



Press Announcement: 05.04.2025

OPEN PAVILJOEN

Space for Encounter, Art, and Imagination

Project 'Open Paviljoen': 10.05.2025 — 17.08.2025
Opening: 10.05.2025, 15:00 hrs / Admission: free
Location: Pavilion in the middle of Lange Voorhout, The Hague

'When we reject the single story, when we realize that there is never a single story', wrote Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The city of The Hague is not a uniform place. With more than half of its residents of non-Dutch origin, it forms a vibrant, multilingual community rich in stories. To celebrate this diversity, West is launching the Open Paviljoen this summer: a new meeting place for the many voices of The Hague.

Located on the stately Lange Voorhout, the Open Paviljoen invites visitors to connect, exchange ideas, and imagine together. Its focus is not on the past, but on shaping a shared future. The spatial installation, consisting of a platform and a compact project space, has been developed in collaboration with renowned Surinamese artist Marcel Pinas. Over the course of three months, it will become a place for art, reflection, hospitality, and dialogue.

With good coffee and fresh bread, the pavilion becomes a warm and welcoming space for a broad audience. Together with a range of organisations from both within the city and beyond, West is presenting a continuous program of talks, performances, sports and games, by and for the people of The Hague and far beyond.

This year's focus is on Suriname: a country deeply connected to both the past and present of the Netherlands. The Open Paviljoen offers space for cultural exchange, critical reflection, and artistic expression.

What makes the Open Paviljoen special is that it is more than a stage: it is a thinking space in the heart of the city. It is rooted in the philosophy of West, which explores how art can contribute to an inclusive, just, and liveable world. Inspired by thinkers such as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Édouard Glissant (whose work is simultaneously on view in an exhibition in the former American embassy), the program has been developed in collaboration with a diverse network of artists, thinkers, and residents. It includes both professional and amateur art, philosophical reflection and personal stories.

Through its ongoing programming in the former embassy and at the Open Paviljoen, West not only brings contemporary art to the heart of The Hague, but also creates space for hospitality, dialogue, and the shared imagination of another world.

This year, West collaborates with the artists' association Pulchri Studio, which is organising the exhibition Voorhout Monumentaal next to the pavilion. At the same time, we will serve as an information point where visitors to the Museumkwartier can find background information.

For more information, please contact us: info@westdenhaag.nl or +31(0)70.3925359

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The Open Paviljoen is made possible with the support of the Municipality of The Hague and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), and has been realised thanks to the dedication of committed artists, volunteers, and partner institutions.