

## **Roosegaarde opens SPACE, a 90 meters long artwork offering a new experience of light and space at Eindhoven Station in the Netherlands**

Permanent artwork about networks of light on earth now open to public

Eindhoven, city of light, lives up to its name with a new piece of art which captures both the beauty and darkness of light. Artist and innovator Daan Roosegaarde was commissioned by the Municipality of Eindhoven, ProRail and NS (National Dutch Railways) to make an interactive lightwork for the city of Eindhoven, in the restored passenger tunnel of Eindhoven's train station. Roosegaarde drew inspiration from his fascination for nocturnal maps of Earth where light sources make men's presence visible. Daan Roosegaarde: "Light is communication, our language. Walking past the artwork, you experience a new dimension of light, just as an astronaut sees it in an orbit of the earth."

Watch the trailer: <https://www.studioroosegaarde.net/project/space/>



Roosegaarde and his team of designers worked with experts on a specialised printing technique on lenses. The illusion of depth is created through the application of this technique. During months, images of the Earth recorded by NASA space agency satellites were digitally edited into a composite 3D image by Studio Roosegaarde's team. The level of craftsmanship used can be compared to that of frescoes painters. The earth is peeled as an apple making one long strip. The strip is made transparent and laid on the opposite pole, creating an accurate yet abstract image of earth. Thanks to the controlled LED lighting, visitors get an extra layer of the image's spatiality. 'SPACE' shows the beauty and impact of light, as shown in the contrast between South and North Korea and the light network around the Nile in Egypt.

According to the Dutch National Railways Agency which commissions artworks on stations, 'SPACE' is an asset to the Dutch railways: "We're looking forward to the installation of a new light artwork in the monumental tunnel at Eindhoven station. For the traveller, this spatial and effective light wall will lend a new dimension of experience to the transformed tunnel. The chosen motif fits perfectly with Eindhoven,

the city of light. In line with the Dutch railway, it establishes a poetic link to the technical networks that connect us worldwide.”

‘SPACE’ is located in the old passage of Eindhoven Station and is part of the station renovation conducted by ProRail, Heijmans and design and engineering organisation Arcadis. The artwork, commissioned by ProRail and the Municipality of Eindhoven in collaboration with Heijmans and Arcadis, and open to all from 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2017.

About Daan Roosegaarde:

Daan Roosegaarde is internationally well known for his social designs. With his team of designers and engineers from Studio Roosegaarde, he works on designs that improve the relationship between man, technology and space. Interaction, innovation and beauty are the focal points in what he describes as “techno poetry”.

About Eindhoven Station:

With the renovations, Eindhoven station is ready for the future. A new tunnel to ensure the growing number of travellers are properly guided, with good amenities and shops for a pleasant stay. The new passage, along with the renovation of the former tunnel of Eindhoven monumental station, was designed by Luc Veeger of Arcadis and carried out by contractor Heijmans on behalf of ProRail. The total costs, amounting to approximately 70 million euros, have been financed by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, NS, the Province of North Brabant and the Municipality of Eindhoven.

**Note for the editors:**

Dutch Design Week

Dutch Design Week (DDW) takes place every year in Eindhoven. The biggest design event in North Europe presents work and ideas of more than 2500 designers to more than 295,000 visitors from home and abroad. In more than hundred locations across the city, DDW organises and facilitates exhibitions, lectures, prize ceremonies, networking events, debates and festivities.

DDW is different from other design events, because it concentrates on the designs of the future. Although during the event every imaginable discipline and aspect of design is on offer, the emphasis is on experiment, innovation and cross-overs.

**INVITATION to the editors:**

ICOON AFSLUITDIJK

Roosegaarde’s large-scale design and innovation programme ICOON AFSLUITDIJK will be exhibited from 17<sup>th</sup> November until the 21<sup>st</sup> January.

The Afsluitdijk is the 32 kilometers long dike which protects the Netherlands from water and flooding. Built mostly by hand and realized in 1932, it is an engineering highlight of the Netherlands and a unique place in the world. Now after almost 85 years the Afsluitdijk is in need of a thorough renovation. The Dutch state together with the surrounding municipalities and provinces have joined forces to lead an ambitious programme to protect and safeguard the future of the dike. As part of the programme, Roosegaarde’s ICOON AFSLUITDIJK enhances the iconic status of the Afsluitdijk with a subtle second layer of light and innovation. The three designs of

light and interaction developed by Daan Roosegaarde and his team of designers and engineers are entitled Gates of Light, Windvogel and Glowing Nature, all of which can be viewed by all after sunset.

For more information, visit <https://www.studioroosegaarde.net/project/icon-afsluitdijk/info/> and contact [pr@studioroosegaarde.net](mailto:pr@studioroosegaarde.net) for press accreditation.

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