

BRIDGES
2008

LEEWARDEN
THE NETHERLANDS

SCIENCE • ART • TECHNOLOGY

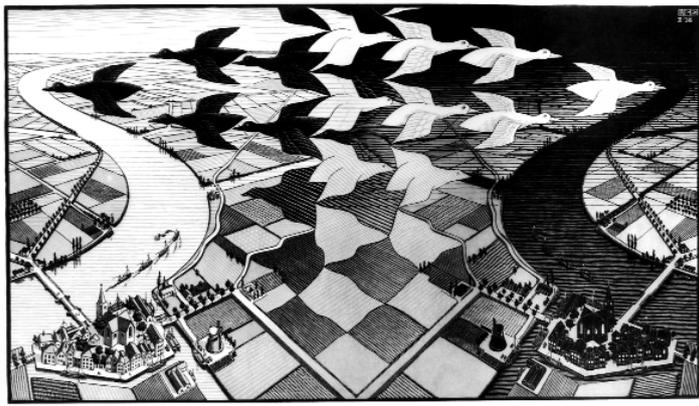
24 JULY THROUGH 10 AUGUST 2008

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

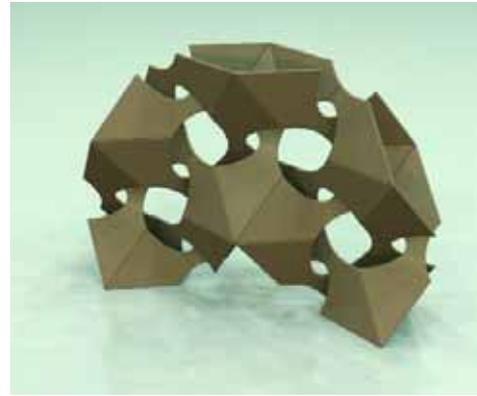
24 JULY - 10 AUGUST, 2008

BRIDGES, an annual conference founded in 1998 and serving since then as an international platform for artists, scientists and scholars working on the interface of science, art and technology will be held this year in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands from 24 - 29 July 2008.

The approximately 200 visitors to the conference from 25 different countries will be coming to Leeuwarden to participate in a broad program of mathematical connections in art, music, architecture and science. Associated with the conference is a highly varied programme of cultural activities open to the general public that will run through 10 August 2008. During the Open Day held on 29 July 2008, you can become acquainted with a number of scientists and artists whilst young and old can participate in various workshops on Grote Kerkstraat in Leeuwarden. The winners of the Gateways to Fryslân Competition will be announced during the conference.



M.C. Escher: "Day and Night", © 2008 The M.C. Escher Company, Baarn - The Netherlands. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com



< **Rinus Roelofs**,
new design for artwork
consisting of a single
continuous surface!
(Location: Boer)
4 metres long,
2.5 metres high,
corten steel

> **Gerard Caris** >
Polyhedral Net
Structure # 1,
160 x 95 x 95 cm

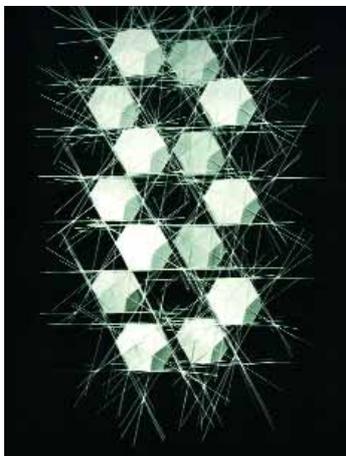
Exhibitions in churches

The artists exhibiting their work have come from abstract mathematical backgrounds to create many different visual products. Some artists, such as **Gerard Caris** (1925), limit their oeuvre to a single theme. In his case, this is the pentagon. In the village of Zweins, this artist will be showing a selection of his work including his 'Polyhedral Net Structure # 1'.

The work of artist **Yvonne Kracht** (1931) is also represented in many major art museums. Her work, based on a mathematical constructivism, displays a great variety of expressive experiments not limited to a single mathematical structure. In and next to the church in Schalsum, she will be showing a series of artworks based on the square, triangle and circle. Other artists, such as **Istvan Orosz** (1951) from Hungary, focus on anamorphoses and optical illusions. The church in Jorwert will display a large exhibition of his work that includes prints and anamorphoses from two and three-dimensional surfaces.

Oscar Reutersvärd (1915-2002), a Swedish artist, can be considered the father of 'impossible forms' and was the predecessor of M.C. Escher. The church in Bears will display around 40 of his prints.

Based on his multifaceted research into structures, **Rinus Roelofs** (1954) created a wide variety of sculptures such as his self-supporting dome constructions (based on Da Vinci), three-dimensional associations based on the work of M.C. Escher, and innumerable structures based on simple



Exhibitions held in churches

ARTISTS	LOCATIONS
Istvan Orosz	Church Jorwert
Yvonne Kracht	Church Schalsum
Ulrich Mikloweit	Church Boksum
Koos Verhoeff	Church Blessum
Rinus Roelofs	Church Boer
Oscar Reutersvärd	Church Bears
Gerard Caris	Church Zweins
Elvira Wersche	Waalse Church, Leeuwarden (24-29 July)

basic elements. Roelofs will be exhibiting a completely new collection of artworks including a new three-dimensional object outside of the church (see photo).

Almost all the artists exhibiting work in the churches have a scientific background. One of the professors involved is **Koos Verhoeff** (1927) who taught computer science at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam. To realise his sculptures, he avails himself of fivefold symmetry in two and three-dimensional structures. A large collection of his work will be on display in Blessum.

Dr. **Ulrich Mikloweit** from Germany creates intriguing paper objects from polyhedrons with a complex and subtle network of structures. The church in Boksum will exhibit his fragile works in display cases.

Elvira Wersche (1948) will display a temporary artwork composed of scattered sand collected from many different parts of the world. The types of sand used for the multicoloured artwork, which will cover a surface measuring 6 x 6 metres, vary in colour according to their original locations (see photo on frontpage). It will take the artist about a week to complete this highly precise artwork in the Waalse Church in Leeuwarden. At the same time, composer Horst Rickels will produce a composition for female voices and organ. Like Wersche's work, its process of development to become an artwork can also be followed.

VREDEMAN DE VRIES and his perspective drawings

A multimedia presentation dedicated to the perspective drawings made by Hans Vredeman de Vries, a versatile Renaissance artist born in Leeuwarden in 1527, will be made in the Historisch Centrum Leeuwarden (HCL) and in the adjoining Tresoar on Boterhoek. Also in Tresoar: students of architecture from the TU Eindhoven will be exhibiting their winning design for a temporary installation ("Amesroom") based on the illusion of space known as perspective. A unique calendar with reproductions of the original prints made by Hans Vredeman de Vries will also be published and available for sale to the general public.

Perspective drawing, Hans Vredeman de Vries, 1604



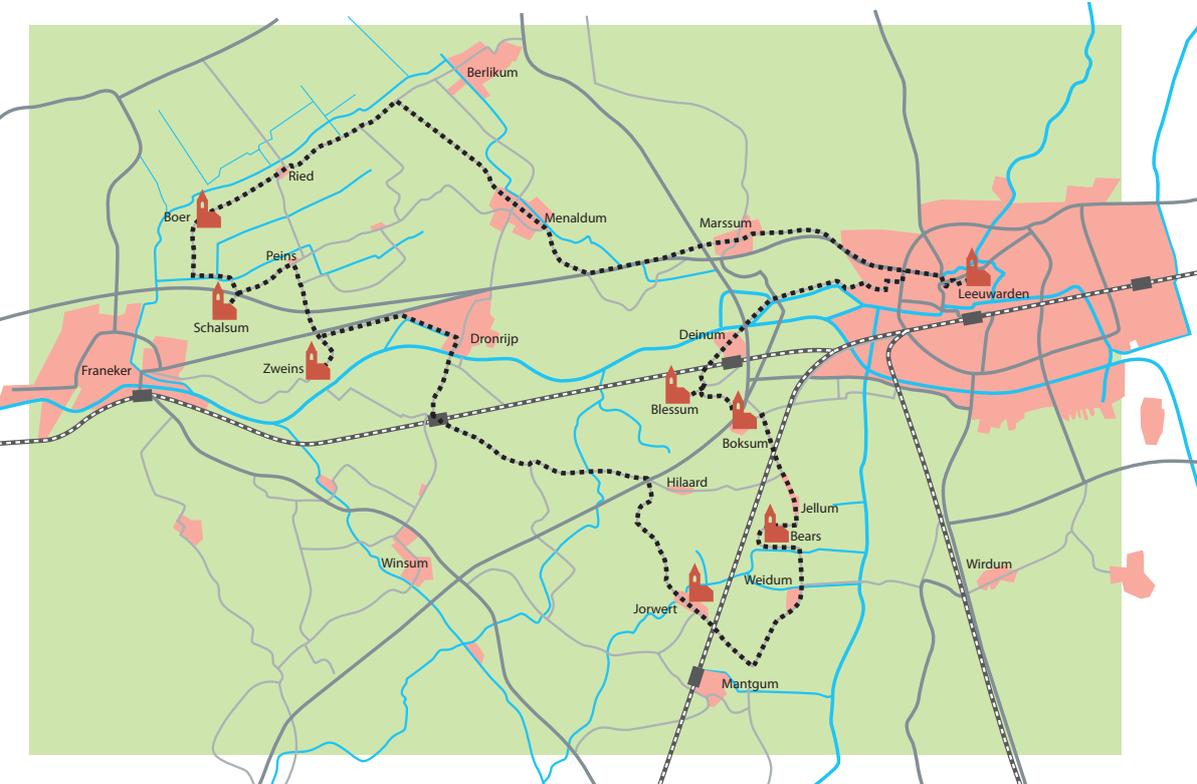
OPEN DAY on July 29, 2008

To conclude the conference, an Open Day will be held on Tuesday, July 29, when you can become acquainted with the work of a number of artists and scientists who participated in the conference. Most of the activities scheduled for the Open Day will be held outside. The starting location will be the Nationaal Keramiek Museum Het Prinsessehof, formerly the house where M.C. Escher was born.

The BRIDGES Conference will devote considerable attention to Escher, and the museum's educational department has developed a children's programme related to Escher (making Escher puzzles and patterns, etc.). Grote Kerkstraat will serve as a background for various booths at which artists and scientists from other countries can display their work and make contact with the public. The scientists/artists will hold workshops for children and their parents that allow them to work together in using simple materials to create artistic domes, bamboo constructions, cardboard structures, etc. The Open Day will be the last opportunity to view Elvira Wersche's completed 'art in progress project' in the Waalse Church. ABCid, an artist collective (Carla van der Heijden and poet Baukje Wytmsa), will provide an educational project. De Oldehove and the City Hall will be open to the public on July 29.

Exhibition GATEWAYS TO FRYSLÂN

The Province of Fryslân held a competition to design gateways or landmarks to accentuate the four locations at which main access roads (A7, A6, A32 and A7) cross the border from North Holland, Groningen, Flevoland and Overijssel into Fryslân. For this purpose, the Province of Fryslân invited visual artists, designers, architects and landscape architects to submit exciting proposals that would express the province's identity, distinctive characteristics and spatial features. The results of the design competition will be on display in 'Manege' (former riding academy) on Arendstuin in Leeuwarden (a location also serving as the information centre for the BRIDGES conference).



Accessibility
 The churches are easily accessible by bicycle on quiet back roads (www.fietsersbond.net/fietsroute-planner/fietsroutes-friesland). The total route by bicycle is about 60 km in length. This distance can be shortened by taking your bike with you on the train and then cycling your way back, an example being to go by train to Franeker and then cycle back to Leeuwarden. The churches are usually open from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

The BRIDGES Conference and its activities that open to the public are being organised by Stichting Passages and can be held thanks to the support of:
 The Province of Fryslân
 The Municipality of Leeuwarden
 The Municipality of Franeker
 Stichting VSB Fonds
 Stichting Je Maintiendrai
 The Prince Bernard Cultural Fund
 The M.C. Escher Foundation, Baarn
 Stichting Ars et Mathesis
 The Bridges Organization
 Stichting Alde Fryske Tsjerken
 Tresoar Frisian Historical and Literary Centre
 Historisch Centrum Leeuwarden (HCL)
 Museum Het Princessehof
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 fax: +31 (0)58 2160007
 info@sprezzatura.org
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Information
 An information centre where you can acquire the exhibition catalogue will be set up at the 'Manege' (former riding academy) on Arendstuin in Leeuwarden.
 You can find more news and information at www.stichtingpassages.nl.

The church in Zweins >

