



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

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PRESS RELEASE

CULTURAL DAYS OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK – NETHERLANDS 2010

After focusing on Romania in 2009, the Cultural Days of the ECB are now turning to the Netherlands. From 20 October to 15 November 2010 the ECB, in cooperation with De Nederlandsche Bank, is pleased to present 22 events reflecting the cultural diversity of the Netherlands at well-known cultural locations across Frankfurt am Main.

This year's Cultural Days, under the joint patronage of Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the ECB, and Nout Wellink, President of De Nederlandsche Bank, centre on modern ballet, contemporary dance, recent Dutch literature and high-profile concerts illustrating the musical culture of the Netherlands. Other highlights include documentaries screened by the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, a play inspired by the relationship between Hannah Arendt and Martin Heidegger, an exhibition featuring young innovative Dutch designers, presentations and lectures on Dutch arts and culture, a dance workshop for young people and fairy tales for children.

Ballet will, for the first time, be the focus of the Grand opening event, which will take place at 8 p.m. on 20 October at the Alte Oper in Frankfurt in the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Netherlands. Het Nationale Ballet will perform three pieces by choreographer Hans van Manen and the world premiere of a piece choreographed by Juanjo Arqués.

The brass and string ensemble of the Koninklijk Concertgebouworkest (Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra) will perform in Frankfurt's venerable Paulskirche at 8 p.m. on 30 October. Entry to the concert, organised in cooperation with the City of Frankfurt, will be free of charge, and attendees will be invited to make a donation to the Frankfurt-based childcare organisation *Kinderhaus Am Weingarten*, which mainly helps children with a migration and underprivileged background.

The Nederlands Jeugd Strijkorkest (Netherlands Youth String Orchestra) will close this year's Cultural Days with a concert at the Schauspielhaus Frankfurt at 8 p.m. on 15 November. Talented young musicians aged between 12 and 21 will perform pieces by Bach, Debussy, Vaughan Williams and Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

We look forward to a programme of events that reflects the diversity and originality of Dutch artistic culture.

The complete programme of the Cultural Days is available on the ECB's website at www.ecb.europa.eu/culturaldays. More information about the events can be obtained by sending an e-mail to cultural-days@ecb.europa.eu or calling the Cultural Days hotline on +49 69 1344 5555 (Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

European Central Bank

Directorate Communications, Press and Information Division

Kaiserstrasse 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main

Tel.: +49 69 1344 7455, Fax: +49 69 1344 7404

Internet: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

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