

## The Allard Pierson Lecture 2021, Thursday 25 November 15:00 hrs

Dr. Clémentine Deliss

Global Humanities Professor of History of Art, University of Cambridge

### Rethinking the civic imperative of the museum

Allard Pierson, the museum and knowledge institute for heritage collections of the University of Amsterdam and the masters 'Museum Studies' and 'Heritage and Memory Studies' of the University of Amsterdam are pleased to invite you to the fifteenth Allard Pierson Lecture, which will be given by Clémentine Deliss on Thursday 25 November at 15:00 hours. The Allard Pierson Lectures aim to draw attention to current events in the academic discourse of Museum and Heritage Studies.

Clémentine Deliss works across the borders of contemporary art, curatorial practice, independent publishing, and critical anthropology. She studied art and anthropology in Vienna, Paris, and London, and received her Ph.D. from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. From 2010-2015, she directed the Weltkulturen Museum in Frankfurt am Main instituting a new research lab and developing several collection-led exhibitions. From 2018 until 2020 she was Visiting and Interim Professor at the Ecole nationale supérieure d'arts Paris-Cergy and the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design respectively, taught art theory and history at the University of Fine Arts, Hamburg and was a mentor of the Berlin Program for Artists, and Faculty at Large of SVA Curatorial Practice New York. She was recently appointed Global Humanities Professor of History of Art at the University of Cambridge, where she will be working on contemporary concepts of contention in historical collections together with students. Since 2020, she has been Associate Curator at KW Institute for Contemporary Art Berlin, where she is developing models for a Metabolic Museum-University. Her recent book *The Metabolic Museum* was published by Hatje Cantz in co-production with KW Institute for Contemporary Art Berlin and has recently come out in Russian translation published by Garage Museum, Moscow.

### Programme:

15:00 Tea

15:15 Welcome by Wim Hupperetz,  
director Allard Pierson

Introduction by Mirjam Hoijtink,  
MA Museum Studies University of Amsterdam

15.30 **Rethinking the civic imperative of the museum**  
Allard Pierson Lecture,  
By Clémentine Deliss

16.30 Discussion chaired by Hanneke Ronnes,  
MA Heritage and Memory Studies University of Amsterdam

17.00 Drinks (until 18:30) in AP Live

The Allard Pierson Lecture takes place in the **Nina van Leerzaal in the Allard Pierson**, Oude Turfmarkt 127 Amsterdam. Due to the limited number of seats, the lecture can also be attended online.

**RVSP via e-mail to [s.acw-fgw@uva.nl](mailto:s.acw-fgw@uva.nl) before 19 November. Please indicate in the subject of your e-mail 'Allard Pierson Lecture' and additionally if you will be present 'Live' or 'Online'. The link will be sent the day before the lecture.**

The Allard Pierson Lectures are possible thanks to the support of:

Allard Pierson

The department of Arts and Culture, University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture (AHM)

Faculty of Humanities, University of Amsterdam

Previous lectures were given by amongst others: Sebastiano Tusa, Christopher Brown, Peter Greenaway, Arthur McGregor, Krzysztof Pomian, Esther Jansma, Ad de Jong, Robert Lunsingh Scheurleer, Cecilia Hurley, Edward van Volen, Steven ten Thije and Amie Levin.

On the occasion of the Allard Pierson Lecture visitors will be given the opportunity to view the objects presented by MA Museum Studies students in the online exhibition *From Cartography to Cookbook: a Web of Dutch Colonialism (2020)*

<https://allardpierson.nl/events/tentoonstelling-from-cartography-to-cookbooks/>

## Allard Pierson

Allard Pierson (1836-1896) was born into a family of merchants and bankers, studied theology and became a minister in Leuven/Louvain. In 1870 he was appointed professor of theology at Heidelberg, returning to Amsterdam in 1877 to take up a chair in what we would now call a multidisciplinary subject area combining modern foreign languages and literature, aesthetics, cultural and art history. Allard Pierson was a prolific author, a leading scholar and one of the high-profile intellectuals of his time. The Archaeological Museum of the University of Amsterdam, which opened in 1934, was named after him. Since 2019, the museum and the Special Collections have merged into Allard Pierson- The Collections of the University of Amsterdam.



Preliminary study for a portrait of Allard Pierson by Jan Veth (1864-1925). In the notes a characterization of the scholar is made: '[...] philosophical, calm, imperturbable [...] righteous', charcoal on paper, 1889 (Allard Pierson, University of Amsterdam).