

"... contains some of the loveliest images of the Dutch landscape ever made."

Dana Linsen, NRC Handelsblad

"... an homage to the Dutch riverine landscape and to those who have been inspired by it." Hans Geurts, movie2movie.nl

"This film almost makes you believe you have a painting in you. In any case, it makes you wish you did." Jann Ruyters, Trouw

Remembering Holland

Denkend aan Holland

A film by Jan Wouter van Reijen

Sound Menno Euwe | Editing Jan Wouter van Reijen and Chris Teerink | Music Paul Prenen
Cello Ivana Poparić | Producers Frank van Reemst and Joost Verhey - Doc.Eye Film

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Remembering Holland

Denkend aan Holland



When you look at a river, what do you see?

REMEMBERING HOLLAND by Jan Wouter van Reijen carries the viewer through the basin of the River Waal, past painters, sculptors and poets. Van Reijen follows the entire course of the river, from the German border to the North Sea, and creates portraits of various artists who have taken the riverine landscape as their theme. Each and every one of them sings the river's praises in his or her own way, from extremely realistic to abstract.

At every spot along the way, and each day anew, the river landscape changes: we see the water dark and colorful, glistening in late and early light, in morning dew and by moonlight, in clouds of mist and the snows of winter. Yet the water brings more than beauty alone. The flooding of the forelands and the reinforcement of the dykes in 1995 remind us of the eternal struggle of the Dutch against the rising water.

See it and be borne along on a voyage of the imagination.



Que voit-on quand on regarde un fleuve?

REMINISCENCES DE HOLLANDE... est un voyage à travers la perception et l'imagination de peintres, poètes et sculpteurs qui recréent le Waal dans des œuvres d'art. Traitant des innombrables façons d'observer le fleuve, il se concentre sur l'interaction de la perception et de la créativité, montrant comment les artistes exploitent ce processus pour exprimer ce qui est important pour eux dans leur œuvre.

Au lieu d'une structure narrative, c'est la concentration des images qui donne au film sa force et son sens.



Short biography of Jan Wouter van Reijen

Director Jan Wouter van Reijen (1943, Amsterdam) graduated from the Dutch Film and Television Academy in 1966. His first works were short fiction films. After that he specialized in artistic documentaries about architecture, poets, and painters, of which 'I HAVE TO SEE, I HAVE TO SEE IT ALL' (2001) about the work of the famous Dutch painter Co Westerik is an example. Van Reijen is more than a director. Since 1966 he has worked on many films as director of photography, soundman and/or editor. In REMEMBERING HOLLAND, Van Reijen combines these skills; he is not only the film's director, but also the editor and director of photography.

Original title
Denkend aan Holland
English title
Remembering Holland
Genre Feature documentary
Running time
101 min. / 52 min.
Format Digibeta, HD, colour
Screen ratio 16x9
Language Dutch
Subtitles English
Sound Dolby digital
Year of release 2009

Director
Jan Wouter van Reijen
Producers
Frank van Reemst & Joost Verheij
Screenplay
Jan Wouter van Reijen
Director of photography
Jan Wouter van Reijen
Sound engineer
Menno Euwe
Sound design
Marco Vermaas
Music
Paul Prenen
Editor
Jan Wouter van Reijen & Chris Teerink

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