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TRAVEL FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

ART *Express*

AMSTERDAM AMSTERDAM

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It has been said that Amsterdam “appears to be standing not on earth but on its own reflection” (Gabriella de Ferrari). Along the luminous canals, every pleasure is doubled by its mirrored repetition. Here the Northern-sky blues are more intense, the crisp, white cottonball clouds are cast in greater contrast. What a serene joy it is to stand on one of the hundreds of bridges and watch the elegant gabled houses along the water settle — amid the ripples — into the fine-lined prints, their reflections ever so slightly blurred by the constant blowing and tumbling seeds of the Dutch elms.

In this city where living is compressed and vertical, and where bicycles and vehicles are locked in eternal combat, space is so precious that it is little wonder the residents revere good design. Residential windows present pristine still lifes; shops are filled with tempting examples of contemporary products — the simplest or most mundane arranged with the same care afforded precious art objects. This is indeed a place that feeds the eyes.

Indoors, the feast is provided by the treasures of the great museums: the **Rijksmuseum**, the **Stedelijk** and the **Van Gogh Museum**. By the time you arrive, the Rijksmuseum's two sublime Vermeers — *The Love Letter* and *The Kitchen Maid* — will have returned from the landmark exhibit seen at Washington's National Gallery and in the Hague at the Mauritshuis — set again amid the legendary pictures of Holland's Golden Age. The newest delight, however, is the just-reopened **South Wing**. Built between 1909-1916, it had been much in need of restoration and climate control. Now, thanks to architect Wim Quist, the Dutch 18th-and 19th-century painting collections, the superb Asian collection, and the costumes and textiles collections are beautifully displayed in a contemporary setting. The South Wing has a separate entrance at Hobbemastraat 19, which is especially convenient if you're walking from either the Stedelijk or the Van Gogh Museum just down the street — a street where changes are a-foot. The new director of the Rijksmuseum, Ronald de Leeuw, takes over on December 1st. He is currently head of the Van Gogh Museum, which rivals the older museum in popularity. He says his priorities will be improving the facility and undertaking ambitious exhibitions “with other major museums.” Further changes include the addition to the Van Gogh Museum of the next-door structure which once housed the **Overholland Museum** — a collection of contemporary European and American works on paper — closed since 1990. The building will be used as a library and study center,

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while the Overholland Collection will become a travelling museum designed for extended stays at various institutions throughout the Netherlands. The crowds at the Van Gogh Museum on any Sunday afternoon – rain or shine – are staggering and, because it is unlikely any significant alteration would be made to **De Stijl** master **Gerrit Reitvelt's** (1888-1964) modernist concrete building, it is hoped that this new space will take a bit of the pressure off.

Under the internationally known director/curator **Rudi Fuchs**, exhibitions at the **Stedelijk** remain both cutting-edge and scholarly. During the summer, hours are 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM daily, but October 1st normal 11-5 hours return. Still, it is one of Holland's most user-friendly museums with at least four exhibits on display at all times and often as many as six or seven. This means that the stunning permanent collection, rich in works by Mondrian, Picasso, Malevich, Matisse, Cézanne, De Kooning, Lichtenstein, Warhol, Baselitz, Nauman, and more, is relegated to the smallest rooms on the periphery of the larger galleries, so be sure to search the furthest corners. Save time too for the terrific shop and a bite at the pleasant restaurant. Beginning in September (and for about ten months thereafter) visitors to the galleries will be able to look on at the historic restoration of Matisse's *The Parakeet and the Mermaid* – an enormous six-panel masterpiece – while paper conservator André van Oort replaces the discolored brown ground with a new white support surface. A small accompanying exhibit will explain the process.

Amsterdam is one of the world's most walkable capitols, so, leaving the **Museumplein**, it is always fun to head for nearby **Leidseplein** where all the eccentrics in town seem to gather. One young man paints himself marble white and assumes the various positions of famous sculptures, from *The Thinker* to *The Discus Thrower*; jugglers and clowns enliven the plaza, sidewalk musicians offer impromptu concerts, and hanging out at the numerous cafes is *de rigueur*. **Café Americain** (in the American Hotel) is a must. A glorious design on the cusp between Art Nouveau and Art Deco (1898-1902), it is not only an Amsterdam landmark, it's also just the place for either a simple snack or an elegant luncheon. Across the street is an astonishingly baroque flower shop called **Ivy** and, if a little window shopping is in order, you're near **P.C. Hoofstraat** where trendy boutiques house everything from designer goodies to antique porcelains. It's an ideal diversion before heading off to the galleries. You'll need a copy of *Alert*, Amsterdam's gallery guide which you

Focus Amsterdam

HOTELS

Note: All telephone and fax numbers are preceded by the country code, 31, and the city code, 20.

Amstel Inter-Continental, Professor Tulpplein 1, Tel. 622 60 60, Fax 622 58 08. In a class by itself, the Amstel is home to the Dutch royals — with very royal prices to match. Make sure to ask for a room overlooking the river and enjoy high tea in the upstairs salon. **La Rive**, a premiere restaurant, is part of the luxurious setting.

Ambassade, Herengracht 341, Tel. 626 23 33, Fax 624 53 21. A discreet little assembly of ten 17th-century canal houses. No flourishes, no restaurant but quiet and pleasant.

American Hotel, Leidsekade 97, Tel. 624 53 22, Fax 625 32 36. A large (188 rooms) landmark Art Nouveau building close to the museums.

Canal House, Keizersgracht 148, Tel. 622 51 82, Fax 624 1317. An American-run Dutch inn with a small bar but no restaurant. It is, however, in a great location on one of the prettiest canals; 26 rooms.

Estheréa, Singel 303-309, Tel. 624 51 46, Fax 623 90 01. Another canal house, with a Dutch breakfast included; family owned and run for fifty years. There is no restaurant but room service is available; 75 rooms.

The Grand Amsterdam (The Grand), Oudezijds Voorburgwal 197, Tel. 555 31 11, Fax 555 32 22. Having served as Amsterdam's City Hall, The Grand has been beautifully restored. The interior garden and fine restaurant (**Café Roux**) are a big plus; very elegant; 166 rooms.

Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky (The Kras), Dam 9, Tel. 554 91 11, Fax 622 86 07. In the heart of busy Dam Square this once held the top spot; it remains comfortable, with its Victorian Winter Garden and 1883 Brasserie; 421 rooms.

Hotel de l' Europe, Nieuwe Doelenstraat 2-8, Tel. 623 48 36, Fax 624 29 62. An 1896 treasure overlooking the Amstel River at Munt Plein, the Europe is home to **Restaurant Excelsior**, one of the city's best French restaurants. Every luxury with 166 lovely rooms, health center and pool.

Hotel Pulitzer, Prinsengracht 315-331, Tel. 523 52 35, Fax 627 67 53. The only canal house luxury hotel, the Pulitzer is in the most

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desirable neighborhood filled with small shops and restaurants that make great exploring. The staff is wonderfully accommodating and both the bar and the lovely **Café Pulitzer** are justly popular. Our rooms — with a glorious canal view — begged for renovation.

RESTAURANTS

Beddington's, Roelof Hartstraat 6-8, Tel. 676 52 01. A minimalist riff on De Stijl design, the setting is perfect for Jean Beddington's enormously creative French-style cooking; surely the most sophisticated yet unpretentious destination for new cuisine in Amsterdam.

Bordewijk, Noordemarkt 7, Tel. 624 38 99. In the artsy Jordaan, this almost looks like contempo-California. The superb food leans toward both French and Italian in a definitely nouvelle way.

Café Americain, Leidseplein 28, Tel. 623 48 13. Instead of having a snack or a Dutch beer in the back section, sit up front in the windows overlooking Leidseplein and enjoy a truly fine meal. Because of its must-see historic design, we assumed this would be a tourist trap. It definitely is not.

Café de Jaren, Nieuwe Doelenstraat 20, Tel. 625 57 71. A big, bright post-modern cafe with great people watching.

Christophe, Leliegracht 46, Tel. 625 08 07. Chef Christophe Royer is an Amsterdam institution; the food is French and superb in a relaxed atmosphere.

Le Garage, Ruysdaelstraat 54-56, Tel. 679 71 76. Flamboyant, creative brasserie; food and ambiance quite a performance! The two young chefs are notable.

Indrapura, Rembrandtplein 42, Tel. 623 73 29. Too new to be in the guides, this is now considered by many to be the best Indonesian restaurant in Amsterdam; go for rijsttafel.

't Swartz Schoep, Korte Leidsewarsstraat 24, Tel. 622 30 21. Upstairs in a secreted corner of Leidseplein, The Black Sheep has been in the same 300 year-old building since 1937. It is noted for nouvelle cuisine and an excellent wine list. Even the royal family dines here.

Tempo Doeloe, Utrechtsestraat 75, Tel. 625 67 18. One of Amsterdam's best Indonesian restaurants; spacious and attractive; spiced to your pleasure.

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can pick up at your first stop. Its thickness is ample evidence of a lively art scene. Consider starting at **Torch** and **De Praktijk**, side by side on Lauriergracht. Torch represents a number of artists who are regularly seen in New York at P.P.O.W. — notably Teun Hocks, the illusionist photographer. At **Praktijk** we saw photographs by **Paul Andriesse**, the renowned dealer who is often called the Leo Castelli of Amsterdam. Also not to be missed are Andriesse's own gallery (international contemporary); **Galerie Barbara Farber** (the premier avant-garde showcase for such artists as Saint Clair Cemin, Eva Lootz, Julio Galan, Fabian Maraccio); **Galerie Binnen** (for the best in design by the likes of Jasper Morrison and Philippe Starck); **De Appel** (the first Amsterdam gallery to work with video artists and a local institution); **Clement** (previously called Printshop — the granddaddy of studio printmakers' facilities); **Espace** (by Eva Bendien a grande dame among Amsterdam dealers — shows Pierre Alechinsky); **De Expeditie** (Tony Cragg and Barry Flanagan plus Dutch artists): they just scratch the surface. One of our favorite expeditions was to **Multiple Choice** at Weteringschans 83, where art multiples with a very Pop flair are the fare. We like Warhol watches, socks and ties by BEN, dominos and games by Keith Haring, plus multiples by Lichtenstein, Penck, Cesar, Arman, Koons, Picasso (ceramics), Niki de Saint-Phalle and Gilbert and George. Also ask to see glass by the Netherland's star designer **Borek Sipek**.

Before calling it an arts day, consider the panoply of other wonderful museums and historic sites you might choose for a finale: **Rembrandthuis**, the home of the Dutch master, is always a popular choice; **Museum Van Loon** lies behind the facade of a classical 17th-century canal house and displays in its Louis XV interior a large collection of 17th- and 18th-century portraits; **Anne Frankhuis** touches and inspires half-a-million visitors every year; The **CoBrA Museum**, which showcases the large collection of Van Stuijvenberg, tells the story of the famous mid-century movement in the works of **Karel Appel**, **Constant**, **Corneille**, **Asger Jorn**, and others who worked under the Copenhagen, Brussels, Amsterdam expressionist banner.

If an architecture adventure is your choice instead, consider seeing our highlights: the 17th-century canal houses, including the **House of Eagles** (at Rokin 91) by **Philip Vingboons** (1608-75) and the 1615 facade by **Pieter de Keyser** at Oudezigs Voorburgwal 57; buildings in the Dutch Renaissance style of the 19th century on the

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Prinsengracht canal (nos. 739-741); **Noorderkerk**, built in 1620 on a plan by De Keyser – a sober post-Reformation church; **Nieuwe Kerk**, a late Gothic (1408) masterpiece; **Westerkerk** (1619-38), the most neo-classical of De Keyser's churches, with handsome Baroque organ shutters painted by **Gerard De Lairesse** c.1680 (you may enjoy an impromptu organ concert as we did); the **Rijksmuseum** by **P.J.H. Cuypers** (1827-1921) and his **Central Station** of 1889; the **American Hotel** – site of the **Café Americain**; Amsterdam's primary example of the De Stijl movement, The **Open Air School**, featuring rectangular planes in black and white, plus primary colors; works by **H.P. Berlage** (1856-1934), the central figure of the Amsterdam School, along with **de Klerk** and **Kramer**, including **Beurs van Berlage** (formerly a commodity exchange house, now the home of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra) at Damrak 277; and **ING Postbank**, a post-Modern facility by **Tom Alberts** and **Max van Huut**. Presently the most visible Dutch architect – and the name to look for as we enter the next century – is **Rem Koolhaas**. Two companies – **Archivise** (625 8908) and **Metrofoor** (420 6238) offer general architectural tours and, of course, the canal boat tours provide splendid sightseeing opportunities.

Beyond visual pleasures, don't forget Amsterdam is home to the fabulous **Concertgebouw**, perhaps the finest concert hall of all. Both the hall and its famed orchestra celebrated 100 years in 1988 and the divine acoustics continue to be a magnet for the world's premiere performers.

In addition, opera is presented at the **Muziektheater** by **The Netherlands Opera**, with the **Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra** and the **Dutch Opera Choir**, Riccardo Chailly, music director; contemporary dance is on the menu at the **Stadsschouwburg** (Municipal Theater) at Leidseplein; and the **Philharmonic** (above) resides at **Beurs van Berlage**. A wide variety of smaller theaters and halls supports a lively performing arts scene, but be sure to check one of the publications like *What's On in Amsterdam* to determine which events are in Dutch only. If you're lucky enough to visit in June, plan in advance to attend the annual Holland Festival – a month-long celebration featuring the most extraordinary performances in every discipline.

Amsterdam is so cosmopolitan we tend to forget that it is a metropolis of well under one million, thus the choice of places to stay is certainly not the huge, eclectic grab bag of a

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Restaurant Gauguin, Leidsekade 110, Tel. 622 15 26. French food with a flair highlights this colorful Lido brasserie.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Anne Frankhuis, Prinsengracht 263. Extended summer hours; winter hours Mon.-Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5, Tel. 556 71 00.

CoBrA Museum, Sandbergplein 1-3, Tues-Sun 11-5.

Van Loon Museum, Keizersgracht 672, Mon.-Tues. 11-5, Sun. 1-5, Tel. 624 52 55.

Rembrandthuis, Jodenbreestraat 4-6, Mon. -Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5, Tel. 624 94 86.

Rijksmuseum, Stadhouderskade 42, Daily 10-5, Tel. 673 21 21.

Van Gogh Museum, Paulus Potterstraat 7, Daily 10-5, tel. 570 52 00.

Stedelijk Museum of Modern Art, Paulus Potterstraat 13, Daily 11-5, extended summer hours, Tel. 573 29 11.

Note: If you plan to travel via the Museum Boat (Museumboot), tickets entitle you to get on and off at some seven stops serving 16 of the city's 40-plus museums and provide up to 50 percent entrance discount. Tickets can be purchased at any of the boarding points or at the office opposite the Rijksmuseum, Tel. 622 21 81.

Galerie Paul Andriessse, Prinsengracht 116, Tel. 623 62 37.

De Appel, Nieuwe Spiegelstraat 10, Tel. 625 56 51.

Galerie Binnen, Keizersgracht 82, Tel. 625 96 03.

Glasgalerie Kuhler, Prinsengracht 134, Tel. 38 02 30. Glass by noted artists worldwide.

Clement (formerly Printshop), Prinsengracht 845, Tel. 625 16 56.

Space, Keizersgracht 548, Tel. 624 08 02.

De Expeditie, Leliegracht 47, Tel. 620 47 58.

Barbara Farber, Keizersgracht 265, Tel. 627 63 43.

Multiple Choice, Weteringschans 83, Tel. 639 1917.

Torch, Lauriergracht 94, Tel. 626 02 84, and **De Praktijk** next door.

Note: If you are in Amsterdam in early June, plan to attend the KunstRai – one of the continent's better-known art fairs and one-stop shopping for a brief week. Open Ateliers, in and around the Jordaan, are usually held the last week in May and occasionally in the fall. Ask at the galleries you visit.

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ARCHITECTURE

The Royal Palace, On the Dam, Daily 12:30-5.

Oudekerk, Oudekerksplein 23, Nave from 1306, extended in 1336, tower added by Bilhaemer in 1565, Mon.-Sat. 11-5, Sun. 1-5.

Nieuwe Kerk, Dam. A late Gothic church begun in 1408. Restored in 1980 for the coronation of Queen Beatrix; Daily 10-5.

Noorderkerk, Noordermarkt. De Keyser's last work built in 1620-22.

Westerkerk, Prinsengracht 281. Built in 1619-1638; Rembrandt's burial place; Mon.-Sat. 10-4.

The Open School (Openluchtschool) Cliestraat 36-40.

ING Postbank, Bijlmerplein 888.

Beurs van Berlage, Damrak 277. Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

SHOPPING

First stop at the museum shop in the Stedelijk and pick up The *'96 Amsterdam Original & Fun Shopping Guide* (Mike's Guides). It's irreverent, delightful and full of unexpected oddities and surprises. Our favorites included:

Kom Aardewerk, Utrechtsestraat 129. Earthenware from Italy, France, Spain and Belgium housed in a historic building – a tiled butcher's shop from the 1920s.

Leitmotiv b v, Design Editions, Nieuwe Spiegelstraat 20. Develops and produces the work of young international designers.

Beaufort, Grimburgwal 11. Contemporary jewelry shop and workshop.

Grimm Jewellery, Grimburgwal 9. Dutch design jewelry from former students of the Amsterdam Rietveld Academy.

Hester van Eeghen, Hartenstraat 1. Dutch leather design; striking bags.

Boon & Co., Gravenstraat 11. Exquisite baby clothes and accessories.

Oibibio-Department Store/Bookshop, Prins Hendrikkade 20-21. New wave success with every possible product and a trendy café/bar.

Then remember, for haute couture head for P.C. Hooftstraat; for antiques try walking Rokin near Muntplein; and if you're hooked on Delftware, visit Galleria d'Arte Rinascimento across from Westerkerk – where the spectrum ranges from tourist ephemera to the real thing. Royal Delftware at royal prices.

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sister capitol like Paris. If you treasure the ambience of a canal house, the choice is quite limited. We stayed at the **Hotel Pulitzer**, which one guide calls "arguably the best of Amsterdam's five-star hotels." We agreed that this row of 24 17th-century townhouses – a rabbit warren of spaces – on Prinsengracht was indeed charming and the staff was most accommodating, but, with the stratospheric prices in mind, we were sad to observe that our rooms were sorely in need of a complete overhaul. **The Pulitzer** has such a fine reputation, we hope they're re-doing them as we speak. Among the great Victorian hotels, the **Amstel Inter-Continental** is the grande dame – the most expensive, luxurious hotel in the city, blooming from a \$48 million renovation in 1992. Other options include the historic **Grand** (once Amsterdam's City Hall), the **Krasnapolsky** – dating from 1866, **Hotel de L'Europe** overlooking the River Amstel, plus a couple of more modest canal house hotels – the **Ambassade** and the **Estheréa**.

Happily, when it comes to local cuisine, the choices are much broader with literally thousands of diverse and inventive spots designed to make restaurant exploring a high priority. **Beddington's** was our hands-down favorite – a tiny but stunning tribute to De Stijl design (in part by Borek Sipek) featuring absolutely superb French-leaning food by top chef Jean Beddington. A close second was **Bordewijk** – a high design trattoria with serious French/Italian cuisine. This is not to exclude **Christophe**, traditionally thought of as the best restaurant in Amsterdam; **Indrapura**, the new rage for rijsttafel; **Tempo Doeloe**, also an excellent Indonesian restaurant; **Restaurant Gaugin**, a colorful waterfront bistro in the Lido complex; and the see-and-be-seen **Le Garage**, flamboyant but super.

Lest we forget, before hurrying on to the next art connection, **Schiphol Airport** is everything it's cracked up to be – and more! A shopping center, entertainment complex, airport, et al – it is certainly the cleanest, most attractive, most convenient major airport on the continent. Whenever you must choose an interim stop en route to your European destination, it's hard to beat KLM and Schiphol. We're willing to bet you'll want to make a few days for Amsterdam at every opportunity.

Walking one sultry summer evening from the neon trendiness of Bordewijk, along the twinkling canal side, peeking discreetly at the illuminated living rooms showing off a thousand contemporary creative flavors never out of tune with their 17th- and 18th-century shells, we found it hard to leave this gentle but bewitching place – both ancient and futurist in one vision.

ART AROUND THE WORLD

News

Travelers to **Chicago** will find a bounty of exciting art activities this fall, starting with a visit to the **Museum of Contemporary Art's** new 151,000 square-foot building (the largest space for contemporary art in the country) designed by Berlin architect Josef Paul Kleihues, where you can see *Negotiating Rapture: The Power of Art to Transform Lives* through October 20, followed by *Art in Chicago: 1945-1995*, a comprehensive, historical survey of art made and collected in Chicago since World War II. Through January 5, 1997, the **Art Institute of Chicago** will feature *Degas: Beyond Impressionism*; the only venue in the U.S. and seen in London this summer by *ARTexpress* with raves. If you're in town before October 6, be sure to see the smash hit STOMP at the **Shubert Theatre** (Tel. 312-902-1500) and, from October 31 through November 3, visit **SOFA**, an international fair featuring Sculpture, Objects and Functional Art, at the New Navy Pier. Chicago is well known as THE city of great architecture, so book a walking or bus tour with the **Chicago Architecture Foundation** (Tel. 312-922 3432), plus, through October 30, you can stroll through an outdoor sculpture exhibition of *Horses, Rabbits, Elephants and People Everywhere* in Grant Park, between Randolph and Monroe Streets (Tel. 312-744-2400), including a stunning installation of **Deborah Butterfield's** horses in the perfect outdoor setting — presented by Zola/Lieberman Gallery. Among the hotels the MCA recommends to guests are the **Whitehall Hotel**, the **DoubleTree Guest Suites**, and **The Four Seasons**, all on East Delaware Place. The two favorite *ARTexpress* spots to eat are still **Brasserie Jo** (Tel. 312-595-0800) on West Hubbard and **Spiaggia** (Tel. 312-280-2750) on North Michigan, plus the new, very hip **Wishbone** (Tel. 312-850-2663) on West Grand for Southern-Cajun food.

Our friend Patricia Bayer, Fine Arts Editor at *Encyclopedia Americana*, reports from **Dublin**: "I can personally vouch for (and rave about) **Bewley's** in Grafton Street, just about the nicest place (maybe next to the café/bar of the American Hotel in Amsterdam) to have tea and coffee (no alcohol) in Northern Europe. The stained glass windows (some by Harry Clarke, if I'm not mistaken), the casual but lively atmosphere, the great mix of people, and, of course, the food and drink combine to make it a mecca for the weary and thirsty. In the midst of revitalization, **Temple Bar** area (in Dublin 2) is a treat, with its restaurants, cafés, galleries, etc. Also there are: the **Irish Film Center** (6 Eustace Street), home to the Irish Film Archive, a bookstore, bar/restaurant and cinemas; the **Design Yard** (12 East Essex Street), with jewelry and other contemporary objects (temporary shows as well), and the

Great Addresses

IN CHICAGO

Whitehall Hotel, 105 East Delaware Place, Tel. 312-944-6300 or 800-323-7500. An intimate, understated spot, with the charm of a small European hotel; 221 rooms done in English décor. A favorite of *ARTexpress*.

The Four Seasons, 120 East Delaware Place, Tel. 312-280-8800. You can always depend on luxury at a Four Seasons Hotel and just pacing the plush carpeting is an experience.

Drake Hotel, 140 East Walton, Tel. 312-787-2200 or 800-445-8667. A favorite of kings, queens and presidents, the Drake is famous for its marble lobby and breathtaking lake views from the best rooms.

Park Hyatt Chicago on Water Tower Square, 800 North Michigan Avenue, Tel. 312-280-2222 or 800-233-1234. One of the hotels the MCA recommended to opening visitors.

Everest, 440 South LaSalle Street, on the 40th floor of the Chicago Stock Exchange, Tel. 312-663-8920. Affords dramatic city views and light French cuisine.

Kiki's Bistro, 900 North Franklin, Tel. 312-335-5454. Outstanding country French cuisine, just north of the gallery district.

Topolobambo, 445 North Clark, Tel. 312-661-1434. Finest gourmet Mexican in the city, in a class by itself, located inside the Fontera Grill, which is also worth the wait.

Charlie Trotter's, 816 West Armitage, Tel. 312-248-6228. World famous; some of the most stunning presentations you will ever see and taste; a true culinary experience.

Chicago Cultural Center, 78 East Washington Street, Tel. 312-346-3278. Exhibitions presented in a beautiful building near the Art Institute. Worth a stop just to see the space.

Terra Museum of American Art, 666 North Michigan Avenue, Tel. 312-664-3939. Also a beautiful space which houses a spectacular collection of American Art.

IN DUBLIN

Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, D2, Tel. 6778453. Changing exhibitions often showcasing the work of contemporary Irish artists.

Design Yard, 12 East Essex Street, D2, Tel. 6678482. Design gallery featuring contemporary objects and jewelry.

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Irish Museum of Modern Art, Royal Hospital, Kilmmainham, D8, Tel. 6718666. Special exhibitions and rotating works from the collection are seen in one of the most successful conversions of an historical building.

Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, 5-9 Temple Bar, D2, Tel. 6710073. Changing exhibits.

Project Arts Centre, 39 East Essex Street, D2, Tel. 6712321. Avant-garde theater venue recommended by Dubliners in the arts. Check *In Dublin* for the current schedule; the center also includes an active exhibition space.

Douglas Hyde Gallery, Trinity College, Nassau Street, D2. Tel. 7021116. One of the most interesting local art venues; shows not only Irish but international art. The work of Cuban artist José Bedia was up during Patricia's visit.

IN NEW YORK

Osteria del Circo, 120 West 55th Street, Tel. 212-265-3636. Mario, Marco, and Mauro — yes they are the boys of the legendary Sirio Maccioni (of Le Cirque) and they're running a new family restaurant. Its bright, breezy and fun — from superb ravioli to bomboloni (ridiculously rich little deserts).

Bar Anise, 1022 Third Avenue, Tel. 212-355-1112. Matthew Kenny's Mediterranean discount version of the *tre cher* Matthews a few steps away. Try roasted wild mushrooms with artichokes and Fontina to start; then perhaps almond crusted tuna in lemon dressing or crisp-skinned sea bass.

Lobster Club, 24 East 80th Street, Tel. 212-249-6500. Anne Rosenzweig fans rejoice! For those who love Arcadia there is now the homey, down-to-earth — but, of course —fabulous Lobster Club. Classics are "fish and chips of the day," Midwestern meatloaf, even crab and couscous cake — and a lobster club on a brioche!

SoHo Grand Hotel, 310 West Broadway, Tel. 212-965-3000 or 800-965-3000. A new, great place to stay if you want to be close to the galleries. The place is brimming with references to the SoHo art scene.

News...more

Odessa Lounge and Grill (13/14 Dame Court), which reminded me of eateries in SoHo and TriBeCa. I bought some beautiful Irish clothing at (I think it's called) the **Irish Design Shop** in the **Powercourt Town House Centre**, which is also home to a few nice antique shops."

Temple Bar is, in fact, well on its way to becoming Dublin's "Left Bank." A bit south of the River Liffey, and one of Dublin's oldest neighborhoods, the area extends from **Trinity College to Christ Church Cathedral**, from Westmoreland to Fishamble Streets. Its Georgian and Victorian architecture is undergoing restoration and the city's hip are flocking to the scene. The other not-to-be-missed destination is the **Irish Museum of Modern Art** (where the work of sculptor **Richard Deacon** will be on view through December 30) housed in the Royal Hospital, a national architectural treasure from the 17th century. Restored at a cost of 20 million IR pounds, it opened in 1991 with a permanent collection of works by modern masters —Picasso, Matisse, Leger, and Irish artists including Jack B. Yeats.

The big draw in **New York** this fall is major retrospective exhibitions for **Ellsworth Kelly** (October 18-January 19 at the **Guggenheim**) and **Jasper Johns** (October 20-January 21, **MOMA**). The Johns catalogue (already featured in the MOMA Christmas catalogue) will be available after October 16, as will the Kelly book by long-time Guggenheim curator and deputy director Diane Waldman — whose retirement project this is, regrettably! Her impeccable scholarship will be greatly missed at the museum but we all hope to continue to enjoy her talents in special projects. For Pop aficionados MOMA will add to the souvenirs of the season the *1997 MOMA Pop Art Engagement Calendar* — a favorite annual holiday gift, this year with Lichtenstein, Johns, Warhol, et al (\$12.95). And speaking of Pop shopping, celebrity photographer **Bert Stern** tells us that he'll soon be reintroducing his legendary 1969 artist-designed-wares shop called **On 1st** — this time on the Internet! Soon you can check in at WWW.bertstern.com and check out usable multiples by your favorite artists. If you kept his 1960s paper plates, wallpaper, and wrapping paper by Roy Lichtenstein you can brag now.

Not to be missed: *Views from Abroad: European Perspectives on American Art II*, the second in the **Whitney Museum of American Art** series of three exhibitions created by noted European museum directors. From October 16-January 5 it will be Jean-Christophe Ammann's turn (of the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt) when he juxtaposes works from his own museum with selections from the Whitney's collection.

Calendar

Through	Oct. 20	MOCA, Los Angeles	<i>Kienholz; Retrospective</i>
Through	Oct. 20	MCA, Chicago	<i>Negotiating Rapture</i>
Through	Oct. 20	National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.	<i>Olmec: Art of Ancient Mexico</i>
Through	Oct. 20	San Diego Museum of Contemp. Art (Downtown)	<i>O. Nerdrum & T. Oursler</i>
Through	Oct. 20	Tate Gallery, London	<i>Hans Hartung</i>
Through	Oct. 27	Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam	<i>Watercolors from the MFA Boston</i>
Through	Oct. 27	Center for the Arts, San Francisco	<i>Humongolous: Tim Hawkinson</i>
Through	Nov. 17	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam	<i>Colour of Sculpture 1840-1910</i>
Through	Nov. 24	Philadelphia Museum of Art	<i>Harry Callahan</i>
Through	Dec. 1	Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami	<i>Mexican Modernism</i>
Through	Dec. 1	Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam	<i>Willem de Kooning</i>
Through	Dec. 9	Ca'Rezzonico, Venice	<i>Tiepolo</i>
Through	Dec. 22	Lannan Foundation, Los Angeles	<i>Bill Viola: Stations</i>
Through	Dec. 23	Bodemuseum, Berlin	<i>Pop Art</i>
Through	Dec. 29	Modern Museum of Fort Worth	<i>Tatsuo Miyajima</i>
Through	Dec. 30	Museum of Modern Art, Dublin	<i>Richard Deacon: Two New Works</i>
Through	Jan. 3	Cleveland Museum of Art	<i>Cindy Sherman</i>
Through	Jan. 5	Terra Museum, Chicago	<i>American Treasures: Chase, Whistler & Prendergasts</i>
Through	Jan. 5	Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Degas: Beyond Impressionism</i>
Through	Jan. 5	LACMA, Los Angeles	<i>Marc Chagall</i>
Through	Jan. 5	UCLA Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles	<i>René Magritte</i>
Through	Jan. 5	Whitney Museum, New York	<i>Nan Goldin</i>
Through	Jan. 10	OPEN GLASS (International exhibit of contemp. glass art), Venice, Italy	
Through	Jan. 24	UAM, Berkeley	<i>Hans Hofmann</i>
Through	Jan. 26	San Diego Museum of Contemp. Art (La Jolla)	<i>Installation Art: 1969-96</i>
Through	Jan. 27	Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, Nice	<i>Tom Wesselmann</i>
Through	Jan. 28	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>Crossing the Frontier: Photos of the West</i>
Through	Feb. 9	Phillips Collection, Washington D.C.	<i>Impressionists on the Seine</i>
Oct. 2 - 7		FIAC (Art Fair) Paris	
Oct. 3 - Jun. 29		Dia Center for the Arts, New York	<i>Juan Muñoz</i>
Oct. 4 - Jan. 5		Asia Soc., Grey Art Gall. & Queens Museum/Art, New York	<i>Contemp. Art/Asia</i>
Oct. 5 - Dec. 29		De Young Museum, San Francisco	<i>Beat Culture & New America: 1950-65</i>
Oct. 6 - Jan. 5		National Gallery, Washington D.C.	<i>Georges de La Tour and His World</i>
Oct. 8 - Nov. 18		University Art Museum, Long Beach	<i>Ruth Bernhard: Known & Unknown</i>
Oct. 9 - Dec. 29		Baltimore Museum	<i>The Face of America: Modernist Art 1910-1950</i>
Oct. 9 - Jan. 5		Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh	<i>Campbell's Soup Cans</i>
Oct. 11 - 17		International Fine Art & Antique Dealers Show, New York	
Oct. 11 - Jan. 12		Brooklyn Museum	<i>In the Light of Italy: Carot & Early Plein-Air Painting</i>
Oct. 11 - Jan. 14		Yale University Art Museum, New Haven, Conn.	<i>Thomas Eakins</i>
Oct. 13 - Jan. 19		MOCA, Los Angeles	<i>Robert Gober</i>
Oct. 15 - Jan. 5		J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu	<i>Julia M. Cameron: The Creative Process</i>
Oct. 16 - Jan. 5		Whitney Museum, New York	<i>Views from Abroad: Europeans on Am. Art</i>
Oct. 17 - Jan. 12		Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C.	<i>Richard Lindner</i>
Oct. 18 - Jan. 19		Guggenheim Museum, New York	<i>Ellsworth Kelly</i>
Oct. 20 - Jan. 21		MOMA, New York	<i>Jasper Johns: A Retrospective</i>
Oct. 20 - Feb. 2		Walker Art Center, Minneapolis	<i>Hannah Höch</i>
Oct. 26 - Nov. 3		Art Multiple (Art Fair) Düsseldorf, Germany	
Oct. 26 - Jan. 12		Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco	<i>Mod. Sculpture: Nasher Coll.</i>
Oct. 27 - Feb. 2		California Center for the Arts, Escondido	<i>Myths and Magical Fantasies</i>
Oct. 27 - Jan. 5		National Gallery, Washington D.C.	<i>Michelangelo: Windsor Castle Drawings</i>
Oct. 29 - Jan. 19		Metropolitan Museum, New York	<i>Corot</i>
Oct. 30 - Jan. 12		Ansel Adams Center for Photography, San Francisco	<i>Mike & Doug Starr</i>
Oct. 31 - Mar. 9		SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>Katharina Fritsch</i>
Oct. 31 - Nov. 3		SOFA (Sculpture, Objects and Functional Art), Chicago	
Nov. 1 - Jan. 5		De Appel Foundation, Amsterdam	<i>Mona Hatoum</i>
Nov. 3 - Jan. 5		Philadelphia Museum of Art	<i>The Peale Family</i>
Nov. 6 - Jan. 19		Baltimore Museum of Art	<i>John McLaughlin</i>
Nov. 9 - Jan. 12		CAC, Cincinnati	<i>Tim Hawkinson</i>
Nov. 10 - 17		ART COLOGNE 1996 (Contemporary Art Fair)	
Nov. 16 - Mar. 23		MCA, Chicago	<i>Art in Chicago, 1945-1995</i>
Nov. 21 - Feb. 16		Metropolitan Museum, New York	<i>Charles Rennie Mackintosh</i>
Nov. 21 - Feb. 23		Whitney Museum, New York	<i>New York Dada: 1915-1923</i>
Nov. 24 - Jan. 19		Indianapolis Museum of Art	<i>Goya and His Contemporaries</i>
Dec. 6 - 8		Gramercy Interntl Contemp. Art Fair, Chateau Marmont Hotel, Los Angeles	

Travel Bookshelf: Amsterdam

Guides

Frommer's Irreverent Guides: Amsterdam, 1996. A fun, new concept.

Time Out Amsterdam Guide, 1996. A favorite British guide purchased at Schiphol.

Amsterdam, Knopf Guides, 1994. The picture-perfect model, as always.

Robin Gauldie. *Walking Amsterdam: Twenty-five Original Walks in and Around Amsterdam, 1996.* Interesting routes that include museums, parks and "less predictable sights, such as a bird market, the bohemian crowd's 'brown cafes,' and the red-light district's Hanky Panky Tattooing Museum and House of Pain."

Literature and History

Albert Camus. *The Fall, 1957.*

Joseph Conrad. *The Mirror of the Sea, 1906.*

A. Frank. *The Diary of Anne Frank, 1954.*

R. Kistenmaker and R. Van Gelder. *Amsterdam: The Golden Age (1275-1795), 1983.*

J. Huizinga. *Dutch Civilization in the 17th Century and Other Essays, 1968.*

P. Zumthor. *Daily Life in Rembrandt's Holland, 1942.*

Art and Architecture

Rudi Fuchs. *Dutch Painting, 1978.*

P. Overy. *De Stijl, 1991.*

J. Rosenberg. *Dutch Art and Architecture 1600-1800, rev. ed. 1988.*

H. L. C. Jaffé. *Piet Mondriaan, 1970.*

S. Alpers. *Rembrandt's Enterprise, 1988.*

S. A. Stein. *Van Gogh: A Retrospective, 1986.*

Johannes Vermeer, Royal Cabinet of Paintings Mauritshuis, The Hague and National Gallery of Art, Washington, 1995.

Amsterdam Architecture: A Guide. ed. G. Kemme, 1992.

And strictly for fun...

Art Mysteries

Oliver Banks. *Rembrandt Panel, 1980.*

Henry James Forman, *Rembrandt Murder, 1931.*

Michael van Rijn. *Hot Art: Cold Cash, 1993.* Non-fiction; skullduggery in the art world of fakes and forgeries.

Lord Kilbracken. *Van Meegeren: Master Forger, 1967.* The true story of the forger who painted Vermeers.

Denis Dutton. *The Forger's Art, 1983.*

Also for the Van Meegeren story.