

## **A MILESTONE IS SET!**

**In the afternoon of November 20<sup>th</sup> 2009, two artists have dared to address the theme: “Today... Tomorrow??” together.**

**A happening will take place during the cultural exchange event between the Netherlands and the Ukraine, November 26<sup>th</sup> 2009, at 7:45 p.m., at the Parktheater in Eindhoven. Besides a ballet, performed by the famous group from Kiev, an exhibition will be opened showing the works of the Ukrainian artist Igor Nesmijanow and fellow artist Jan van Gogh from Eindhoven**

**Soon after their first meeting, it became clear that a bond exists between the philosophies of both artists. Despite their separation in time and culture, their expression and view on the world showed remarkable similarities, as though they were life-long friends.**

**To find the theme “climate contempt” so strongly present in their works and beliefs, made me, as a journalist, urge both artists to work together, to create a painting, which expresses their concern about our climate. It took much effort to convince both artists to take up the challenge and select a proper theme, from the many aspects incorporated in the theme “climate contempt”.**

**After drawing their sketches separately in the weekend, it turned out that both artists were much closer to each other as they had expected.**

**A canvas was arranged (dimensions 120x80 cm).**

**Van Gogh painted bushes in a rough, impressionistic manner.**

**Next, Igor filled up the open space with abstract shapes in oil paint.**

**Finally, a set of barren branches was added “a quatre mains” at a chosen position in the canvas.**

**The emotions, the cooperation and the merging of creative energy gave this event a special meaning.**

**After finishing the painting, both artists signed the artwork, and hugged each other with the words “thank you!”.**

**A toast was presented as finishing touch.**

**This event perfectly fits into the project on peace and tolerance in the arts, which was started earlier. The painting, titled “today-tomorrow?” will be on exhibit in the Parktheater in Eindhoven until December 19<sup>th</sup> in Eindhoven, after which it will be integrated in the exhibition of Jan van Gogh in the Ukrainian Embassy, Zeestraat 78, The Hague. This latest exhibition will be on display until March 31, 2010.**

**Katharyna Shynkarenko, Journalist, November, 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009**

