High Art in the Low Countries: Belgium & The Netherlands
April 7–15, 2019
Dear Directors’ Circle Members,

I am delighted to invite you to join the High Museum of Art next spring for High Art in the Low Countries, April 7-15, 2019, an exciting exploration of the art of Belgium and the Netherlands. Journey with us from Brussels to Amsterdam to discover masterpieces from Van Eyck to Van Gogh, Magritte, Escher, and beyond.

Revel in springtime tulips and daffodils as we spend a week admiring works that can only be viewed in situ: the Van Eyck brothers’ Ghent Altarpiece, now nearing the end of an extensive renovation, and Vermeer’s Girl with a Pearl Earring; and touring iconic museums including the Museum of Fine Arts in Brussels, The Hague’s Mauritshuis, and Amsterdam’s Rijksmuseum. We will also discover unique, lesser-known collections at the Horta House Museum in Brussels, the Rockox Museum in Antwerp, and The Hague’s Escher in Het Paleis.

This specially designed program will include many moments exclusive to us. In Brussels, we will be welcomed into the studio of Isabelle de Borchgrave, a Belgian artist and sculptor who is well known for her daring and creative use of paper. In The Hague, we’ll take a behind-the-scenes look at the Panorama Mesdag, a spectacular circular painting inside a purpose-built museum. In Amsterdam, members of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra will offer a chamber music concert just for us, followed by a celebratory dinner.

I hope you will join us for this exclusive program. Space on this small-group trip is limited, so we recommend signing up soon.

Sincerely,

Rand Suffolk
Nancy and Holcombe T. Green, Jr. Director,
The High Museum of Art

HIGHLIGHTS

GO INSIDE the Brussels studio of Belgian artist Isabelle de Borchgrave, for a private visit and dinner

TAKE a behind-the-scenes view of the Panorama Mesdag, a circular painting offering a unique, 360-degree perspective of 19th-century life in a Dutch seaside town

ADMIRE masterpieces that can only be viewed on site, including the Van Eyck brothers’ Ghent Altarpiece and Vermeer’s Girl with a Pearl Earring

LEARN the secrets of Belgian chocolate making during a private demonstration and tasting

ENJOY an exclusive chamber music concert by members of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra, held inside an intimate house-museum alongside an Amsterdam canal
SUNDAY, APRIL 7: DEPARTURE
Depart by air for Brussels, Belgium on an overnight flight.

MONDAY, APRIL 8: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
Arrive in Brussels and transfer to the Grand Place, one of Europe’s most beautiful public squares, for a walking tour. After lunch at leisure, check into your hotel. In the afternoon, visit the studio of artist Isabelle de Borchgrave for a guided tour. Afterwards, gather for a welcome dinner.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9: BRUSSELS / GHENT
Attend a lecture before visiting the Museum of Fine Arts to view one of the world’s finest collections of Flemish paintings, including works by Rogier van der Weyden and Hieronymous Bosch. After lunch, drive to Ghent to visit the magnificent Cathedral of St. Bavo and view its greatest treasure, the 15th-century Adoration of the Mystic Lamb (Ghent Altarpiece) by the Van Eyck brothers. Return to Brussels, where dinner is at leisure.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10: BRUSSELS
Today, visit the Fin-de-Siècle Museum, dedicated to the full spectrum of the arts from 1868, when the Société Libre des Beaux-Arts was founded in Brussels, to 1914, the outbreak of World War I. After lunch, visit the Musée Magritte, housing the world’s largest collection of works by the renowned surrealist artist René Magritte, with paintings, gouaches, drawings, sculptures, painted objects, photographs, and films, as well as an important collection from the artist’s “vache” period. Conclude the day at the Horta House Museum, the private home and studio of Belgian architect and designer Victor Horta. Interior decorations include art objects designed by Horta and his contemporaries, mosaics, and stained-glass windows. Before returning to the hotel, take in a delicious tasting and demonstration featuring renowned Belgian chocolate-making techniques.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11: BRUSSELS / ANTWERP / THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
Today we explore Antwerp, long known as a center of the diamond trade, and also a city of artistic gems. First visit the 17th-century Rubens House. Then see the house of collector Fritz Mayer van den Bergh, who dedicated his life to art and transformed his home into an intimate gallery space for masterpieces from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Following an independent lunch, visit the Rockox Museum, once the home of Nicolaas Rockox, a 17th-century patron of the arts who admired Rubens and other masters, including Pieter Bruegel, Anthony van Dyck, and Frans Snyders, whose works are represented in this fine collection. In the late afternoon, continue to The Hague and the elegant Hotel des Indes. Dinner is at the hotel.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12: THE HAGUE
After a morning lecture, explore The Hague, an art lover’s treasure house with over 30 museums. We begin at the Mauritshuis Museum, home to the very best of Dutch Golden Age painting including Vermeer’s Girl with a Pearl Earring. Continue to the Bredius Museum. Recognized as the father of Dutch art history (and Director of the Mauritshuis from 1889–1909), Bredius bought atypical paintings by 17th-century masters, including Rembrandt and Jan Steen. After lunch, visit Escher in Het Paleis, a museum dedicated to the works of Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher and housed in the former Winter Palace of Queen Emma of Holland. This evening a visit to the Panorama Mesdag is planned. Our behind-the-scenes look at this spectacular circular canvas, depicting the seaside resort of Scheveningen as it looked in the 1880s, promises to be a special highlight.
SATURDAY, APRIL 13: THE HAGUE / AMSTERDAM
This morning drive from The Hague to Amsterdam. Upon arrival, visit the Rijksmuseum, the State Treasury of Dutch paintings. Following lunch, visit the Van Gogh Museum, which houses the world’s largest collection of the artist’s works. Spend time at the Rembrandt House Museum and gain insight into the artist’s daily life and work before checking in at Hotel De L’Europe and spending an evening at leisure.
B,L

SUNDAY, APRIL 14: AMSTERDAM
Start the morning with a drive to view important architectural gems like the Theater Tuschinski, American Hotel, and the Beurs Van Berlage. Continue to the Stedelijk Museum to admire the wide range of modern masterpieces from Cézanne to Appel and on to Baselitz. After lunch at leisure, visit Galerie RA, which represents an international group of artists and designers specializing in contemporary jewelry, accessories, and objets d’art. Take in a private chamber music concert provided by three members of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra at the Museum Van Loon, followed by a farewell dinner. B,D

MONDAY, APRIL 15: AMSTERDAM / RETURN
Depart the hotel early this morning for flights home. B

DISCLAIMER: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the High Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.php.

ACCOMMODATIONS

THE DOMINICAN BRUSSELS HOTEL
Located in central Brussels near the Grand Place and Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert, the hotel was formerly a Dominican abbey in the 15th century and later became the studio of Neoclassical painter Jacques-Louis David. The hotel’s architecture highlights its medieval pedigree along with modern design elements. The Grand Lounge is the main restaurant which includes the main restaurant, a bar, and an inviting courtyard bistro.

HOTEL DES INDES, THE HAGUE
Hotel des Indes is located in the diplomatic district and nestled next to the leafy square of Lange Voorhout. Facilities include a business center, laundry service, an indoor pool, health club, spa, two lounges, a bar, and restaurant.

HOTEL DE L’EUROPE, AMSTERDAM
Hotel de L’Europe is often referred to as the Grand Dame amongst Amsterdam’s luxury hotels. A member of the Leading Hotels of the World, the hotel overlooks the beautiful Amstel River with convenient access to several museums. Contemporary amenities and classic design blend with luxurious comfort and the latest technology. Room amenities include an Apple TV, Bose surround-sound system, and complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi. Dining choices include the grand Promenade for high tea, the Michelin-starred Bord’Eau, the casual Hoofdstad Brasserie, and Freddy’s Bar. The hotel has a spa and indoor plunge pool.

PROGRAM RATE
$7,999 per person, double occupancy
$9,899 single rate

RATE INCLUDES
- Seven nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals, house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach; entrance fees for included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and special events
- Taxes and service charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE
- International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.
____________________________________________________

Address
____________________________________________________
City
State
Zip
____________________________________________________

Telephone (home) (business)
____________________________________________________
Fax
E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS
Hotel room preference
☐ One bed ☐ Two beds ☐ Single
I wish to share a room with ________________________________________________

FORM OF PAYMENT
☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad) ☐ Debit card ☐ Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.php to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date

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