

ITI DUTCH NETWORK

30 March 2005

Dear Colleague,

ANTWERP WEEKEND WORKSHOP, 10–12 June 2005

Venue

The Dutch Network's seventeenth annual Weekend Workshop is being hosted by **Lessius Hogeschool** in the heart of Antwerp – recently described by the *Financial Times* travel guide as a 'gem of a city'. The college is located in the historic city centre, within easy walking distance of the Cathedral of Our Lady with its magnificent tower and paintings by Rubens.

The Workshop

As ever, we have set out to organise an event that combines professional development, networking and fun, while taking full advantage of our surroundings. The workshop part of the weekend will take place at Lessius Hogeschool's ultramodern translation department – one of only two of its kind, the other being in Switzerland. Given such state-of-the-art facilities, it soon became clear that the most appropriate theme for the first day of our Weekend Workshop would be 'Translation' itself.

Saturday

Consequently, Saturday morning will be given over to a tour of the translation department, followed by three hands-on sessions at some of its main facilities:

1. Interactive (on-screen) translation/revision/evaluation process: a long way from the language labs back at school.
2. Interpreting using the Hogeschool's very own conference room and interpreting booths.
3. 'Vertaalatelier': simulated translation agency to introduce students to the 'real world' of translation.

Following lunch, the 'Translation' theme will continue, with a visit to the nearby Plantin-Moretus Museum as the main event (see 'Other activities'). Saturday afternoon will round off with informal networking over coffee or an opportunity for an independent visit to another of the city's internationally famous museums (the Royal Museum of Fine Art, the Vleeshuis and the Museum of Photography, to name just a few). If sufficient people are interested, we will also organise a walking tour in this slot – more on that later.

Sunday

The concluding day of the Weekend Workshop will open gently with a slightly later start than on Saturday.

The first item on the programme – surprisingly, you might think – is a touch of 'Speed Networking'. As with speed dating, the object of the exercise will be to ensure that each person is aware of who everyone else is, what they do and whether the beginnings of a beautiful relationship might be in the air.

After the mid-morning break, we move back into more traditional territory, with a guest speaker to warm us up for the sweatshop and the afternoon trip to the Cathedral. The sweatshop will focus on the day's 'Antwerp' theme and will be followed by a short plenary session for the usual Network announcements and business.

Given that some members always have to leave early on the final afternoon, we will get together briefly after lunch for the formal ending of the Workshop, before heading off for a special tour of the Cathedral of Our Lady (see 'Other activities').

The Weekend will then wind down informally over coffee back at Lessius, with final closure around 5 pm.

Other activities

Excursions

The Weekend will feature two excursions, each chosen to fit in with the day's theme. On the Saturday, we will visit the Plantin-Moretus Museum. A favourite of the cognoscenti, the museum is devoted to the history of books and printing, and more especially to the life and work of Christophe Plantin, who moved his publishing business to the oldest part of the current building in 1576. We can look forward to a 90-minute tour with a special emphasis on some of the momentous translations printed on the premises.

Our second excursion will be to the Cathedral of our Lady, which was stormed by the iconoclasts in 1566, assailed by the Calvinists in 1581, looted by the French in 1794, and will now be given a thorough going over by the Dutch Network. In addition to obvious highlights like the church's world-famous Rubens altarpieces, the tour will pick up on connections like the English stained-glass window from the early sixteenth century.

Food & drink

We will kick off the weekend on the Friday evening with drinks and a meal at the legendary Elfde Gebod (Torfbrug 10), packed with religious sculpture (innocent or subversive – you'll have to decide for yourself). The pub is literally within a few yards of the Cathedral and only a couple of dozen or so more from Antwerp's equally famous Grote Markt, with the Renaissance Stadhuis and Brabo monument.

The social highlight of the Weekend Workshop will, as usual, be the Gala Dinner, which will be held this year at De Reddende Engel, one of Antwerp's oldest restaurants and again, just around the corner from the Cathedral. And for the dedicated socialisers, there will naturally be a chance to sample some of the Scheldestad's fine bars for a glass or two of Belgian beer to round off the evening.

Hotels

Antwerp has a wide choice of hotels. We have made block reservations at two of them, chosen for their proximity to our two centres of activity. The first is the two-star Cammerpoorte, just around the corner from the Hogeschool at Nationalestraat 38–40. This is a budget hotel and very much a no-frills option, but conveniently close to Lessius. Prices are €60 for a single and €70 for a double. The second hotel is the three-star Villa Mozart, right in

the heart of Antwerp's old city centre at Handschoenmarkt 3-7. It is within easy walking distance of the Hogeschool, and right around the corner from our Friday and Saturday night venues and some of Antwerp's choicest pubs. We have only a limited number of rooms here for €99 (same rate for singles and doubles). For more information on Villa Mozart, see its website (<http://home-14.tiscali-business.nl/~fvla7364/>).

In both cases, the hotels will hold the block reservations until **1 May**. If you intend staying at either one, **please book early**. You can book your room by contacting Sonia Doods at the Antwerp Tourist Office. Send an e-mail to Sonia.Doods@stad.Antwerpen.be stating 'Willems/ITI' and indicate your choice of hotel, which nights, whether you would like a single or a double, and your contact details, **including your fax number**. Ms Doods will then draw up a voucher and fax you the confirmation, which you should take with you to the hotel in Antwerp. Upon arrival, you will be asked for your credit card.

If you prefer to stay at another hotel, e.g. closer to Antwerp Central Station, please check the Antwerp Tourist Office website (www.visitantwerpen.be).

Travel

Delegates from the UK are likely to fly to Zaventem airport or take Eurostar. If you fly in, there is a shuttle to Brussels every fifteen minutes from the station beneath the airport. You can then pick up your connection to Antwerp (40 minutes if you take a direct link). Eurostar arrives at Brussels Zuid/Midi, where you can also change for Antwerp.

If you find that there are no convenient flights from your nearest airport to Zaventem, you might also consider flying to Schiphol. The airport's station is on the line linking Amsterdam to Antwerp (and Brussels). Flying via Schiphol rather than Zaventem adds about an hour to your train journey.

The Belgian and Dutch railway companies have good on-line travel planners: to work out your connections and compare journey times go to www.nmbs.be or www.ns.nl. Both allow you to plan cross-border travel.

Having arrived at the magnificent Antwerp Central, it is easiest to take a taxi to your hotel. You can also take a tram or walk (20–30 minutes). More details will be provided nearer the time.

If you plan to travel by car, be aware that there are major road works on the Antwerp Ring until September. For the latest information on delays, see www.antwerpen.be. If you are driving from the Netherlands, the ANWB has an on-line route planner (www.anwb.nl) that will take you from door to door. Hotel Cammerpoorte has its own private car park, with places available for €10 for 24 hours. Villa Mozart does not have its own car park; there is, however, a 'parking' in the vicinity of the hotel. The hotel receptionist will direct you to it after you drop off your luggage.

If you need any more detailed information on getting to Antwerp and/or to the venue, please get in touch with Ted Alkins on T +32 16 400569, ted@tedalkins.com or with Cecilia Willems on T +31 45 4040136 or +31 650 292231, cecilia@gretton-willems.com. The Antwerp Tourist Office website, www.visitantwerpen.be, has a link to a city map site.

Registration and cost

The cost of the weekend will be

- Delegates: £222/ €320
- Accompanying partner: £125/ €180 (lunches, evening meals and museum and Cathedral visits).

Day rates for the Saturday and/or the Sunday are available on request (for those who only want to attend one day or who don't want dinner on Friday evening), as are tailored Partner Packages for those who don't want to share all the lunches, dinners and/or visits.

The rate for delegates includes all workshop activities and materials, lunches and evening meals and the visits to Plantin-Moretus and the Cathedral. The only things that are not covered – apart from personal expenditure, of course – will be pre-dinner drinks on the Friday evening and the hotel accommodation.

Once you have registered, you will be sent a confirmation letter. If you require an invoice, please let us know, stating the name of the person or organisation to whom the invoice should be addressed.

Please complete the enclosed Booking Form and return it by e-mail, fax or post **as soon as possible**. Please send your Form to:

Ted Alkins
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3001 Heverlee
Belgium
ted@tedalkins.com
Fax no. +32 16 401776

Payment may be made either by cheque drawn on a UK bank account made out to ITI Dutch Network (cheques to be sent to:

Jan Arriëns
18 Ryecroft Lane
Fowlmere
Royston
SG8 7TT
UK)

or by transfer to either of the following accounts:

ITI Dutch Network
Account no. 34321845
NatWest
Windsor and Eton Branch
Sort code 60-24-12

ITI Dutch Network
Rekeningnr. 9266893
Girobank
BIC/SWIFT code: PSTBNL21
IBAN: NL61 PSTB0009 2668 93

Important!

Please bear in mind that **the number of places is limited**. Registration will therefore be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to attend, please return your completed Booking Form to Ted **as soon as possible**.

A lot of people have already responded to our invitation to 'pre-register'. If you have done so, please return your completed Booking Form as soon as possible so that you can be 'formally' registered and we know how many vacancies we still have.

If you have any queries or require any more information, feel free to contact Ted Alkins or Cecilia Willems at ted@tedalkins.com or cecilia@gretton-willems.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!

With kind regards,

Ted Alkins
Cecilia Willems