# Golden Mercury and Radar Love

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Gouden Mercurius beeld versus Radar Love

It seems you're asking for a comparison between the "Gouden Mercurius beeld" (Golden Mercury statue) and the song "Radar Love." This is an interesting juxtaposition, as they represent different forms of cultural significance. Let's explore them:

**The Gouden Mercurius Beeld (Golden Mercury Statue):**

- This is a physical statue, often depicted as the Roman god Mercury (Hermes in Greek mythology), the messenger of the gods and the god of trade, commerce, and travel.
- Mercury is typically portrayed with winged sandals and a caduceus (a staff with two snakes winding around it).
- In the Netherlands, Mercury has historically been a symbol of trade and can be found on buildings associated with commerce, such as the Amsterdam Stock Exchange.
- Interestingly, there's a specific Golden Mercury statue in Hilversum that is said to have inspired Barry Hay, the singer of the Dutch rock band Golden Earring, when they wrote their hit song "Radar Love." This statue was recently re-unveiled by Barry Hay in June 2024 after restoration.

**"Radar Love":**

- This is a world-famous song by the Dutch rock band Golden Earring, released in 1973.
- It's a driving rock anthem known for its distinctive bassline, catchy chorus, and extended length (especially the album version).
- "Radar Love" achieved significant international success, reaching the top 10 in many countries and becoming Golden Earring's signature song.
- The lyrics, co-written by George Kooymans and Barry Hay, tell a story of a man driving at night, feeling a strong connection ("radar love") with his distant lover.

**The Connection:**

The link between the two lies in the anecdote that the Golden Mercury statue in Hilversum served as an inspiration for Barry Hay when writing the lyrics for "Radar Love." While driving from Loosdrecht to Hilversum, the image of the swift-moving god of travel may have sparked the idea of a powerful, almost telepathic connection symbolized by "radar love."

**In Summary:**

The Gouden Mercurius beeld is a physical representation of commerce and communication, with a specific statue in Hilversum holding a unique connection to the creation of a legendary rock song. "Radar Love," on the other hand, is an auditory experience, a cultural touchstone in music history that surprisingly traces part of its origin to a visual piece of art. They exist in different realms but are linked by a moment of creative inspiration.

It looks like you're connecting the Gouden Mercurius beeld and "Radar Love" to **Roel Mühlstaff**. Here's how they are linked:

- **Roel Mühlstaff is the CEO of Hilversum Business Center.** The Golden Mercurius beeld, which is said to have inspired Barry Hay of Golden Earring when writing "Radar Love," stands in front of the Hilversum Business Center at Vreelandseweg 5 in Hilversum.

- **Mühlstaff initiated the restoration of the Gouden Mercurius beeld.** After noticing that the 60-year-old statue was showing wear due to weather conditions, Mühlstaff took the initiative to have it restored and re-gilded.
- **Mühlstaff invited Barry Hay to re-unveil the restored statue.** He contacted Barry Hay, who enthusiastically agreed to come from Curaçao to Hilversum for the unveiling ceremony on June 12, 2024.
- **The unveiling event highlighted the connection between the statue and the song.** The event celebrated the inspiration behind "Radar Love" and featured the band The Clarks performing. A plaque commemorating this connection was also placed at the base of the statue.

So, Roel Mühlstaff played a key role in bringing the story of the Gouden Mercurius beeld and its connection to "Radar Love" back into the spotlight by organizing the restoration and the special re-unveiling event with Barry Hay.