



# ARUBA PRODUCT UPDATE

## August 2008

### ARTS & CULTURE:

- **Access Art Gallery** presents: **The Arthouse**, Aruba's first art cinema. Since its opening in 2002, Access Art Gallery has brought a new dimension to the Aruban art & culture scene by featuring international (art) movies on Thursday nights to a steadily growing loyal following. The Art house will now be able to comply with the increased demand for art films and will present documentaries and "arty footage" +presenter on **Tuesday nights**; **Thursday nights** will continue with international (art)films and **Saturday nights** will be music related ,from opera's to unplugged performances and more. The curator Renwick Heronimo has many more ideas to be implemented in due time including the creation of a film association.
- **ARTI ET AMICITIAE** presents: **ArtiAruba**; the new art exhibition to be held in Amsterdam, Holland. The exhibition will be held from August 30<sup>th</sup> till October 19<sup>th</sup> 2008. Aruban artists invited to Arti et Amicitiae are: Gilbert Senchi, Elvis Lopez, Glenda Heyliger. For more info go to [www.arti.nl](http://www.arti.nl).
- In reference to the **ArtiAruba**, the first edition of the project will launch on September 12, 2008 in the exhibition hall of the **Cas di Cultura** (Cultural Centre). Titled **RASTRO**, the exhibition will show, through a series of 30 paintings the artists explore the connection between Aruba, the Netherland Antilles and The Netherlands through the use of colors and their vision on the Aruban & Antillean culture.
- The 3rd "**Paseo Monumental**" ( **Monument Walk**) will be held on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, organized by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with Monument Bureau, the Aruba Tourism Authority and other volunteers. On this full day walking event, 18 landmark buildings will open their doors to the public for their entertainment and education. San Nicolas has been chosen as the location for the walk this year as it has 54 buildings of architecturally historic interest. The event starts at 9:00 am and the historic 90 minutes walk will commence and end at the Bus terminal. Flyers & maps will be distributed. The history of each monument on the route will be posted on the entrance in English, Dutch & Papiamento. Along the route, visitors will pass by several plaza's and can enjoy live music, dance performances and/ as buy refreshments & snacks. The local bus company will have 2 buses, recognizable at the Monument Walk flag on each bus, available to transfer the visitors to & from San Nicolas. Over 1500 people joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monument Walk in 2006. For more information please call (297) 583-5938.
- The management of **Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall** recently unveiled "**E Muraya di Libertad**" the "**Freedom Wall**", in the presence of Minister of Justice Rudy Croes

and Minister of Culture Ramon Lee. The “Freedom Wall” serves to tell the story of Aruba’s struggle for the “Status Aparte” (separate status from The Netherlands Antilles) to become a nation within the Kingdom of The Netherlands on January 1, 1986. Paseo Herencia offers much more than shopping & entertainment; the visitors can learn and appreciate Aruba’s history through images and information plaques embellishing the walls.

- **The Netherlands Blazers Ensemble (NBE)** will be performing in Aruba on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the **Cas di Cultura**. NBE, considered an “all star orchestra” consists of a single musician from a number of the most prestigious and important orchestras in Holland and perform together approximately 50 times per year on special occasions locally and internationally. They will spend three days performing on Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao. Tickets for the concert series are for sale for Afls. 20 or \$12 per person beginning September 1<sup>st</sup> at the reception desk of the Aruba Bank Camacuri Branch.

### **RESORTS & APARTMENTS:**

- **The Aruba Marriott** recently opened **The Tradewinds Club**, an intimate hotel experience wrapped in a resort setting. This hotel within a hotel initiative, introduces a boutique hotel in a resort setting that provides for personalized service and exclusive amenities. The Tradewinds Club experience begins even before arrival, as a staff member will contact guests for confirmation of advanced reservations and airline info. Upon arrival to the Aruba Marriott, guests can bypass the main lobby and check in to the hotel via the Tradewinds Club Lounge, a private 1900 sq. ft. lounge area with a 200 sq. ft. terrace, accessible only to Tradewinds Club guests. Once checked in to any of the 59 rooms tucked away on the 8th floor, patrons will find their accommodations fitted with upgraded bathroom amenities, deluxe robes and slippers and a “pillow menu”. A secluded area of the beach is especially reserved for Tradewinds Club guests only. Complimentary Internet access is also provided in the Lounge along with a DVD player and a library of CDs, books, games and newspapers.
- **The Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa** is launching an Early Winter Sale. The sale, offering up to 25 percent off high-season rates on select room categories, is valid on bookings made by September 30, 2008, for stays between January 4 and April 18, 2009. Aruba is serviced by direct flights from major U.S. gateway cities including New York, Miami, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Atlanta and Charlotte. Other advantages include \$150 restaurant or Larimar Spa credit p/r (For stays of 5 nights or more). Rates start from \$359 per night. For more information please contact Lou Hammond & Associates at (651) 655-3836 or visit [www.radisson.com/aruba](http://www.radisson.com/aruba).

### **AIRPORT & AIRLINES:**

- **Surinam Airways** flight PY463 from the Johan Adolf Pengel International Airport in Surinam arrived at Aruba’s International Queen Beatrix. Though Surinam Airways is a regular and long time guest at the Aruba airport, flight PY463 was a very special one for the Aruba Airport Authority as new transit procedures for non US destinations to US destinations were introduced. The procedures, as developed by

AAA in close cooperation with Aruba Customs and Immigration authorities and the US Customs and Border Protection resulted in a smooth process for both the passengers in transit from Surinam and the passengers originating from Aruba on their way to Miami. Surinam Airways will be offering this service to Miami twice a week, on Mondays and Fridays.

### RESTAURANTS & HANGOUTS:

- **Nu-Taste Contemporary Cuisine** is the new and exciting culinary experience located at the bayside Mall, Weststraat 7-a. It is open from Tuesday through Saturday and closed on Sundays and Mondays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for lunch and from 6:00 pm till 10:00 pm for dinner. For more information please call (297) 588-1113, FAX (297) 588-1114 or email at [info@nu-taste.com](mailto:info@nu-taste.com).
- **The Old man & the Sea** is the newly opened restaurant located at Savaneta 356-A, featuring a barefoot seating, private cove and palapa. A joint venture between accomplished Aruban composer and musician Jonathan Vieira and his mother Mrs. Osyth Henriquez, The Old Man & The Sea is open every evening except on Sundays from 18:00 hrs till 23:00 hrs. For more information please call: (297) 735-0840 or visit [www.theoldmanandthesearestaurant.com](http://www.theoldmanandthesearestaurant.com).
- **Brisas del Mar Restaurant** recently added brunch to its menu of weekly events and activities. Located at Savaneta 222-A, the lovely terrace restaurant now offers a great number of classic breakfast dishes & other lunch items for \$32.50. The brunch starts at 11:00 hrs till 14:30 hrs, children under 12 pay half price. For more information please call (297) 584-7718 or visit [www.brisasdelmararuba.com](http://www.brisasdelmararuba.com).
- **Café Touché Fresh** located on the patio of the **Access Art Gallery**, recently opened under the leadership of half Aruban, half Norwegian, Tanya Rasmijn. After gaining lots of experience in Norway, Tanya felt the time was right to open a different, healthier alternative in Aruba. The objective is to use as much as possible local & biological ingredients in the preparation of the dishes. The idea is to create an art café ambiance with eclectic music and to plan menus in combination with the art & movie program prepared by Access Art Gallery. The café is open daily from 11 am to 7 pm.

### ARUBANS IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

- **Mrs. Jane Semeleer** has been appointed as the new President of the Central Bank of Aruba. Jane previously held the position of Executive Director of the Bank and is the first woman to ever hold this position on Aruba and in the Dutch Caribbean since the establishment of the Central Bank on Aruba after it got its Status Aparte in 1986. She will take over the duties of outgoing President Mr. Hassanali Merhan starting September 1<sup>st</sup> 2008.
- Aruban artist & sculptor, **Mr. Ryan Oduber**, is busy building a giant bronze cactus as part of a sculpture workshop currently taking place in China. Titled “**Energia**” (energy), this bronze cactus will be featured on the famous Changchun World

Sculpture Park, the largest sculpture park in the world, about 540 sculptures created by artists from over 172 countries, in November 2008.

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**September 11, 2008**

(sources: Amigoe di Aruba, BonDia, The News, hotel pressreleases)