

WINTER 2026 ISSUE

CHEZ LILLY & FÉLIX



WINTER MAGAZINE

THESIS UPDATES

HAPPY NEW
YEAR!

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

01

A night full of fireworks to start off the new year!



BY LILLY & FÉLIX



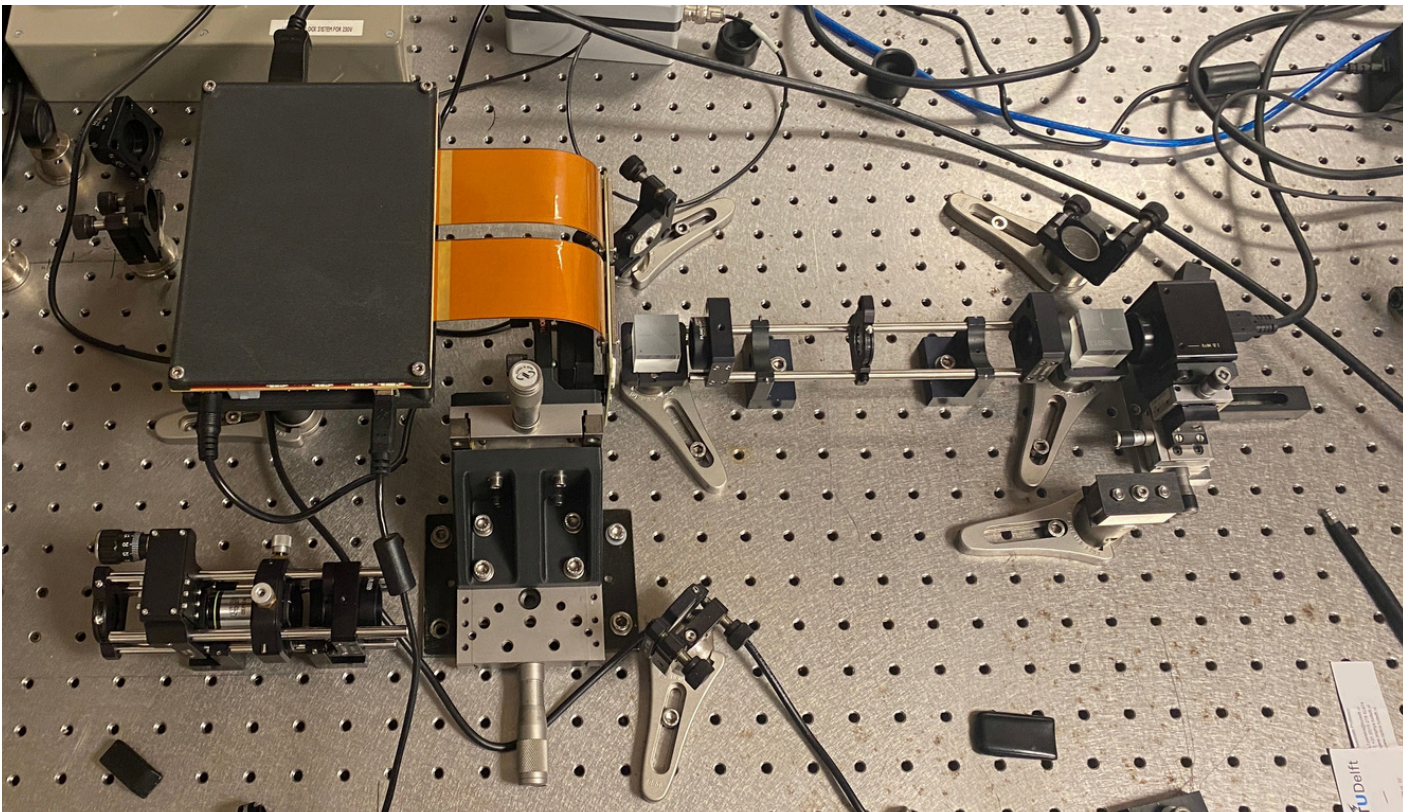
We celebrated the new year in the Netherlands! New years is the only day of the year that residents can launch fireworks in the Netherlands, so for hours people nearby were setting off fireworks and what a sight it was! It is all we heard during the day, which only got crazier as we got closer to midnight. From our apartment window, we were even able to see the many fireworks being launched from The Hague.

It was quite the celebration and we had a lot of fun experiencing this iconic cultural moment here. We even had our first beef wellington for dinner to celebrate the occasion.

-Gelukkig nieuwjaar!

THESIS UPDATES

BY FÉLIX & LILLY



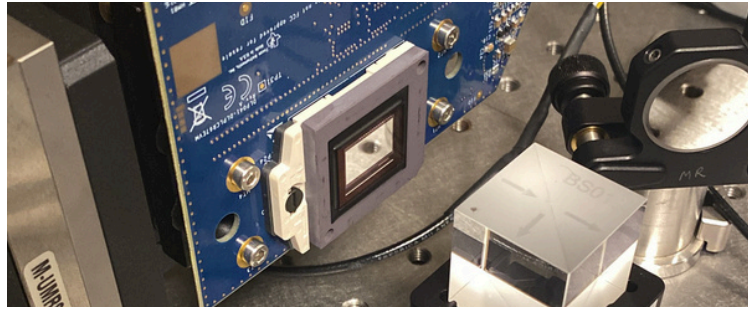
Felix's setup to characterize the Phase Light Modulator.

02

We both started our Master's thesis project this quarter! We are both completing our thesis at TU Delft and so Felix moved to The Netherlands mid-January to start his project. He is working in the imaging department and Lilly is working in the quantum nanoscience department.

We will be working on these projects until the end of August! Once we finish these projects we will be done our Master's degree.

Felix's thesis was focused around a new kind of optical device: a Phase Light Modulator. The goal of this thesis is to see what this device is capable of.



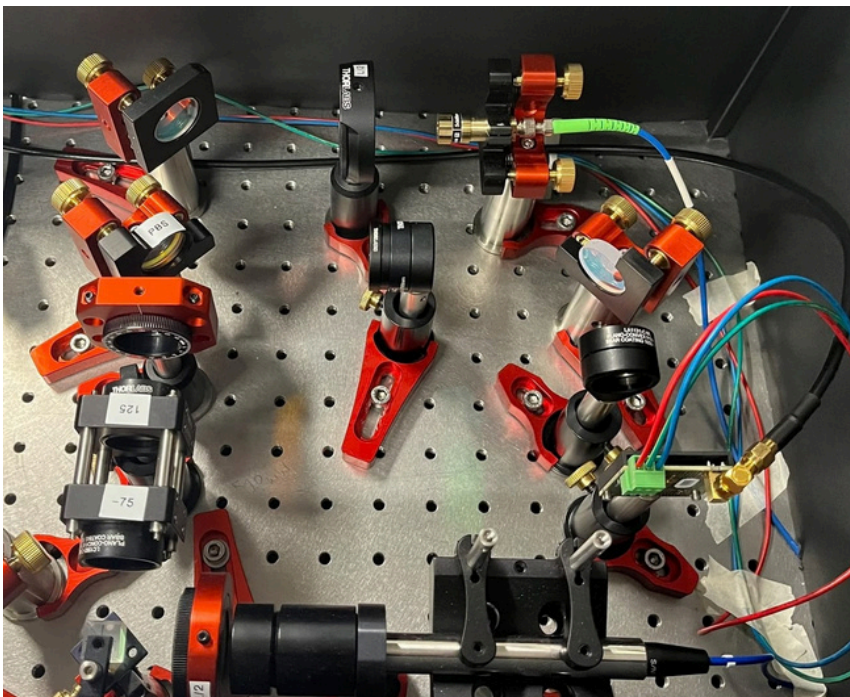
A closeup of the device in question. When unmodulated, it behaves like a mirror.

First, he will build an optical setup to study the device (see the picture on the previous page). Then he will test its capabilities. Some things that he wants to test are the ability steer and focus a beam of light at various angles and focal points. There are other devices capable of performing similar tasks, and the goal will be to see how this one holds up against them!

Lilly's thesis involves making a device to reduce the intensity noise of a laser! To build this device she will have to make an optical setup (pictured below) to measure the intensity noise and an electronic feedback loop to remove the noise.

This device will be used for studying levitating nanoparticles (which is something you can do with a tightly focused laser). It is important to be able to control the laser intensity noise if you want to levitate these nanoparticles.

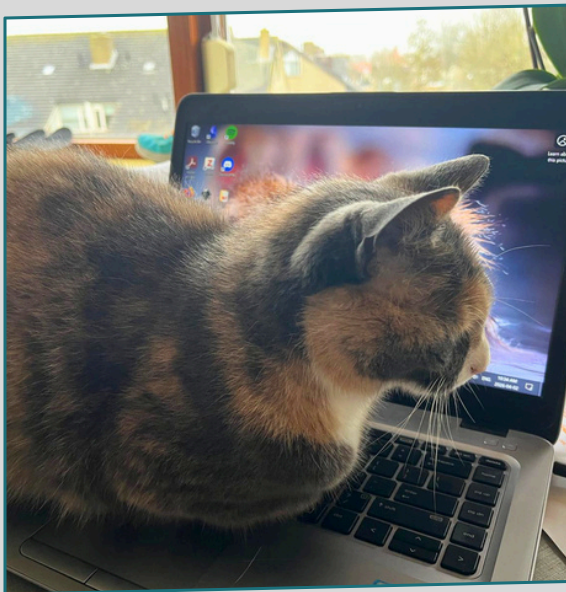
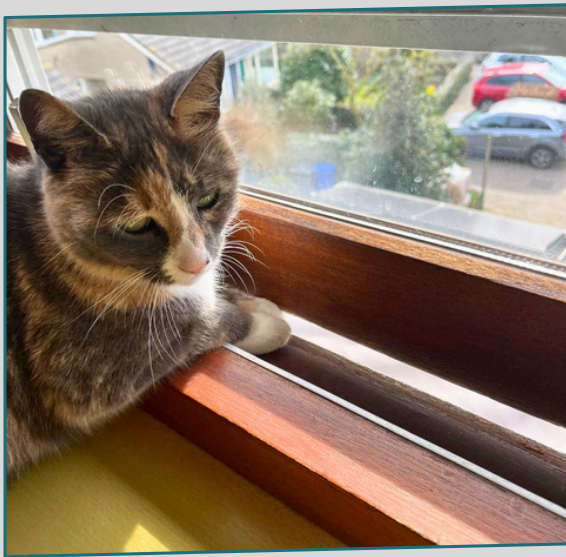
During this first quarter for the thesis, Lilly made a model and completed simulations to better understand the performance of this device!



Lilly's optics setup for her project!

KIZU MIZU CAM

Kizu Mizu is our landlords cat! We take care of her while they are away on vacation. She is very ADORABLE and loves watching birds from our windows!



03



SOURDOUGH ADVENTURES

BY LILLY & FÉLIX



IN FEBRUARY WE BEGAN OUR SOURDOUGH JOURNEY

The first thing we made with our sourdough starter - which is a mixture of flour and water that naturally ferments with yeast and bacteria from the environment - were naan flatbreads! These were really tasty and only required a short fermentation period.

Once the starter was ready we made our first loaf! On the next page you can see how well this first attempt went. Since then, we have been continuing to practice and we are excited to share the results as we go!



04

FILM PHOTOS

35mm Minolta Zoom

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LILLY

10

St. Peterskirche, Zurich
Church with the biggest clock face in Europe!
(8.6 m in diameter)





Grindelwald
During a hike to First we had great views of the Eiger and the other mountains in the area



The Matterhorn, Zermatt
During the 5 lakes hike



Bern, Switzerland
Views of Aare river and the historic town

Jungfrau Top of Europe
The most exciting train ride we had
during our time in Switzerland



A Dutch canal in Schipluiden
During a bike ride

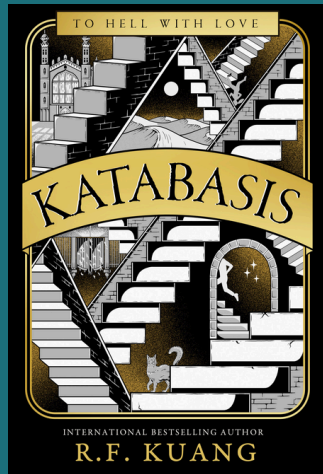
Aletsch Glacier
One of our favourite hikes during
our summer in Switzerland



BOOKS

05

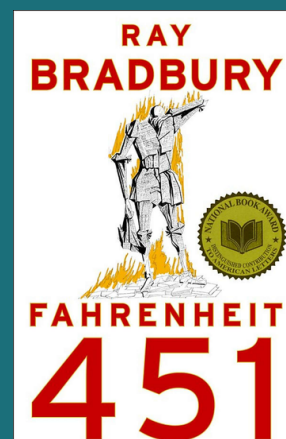
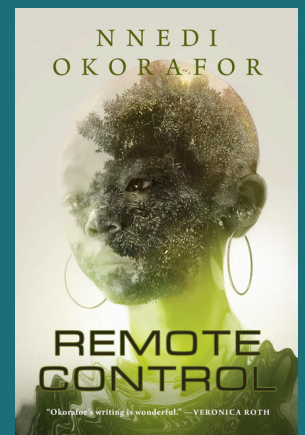
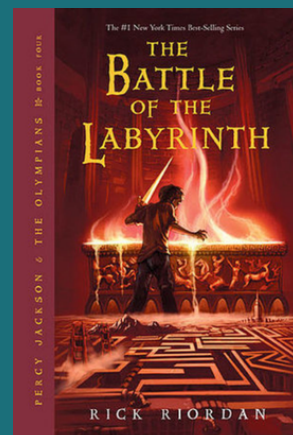
What we read together this quarter:



This quarter we mostly read books individually, but we definitely enjoyed the two books we read together!

Felix was busy reading the Percy Jackson series! His favourite from the series is The Battle of the Labyrinth.

Lilly was reading lots of miscellaneous books and her favourites of the season were: the Tainted Cup, Fahrenheit 451, and Remote Control.





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