



Den Bosch honors Jheronimus Bosch

The year of devils and saints

This year, the city of Den Bosch (also called 's-Hertogenbosch) will pay a large tribute to the life and works of the painter Jheronimus Bosch, who lived in the late 15th century. Apart from a unique oeuvre exhibition in the Noordbrabants Museum (which is already a great success), various other activities are organized during the manifestation Jheronimus Bosch 500.

In 2016 it is exactly 500 years ago that the painter Jheronimus Bosch passed away in Den Bosch. This painter's oeuvre is characterized by works in which strange hellish creatures and devils are portrayed just as beautifully as the saints and the souls of the dead they torture. Paintings like the 'Narrenschip' (Ship of Fools) and the 'Hooiwagen' (Hay wagon) triptych feature the moral and the sins committed by humanity.

To commemorate the jubilee, the manifestation Jheronimus Bosch 500 will be held. This manifestation includes various activities like exhibitions, seminars, concerts and film shows. The majority of these activities are concentrated in and around the city of Den Bosch, but other organizations in the province of Brabant also celebrate the jubilee. Seven leading museums in the province of Brabant, for instance, present a modern-day exhibition program with contemporary art, design, and culture. This program, called Bosch Grand Tour, takes place in the cities of Breda, Eindhoven, Tilburg and, of course, Den Bosch.

VISIONS

The event in the manifestation and the Bosch Grand Tour that will attract the largest crowd is the exhibition 'Jheronimus Bosch - Visions of a genius' in the Noordbrabants Museum. This exhibition shows 20 of the 25 paintings examined by the various scientists from the Bosch Research and Conservation Project (an initiative from the Noordbrabants Museum, Radboud University and Foundation Jheronimus Bosch 500) during the past six years. At request, a special Bosch seminar can be booked in the museum.

LOCATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

FASCINATED BY BOSCH

Especially for the occasion of the Manifestation Jheronimus Bosch 500, several restaurants, organizations and locations present special activities and packages.

Culinary

The Theater aan de Parade organizes 'At Jeroen's table: food, wine and company': from 10 AM to 8.30 PM, guests can enjoy the various sumptuous dishes on the theater cafe's menu. A selection of restaurants that are members of Restaurant Alliantie 's-Hertogenbosch serve lunch, high tea or a dinner on a collection of twelve plates showing art inspired by Bosch's paintings. There are special packages in which the guests are given the plates as a present, and can even collect the entire set. Stadsbrouwerij Cafe Bar Le Duc, which has brewed its own beers since 1999, offers a Jeroen Bosch Bier tasting.

Activities

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, poetry Foundation DichtSlamRap from the city of Boxtel, and Vestingfietsen organize 'Varen met Jheronimus', a poetry boating tour on the river Dommel. From the covered Vestingfietsen boats, twelve poems by poets/poetryslammers Lotte Dodion, Jee Kast and Loren Brouwers are declaimed, together with some songs by the Eindhoven-born singer Iris Penning. Optionally, the tour can be extended with an bicycle tour, high wine or high tea. Brabant Event Bureau has developed a special Jheronimus Bosch Rally. In teams, participants get to know Bosch and Den Bosch by means of assignments including painting a triptych. Den Bosch Evenementen also offers a scouting expedition: the team with the best knowledge of the city and the painter, wins.

Locations

Jheronimus Bosch was a member of the Illustere Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap, a society that convened in the Zwanenbroedershuis. The present-day building was constructed in the nineteenth century and now houses a museum exhibiting the history of the Broederschap as well as special cultural-historical valuable objects, including William of Orange's drinking cup. Remarkable is the reconstruction of the triptych 'De Tuin der Lusten', on which artist Henk Groenendaal is working in this house in 2016. The Zwanenbroedershuis can also accommodate private meetings, from lectures to private dinners.

Many hotels in and around Den Bosch have compiled a special Jheronimus Bosch arrangement, including De Ruwenberg, Landgoed Huize Bergen, Mövenpick Hotel 's-Hertogenbosch, hotel Guldenberg and Golden Tulip Hotel Central. Especially for the jubilee year, Hotel Central had the short film 'DIT IS BOSCH' made, a brief acquaintance with the painter and his philosophy. The film can be watched on a daily basis.



WHO WAS JHERONIMUS BOSCH?

Not much is known of Jheronimus Bosch. He was born around 1450 in Den Bosch in a family of local painters. In 1488 the painter became a member of of the Illustere Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap, a society of (aspiring) clerics for the veneration of Mary, also called the Illustere Lieve Vrouwe (Illustrious Lady). In his lifetime, Bosch was very successful with this paintings. Apart from merchants from Den Bosch, his work was also appreciated by prominent collectors like Engelbrecht II van Nassau and Philip the Bel of Burgundy. His grandson Philip II of Spain was also a keen collector and brought several works to Spain, which can now be seen in the Madrid Prado museum. In total, there are now 25 paintings that can be attributed with certainty to Bosch.



CONVENTION BUREAU BRABANT

Interested in learning more about Bosch's city? Convention Bureau Brabant will be pleased to help you. The Bureau has several partners that can perfectly organize a congress or other business meeting. Partners include accommodations (mainly four-star hotels), venues (stock exchange buildings, churches, castles, manors, museums, industrial sites) and suppliers like caterers and DMCs. Apart from that, the organization is well represented in various high-quality networks through which it can realize knowledge transfer and can provide corporate meetings with content and meaning. www.conventionbureaubrabant.nl





FANTASY ANIMALS

Since 2007, the Jheronimus Bosch Art Center has focused on the painter throughout the entire year. In this museum in the former Sint-Jacobs church, replicas of the paintings can be viewed. There are also images of fantasy animals and objects from the paintings, like a copy of the fountain from the triptych 'De Tuin der Lusten' (Garden of Lust). The Art Center can also accommodate private dinners and groups with a maximum of 200 persons. A visit will be even more enjoyable if combined with a boat excursion on the Binnendieze river that ends at the Art Center, passing several images from the Jeroen Bosch paintings under way. For the occasion of the manifestation, this regular route is renamed 'Hemel- en Hellevaart' (Heaven and Hell) boating tour during which the film 'Hemel en Hel' (Heaven and Hell) can be watched. Thanks to techniques like videomapping and

3D-projection, the viewer can experience the atmosphere as it was during Bosch's lifetime.

Other activities around the Jheronimus Bosch 500 manifestation include 'Een wonderlijke klim' (a marvelous climb, a guided tour of 96 statues resembling creatures from Bosch paintings, sitting on flying buttresses of the St Jan cathedral), the Bosch Experience (an exploration route passing several heritage locations in the city center where Bosch' story is told, also available as an app), the Bosch by Night Lightshow (a lightshow presented several times a week on a number of buildings on the Den Bosch Market square) and the fashion show 'Bosch by Addy' by couturier Addy van den Krommenacker (on 22 March).

INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION

Not only the tourists are interested in Jheronimus Bosch. Corporate parties at

home and abroad increasingly realize the portent of the manifestation. "We see that venues in the region are expressly chosen to host a sales training, so the organization can combine this event with the manifestation", says Convention Bureau Brabant's Marieke Hendriks. "Obviously, the many activities are extremely suited to be included in a social program. Apart from that, we see that meeting planners include Den Bosch in their bid. Combined with the province of Brabant's pronounced profile in the fields of Hightech, Design (both in and around the city of Eindhoven), Agrifood (Den Bosch and Veghel), Logistics (Tilburg-Breda) and the province's Burgundian character, companies can find many points of interest."

A complete list of all activities can be found at www.bosch500.nl.