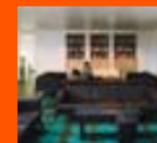
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