

Zuiderzee charted

From 26 December 2009 to 28 March 2010, the Zuiderzee Museum in Enkhuizen will present the exhibition entitled *Spiegel van de Zuiderzee* (Mirror of the Zuiderzee). The collection sketches the development of the charts of the Zuiderzee in the period from 1580 to 1932.

The Zuiderzee was one of the most difficult seas in the world to navigate. The water channels changed constantly due to the endless shifting of sandbanks and channels. Therefore it was necessary to adjust the charts regularly.

Trading centre of the world

The exhibition illustrates the development of the Zuiderzee and the Marsdiep and Vliestroom sea passages. For many centuries, these formed the most important entrances to the former inland sea and, as such, to Amsterdam. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the relatively small Zuiderzee was the trading centre of the world. Ships sailed to all corners of the world from this busy shipping route.

Humans and the Zuiderzee

Based on the book of the same name, *Spiegel van de Zuiderzee*, the Zuiderzee Museum presents sixty charts and atlases and a number of objects and paintings. This provides a good picture of the relation of humans with the ever-changing Zuiderzee. The exhibition includes charts and seafarer's guides by Lucas Janszoon Waghenaer (1533/34-1606) and Johannes van Keulen (approx. 1654-1715) among others. Attention is also paid to the diking along the coast of the Zuiderzee and the reclamation plans that resulted in the closure of the Zuiderzee in 1932.

On the book

Spiegel van de Zuiderzee. Geschiedenis en Cartobibliografie van de Zuiderzee en het Hollands Waddengebied (Mirror of the Zuiderzee. History and Cartobibliography of the Zuiderzee and the Dutch Wadden Sea Area), ISBN 978 90 6194 230 6, has 744 pages and is available in a bound version with a full-colour dust-jacket and full-colour content. The price is € 159 and the book is available in the bookshop and from HES & DE GRAAF Publishers.

On the Zuiderzee Museum

The Zuiderzee Museum presents Dutch art, fashion, design and heritage at the interface of land and water. Exhibitions and events are organized both indoors and outdoors the whole year round, establishing and emphasizing connections with the collection and modern developments in the field of art and culture. Present-day and classic designs are approached in a unique way and are highlighted from various angles. www.zuiderzeemuseum.nl.

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Note for the editor, not for publication:

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