

## Annie Abrahams

take a blindfold  
go to either end of the Nieuwstraat  
put on the blindfold and take care you really can't see a thing  
start walking (be carefull) to the other end of the street  
the performance will be over when you reached this other end  
  
don't use a guide, go on your own, allow people to help you



Photo Frans van Lent

## Reports:

### Jolanda:

I started at the end of Korte Nieuwstraat. A fortification wall with a sloping pavement. The pavement is very uneven. I run my hand along the wall and hold my other hand in front of me to feel for bicycles.

Arriving at the intersection, I am approached for the first time. "What are you doing, are you okay?" I explain that I am from a festival and that I have to walk down Nieuwstraat. The man is on a bicycle and turns out to be from the city-police. He lets me pass and points me in the right direction. Then I lose my orientation because I started on the left side of the street and am now

walking on the right. I am spoken to again and it turns out I am not walking on Nieuwstraat. I ask to be taken back. She helps me.

I am now walking on the right side of the street and touching the windows, door, wall, plant, drainpipe, wall, door, window, rubbish bin. A terrace "Are you okay? Can I help you?" This lady is very caring and walks with me, holding my hand. That's not pleasant because I want to find my own way. First, she takes me to the wrong street. Other people say, "No, she has to walk down Nieuwstraat". Then she takes me to the middle of the street and I say I want to go to the side.

Then I continue my way. I know I only have the last bit to go.

"Are you okay?", "Do you need help?", "Watch out, there's a plane coming, haha."

Then I think I'm at the end. Oh no, another sign, and a wall, window, door, etc....rain pipe. Then I hear more traffic. I hear people walking by and ask if this is the end of Nieuwstraat.

No answer. I think people think I'm strange.

A bicycle passes right in front of me and I think I'm finally there. I take off the blindfold and I'm there.

I start walking back and look around, everything turns out to be much smaller.

Afterwards, I realised that I had been walking along the kerb for a while. That kerb was an easy guide.