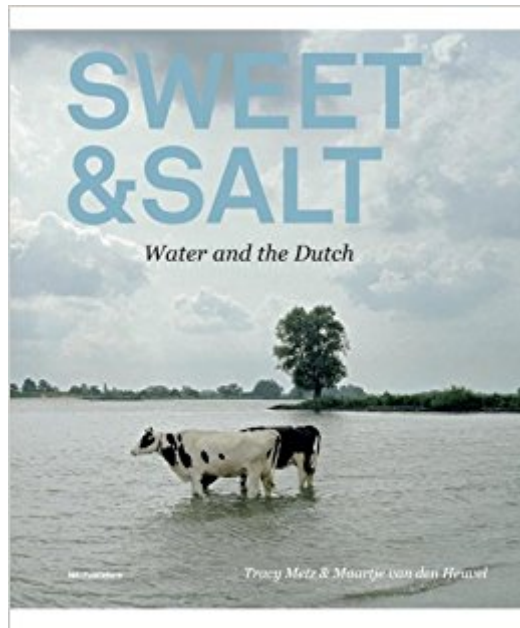


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Sweet & Salt: Water And The Dutch



Synopsis

Water management runs in the blood of the Dutch: draining the Netherlands and keeping it dry is a process they started centuries ago and continue to this day. In *Sweet & Salt: Water and the Dutch*, author Tracy Metz and art historian Maartje van den Heuvel demonstrate, in text and images, how the Netherlands negotiates its evolving relationship with water--and what the rest of the world can learn from them as our sea levels rise, our rivers swell and storms and droughts multiply. From New Orleans and Hamburg to Vietnam and China, the world is facing landscapes in drastic metamorphosis. And from the dikes and dams of the past to the new solutions of Dutch design practice for the future, the Netherlands's history with water offers a much-needed perspective on life in our new waterworld.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sweet & Salt is an intensely heavily visual consideration of the history, culture, and engineering of water that engages our senses and our emotions not just our intellect with its ravishing (and beautifully printed) photography, cartography, and art. We're awed and enraptured by water when we're not fighting it off. You will not find any hand-wringing in this volume. *Sweet & Salt* is a profoundly humanistic consideration of the culture of water, with, along the way, many ideas by designers about how to deal with water's myriad challenges. Architects, planners, and landscape designers will never think of a riverbank, levee, or seashore the same way again. (James S Russell Architectural Record)

This is a wonderful book that not only has amazing pictures - I love the cow standing in the flooded field on the cover -- it also shows how America and other countries can adapt to climate change and rising sea levels in new ways. Rather than just building massive barriers to keep out the sea, which the Dutch have done for centuries, they have now begun designing the country to let the sea in in a controlled manner. Tracy Metz tells how. It means new forms of dikes, new forms of building construction and new ways of forming. But it's ultimately a longer-term strategy that promises to keep this beautiful country around for many more centuries, even if the sea levels keep rising.

I was drawn to Sweet & Salt by the essays on historic and current Dutch art. The graphics are excellent, and Maartje van den Heuvel's texts are illuminating and rewarding, giving depth to Tracy Metz's essays on historical and contemporary politics, engineering, climatological and social issues in the Netherlands. A beautifully designed publication, it is very readable and provokes questions relating to all of us.

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