



# Footsteps and Fingerprints: the Legacy of a Shared History

Cees Jan Van Golen

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**More than** four centuries ago, the small Republic of the United Netherlands embarked on an economic boom. Contacts were established with the four corners of the world. Many of these centuries-old relationships have left traces in museums and archives, in the open fields or in the city, in stories and in pictures. *Footsteps and Fingerprints, the Legacy of a Shared History* presents an image of the legacy the contacts between Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Russia, Sri Lanka, Surinam and South Africa have produced over the last 400 years. Various 'top pieces' and other remarkable items designated Mutual Cultural Heritage are described: from Vingboons' *View of Table Bay*, Henkes Schnapps in Ghana to the Dutch Church in St Petersburg.