

Fellows Haga Huis september 2020-augustus 2021



Dr. Anton C.R. Dreesmann Fellow

Name: Naoko Adachi

Research advisor: Menno Fitski

Biography:

Naoko Adachi is a PhD candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research concerns **19th century Japanese art made for export, focusing on the production of photograph albums.** Made for foreign travelers, these albums contained large-scale, hand-colored photographs bound between luxurious lacquer covers. These photographs presented views of landscape and people that emphasized Japanese tradition, and at a time of rapid modernization and emerging imperialism, constructed an imagined Japan for a foreign audience. Considering the intertwined network of photographers, painters, and craftsmen, her work on these souvenir albums offers a new approach that transcends the boundaries of media. As a Fellow at the Rijksmuseum, she will investigate how the unique relationship between Japan and the Netherlands played a role in the transition of Japanese art at the beginning of the Meiji period.

She received her MA from the University of Pennsylvania and her BA from Doshisha University in Japan. She has previously held Mellon summer graduate fellowship and served as a Spotlight graduate lecturer at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



The Migelien Gerritzen Fellow

Name: Wouter Soudan

Research advisor: Rob Erdmann

Biography:

Wouter develops techniques for the algorithmic analysis of art by applying computer vision and information theory to art historical scholarship. Wouter was trained as an art historian (Leuven, 2002, egregia cum laude), holds bachelor degrees in classical languages and philosophy (magna cum laude), and graduated from the Plantin-Moretus Museum (Antwerp, 2007, summa cum laude). He received a **PhD from the University of Leuven (Aspirant FWO, 2008) with a dissertation on eighteenth-century art theory.** He was a postdoctoral researcher (Antwerp, 2009–2012) in the field of computational linguistics working on the digitization of medieval archives. Engrossed in printing technology, Wouter took courses in intaglio and founded a letterpress studio. Until 2013 he was a passionate educator, lecturing on typography, to eventually settle as a freelance software consultant. As an independent scholar, Wouter has specialized in book history, with an emphasis on paleographic transcription, incunabula types and their digital revival, which engendered novel insights for the preventive conservation of prints.

As a Migelien Gerritzen Fellow, Wouter works on the Rijksmuseum's extensive, excellently digitized print collections to expand his research into virtual reconstruction. By building on previously explored software techniques, **the project aims to model an image bank with formal descriptors, and to design methodologies for automated extraction of graphic features.**



The Migelien Gerritzen Fellow

Name: Liu, Chun (Tracy)

Research advisor: Katrien Keune

Biography:

Tracy's fellowship research **focuses on developing an improved chemical understanding of the sensitivity of aged oil-containing layers in paintings to subtle chemical changes in cleaning reagents.** Specifically, her research aims to determine whether more specific chemical matching can permit the selective removal of oil-based retouchings or oil-containing varnish layers without impacting original oil-bound paint layers. The project focuses on the use of benzyl alcohol derivatives, small organic molecules with additional functional groups appended to a benzyl alcohol core, to determine if chemical changes within a specific class of chemical compound can lead to greater selectivity in the cleaning of oil paintings.

Prior to starting her fellowship, Tracy obtained a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley (2010), a **Ph.D. in Organic Synthesis and Catalysis from Princeton University (2017)**, and just obtained her **M.S. in Art Conservation from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation** with a specialization in Paintings Conservation (2020). She spent her last year of Art Conservation Masters study interning in the Paintings Conservation Department at the Rijksmuseum (2019 – 2020).