

# PRESS RELEASE

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## HANS VAN HEESWIJK WINS COMMISSION 'MAURITSHUIS ON THE PLEIN' EXTENSION

The Royal Gallery of Paintings Mauritshuis in The Hague announced that the commission to implement the 'Mauritshuis on the Plein' Master Plan has been awarded to Hans van Heeswijk Architects, Amsterdam. Following a thorough selection procedure the jury, chaired by Chief Government Architect Liesbeth van der Pol, were unanimous in their choice of his design. 'A splendid design that does justice to the international eminence of the Mauritshuis.'

### 'Mauritshuis on the Plein' Master Plan

The 'Mauritshuis on the Plein' Master Plan includes the substantial extension of the museum by means of an underground passageway to a part of the Nieuwe or Litteraire Sociëteit De Witte, located across the street. As a result, museological and visitor facilities (such as entrance, restaurant, shop, cloakroom) will be brought in line with the 21<sup>st</sup>-century requirements. The extension will also allow the creation of an education suite facilities, a new exhibition space and lecture theatre. Extensive renovation of the existing Mauritshuis building is also part of Master Plan.

### Emilie Gordenker, Director of the Mauritshuis in The Hague:

Emilie Gordenker Director of the Mauritshuis is delighted that Hans van Heeswijk Architects has won the Mauritshuis aan het Plein commission. 'We were deeply impressed with Hans van Heeswijk's outline design. Not only has he translated our wishes and requirements more than satisfactorily, he has also conceived an exciting and innovatory design. We look forward to the Preliminary Design.'

Hans van Heeswijk and his architectural firm have wide experience in many fields. He has been active since 1985 and has designed many public buildings, offices, housing projects and bridges. Well-known examples of his work are the Graphic Design Museum in Breda and the Parkweg metro station in Schiedam. He recently realised the conversion of the Amstelhof into the Hermitage Amsterdam museum.

### Hans van Heeswijk, architect founder of Hans van Heeswijk architects in Amsterdam:

'Following the success of the museum Hermitage Amsterdam, this project is once again an enormous honour and we will devote all our energy into producing a splendid design.'

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### Note to the editors

Following completion of the Preliminary Design, in the second quarter of 2010 a press conference will be organised with a presentation of the design for the 'Mauritshuis on the Plein'. You will receive an invitation in due time.

Please find high resolution press photographs at [www.heeswijk.nl/press](http://www.heeswijk.nl/press)

And more Hans van Heeswijk Architects projects at [www.heeswijk.nl](http://www.heeswijk.nl)

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