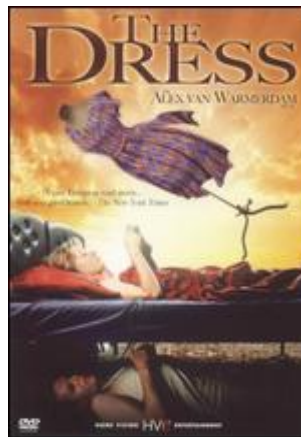




The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD) proudly presents the Dutch film “De Jurk” - the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2006



- Arabic subtitles
- Evening starts at 19:45
- Free tickets available at NIASD
- ‘A sophisticated, darkly hilarious satire on the enduring absurdity of the human condition’ – *Los Angeles Times*



**‘De Jurk’.** Most films follow characters, this film follows a dress. From its pattern design, manufacture, sale and passage from owner to owner, it offers us glimpses into the lives of a gallery of characters. The dress seems to generate male sexual arousal and a desire to own and control. What is ‘normal’ in this respect? Alex van Warmerdam paints a picture of a humanity whose participants are willingly seizing upon any chance

for love or affection that they can find, even if it's of a twisted variety. The film combines tragedy and comedy. It partly relies on the recognition of faces from earlier in the film, to provide its funniest moments.



**Film director: Alex van Warmerdam.** The writer, designer, director and actor Alex van Warmerdam was born in Haarlem, the Netherlands, in 1952. He attended the School of Graphic Design, after which he studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. There he graduated in graphic design and painting. He co-founded the Music-Theatre Company 'Hauser Orkater' and also set up 'De Mexicaanse Hond' Theatre Company. After his short film '*The Townee*' he made various feature films: *Abel* (1986), which won the critic's award at the Venice film Festival; *The Northerners* (1992), which won 3 prizes at the 1992 European Film Festival (music, art direction, best film); *The Dress* (1996); and '*Little Tony*' (1998), which won the Filmfest Prize at the Ludwigsburg-Stuttgart Film Festival. His most recent films are '*Grimm*' (2003) and '*Waiter*' (2006).

**Prizes for 'De Jurk'.** International Film Critics Award 'Fipresci' at the Venice Film Festival, 1996; Dutch Film Critics Award at Holland Film Festival, 1996; Award Best Film at the Film Festival of Potsdam, 1997.

**Free tickets for 'De Jurk'.** For our limited number of seats free tickets are available, to be picked up at NIASD (East Mezzeh, Farabi Street 85). Info: telephone: 61249790, e-mail: [assistant@niasd.org](mailto:assistant@niasd.org).

