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NEWSLETTER MCN CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY

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Translation: Hilary Staples and Patricia Werner

Dutch Composers at the Dutch Music Days 2009

In the year that conductor, composer and poet Micha Hamel is guest curator of the Dutch Music Days for the second time, the festival has an unmistakably interdisciplinary character. With its 'Music and poetry' theme the event reflects the disposition of its programme-maker. The theme is not only pursued in the debates, which Hamel introduced last year, but also in a series of works written by composer-poet duos. Last year Hamel already observed the trend that composers are looking more and more beyond the boundaries of genres; this year he has taken the cross-pollination between the different arts as a starting-point to demonstrate the richness of Dutch music life.

[Read more >>](#)

Dutch Music Days: October 10 -11th, 2009

More information: www.nederlandsemuziekdagen.nl



Ensembles at the DCMM 2009

The programme of the Dutch Chamber Music Meeting 2009, that has been put together with the help of 16 advisors from all corners of the music world, offers a varied cross-section of high quality.

Remarkable for the third edition of this biennial event, is the large contribution by young talents, such as the accordion duo Toeac consisting of Renée Bekkers (1985) and Pieternel Berkers

(1986), and the piano duo Lestari Scholtes (1984) and Gwylim Janssens (1985). The young Navarra String Quartet, which was founded in England but has three Dutch members, has already been awarded an impressive number of prestigious prizes and received praise by Mstislav Rostropovich.

[Read more>>](#)

Dutch Chamber Music Meeting: October 10-12th, 2009

More information: www.mcn.nl/en/dcmm



Pianoduo
Scholtes/Janssens
Photo: Marco Borggreve

■ **Martijn Padding 'festival composer' November Music**
"It has to be genuine"

He has been making a career for himself for some time now, but this autumn Martijn Padding has suddenly come under the spotlight. At the beginning of the summer it was made known that he had won an important UNESCO award for his First *Harmonium Concerto*. After a performance at the Gaudeamus Music Week in September, the work will be repeated another two times in November, one of which in 's-Hertogenbosch at November Music where Padding will be 'festival composer'. Meet an open-minded artist in search of the truth.

Composer Martijn Padding has just ordered a set of ten CDs by Bob Dylan. 'Dylan speaks directly to my heart,' he says, sitting on the terrace at his home in Amsterdam. 'I love his raw sound and his tinkering on the guitar. And he doesn't tell lies, he is genuine.'
[Read more>>](#)

November Music: November 11-15th, 2009

More information: www.novembermusic.net



■ **'Basically I find the term Early Music not at all interesting'**

Interview with Jan Van den Bossche

With a remarkable programme ranging from early Purcell to late Beethoven, Jan Van den Bossche, the artistic leader of the Early Music Festival in Utrecht from 2001 to 2009, presented his last edition of the festival. Coming season he will move on to the Barcelona Early Music Festival. Marianne Broeder interviewed the groundbreaking programme-maker.

For those who thought early music ends with Bach, Jan Van den Bossche, the departing artistic director of the Early Music Festival in Utrecht, is not the right man to deal with. Without any hesitation he included Stravinsky, James MacMillan and Daan Manneke in



Jan van den Bossche

his programmes. At the most recent festival of 2009 - his last - Beethoven's late string quartets were performed. According to Van den Bossche, the term Early Music, that originally covered the Renaissance and the Baroque, may easily be extended to the 21st century.

[Read more >>](#)

Early Music Festival

More information: www.oudemuziek.nl

Photo: Marco Borggreve

■ Music Center The Netherlands: Contemporary Dutch Music Abroad

The Netherlands is only a small country in a big world. Therefore MCN actively promotes Dutch music abroad. MCN has made a selection of recent projects.

This time special attention to the ISCM World Music Days in Sweden, the European Live Electronics Competition of the ECPNM and the famous Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival.

[Lees meer >>](#)



News

Ted Hearne wins Gaudeamus Prize 2009

The International Gaudeamus Music Week, which took place last week, concluded with the presentation of the Gaudeamus Composition Prize. This prize is € 4,550 and is meant for writing a new composition to be performed in the Gaudeamus Music Week 2010.

The Gaudeamus Prize and the honorable mention were awarded by jury members Huba de Graaff (Netherlands), Anne La Berge (Netherlands), and Akira Nishimura (Japan). For this year's International Gaudeamus Music Week, which was open to composers under 31, the Gaudeamus Foundation received almost 400 scores from all over the world; the jury subsequently selected fifteen works to compete for the Gaudeamus Prize 2009.

Ted Hearne received the prize for a selection from *Katrina Ballads*, performed on September 10, 2009 at the Conservatory of Amsterdam by 'the ereprijs with Wim Boerman conducting. Hearne himself was vocal soloist in this piece.

[Read more>>](#)

Robin de Raaff wins Buma Toonzetters Prize 2009

On Sunday evening, August 30th composer Robin de Raaff received, to great applause, the Buma Toonzetters Prize 2009 for his *Violin Concerto*.

The international jury headed by Lucas Vis claimed this piece to be the best Dutch composition of the year 2008. The prize of €10,000 was presented in the MuziekGebouw aan 't IJ during the second edition of the festival Toonzetters.

[Read more>>](#)

Light on de Leeuw

January 9th 2010

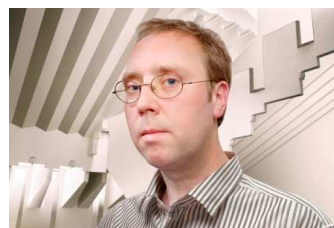
In 2010 Music Center the Netherlands will release the complete solo piano works by Ton de Leeuw (1926-1996) in two volumes of sheet music with a compact disc. Some of these compositions by de Leeuw will be published for the first time; other works are reappearing in a modern and critical publication.

With this piano collection MCN outlines a unique historical perspective of forty-five years of piano music by one of the most influential Dutch composers of the 20th century. This edition will be accompanied with a cd which pianist René Eckhardt recorded specifically for this project. The official presentation will take place on January 9, 2010, in the Rotterdam Doelen Hall during the event 'Light on de Leeuw', where next to piano music focus will be given to de Leeuw's electronic, choral and organ music.

[More information:](#)



Ted Hearne
Photo: Patricia Werner
Leanse



Robin de Raaff
Photo: Gerrit Schreurs



■ Selection of the latest publications

■ Scores

Guus Janssen

Harm

for harmonium

[PDF of the first page](#)

Christina Viola Oorebeek

Edges

for solo percussion with amplified Plexiphone and electronics;
Super 8 projector, oscillator or Super 8 projector audio samples

[PDF of the first page](#)

Martijn Padding

AL-LE-LOUIS

voor orkest

[PDF of the first page](#)

[For other scores read more >>](#)

To order go to: www.mcn.nl/webshop.

■ CD's

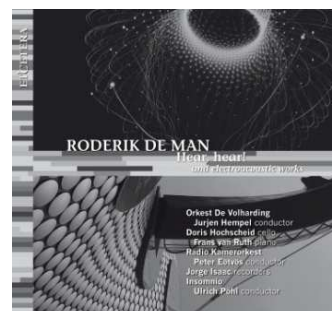
Roderik de Man

On 30 August, after the afternoon concert, a new CD with compositions by Roderik de Man was presented at the second edition of Toonzetters, the festival with the ten best new Dutch compositions. At the concert itself his electronic composition Hear, hear! – the title of the CD – was played.

The CD also includes Magnetic Fields for orchestra and four-track tape, Cordes invisibles for cello, piano and CD, Chromophores for ensemble and electronics, Marionette for recorder, video and electronics and Volatile Voices for orchestra and CD.

* Etcetera KTC 1386

This compact disc is available in music stores in the Netherlands.



Bart Visman

The magazine De Groene Amsterdammer of 3 April 2009 included an article on Bart Visman by Bas van Putten that was full of praise. Here are a few quotes: 'A couple of months ago, I heard a French song cycle with such beautiful orchestral parts that at first I had to think of an accidentally forgotten post-Ravelian French composer. Wrong. Composer Bart Visman was born in Naarden in 1962 (...), but he is not yet as well-known as a composer of his calibre deserves to be. Sables, Oxygène, on five French poems by the Dutch composer and singer Saskia Macris, was written for the famous Canadian soprano Barbara Hannigan



who premiered the work in April 2008 with the Limburg Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ed Spanjaard. In the spring of 2009 their CD recording of this work will come out, which I can highly recommend.' And rightly so.

The CD also includes his Septet and the choral work New Heaven!, written for The Gents.

* Etcetera KTC 1378

This compact disc is available from October 15th in music stores in the Netherlands.

Brochures

The Netherlands: a music nation

In September a new brochure has come out in the series of inventories of countries. This time featuring a very special country: the Netherlands! At the request of MCN, music publicist Saskia Törnqvist has written a fascinating and clear survey of the extensive classical and contemporary music life in the Netherlands. She describes the Dutch ensemble culture, orchestras and contemporary music, and of course she also focuses on composition in the Netherlands.

The brochure is ideal for beginning musicians and students studying music or musicology, helping them to come to grips quickly with the Dutch music world. An English version will be used to broaden the knowledge of our international contacts of the Netherlands as a music nation.

To download the brochure go to www.mcn.nl/klassiek/downloads. You can also order a copy by contacting us at m.harmsen@mcn.nl.

Websites

Recently MCN offers composers the possibility of creating a personal website

Examples of the latest websites realized by MCN are:

www.tondeleeuw.nl

www.robinderaaff.com

Books

Louis Andriessen

Is his music typically Dutch, Bob Gilmore asked Louis Andriessen in an interview at a congress for music librarians and musicologists in Amsterdam (5 to 10 July 2009). The composer answered that in general he does not think in categories. But he did want to give an example. One day, standing in rain and wind on the flat coast of Marken, he said to his company: 'Now do you



Ton de Leeuw



understand my music: direct, hard?' With the exception of his great example Stravinsky and the classicist focus which he adds in the same breath: isn't it rooted in the Netherlands just a tiny bit then?

In a conversation with Mirjam Zegers, recorded in the beautiful publication that appeared for the twelfth edition of the Dag in de Branding Festival (23 May 2009), Louis Andriessen says his music is mainly 'dialectic: music that is both melancholic and ironic and thus always dissociated. Extremely intelligent and also full of emotion.'

The book contains conversations with Mirjam Zegers on the left hand pages and programme notes for the works that were performed at the Dag in de Branding Festival on the right hand pages.

* Louis Andriessen and Mirjam Zegers: *Jongensjaren*, Publ. Dag in de Branding, 2009. To order the book go to the link.

Morton Feldman and Dutch Music

MusikTexte has brought out the two-part, dual language (English-German) book Morton Feldman in Middelburg. It contains lectures by and conversations with the American composer from the period 1985 to 1987. Lectures, master classes and conversations that last at least as long as Feldman's music, in which time became space. The first volume opens with a conversation with Misha Mengelberg (29 June 1985). It also contains a conversation with Louis Andriessen (3 July 1986) and accounts of master classes in which Ivo van Emmerik and Joost van de Goor took part. The second volume contains conversations with, among others, Geoffrey Douglas Madge (1 July 1987), Konrad Boehmer (2 July 1987) and Frits Lagerwerff (4 July 1987), as well as a lecture titled 'Between Disney and Mondrian.'

* Gisela Gronemeyer and Reinhard Oehlschlägel: Morton Feldman in Middelburg, Publ. MusikTexte, 2008 (ISBN 978-3-9803151-9-7).



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