



Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture

AHM Newsletter March 2024

Dear reader, welcome to the Newsletter of the Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM). AHM fosters a dynamic, interdisciplinary and transnational research of heritage, memory studies and material culture. As a research school and doctoral program, AHM is committed to the analysis of the remnants and narratives of the past in the present, as well as of the remaking of pasts into heritage, memory and material culture. The school stimulates scholarly cooperation in an international setting and organizes PhD training, seminars and lecture series, reading groups, public debates as well as international workshops and conferences. Please take a look at [our website](#) for more information.

Upcoming Events

Discussion Series: Sensing the Past Research Group

6 March 2024

Online

The next session of the Discussion Series of AHM's [Sensing the Past](#) (subgroup within the [Sensory Archaeology, Architecture, and the Virtual Past](#) research group), is taking place online on 6 March.

The Discussion Series is organised by Pamela Jordan (AHM PhD Candidate) and Sara Mura (PhD Candidate, University of Kiel). The next session focuses on *Senses of Place: Documenting the Connections Between People and Place*, with guest speaker Gretchen Hilyard Boyce, a regional expert and national leader in the field of preservation planning and cultural landscapes. Other sessions are taking place on 4 April, 2 May and 30 May. To participate and for further information, email sensory.workshop-fgw@uva.nl.

Calls and Vacancies

Call for papers AHM Annual Conference

Deadline: March 15, 2024

In 2024, AHM is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Therefore, this year's annual conference will showcase the interdisciplinary and transnational research conducted across several fields within the school, as well as in collaboration with external and social partners in the field. AHM scholars, early-career researchers, PhD candidates, practitioners and professionals are invited to submit their proposals. Topics include, but are not limited to the main AHM research themes. We encourage

Exhibition: Zach Blas' CULTUS, the Secession.**8 March - 9 June 2024****Vienna, Austria**

For this exhibition at Secession, artist Zach Blas developed CULTUS, a new installation that features AI-generated imagery, text, and sound, alongside computer graphics and motion-capture performances. The exhibition addresses a burgeoning AI religiosity in tech industry, considering how artificial intelligence is imbued with god-like powers. AHM's Corina Apostol was associate producer for this exhibition. For further information, see the [website](#).

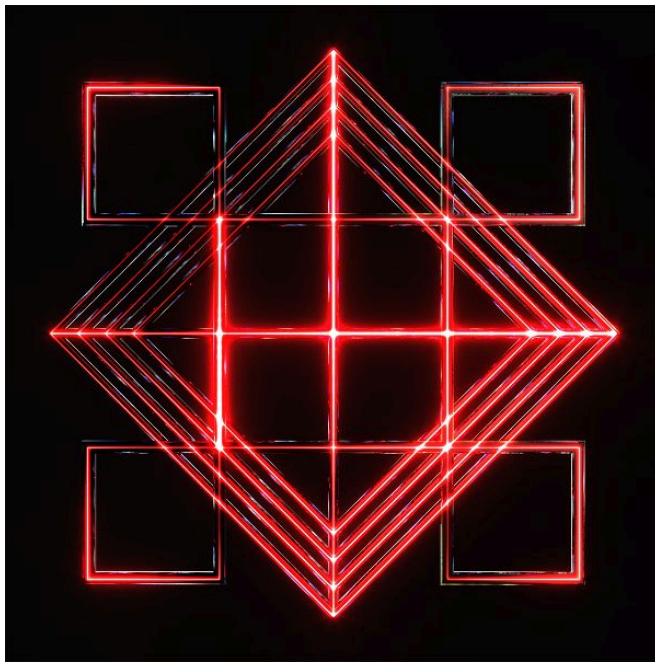


Image: "Zach Blas: CULTUS", 2023-2024, courtesy of the artist.

applications coming from speakers working together in the context of inter-institutional collaborations and valorisation practices. More information can be found [here](#).

**Call for papers
Multidisciplinary Seminar
History Repeating
Deadline: March 15, 2024**

We are inviting submissions to the Multidisciplinary Seminar we are organising in cooperation with the Amsterdam School of Cultural Analysis (ASCA). The seminar *History Repeating* welcomes both online and in-person presentations by interested scholars in Social Sciences and the Humanities, and it will take place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on the 6 September 2024. The seminar aims to explore in a comparative perspective the historical, populist dynamics of governmentally and the criminalising processes of subaltern identity formation characterising various instantiations of the public sphere in space and time to date. More information can be found [here](#).

From invisible to Visible: A Journey through (Building) History with 3D Reconstructions

14 March 2024, 16:00 - 17:00**Bushuis/Oost-Indisch Huis, F1.01B**

This presentation, hosted by the UvA Data Science Centre with speaker Chiara Piccoli (AHM), will explore a selection of cases that demonstrate the value of 3D historical reconstructions for historical research. In addition, it will address the inherent challenges associated with the representation of the past. Everyone, from all disciplines, is welcome to attend. The presentation will take place in-person only. There will be opportunity to ask questions and engage in lively discussion. For further information, see the [website](#). To sign

**Call for papers ASCA
International Workshop
Deadline: March 15, 2024**

The Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA) is inviting submissions for their 2024 Workshop: *Resistance, Refusal, Fugitivity*, taking place 5-7 June 2024, in-person in Amsterdam. The workshop aims to provide an interdisciplinary platform for a pressing and multifaceted investigation of resistance, refusal, and fugitivity, including but not limited to historical perspectives, theoretical frameworks, contemporary applications,

up, please contact UvA Data Science Centre at dsc@uva.nl.

Meeting Series: Digital Heritage Research Group

27 March 2024, 15:00 - 17:00

Doelenzaal, UB Singel (and MS Teams)

This year [the Digital Heritage Research Group](#) initiates a series of meetings that aims to bring together AHM researchers to reflect on the foundations and definitions of Digital Heritage across disciplines. During these meetings, members will present a selection of key texts from different disciplines (a.o. literary studies, ethnomusicology, archaeology, museum studies, media studies), to develop shared, interdisciplinary definitions and concepts of digital heritage. In doing so, the group seeks to stimulate collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue around digital heritage research at AHM, and to position AHM in the broader field of digital heritage, while also working towards organising a conference and a publication on this theme. Other meetings will be taking place on 24 April, 22 May and 26 June. To sign up, and for more information, please contact Christian Olesen (c.g.olesen@uva.nl).

and object analysis. Possible themes or lines of enquiry might include ecological breakdown, digital activism, anarchives and gentrification. More information and the full call for papers can be found [here](#).

Conference: The Aesthetics of Geopower

4 - 5 April 2024

University of Amsterdam

This conference explores how geopower intersects with aesthetics, taken expansively as referring to art, film, literature, and other forms of cultural practice, as well as sensed materiality and embodied perception. The premise is that the aesthetic, far from being secondary or supplemental to the forces shaping the earth, is centrally entailed and embedded in dynamics of geopower. Scholars have been invited to engage with the nascent concept of geopower as a means of exploring how the human and nonhuman forces shaping and emerging from the earth are articulated in art and cultural practice. **Registration is open until 14 March.** More information about the program and registration can be found [here](#).

Conference: International Association of Word and Image Studies (IAWIS)

24 - 28 August 2024

Amsterdam

Between 24 - 28 August 2024, the triennial International Conference of the IAWIS will be hosted in Amsterdam. The theme of this edition

is 'Word, Image, and Social Dynamics'. Word and image relations and the institutions where these play out determine much of how societies (individuals and groups) define themselves. With this conference, IAWIS propose to explore how intermedial practices (inter- and/or transdisciplinary) impact social dynamics, e.g. determine how art activism operates and intersects, and how art, literature, comics, film, digital media, theatre etc. institute themselves in the public sphere or are entangled in power dynamics. More information and a Call for Papers will be announced soon.

News

Jitte Waagen nominated for *Klokhuis Wetenschapsprijs*

With his research into the ways in which drones can help us detect castles that have disappeared underground, archaeologist Jitte Waagen (UvA 4D Research Lab) has been nominated for the *Klokhuis Wetenschapsprijs* 2024. This annual award is awarded to scientific research that is of interest and relevant to children between the ages of 9 and 12, to familiarise a broad and young audience with scientific research in the Netherlands. The winner will be announced 17 March. For more information about the nominees and to vote, click [here](#).

New research priority area Decolonial Futures launched

In January 2024, the new research priority area (RPA) Decolonial Futures was launched at UvA, involving the faculties of Humanities, Law, and Social and Behavioural Sciences. The RPA will run for 5 years and aims to create new research collaborations, methods, dialogues, and networks for thinking about what the 'decolonial' means - in transhistorical and interdisciplinary ways. More information can be found [here](#).

Tiele-fellowship for Dr. Marjolein Hogenbirk

In January 2024, Marjolein Hogenbirk was officially awarded a Tiele-fellowship. The Tiele-fellowship program encourages academic research of books in the present, past, and future. The research of those awarded the fellowship will be financially and academically supported by the Tiele foundation for the duration of two

months. Hogenbirk will use the fellowship to research re-used parchment from the 'Lancelot compilation' from circa 1320, with the use of techniques derived from modern photography. This will lead to new insights about the work methods of authors, copyists and illuminators who produced handwritings, and about their (lost) texts. Congratulations Marjolein!

New AHM Members

Dr. Arnoud Arps

Arnoud Arps has joined AHM in February 2024 as an Assistant Professor of Extended Cinema, Film Heritage and Memory. His work investigates how the colonial era is transculturally, transnationally, and cross-medially remembered in the Netherlands and Indonesia, with a special interest in cinema, literature, and popular culture. Prior to joining AHM he was a Niels Stensen Postdoctoral Fellow in Postcolonial and Memory Studies consecutively affiliated with the University of Oxford hosted by Elleke Boehmer and the University of California, Los Angeles hosted by Michael Rothberg. He is currently hosting Rebekah Vince within the context of a collaborative project on postcolonial memories.

AHM Visiting Scholar / Dr. Rebekah Vince

Rebekah Vince is a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in French with Comparative Literature at Queen Mary University of London specialising in French postmemory narratives, francophone postcolonial studies, and the Mediterranean francosphere. She joined AHM as a Visiting Scholar in January 2024. Here, she will focus on Etty Hillesum, a Dutch diarist of WWII in postcolonial perspective, through the lens of French-Algerian author Karima Berger. Together with Arnoud Arps she will organise a workshop that explores transnational connections across memory studies and postcolonial studies in relation to Dutch and French (anti)colonialism following WWII through comparative analysis of cultural representations such as film and literature.

New Publications

Nederland en de herinnering aan de Jodenvervolgung 1945 - 2024

Frank van Vree, 2024.

On January 17, *Nederland en de herinnering aan de Jodenvervolging* ('The Netherlands and the memory of the persecution of the Jews') was launched at Spui25, Amsterdam. The book outlines ways in which the Netherlands has dealt with the memory of this history, from the first years after the liberation until the opening of the National Holocaust Museum in 2024. On the occasion of the presentation, a small symposium took place, in which Abram de Swaan (Amsterdam), Krijn Thijs (Germany Institute), Kathryn Brackney (Leiden) and Anne van Mourik (NIOD) highlighted some of the book's central themes from different perspectives. More information can be found [here](#).

***Fold, Stand, and Drape: Unweaving Physical vs. Digital Textile Design Considerations***

Sandra Kuipers, Bruna Goveia de Rocha, Maarten van Bommel, Troy Nachtigall, 2024.

During the ACM International Conference on Tangible, Embedded and Embodied Interaction (TEI), which took place between 11-14 February 2024 in Cork, Ireland, AHM PhD Candidate Sandra Kuipers presented 'Fold, Stand and Drape: Unweaving Physical vs.

Digital Textile Design Considerations'. In this paper, which is part of her PhD research, Kuipers investigates fashion designers' implicit understanding of textiles and how, considering that fashion design has rapidly become a digital process, design considerations are influenced by interactions with physical textiles. After the conference, the paper was published in the ACM Digital Library, which can be found [here](#).

***Ghostly Unburialings and Romanticised Blooming Fields:
Botanical Entanglements, Women's Emancipation and
Coloniality***

Corina L. Apostol, 2024.

In January, Corina Apostol's essay "Ghostly Unburialings and Romanticised Blooming Fields: Botanical Entanglements, Women's Emancipation and Coloniality," was published in Afterall Journal, Volume 55-56, by Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts in London. The essay can be found [here](#).

Past Events

Mois Multi Festival, February 2024

During the Mois Multi Festival, taking place in February 2024 in Quebec City, Canada, AHM's Corina Apostol presented the talk "Immerse and Beyond: Redefining Artistic Space in the Digital Era." In the presentation, Apostol explored the impact of virtual productions on the sensual qualities of physical exhibition spaces, and how these can defy temporal and geographical constraints. Her analysis engaged with the international Beyond Matter project's quest to merge cultural heritage with cutting-edge virtual reality, offering a vanguard perspective on how computer-generated spaces can mold political and social narratives.

Taboo in Cultural Heritage Conference, 1-2 February

On February 1-2 2024, the Conference Taboo in Cultural Heritage took place in Amsterdam. The conference reflected on the concept of taboo in relation to cultural heritage in the context of colonialism and national socialism and their reverberations in society, and was organised by organised by the Open University of the Netherlands; Reinwardt Academie, University of the Arts; and AHM. Thanks to all who presented, attended and contributed to the organisation of the conference!

The next AHM Newsletter will be published in May
2024. Contributions can be sent to
ahm-fgw@uva.nl.



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Website

Amsterdam School of Heritage, Memory and Material Culture

Our mailing address is:

ahm-fgw@uva.nl

For more up-to-date news and events, please check the AHM website.

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