

## Historical yacht offered for auction

The famous sailing yacht the *Caribbee* will be on auction at the Rotterdam Oceanwide Yacht Club (<http://royc.nl>). This historical yacht, designed by the famous Philip L. Rhodes, won thirty-six prestigious sailing races in a five-year period in the 1950s, including the Chesapeake Bay championships, the Southern Ocean Racing Conference and the RORC Transatlantic Race. This yacht was the undisputed queen of the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

### World famous, super-fast *and* comfortable

This classic ocean racer gained fame through the work of photographer, writer and sailor Carleton Mitchell. He purchased the yacht in 1947 from the builder, Henry Nevins. Because Mitchell wanted to use the yacht to enter races, he commissioned Rod Stephens of Sparkman & Stephens to make a



Caribbee on its way to win RORC 1952 - Photographer Rosenfeld

number of improvements. This made the yacht significantly faster, especially close to the wind. What is special is that the speed never comes at the expense of comfort. 'She is ideal for both racing and cruising,' pronounced the sailor. Mitchell wrote about his races and cruises with the *Caribbee*, including in the best-seller 'Passage East', and was published on various occasions, including in National Geographic.

### Maritime heritage

Sailor and photographer Hans Timmermans brought the yacht to the Netherlands in 2002 and commissioned the naval architect Olivier van Meer to thoroughly restore her, updating the entire interior according to his design. 'This is not only a beautiful yacht, but also a unique piece of sailing history,' says Mr. Timmermans. Mr. Van Meer confirms the special value of the yacht. 'The *Caribbee* is, in her class, currently the most important piece of maritime heritage in the Netherlands.'

Mr. Timmermans has finished every recent North Sea race near the top, if not in first place.

Mr. Van Meer notes that considering the age of the ship, the condition of the hull is exceptional. The yacht underwent another minor refit in 2008 in which a new paint system was applied. Unfortunately, shortly after this refit, the mast was lost overboard. Aside from a new mast and rigging, maintenance to the hull is required before the yacht can be put back in the water. The advantage is that the yacht has been in dry storage under ideal conditions since 2010. This now gives the new owner the chance to give the ship an optimal fiberglass-reinforced epoxy treatment, which will keep the *Caribbee* in perfect condition for decades more. Of course, it is also possible to choose a traditional approach to maintenance.

### **Small investment, unique opportunity**

The report from Mr. Van Meer is available for interested buyers, and includes a cost statement of the refit that the naval architect recommends. The investment required is relatively small. After purchasing and refitting the Caribbee, the owner can be confident of a yacht in 'showroom condition' that experts estimate will be worth at least €450,000. The technical equipment and the other inventory are more than complete and in excellent condition.



Interieur - Photographer Hans Timmermans    Wedstrijd - Photographer Richard de Jonge

### **Information about auction**

The auction will be held online. The fee for registration is €500. This amount will be refunded if the bid made does not lead to purchase.

More information about the auction can be found at <http://royc.nl>. The auction will end on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November at 5:00 pm. Information about the Caribbee can be found at <http://caribbee.nl>. It is possible to view the yacht. Contact Mr. F.N. Brongers ([folkert@bmsprojects.nl](mailto:folkert@bmsprojects.nl)) or +31 654 358 166.

### **Technical specifications**

Build year:	1938
Length overall:	17.80 meters
Beam:	4.36 meters
Draught:	1.90 meters - 3.20 meters (centerboard)
Displacement:	approximately 24 tons
Berths:	6 + 2 (3 in owner's cabin, 3 in guest cabin, 2 in the saloon)

E.J. Bruinekool Fotografie & Tekst is sending you this press release on behalf of BMS Projects.