NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

The Schuitema Collection A Gallery of Panels with Slide Rules and Discs

In the last MIR, nr. 49 of December 2008, IJzebrand Schuitema has reported the donation and transfer of his extensive collection of slide rules to the Arithmeum museum in Bonn, Germany. After December 2nd, when the ceremony of the donation and the Wolfgang-Paul Award was held, the collection (now called "The Schuitema Collection") is residing in a depot room of the Arithmeum, and all of us look forward with keen interest how the museum will handle its cataloguing, the access for research and especially the public displays in the future.

When IJzebrand and I talked –on many occasions- about past and future of his collection, we came to agree that it would be a splendid idea to preserve the memory of his collection by the publication of a book: "The Schuitema Collection".

IJzebrand's personal files, data and photographs –some even dating back from the 1980's- were the starting point of this book. After the usual work of picture digitization, lay-out, design, type-setting, editing etcetera, the book got its final form. For each of the 188 display panels, which IJzebrand used to present his collection at collector fairs, two pages are reserved: the right page giving a picture of the full panel, while the left page contains the list of all slide rules and discs on that panel, with a short description following the manufacturer's name and type code. If some empty space remains below the list, it is used to show a larger picture of one item from the panel. Between the two pages, cross-references are given by list item numbers.



The book is meant to give an impression of the Schuitema Collection as it took form, structured in themes and displayed on panels, over a period of over 20 years – reflecting its state at the moment of donation to the Arithmeum. It is definitely not a general catalogue of slide rules with state-of-the-art photographs of every item: for that purpose it is better to visit current websites like Mike Konshak's Slide Rule Museum, Rod Lovett's "Herman's Archive", and many others.

The size and quality of the book (almost 400 pages in full colour) make it an expensive one.

To avoid the usual problem of printing too many or too few copies, we have chosen the internet provider Lulu to make "on-demand" prints for anyone ordering one or more copies. The price of the "non-profit" book is determined by Lulu's print and shipping costs only. For copies in paperback binding, the price is about 73.- euro per book all-in, including shipping within Europe. The same price applies for deliveries in the USA (because printing is done locally in both regions).

A hardcover-bound version (with identical contents) costs about the same when delivered in the USA. Because hardcover copies are only printed in the USA, the shipping costs abroad are much higher: a hardcover book shipped to Europe costs about 96.- euro all in, and take much more time to deliver. On the KRING website, some sample pages are available from the book, and also an index list to link manufacturer and type code of a slide rule with its panel/position number(s).

At upcoming collectors meetings, an actual copy of the book will be available for inspection.

For previewing the contents, exact shipping cost calculation and/or ordering the book, please search for keyword "schuitema" in the "BUY"-section of Lulu's website http://lulu.com . You will find:

- Paperback: ISBN: 978-90-805701-9-1, Title: "The Schuitema Collection (paperback version)"

- Hardcover: ISBN: 978-90-805701-8-4, Title: "The Schuitema Collection (hardcopy version)" The contents of these two listed books are exactly the same, the only difference is in the ISBN nr. Because the price is so high, we have decided to allow free of charge downloading of the complete book at print quality resolution (a 400 MB pdf-file).

The free download can be requested at Lulu's check-out of any one of the two books.