

Distinctively Dutch



From Holland to Pittsburgh: A Festival of Innovative Arts

Creativity and innovation are essential strands of the Dutch DNA, as well as at the core of Pittsburgh's strategic transformation—economically, environmentally and culturally. From Dutch masters like Rembrandt, Van Gogh and Mondriaan to Pittsburgh's own Andy Warhol, Art Blakey, Rachel Carson and Martha Graham, both regions have proven to be fertile ground for artists and thinkers who are true innovators.

Today, this tradition of artistic invention—and reinvention—continues in the performances of Dance Works Rotterdam, Jiri Kylian and Michael Schumacher, PIPS:lab, Wunderbaum, Toneelgroep Amsterdam and many others who will be featured in the Distinctively Dutch Festival. These artists were invited by The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust to showcase their outstanding caliber of craft, technique, expression, collaboration and bold spirit of exploration.

We are excited that these 'Distinctively Dutch' talents will be engaging the Pittsburgh public this spring and we are honoured to present a cultural festival in one of the most creative cities in the United States.



Kingdom of the Netherlands



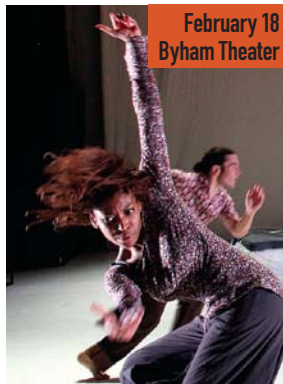
trustarts.org/dutchfestival

D Programs

Dance Works Rotterdam/ André Gingras

U.S. Premiere of *Anatomica*

Choreographed by the daring André Gingras, *Anatomica* is an unyielding exploration of the physical extremes of sexual competition and attraction. Inspired by the danger, beauty, and consequences of the body on display, Gingras delves and soars into the body's extraordinary abilities and profound fragility. "It's a terrific splurge of vibrant physicality and joie de vivre that sets out to showcase what an amazing miracle the body represents" (*The Times of London*).



Dance Works Rotterdam/André Gingras puts contemporary dance in a social context, bringing relevant moral dilemmas into the theater with energetic raw dance. Described by theater and visual artist Robert Wilson as "rigorous, intellectual and free in spirit," the company emphasizes collaboration and dialogue with other organizations and artists beyond the boundaries of contemporary dance.

Wunderbaum

World Premiere of *Detroit Dealers*

Equal parts family history and documentary, *Detroit Dealers* incorporates both a theatrical performance with public debate around the themes of the automobile industry, large-scale car use, the environment and our future.

Based in Rotterdam, Wunderbaum is a group of actors who work collectively, together with a designer and a dramaturge, as well as musicians, writers, photographers and film producers. Chameleonic, collaborative and often site-specific, the performances of Wunderbaum take on many shapes resulting in newly discovered theater forms combined with a fresh look at humankind and society.



PIPS:lab

U.S. Premiere of *Diespace*

Born in the underground party scene of Amsterdam, PIPS:lab is known throughout the Netherlands for producing raw, expressive, visually-stunning, interactive multimedia performances. The six members of this tech-theater collective have emerged as do-it-yourself masters of the unexpected.

Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn. Now PIPS:lab has created *Diespace*: "the first active internet community for the deceased." One prerequisite: you have to be dead to join. Interactive video technology, music, and the sardonic wit: *Diespace* is an innovative look at life, death and the Internet.



Jiří Kylián & Michael Schumacher

U.S. Premiere of *Last Touch First*

Choreographer-in-residence and former artistic director of the acclaimed Nederlands Dans Theater, Jiří Kylián has joined forces with master of dance improvisation Michael Schumacher to create *Last Touch First*. Set within an imagined 18th-century manor house, the performance touches the depths of desperation, madness and loneliness within six characters. Through incredibly slow stop-motion movement these gripping and magical vignettes resonate like a Chekhovian drama.

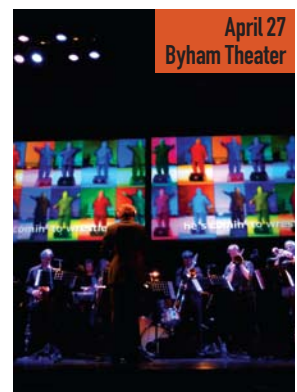


JacobTV

World Premiere of *The News*

PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM

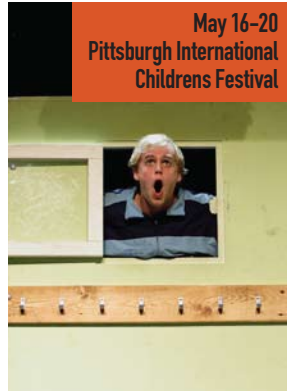
Classical music outlaw and avant-pop composer, Jacob Ter Veldhuis a.k.a. JacobTV has created his newest opus, *The News*. In an orchestrated video-opera of talking heads and political pundits, JacobTV has sampled speeches and sound bites from news media to create everything from a militant staccato for the angry evangelist to a lyrical adagio for elegant presidential rhetoric. This unique synthesis of speech, music and video is performed by JacobTV and the intrepid Chicago-based chamber ensemble, Fulcrum Point.



Beumer and Drost North American Premiere of *Dudes*

Dudes is a hybrid performance of song, dance, puppetry, slap-stick and mime that takes place in the confines of a small locker room where the limitless possibilities of the imagination unfold.

Founded by Loek Beumer and Peter Drost, B&D is a self-made theater company that has built a strong reputation and loyal audiences in the Netherlands and Belgium for their innovative theatrical works for children, youth and adults.



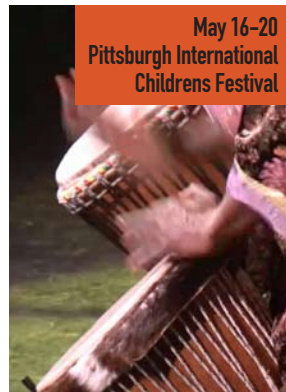
Dutch Visual Arts *Wood Street Galleries | SPACE*

For the Distinctively Dutch Festival, over a dozen visual artists—including Guido van der Werve, Karen Sargsyan, Folkert De Jong, Peter Bogers and Marnix de Nijs—will be featured in exhibitions that examines the very nature of global exploration. This contemporary Dutch expedition will traverse the terrains of the Internet and new media as well as mine the historical context of Dutch exploration.



Drums United *World of Rhythm*

Drums United is an explosive and exciting world-percussion group interweaving the rhythms of African drums, Indian tablas, Cuban rumbas and more, with percussionists from nations such as Bangladesh, Senegal, Spain, Germany, Surinam and Venezuela. Led by award-winning Dutch percussionist and bandleader, Lucas van Merwijk, Drums United celebrates the unifying power of music that transcends culture, language and difference.



Dutch Women of Jazz *Presented by MCGJazz*

Featuring composer-pianist-bandleader Amina Figarova, jazz saxophonist Tineke Postma, and trumpet player Saskia Laroo.

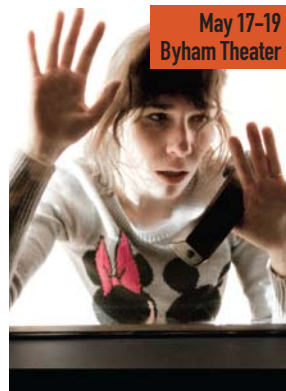
All arts and music programs of Manchester Craftsmen's Guild share a common vision born from founder Bill Strickland's personal experience—that through direct involvement in the making of art and through personal exposure to the masters who teach and perform it, our lives will be enriched, even transformed.



Toneelgroep Amsterdam *La Voix Humaine*

PERFORMED IN DUTCH
WITH ENGLISH SURTITLES

Holland's largest repertory company Toneelgroep Amsterdam renders an inspired and shattering vision of Jean Cocteau's seminal text, *La Voix Humaine*. This story of abandonment, grief and heartbreak centers on a desperate woman's last phone call to an ex-lover. Masterfully directed by Ivo Van Hove, *La voix humaine* has been described by *The Village Voice* as "a spare, raw, enormously affecting production, brought to incisive life by Halina Reijn." The audiences' most voyeuristic impulses are skillfully manipulated in this spellbinding tour-de-force production.



Kyteman *Hiphop Orkest*

PART OF PITTSBURGH JAZZLIVE
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Jazz-rap artist Kyteman brings his live hip-hop band, Kyteman's Hiphop Orkest, to the outdoor festival stages of Pittsburgh. Born Colin Benders and based in Utrecht, Kyteman is a multi-instrumentalist who performs primarily on trumpet and serves as musical director of Kyteman's Hiphop Orkest, which features upwards of 12 musicians and eight rappers who perform live on-stage.





Pittsburgh: A City of Transformation

The Pittsburgh region has long been recognized as a center for industry and innovation marking its achievements on the global stage. A place where imagination and production overlap, Pittsburgh has survived the tumultuous evolution of its industrial past, leveraging its creative industries, to emerge as a national leader in sustainability, medicine, technology and the arts.

Today, Pittsburgh is the host city for major national and international events that shine the spotlight upon Southwestern Pennsylvania's renaissance and transformation. In this vein, the curators of the Distinctively Dutch Festival aspire to continue elevating Pittsburgh's international reputation on the artistic and cultural scene by bringing some of the most innovative and exciting artists from the Netherlands.

CURATORIAL VISION

The Distinctively Dutch Festival features a range of contemporary work that is reflective of today's Dutch culture, including dance, jazz, visual art, film, theater, children's theater and literature.

The focus of Dutch works the programming team of The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust selected provides a cross-section of emerging and established artists in Netherlands who specialize in:

- Collaboration
- Creation of intimate, direct, often intense or immersive experiences
- Fearless creative risk-taking
- Improvisation
- Innovation
- Interactive engagement with the audience/participants
- Meticulous attention to craft and technique
- Multidisciplinary work

Integral to the Cultural Trust's curatorial aspirations is the belief in the transformative power of arts—from a personal perspective, as a vehicle for social engagement and as a catalyst for economic development. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust presents a wide variety of art forms, as well as companies and artists who represent our world's rich cultural heritages. The Cultural Trust seeks to present artists of the highest quality and caliber in each discipline, particularly artists who would not normally have an opportunity to be seen in Pittsburgh or the United States.



Press contact

Veronica Corpuz

412-471-6082

corpuz@pgharts.org



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