The Director of the Kunsthal Rotterdam has the pleasure of inviting you to the opening of:

Opium The Black Perfume

on April 28th at 5.30 p.m.

Leonard Blussé, professor of the history of European relationships in the University of Leiden, will preside over the opening of the exhibition The exhibition will be on view until July 8th, 2007

Opium has a magical appeal. It conjures up a mysterious world of adventure and Oriental romanticism. For the first time ever, this exhibition will showcase the opulence of the material culture involved in the ritual of opium smoking. The exhibition will follow the history of opium featuring a stunning display of opium pipes, lamps and obscure paraphernalia. The highlight will be a full-scale replica of the interior of a luxurious opium den, the trappings of which date from the nineteenth century

> Mercatorfonds will bring out a lavishly illustrated book "Opium, Art and History of a Lost Ritual"

With thanks to Ferry Bertholet and Cees Hogendoorn

Museumpark. Westzeedijk 341, 3015 AA Rotterdam Phone +31-(0)10-4400300 Fax +31-(0)10-4367152 communicatie@kunsthal.nl www.kunsthal.nl Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM Sundays and public holidays 11 AM to 5 PM closed on Queen's Day

> Invitation is valid for two persons Please present this invitation at the entrance

Image: Detail of a silver opium pipe saddle in the shape of a frog, Bertholet Collection



ROTTERDAM

