




CURRICULUM VITAE

SADIAH NYNKE BOONSTRA, PhD

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 Jakarta, Indonesia

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2008 – 2014 **PhD**, History, VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Supervisors: Professors Susan Legêne and Henk Schulte Nordholt;
Examiners: Professors Michael Herzfeld (Harvard University), Bambang Purwanto (UGM), Pieter Ter Keurs (National Museum of Ethnology), Ginette Verstraete (VU University).

2004 – 2006 **Master of Arts Degree**, Curatorial Studies, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Supervisor: Professor Susan Legêne.

1997 – 2003 **Master of Arts Degree**, History, Leiden University, The Netherlands.
Supervisor: Professor Manfred Horstmanshoff.

POSITIONS

2022 - Present **Head of International Collaboration, Collection Management and Curatorial Affairs**, Indonesian Heritage Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology, Indonesia.

2022 – Present **Senior Honorary Fellow**, University of Melbourne, Australia.

2022 – Present **Postdoctoral Researcher**, 'Pressing Matters. Ownership, Value and the Question of Colonial Heritage', VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2020 – Present **CEO/Founder**, PT. Culture Lab Consultancy, Indonesia.

2019 – 2020 **Asia Scholar**, Melbourne University/Curator Public Programs Asia TOPA, Melbourne, Australia.

2017 – 2019 **Senior Manager Programs**, National Gallery Singapore, Singapore.

2016 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Royal Holloway University of London/The British Museum, London, UK.

2015 **Policy Advisor**, Netherlands Embassy/Dutch Cultural Centre Erasmus Huis, Jakarta, Indonesia.

2014 **Program Associate**, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, The Netherlands.

2008 – 2014 **PhD Candidate**, VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands in collaboration with Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

2008 **Curator**, National Prison Museum, Veenhuizen, The Netherlands.

2006 – 2007 **Account Manager Art & Culture**, Tevreden B.V., Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

2005 – 2008 **Assistant Curator/Exhibition Maker**, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

PUBLICATIONS

Work in Progress

- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2024. 'Beyond the Point of No Return: the Re-emergence of Indonesian Debates and Concept of the Return of Colonial Objects' in Boonstra, Sadiyah, Kate McGregor, Ken Setiawan and Abdul Wahid (Eds.). 2023. *Rethinking Histories of Colonialism: Indonesia*.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah, Kate McGregor, Ken Setiawan and Abdul Wahid (Eds.). 2024. *Rethinking Histories of Colonialism: Indonesia*.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah and Susan Legêne. 2024. 'The creation of difference and the colonial episteme – 19th century scholars-cum-colonialists in Indonesia under Dutch rule' in Leerssen, Joep (Ed.) *History of Humanities: Race, Language and Knowledge Production*.

Journal Articles (Peer-reviewed)

- Gareth Knapman and Sadiyah Boonstra. 2023. *Art Antiquity and Law Volume XXVIII*, Issue 3, October 2023. "Plunder and Prize in 1812 Java: The Legality and Consequences for Research and Restitution of the Raffles Collection."
- Boonstra, Sadiyah and Paul Rae. 2022. "The aesthetics of intercultural method: from process to procession in new Indonesian and Indo-Australian dance" in *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* Vol. 23, Issue 4 Inter-Asia in Motion: Dance as Method. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649373.2022.2131103>
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2022. "On the Nature of Botanical Gardens. Decolonial Perspectives from Indonesia" in *Wacana Journal of the Humanities of Indonesia* edited by Dick van der Meij, Melani Budianta and Susi Moeimam. <https://doi.org/10.17510/wacana.v23i1.1174>
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2019. "Putting on a Show. Collecting, Exhibiting and Performing Wayang at the Tropenmuseum from Colonial Times to the Present" in *Wacana Journal of the Humanities of Indonesia* Vol. 20, No. 1, 118-134. <https://doi.org/10.17510/wacana.v20i1.730>
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2009. "Conceptualising intangible heritage in the Tropenmuseum: the Layla and Majnun story as a case study", in *International Journal of Intangible Heritage* Vol.4, 27-39.

Book Chapters (Peer-reviewed)

- Boonstra, Sadiyah and Paul Rae. 2022. "The aesthetics of intercultural method: from process to procession in new Indonesian and Indo-Australian dance" in *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* Vol. 23, Issue 4 Inter-Asia in Motion: Dance as Method. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649373.2022.2131103>
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2015. "Defining wayang as heritage: standardization, codification and institutionalization," in *Sites Bodies and Stories. Local Heritage, colonial legacies, and historical narrative between the Indonesian state and society*. Edited by S. Legêne, B. Purwanto, and H. Schulte Nordholt. Singapore: NUS Press.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2011. "Negotiating Heritage: the wayang puppet theater and dynamics of heritage formation" in *The Heritage Theater: Globalisation and Cultural Heritage*. Edited by Marlite Halbertsma, Alex van Stipriaan and Patricia van Ulzen. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

- Boonstra, Sadiyah, Janneke van Dijk. 2011 "Early photography in the Dutch East Indies: the power of the image" in *ABHINANDANAMALA Nandana Chutiwongs Felicitation Volume*. Edited by Prematilleke, Leelananda. Bangkok/Colombo.

Shorter Articles, Book Reviews

- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2022. "Over de kolonialiteit van Kebun Raya Bogor, museumobjecten en hedendaagse Indonesische kunst", *Locus – Tijdschrift voor Cultuurwetenschappen* 25 (2022). <https://edu.nl/avre3>
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2021. "The Construction of Race in Museums in Indonesia and Contemporary Artistic Responses." In *Inside Indonesia* special issue edited by Antje Missbach, Jemma Purdey and Tamara Soukotta.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2021. Review of Jan Mrázek, *Wayang and its Doubles. Javanese Puppet Theatre, Television and Internet*. In *Bijdragen tot de taal-, land-, en volkenkunde/Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Southeast Asia*.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2014. "The Paradox of UNESCO's Masterpieces: the case of Wayang Indonesia" in *IAS Newsletter No.69*, 28-29.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2013. "Building social cohesion through culture in conflict and post-conflict contexts" in *IAS Newsletter No. 65*, 46-47.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2012. "Critical Heritage Studies. IAS Summer School Revisited" in *IAS Newsletter No. 61*, 44-45.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. 2011. "Performing Islam, experiencing wayang" in *Inside Indonesia* 106, Oct-Dec.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Vanessa Hearman, *Unmarked Graves: Death and Survival in the Anti-Communist Violence in East Java, Indonesia*. In *Bijdragen tot de taal-, land-, en volkenkunde/Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Southeast Asia*, Vol. 176, Issue 1 (2020), 161-162.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Adèle Esposito *Urban Development in the Margins of a World Heritage Site in the Shadows of Angkor*. In *Asian Studies Review* Vol. 43, No.3 (2019), 576-577.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Jennifer Goodlander, *Women in the Shadows. Gender, Puppet, and the Power of Tradition in Bali*, In *Anthropos* 113 (2018), 306-307.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Matthew Cohen, *Inventing the Performing Arts: Modernity and Tradition in Colonial Indonesia*. In *Bijdragen tot de taal-, land-, en volkenkunde/Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences Southeast Asia* Vol. 173, No. 4 (2017), 587-590.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of *Indonesia-Malaysia Relations, Cultural heritage, politics and labour migration*. Edited by Marshall Clarke and Juliet Pietsch. In *Bijdragen tot de taal-, land-, en volkenkunde/Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences Southeast Asia* Vol. 172, No. 2-3 (2016), 394-396.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Baskara T. Wardaya (Ed.), *Truth Will Out: Indonesian accounts of the 1965 Mass Violence*. In *Tijdschrift voor Geschiedenis* Vol. 120 (2014), 741-743.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah. Review of Felicia Katz-Harris, *Inside the Puppet Box. A Performance Collection at The Museum of International Folk Art*. In *Bijdragen tot de taal-, land-, en volkenkunde/Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Southeast Asia* Vol. 168, No. 2-3 (2012), 354-356.

Edited Journal issues

- Boonstra, Sadiyah and Caroline Drieënhuizen (Eds.). 2023. "Writing Decolonial and Intersectional Histories of Indonesia". A special issue for *Wacana Journal of the Humanities of Indonesia 2023 Vol. 24, No. 2*.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah, Susi Moeiman. 2019. *Indonesian Heritage and Collections*. Special Issue of *Wacana Journal of the Humanities of Indonesia Vol. 1-2*.
- Boonstra, Sadiyah, Nikki Edwards, Gerry van Klinken. 2015. *1965, Today. Living with the Indonesian massacres*. Special Issue for *Inside Indonesia 122*, Oct.

Conferences, Workshops and Working Groups Convened

- *Artistic Interventions: Histories, cartographies and politics in Asia*. Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong. 2015. In collaboration with International Institute for Asian Studies, sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New York, USA.
- *The Effects of UNESCO Politics on Local Notions of Heritage; Asian Artists as Agents of Societal Change at Home and Abroad*. Panel at *International Conference for Asian Studies 8 (ICAS)*, Macau. 2013. In collaboration with International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands.
- *The role of artists in 21st century Asia*. Panel at *International Conference for Asian Studies 8 (ICAS)*, Macau. 2013. In collaboration with Asian Cultural Council, New York.
- *The role of Culture in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations'*. 2013. Expert roundtable at Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam.
- *The politics of heritage and authenticity*. 2012. University of Gothenburg. In collaboration with VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

TEACHING

2022	MA/PHD Course: "The Shaping of the Past. History, Heritage, and Memory." History Department, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
2021	MA/PHD Course: "The Shaping of the Past. History, Heritage, and Memory." History Department, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. MA Guest Lecture: "On Decoloniality and Decolonial Praxis." University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
2019	MA/PHD Course: "Historical Narratives and Artistic Interventions: History, Arts and Politics". History Department, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
2017	BA Course: "The Global identity Experience. Theory, Method, Reflexivity." Amsterdam University College, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
2015	BA/MA Guest Lecture: "What is the Meaning of Intangible Heritage?". Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia. BA/MA Course: "A History of Heritage and the Emergence of Museums". Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. MA Workshop: "Exhibition Making, From concept to Exhibition", Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
2014	BA Course: "The Global identity Experience. Theory, Method, Reflexivity." Amsterdam University College, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

- Netherlands. BA Workshop: "Exhibition Making and Intangible Heritage." Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- 2013 Invited lecture: "The mass violence of 1965 in Indonesian education." Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, USA.
- 2012 BA Course: "Humanities: Introductions to History and Humanities". VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. BA Course: "Cultural Sources: Using Objects and Monuments as Historical Source". VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2011 BA Course: "Humanities: Introductions to History and Humanities". VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. BA Course: "Cultural Sources: Using Objects and Monuments as Historical Source". VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 – present **Senior Honorary Fellow**, University of Melbourne, Australia.
- 2018 **Asia TOPA LAB Participant**, Asia TOPA/Melbourne Arts Centre, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2013 **AHDA Fellow**, Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability, Institute for the Studies of Human Rights/Columbia University, New York, USA.
- 2010 **Research Travel Grant**, CLUE+ Research Institute for Culture, Cognition, History and Heritage, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- 2008 **Research Grant 'Sites, Bodies, Stories'**, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), The Netherlands.

CURATED EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Jalur Rempah*, Museum Kebangkitan Nasional commissioned by Indonesian Heritage Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology, Indonesia.
- 2023 *Jalan Nusantara*, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris.
- 2023 *Danayunbhudi. Force of Subtleness*, a solo show by Auguste Soesastro, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2022 *Constellations of Being*, a solo show by Sinta Tantra, ISA Art & Design, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Tilem. Disruptive Liminalities*, a solo show by Zico Albaquini Yavuz Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2020 *On the Nature of Botanical Gardens*, Framer Framed, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2017 *Banda, Nutmeg and the Treaty of Breda, 1667-2017*, Galeri Nasional, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2016 *Behind the Screen, Puppet theatre in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand*, British Museum, London, UK.
- 2015 *Prince Diponegoro in Dutch Perspectives*, Dutch Cultural Centre Erasmus Huis/Netherlands Embassy, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2011 *Black Inventors*, National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and it's Legacy, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

- 2008 *Van Cachot tot Schavot. In het spoor van twee gifmengsters*, National Prison Museum, Veenhuizen, The Netherlands.
- 2008 *Travelling Tales*, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2006 *Layla and Majnun, An Impossible Love*, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2001 *lakovidis and his life*, Dimotiki Pinakhotiki, Thessaloniki, Greece.

INDEPENDENT WORK & CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2023 **Curator Contemporary Indonesian Art**, *The Great Indonesia Exhibition*, De Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2022 - present **Video Producer**, *Indonesia and the Amsterdam School*, Museum het Schip, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2022 **Curator Public Programs**, *Revolusi! Independent Indonesia*, an exhibition of Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2021 – 2022 **Advisor**, *Orchidelerium*, Estonian Pavillion at Venice Biennale 2022 curated by Corina Apostol.
- 2020 **Translator/Editor**, *The Planet. A Lament*, a theatre/dance performance by Garin Nugroho.
- 2018 – present **Producer**, *IBUIBU BELU: Bodies of Borders*, a dance performance by Eko Supriyanto.
- 2016 **Curator**, Developing Donggala Community Museum, Donggala, Indonesia/The Netherlands.
- 2016 **Writer/Researcher**, *Setan Jawa*, a black and white, silent film by Garin Nugroho.
- 2015 **Consultant**, Sarawak Museum, Sarawak, Malaysia. Workshop "Exhibiting intangible heritage in museums."
- 2012 – 2013 **Trainer/Writer Research Module**, Organisation for Visual Progression, New York, USA/Colombo, Sri Lanka.

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

- 2022 – Present **Invited member of the Scientific Advisory Board**, Musea Brugge, Brugge, Belgium
- 2018 – Present **Editor Heritage Series**, Amsterdam, University Press, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2018 **Invited panel member Asialink Arts 2019 Creative Exchange Program**. Asialink Arts 2019, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2016 **Invited member Scientific Committee**, Europalia, Brussels, Belgium.
- 2010 – 2012 **Elected member of the Work Council**, VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2004 – 2006 **Chair of the Work Council**, Gerzon Schiphol B.V., Schiphol, The Netherlands.
- 1999 – 2003 **Editor**, Historical Magazine *Leidschrift*, Leiden, The Netherlands.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS/PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- *Putting on a show. Collecting, exhibiting and performing wayang at the Tropenmuseum from colonial times until the present*. 2019. Paper presented at

seminar 50 years KITLV/LIPI Indonesian Heritage and Library Collections. LIPI, Jakarta, Indonesia.

- *A Variety of Views: colonial history and exhibition making in Indonesia today*. 2017. Invited presentation at Symposium *Rethinking the VOC*, National Archive, The Hague, the Netherlands.
- *Collecting and exhibiting wayang puppet theatre at Tropenmuseum. From colonial times until the present*. 2016. Paper presentation at ASEASUK, SOAS, London, UK.
- *Absence of proximity. Shadow theatre performances and exhibition practices in Indonesia, The Netherlands and The UK from colonial times until the present*. 2016. Paper presentation at *Conventions of Proximity in Art, Theater and Performance*, Birbeck University of London, UK.
- *Changing Wayang Scenes. The politics of heritage formation in colonial and postcolonial Indonesia*. 2016. Selected paper presentation at Annual Conference Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context”, *Making Sustaining, Breaking – The Politics of Heritage and Culture*. Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany.
- *Exhibiting intangible heritage. The case of the wayang performance tradition in the Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam and Wayang Museum*. 2015. Museum of our Own International Museum Conference, *Universitas Gadjah Mada*, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- *Colonial puppet theatre in the postcolonial present*. 2014. 6th ASEMUS Conference, *Weltmuseum*, Vienna, Austria.
- *Coming to terms with mass violence of 1965 in Indonesia. Towards the creation of a platform for historical dialogue*. 2013. AHDA Conference, *Institute for the Studies of Human Rights*, Columbia University, New York, USA.
- *UNESCO and contemporary wayang performance practices in Indonesia*. 2013. International Conference for Asian Studies, *International Institute for Asian Studies/University of Macau*, Macau, P.R. China.
- *Destroying or innovating tradition? The politics of authenticity in the Indonesian wayang puppet theatre*. 2012. Paper Presentation at *New York Conference on Asian Studies*, State University of New Paltz, USA.
- *Negotiating Heritage: wayang puppet theatre and dynamics of heritage formation in contemporary Indonesia*. Paper presentation at *Heritage Conserved and Contested: Asian and European Perspectives*, International Institute for Asian Studies Summer Programme, Leiden, the Netherlands.
- *Wayang superstars: challenging global appropriation?* 2011 Paper presentation at *Sites, Bodies and Stories: Indonesia, India and (Post) Colonial Heritage Formation*, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- *Negotiating Heritage: wayang puppet theatre and dynamics of heritage formation in contemporary Indonesia*. 2009. Paper Presentation at *The Heritage Theatre. The dynamics of Cultural Heritage in a Globalizing World*, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.
- *Wayang Puppet Theatre, Intangible Heritage and Academic Traditions*. 2009. Paper Presentation at *Sites, Bodies and Stories. Heritage Formation in Colonial and Postcolonial Indonesia and the Netherlands*, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

- *Performing Identity, Shaping Heritage. Wayang Puppet Theatre and the Dynamics of Heritage Formation.* 2009. Paper Presentation at *Heritage in Asia. Converging Forces, Conflicting Values*, Asia Research Institute, National University Singapore, Singapore.
- *Remix: the story of Layla and Majnun in the National Cultures of Turkey, Azerbaijan and Iran.* Paper presentation at *International Summer Academy 'Travelling Traditions, Comparative Perspectives on Near Eastern Literatures*, Wissenschaftskolleg Berlin/American University Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.