

Netherlands Embassy and Consulates, China



Kingdom of the Netherlands

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## Dutch Days Guangzhou 2016

22 April – 10 May

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**Welcome to the “Dutch Days in Guangzhou” organized by the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Guangzhou and associated partners. The Dutch Days in Guangzhou is a festivity of culture and creativity dedicated to showcase the Dutch excellence in culture and creativity and strengthen cultural exchange with Southern China 22 April and 10 May. We are proud to present 10 days of festivities that will showcase a fine selection of Dutch culture and arts in Guangzhou.**

We will kick off with a Dutch contemporary art exhibition “Boundless Material” organized by the Kui Yuan Gallery. For this event two Dutch contemporary artists Nick Renshaw and Riet van der Linden have been invited to showcase their works and share their knowledge. Lectures will be held in the gallery and bookstores in the centre of Guangzhou city.

In parallel with this exhibition, and with the support of a group of prominent Dutch and Chinese choreographers and dancers, a Sino-Dutch International Dance Festival featuring several performances, workshops and masterclasses will be held in a variety of venues around Guangzhou.

On May 1, a concert will be given by the talented Dutch Jazz musicians with a duo of Joost Lijbaart and Wolfert Brederode in combination with modern dance performance by Dutch and Chinese dancers. In the meantime a Dutch Bicycle Installation Exhibition will show you the Dutch design and how Dutch go green with their healthy lifestyle.

### Dutch Contemporary Art Exhibition Boundless Material

The exhibition “Boundless Material” introduces Dutch contemporary art with works from two distinguished artists: Nick Renshaw and Riet van der Linden. As part of the Dutch Days activities, the exhibition brings forth the art and culture of Netherlands for a meaningful conversation with its Chinese audience.

Nick works with red earthenware clay to create his figurine series of minimal physical features and bold silhouettes. The body of works, entitled “Tong An” is produced with an extended process of modeling, casting, press-molding, and firing, which pays tribute to an ancient tradition of ceramic production and foreign trades in the port of Xiamen. The historical nostalgia and aesthetic

timelessness are the essential qualities of Nick's sculptures, which are carried out by the interplays of the abrasive, rustic-metal like surface and the delicate contour.

Nick's sculptural presence in the space shares a sense of humanistic awareness with Riet's colourful "City Matrix" pieces on the wall. Riet creates her latest body of gouache paintings on recycled cardboard. Cardboard boxes are deconstructed from their usual functional context and stripped back to the original flat shapes for more flexible plays of forms and colours. The combination of abstract composition and scavenged industrial cardboards is not only a symbolic take on the collective memory of mankind as hunters and collectors, it is also a social, cultural, economic, and even feminist critique of the strength and vulnerability of modern day industrial life.