

PRESS PHOTOS

Exhibition: The Golden Coach

From 18 June 2021 through 27 February 2022 at the Amsterdam Museum

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The Golden Coach



The Golden Coach. Photo: Arthur van der Vlies

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The Golden Coach prior to restoration in the courtyard of the Royal Stables.



Queen Wilhelmina viewing The Golden Coach at the Palace of Industry on the day after her inauguration on Wednesday, September 7, 1898. Collection: Amsterdam City Archives. Download: https://we.tl/t-BmaLwCBUNk

The Golden Coach was presented to Queen Wilhelmina in 1898 as a gift from the people of Amsterdam on the occasion of her inauguration as Queen of the Netherlands. Wilhelmina viewed the coach at the Paleis voor de Volksvlijt (Palace of Popular Diligence) but did not accept it at that time. Her mother, Regent Emma, had announced that Wilhelmina did not wish to accept gifts at her inauguration. But perhaps it was also because Emma herself had already ordered a carriage for the occasion. It was not until 1901 that Queen Wilhelmina accepted the gift.



The Golden Coach prior to restoration. Collection: Royal Collection, The Hague Download: https://we.tl/t-GVBGowXGzV

Details

















Details on the Golden Coach. Photos: Arthur van der Vlies Download: https://we.tl/t-Np4GmnY9CJ











Details on the Golden Coach. Photos: Arthur van der Vlies Download: https://we.tl/t-Np4GmnY9CJ





Details on the Golden Coach. Tribute from the Colonies panel. Photos: Arthur van der Vlies Download: https://we.tl/t-Np4GmnY9CJ

The "Tribute from the Colonies" panel on the left side of the Golden Coach. The panel was painted by Nicolaas van der Waay in 1898. Van der Waay was paid 4,000 guilders for the panels on the Golden Coach. It is unclear who came up with the representations and how much freedom Van der Waay was given. The painting depicts inhabitants of the Dutch colonies laying their "treasures and bounty" at the feet of the "Dutch maiden" on the throne. On the left are figures from the Caribbean colonies, on the right, figures from the Dutch East Indies. The white figures represent Civilization and the Military.

Restoration









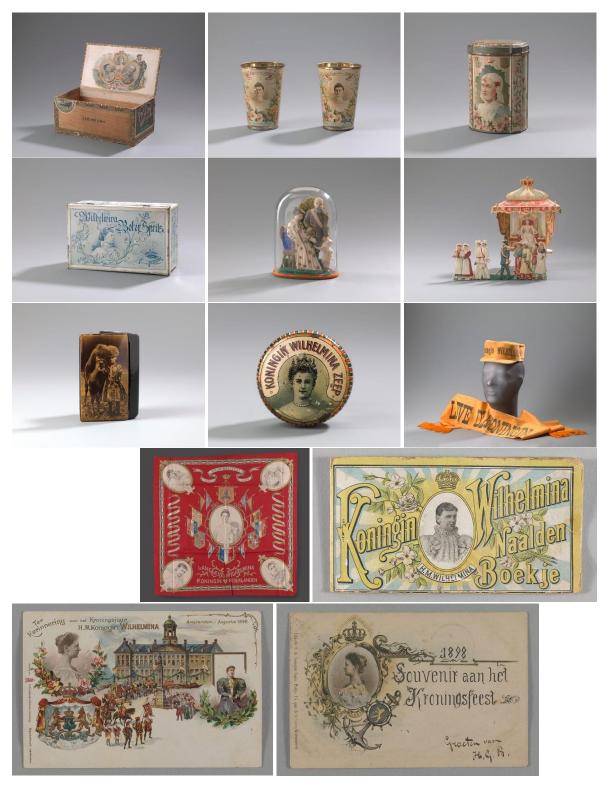






The restoration of the Golden Coach in 2020. Photos: Arthur van der Vlies Download: https://we.tl/t-6s6tnoPo7t

Selected items from the exhibition



Historical House of Orange souvenirs. On loan from DenRon Collections. Photos: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-PySbWsmhzP

Many souvenirs and trinkets (including things like soapboxes, postcards, figurines. and commemorative canvases) give visitors to the exhibition an impression of the tremendous scale of Queen Wilhelmina's inauguration in 1898 and the week of celebrations that surrounded it. The House of Orange was incredibly popular with many of its residents in the Netherlands.









Postcards featuring the Golden Coach, 1898. On loan from DenRon Collections. Photos: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-rlEtjWm3ZE



Certificate of contribution. Collection: Amsterdam City Archives.

Download: https://we.tl/t-gJdlr70UGu

Funding for the Golden Coach was collected from ordinary citizens in Amsterdam. Those who gave at least 25 cents received a certificate of contribution that also entitled them to come and see the Golden Coach in the summer of 1898.



Heintje en Emma in De Roode Duivel (Heintje and Emma in The Red Devil) cartoon, October 1894 Download: https://we.tl/t-prrWOWOMP0

Socialist magazine De Roode Duivel (The Red Devil) agitated against the monarchy under the slogan "Against throne, against stock exchange, against altar." This print mocks the trips that Regent Emma and Heintje (Wilhelmina) made through the Netherlands to promote the monarchy. The magazine also criticised the high cost of the royal family, depicting Wilhelmina with a bag of money. The publisher of De Roode Duivel, Louis Hermans, went on to publish a brochure in 1897 entitled 'The Golden Quarterly' that spoke out against plans for the Golden Coach.





Book and fan from the 1883 *International Colonial and Export Exhibition*. Collection: Amsterdam Museum

Download: https://we.tl/t-zcaEdyP6RV

In order to understand how the Netherlands saw itself in the late 19th century, and its perspective on the colonies (as depicted on The Golden Coach), the exhibition transports visitors back to the International Colonial and Export Exhibition of 1883. At this exhibition, the Netherlands positioned itself as the great modern coloniser, bringing modernity and civilization to the colonies. A wide range of products from the colonies were on display. People from Suriname and the Dutch East Indies were also brought to the Netherlands to be exhibited on Museumplein for six months. It was a first introduction to the Dutch colonies for one and a half million visitors, and their first glimpse of their counterparts from Suriname and the Dutch East Indies.



Aucan boy Johannes Kojo (Kodjo), age 13, exhibited in Amsterdam at the 1883 International Colonial and Export Exhibition (on today's Museumplein). No copyright

Download: https://we.tl/t-3GGOgDLzLu

13-year-old Johannes Kodjo was one of 28 Surinamese citizens brought to the Netherlands in 1883 to be part of the International Colonial and Export Exhibition held behind the Rijksmuseum, which was then just being built. The organisers of the 1883 World's Fair had set up a Surinamese village and a kampong from the Dutch East Indies where visitors could pay a quarter to see the inhabitants of the colonies. This photo is part of the exhibition The Golden Coach.

Urban Myth, Theater De Krakeling and STIP theatre productions have created a family-oriented performance (8 +) entitled: 'The Golden Coach - the gift that nobody wanted' with Birgit Schuurman and Tarikh Janssen, about the young crown princess Wilhelmina and the young Kwadjo from Suriname, who discuss the ways in which power can be taken for granted. The performance will be staged in theatres across the country from September 2021 to February 2022.





Drawing 'Twee zittende weesmeisjes met naaiwerk' (Two seated orphan girls sewing), Nicolaas van der Waay 1875 – 1936, drawing. Collection: Amsterdam Museum.

Drawing 'Zittend weesmeisje met naaiwerk' (Seated orphan girl sewing), Van der Waay 1875 – 1936, drawing. Collection: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-v0ZkKhw27G

The orphan girls who lived in the city orphanage, which today houses the Amsterdam Museum, helped embroider the cushions in the Golden Coach (see image details).



Painting 'Intocht Koningin Wilhelmina in Amsterdam anno 1898' (Entry of Queen Wilhelmina into Amsterdam in 1898), Hobbe Smith, 1898. Collection: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-qxyPonMode

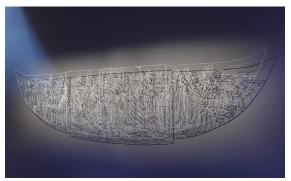
This painting depicts Queen Wilhelmina and her mother Emma in the Crème Calèche, an open carriage that Queen Emma had ordered for the occasion from the Hermans carriage factory in The Hague. Hermans was the major competitor of the Spyker company that built The Golden Coach in 1896 – 1898.



Photo of the construction of the Golden Coach in the Spijker brothers factory, Stadhouderskade 114. Photo: Amsterdam City Archive.

Download: https://we.tl/t-IGIaOPSHvo

The Spyker factory was located at Stadhouderskade 114. The Spijker brothers had come together under one name because they had international ambitions for their business. In this factory, fitted with modern steam engines, carpenters, cartwrights, and painters worked on the main car and undercarriage of the Golden Coach. A long list of primarily Amsterdam-based companies supplied glass, carpet, and other items for the coach. House of Orange supporters from the Jordaan had assured Queen Emma that the Gala coach they were planning to present to the future queen would be "entirely manufactured by the workforce in Amsterdam."



Contemporary artwork 'Colonies', Iswanto Hartono, 2017. Collection: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-UYHVIkxe0Y

Several contemporary artists have given their own interpretation to aspects of the Golden Coach with their works in the exhibition. Indonesian artist Iswanto Hartono (b. 1972) created an installation entitled "Colonies", inspired by the Tribute from the Colonies panel. For his work, Hartono recreated the lines of the panel in steel wire. The piece is illuminated with a spotlight so that its black shadow is projected onto the wall behind it.



Contemporary artwork 'Deep in me a passionate dream', Nelson Carrilho, 2017. Photo: Tom Benavente

Download: https://we.tl/t-jbNCzZrnQ2

Several contemporary artists have given their own interpretation to aspects of the Golden Coach with their works in the exhibition. "Deep in me a passionate dream" by Nelson Carrilho is also on display. Carrilho is a descendant of one of the Surinamese citizens exhibited at the International Colonial and Export Exhibition in 1883. His work reflects on the world exhibition and on colonialism.



Visitors can share their opinions on the Golden Coach in the study room at the Amsterdam Museum.

Photo: Amsterdam Museum.

Download: https://we.tl/t-9TLPbFzcy8



The mobile installation on the Golden Coach. Photo: Amsterdam Museum, Iris Duvekot. Download: https://we.tl/t-DNTjvuTS4c

The Amsterdam Museum will be touring the Netherlands, as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow, with a mobile installation, asking people to share their opinions on The Golden Coach and its future. The results will be displayed in the exhibition and posted at www.goudenkoets.nl.

Amsterdam Museum



Amsterdam Museum. Photo: Fred Ernst

Download: https://we.tl/t-2q9xlKA54r



Entrance to the Amsterdam Museum. Photo: Joel

Frijhoff

Download: https://we.tl/t-2q9xlKA54r



Courtyard of the Amsterdam Museum. Photo: Amsterdam Museum, Richard de Bruijn

Download: https://we.tl/t-Wial0CmCCO

The Golden Coach will be exhibited in a glass case in the courtyard of the Amsterdam Museum starting in the summer of 2021. The exhibition will be staged in the surrounding galleries, each with its own unique view of the coach.

Publications

URLs and/or PDF files of publications can be sent to pr@amsterdammuseum.nl.

Please send any proof numbers to: Amsterdam Museum, attn. press department Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 359 1012 RM Amsterdam.

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