

American woman with her kids in Holland's free market

April 30, a national holiday as the Queen's day, is always the liveliest festival in Holland every year. Local people like to hold booth in flea market that day and a lot of events are carried on as well. Beer, food, music, dancing ...big party countrywide full with orange color. Tourists are all enjoy the event very much.

It is very fine day this Queen's Day, and more tourists than ever. I bring camera and IC record to interview around, however it is too noisy to talk. Then I step in residential area to find some quite place. It doesn't take much time to find a mother with her kids sitting in front of the booth. They are all in orange. Mother is painting something on her child's face, looks peace and happy.

The mother told me that her name is Martha, American. She has moved to Holland for ten years. The kid in front of her with long blonde hair is not her daughter but her two and half years old second eldest son Dillon. Her 8- year old eldest son is playing around. There are some used goods and handmade art work by kids in his booth. I asked Martha how the business here is; she said it was pretty good. She sold all her elder son's handmade stuff in the morning. I was very curious about what kind of art work it was; she said it was a wood plate with a couple of holes on it, which you can through things in. Kids all like it very much, and ask their parents to buy it. I know it is hard to get a booth in Queen's day, but Martha said that it was not that hard in this area. Her friend drove the van all the way for the south part of Holland and got here in the evening a day before. Her friend camped here to get a good place.

I simply assumed that Martha's husband must be a Dutch, so that she could blend into the local culture such well. But Martha told me that both she and her husband are foreigners. It doesn't affect anything for them to celebrate the day. In the past ten years, they only missed once when they are both on a trip overseas. Even in her nine-month, she joined the event.



美国母子荷兰摆地摊

本报驻荷兰特约记者 岳 轶

每年的4月30日是荷兰的女王节,也是荷兰最热闹的节日。这一天,荷兰全国放假,居民在街头巷尾摆摊卖旧货,啤酒和煎炸小吃的气味充满空气,简易舞台的音响震耳欲聋,奇装异服的当地人随歌起舞,游客们也兴高采烈。市中心的街区变成橙色的海洋,全国上演着一出疯狂的大派队。

今年的女王节天气格外晴朗,游客也比往年要多。我特地带着相机和录音笔出门采访,可是街上实在太吵闹了,几乎每隔100米就有一个临时搭建的舞台,摇滚舞曲、拉丁舞曲、电子舞曲震天响,就连贴着耳朵说话也要拉高嗓门,根本就别提采访了。于是我避开人流,转进附近的居民区。很快,我就看到一对身着橙衣的母子坐在街头的地摊前,母亲正在给孩子画脸,气氛和悦安逸。

母亲告诉我,她叫玛莎,美国人,搬来荷兰已经有10年

了。眼前这个留着金色长发的小孩不是女孩,而是她两岁半的次子迪伦,她8岁的大儿子正在别处玩耍。脚下的地摊上摆着各种各样的旧货和小孩子做的工艺品。我问玛莎生意如何,她说不错,一早上就卖出去了大儿子做的全部手工制品。

我很好奇是什么样的手工艺品,她说是一块木板,上面挖了几个洞,可以投东西进去。小孩子们都很喜欢,就央求着父母买。我知道女王节的摊位一向很紧张,玛莎告诉我,他们这个街区还行。不过,她有个朋友前一天晚上就专程从荷兰南部开着小货车过来了,在这里露了一天的营,以便第二天早上可以早早占到摊位。

我猜玛莎的丈夫一定是个荷兰人,所以她才这么融入当地文化。可玛莎说他们夫妇俩都是外国人,但这并不妨碍他们庆祝节日。十年来他们只有一次因为在国外而错过了女王节,即便玛莎十月怀胎的时候,也去凑女王节的热闹。



时间:4月30日
地点:阿姆斯特丹
人物:玛莎(美国)

荷兰女王节上的玛莎母子

摄影 岳 轶