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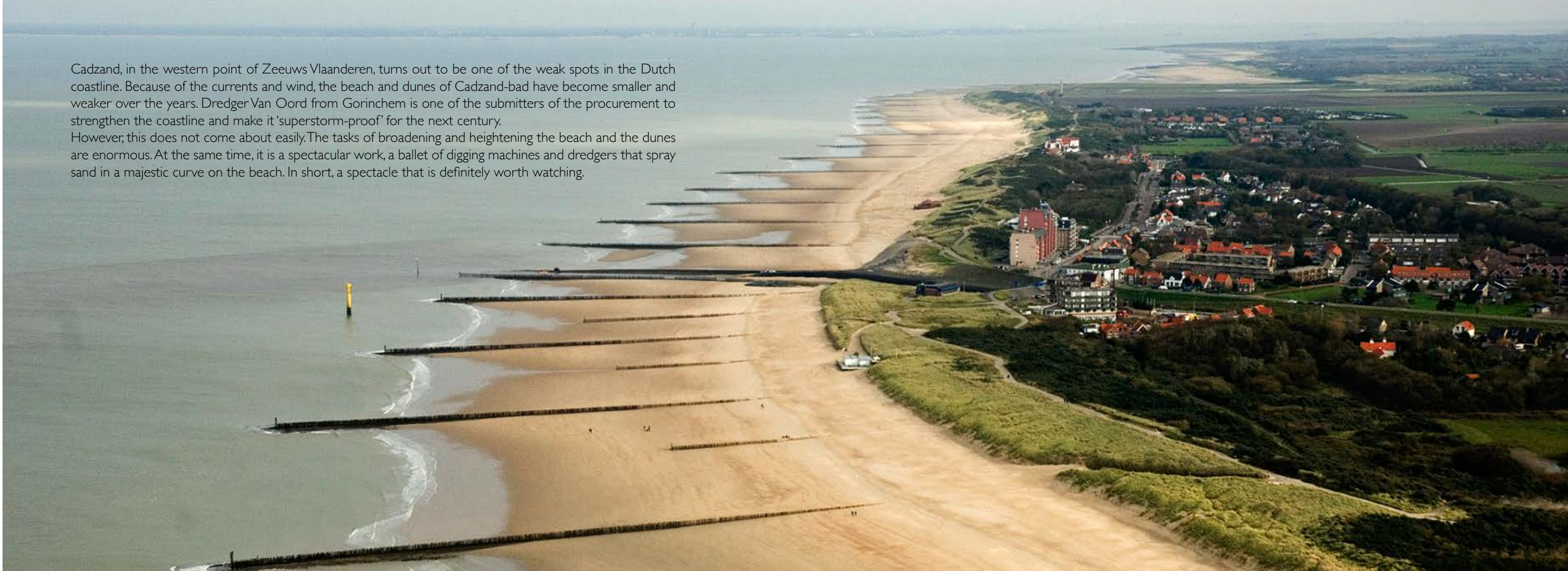
A strategy for Land Art in relation to coastal reinforcement works

# STEENZOUT

## ROCKSALT

PAUL DE KORT

Cadzand, in the western point of Zeeuws Vlaanderen, turns out to be one of the weak spots in the Dutch coastline. Because of the currents and wind, the beach and dunes of Cadzand-bad have become smaller and weaker over the years. Dredger Van Oord from Gorinchem is one of the submitters of the procurement to strengthen the coastline and make it 'superstorm-proof' for the next century. However, this does not come about easily. The tasks of broadening and heightening the beach and the dunes are enormous. At the same time, it is a spectacular work, a ballet of digging machines and dredgers that spray sand in a majestic curve on the beach. In short, a spectacle that is definitely worth watching.





Besides being a spa, Cadzand is also famous for its high class restaurants density. Within a range of ten kilometres we find at least five high class gastronomic locations. Perhaps it is no coincidence that various locations in the dunes have been appointed to experiment with saline orchards.

Van Oord came up with the idea to present the phasing of the improvements with a multiple course menu as theme.

The tasks will occupy a couple of seasons and during this time, normal beach tourism, the economic motor behind Cadzand, is under great stress. Van Oord therefore wishes to present this 'multiple course menu' in a tasteful way. They want to do this, among other things, through land art. Land art can create spaces that function as viewpoints over the activities, dunes as a comfortable stay, a mark of the path to the beach, or as a beacon on a check dam.

Because the activities gradually shift along the coastline, the works of art have to be easy to move. It is my ambition to enable them to change form and meaning as well, giving the work the opportunity to adapt to its changing location and context.







Is there one connecting element conceivable which organises the themes of Cadzand; coastal improvements, the sea, and gastronomy, under one denominator?

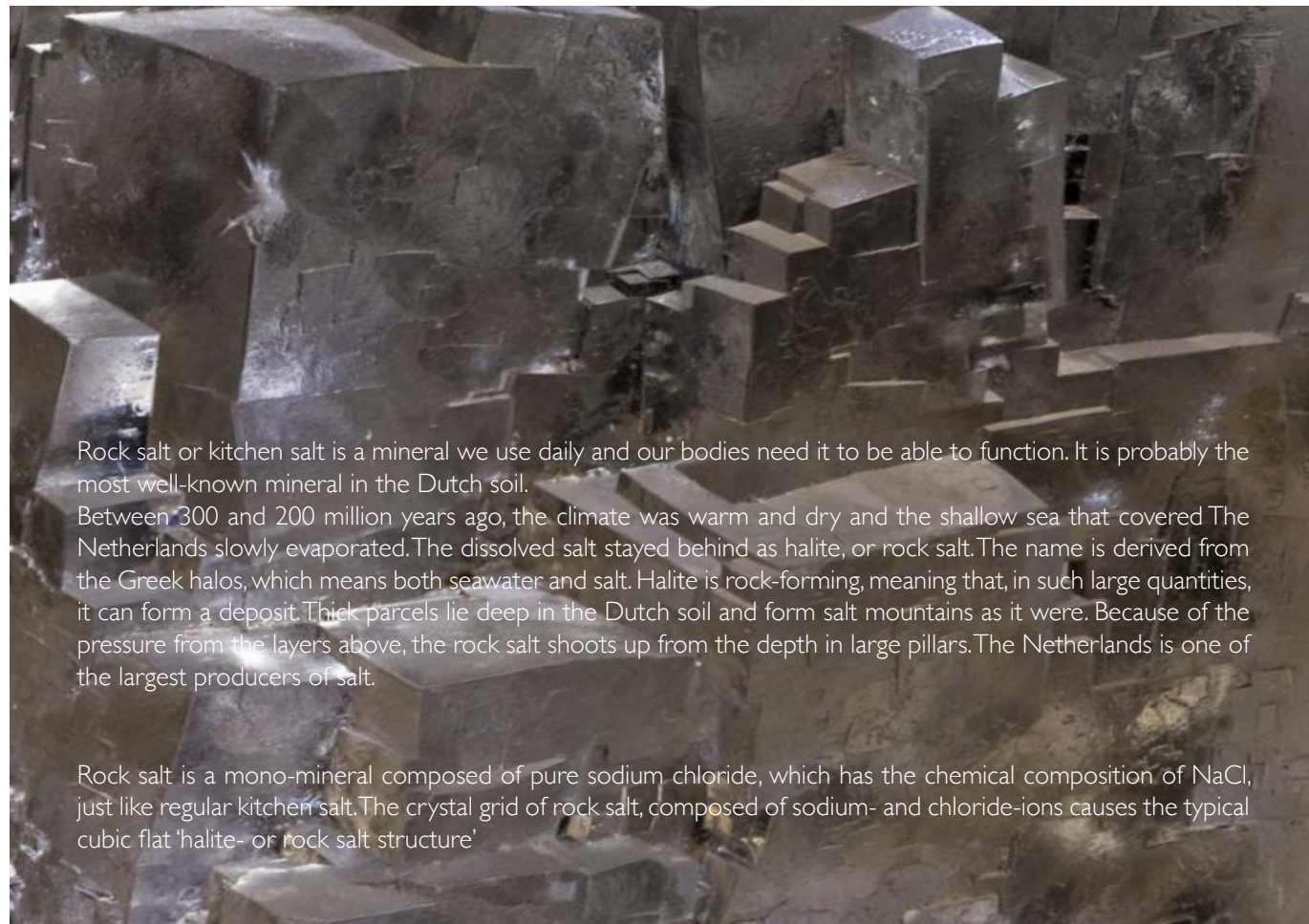
I can see a visual match between the typical cubistic structures of crystallised salt, the crystalline basalt formations alongside the coast of Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland, and the filler bricks around the check dam in a Dutch port.

The salt of the sea, the saline orchard, salt as flavour enhancer in the kitchen...

Land art as a touch of salt to make the 'multiple course menu' tastier for the public...,  
Land art as the icing on the cake.

Giant's Causeway, Ireland, UK

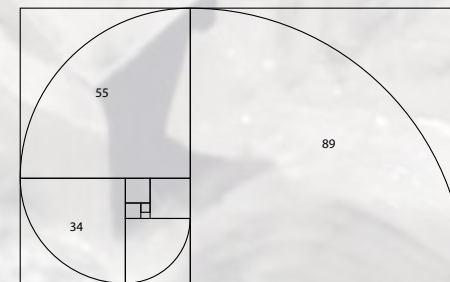




My proposal for land art is called Rock Salt and consists of blocks of concrete cubes in 3 different sizes: 34x34x34 cm, 55x55x55 cm, and 89x89x89 cm. The surface of the concrete shows in its relief a suggestion of rock salt crystals. In the heart of each surface (5x) a ball head anchor is placed. This makes the objects easy to carry and move around, but these details also play a part in the rhythmic image of the compositions. There will be (5x5 =) 25 larger cubes, (7x7 =) 49 cubes of the average size, and (9x9 =) 81 smaller cubes. I like nice number sequences, the golden ratio etcetera...

These modular and recyclable blocks give the opportunity of endless variation, stacking and puzzling until new constellations and compositions are created with varying meanings and functions.

Wind, water, tides, sludge, drifting sand, all are playing freely with the strict crystalline compositions and are the finishing touch to the project. Influenced by ever changing conditions, these compositions will vary endlessly.



Gulden snede

