

## **Leapfrog 3D prints The Forbidden City for the Ming exhibition at De Nieuwe Kerk museum in Amsterdam**

In collaboration with Dutch museum De Nieuwe Kerk and the Chinese Nanjing Museum, Leapfrog 3D printers will print the entire Forbidden City for the Ming exhibition at De Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam. From October 5<sup>th</sup> 2013 until 2 February 2014, two printers will be working day and night to print all 980 buildings including temples, halls, houses, gates, towers, bridges and walls. Visitors can watch the printers live at work and see the buildings being added to the floor plan daily. More information on the project can be found [here](#).

The Forbidden City was the location from where Chinese emperors ruled starting from 1422. The city was finished in 1420 and was in use until 1924. The emperor and his family, his household and concubines were the only ones allowed within the walls of the city.

Leapfrog 3D Printers is a Dutch producer of affordable 'plug and play' 3D printers. The company was founded in 2012 by 4 friends and their printers are currently being used by engineers, product designers, architects, universities, medical researchers and artists worldwide. They use the printers to test their designs in real life in a cost and time efficient manner ('rapid prototyping'), to educate students on design and business and to produce customized products and parts. The printers use a technique called FFF (Fused Filament Fabrication) which means an object is built up layer by layer by melting the materials together. Leapfrog's aim is to guide businesses and educational institutes in capturing all the benefits of 3D printing.

Until a few years ago, 3D printing was the domain of large industrials using costly machines. Recently, the technique has come within reach of a much larger user base. Leapfrog is one of the players that is helping to make 3D printing affordable and easy to use.

By printing the Forbidden City, Leapfrog wants to showcase the possibilities the 3D print technique offers to architects, designers and artists and have a large audience experience 3D printing.

### **More information on Leapfrog:**

- [www.lpfrg.com](http://www.lpfrg.com)
- <https://www.lpfrg.com/info/the-forbidden-city/>

### **About the Forbidden City**

- The Forbidden City is 750 by 960 meter.
- The model at De Nieuwe Kerk will be printed on scale 1:300
- On average it takes 4.5 hours to print a building.

### **About the Exhibition at De Nieuwe Kerk**

From 5 October 2013 to 2 February 2014, De Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam will present Ming: Emperors, Artists and Merchants in Ancient China. This exhibition tells the story of China's Ming dynasty (1368–1644). In collaboration with the Nanjing Museum, one of China's leading museums, De Nieuwe Kerk will host an exclusive collection of original Ming artefacts, complemented by classic delftware from the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague and a series of exquisite erotic drawings from the private collection of Ferdinand Bertholet. More information <http://www.nieuwekerk.nl/en/>

*For more information or press enquiries, please contact ms. Saswitha de Kok (Marketing Manager) on [s.dkok@lpfrg.com](mailto:s.dkok@lpfrg.com)*