



Universiteit Leiden

Death: the Cultural Meaning of the End of Life

**Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society
International Graduate Conference**

24-25 January, 2013

Program of Events

Program: Day 1

Thursday 24 January

08:15 Registration and coffee (Reception area, Academy building)

09:00 Welcome by the conference organizers (Academy building, small Auditorium)

09:15 Official opening of the conference by prof. dr. Kitty Zijlmans, Director of LUCAS
(Academy building, small Auditorium)

09:30 Keynote lecture by prof. dr. Joanna Woodall, Courtauld Institute, University of London:
“In the Midst of Life. The Presence of Death in Early Modern art.”
(Academy building, small Auditorium)

11:15 - 12:45 Sessions 1

Session 1A: Classical Antiquity: Description, Inscription and Revision

Chair: Julie Somers

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Luca Pitteloud, (Université de Fribourg): “Lucretius on Death: ‘Death is Nothing to Us’ Revisited”
- Lindsay Penner, (University of Calgary): “Commemorative Habits of the Slaves and Freed Slaves of the Roman Imperial Household”
- Sandra Karlsson, (University of Gothenburg): “Mourning in Hellenistic Funerary Art”

Session 1B: Memory and Immortality: Early Modern Icons

Chair: Maureen Warren

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Olaf Recktenwald, (McGill University): “Discrete Bodies: Hans Holbein the Younger’s *The Body of the Dead Christ in the Tomb*”
- Angela Benza, (Université de Genève): “‘I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman’: Age and Death in Elizabeth I’s Late Representations”
- Fabian Lacouture, (University Paris, Panthéon-Sorbonne): “Back from the Dead: The Meanings of Child Resurrections in Trecento Italian Altarpieces”

Session 1C: Writing & Mimesis: Representation as a Form of Death

Chair: Max van Duijn

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 005)

- Jostein Hølland, (Leiden University): “The Accidental Encounter as an End to Narrative: A Reading of D.A.F. de Sade’s *Murder of Justine*”
- Shawna Vesco, (University of California): “Death and *écriture* in Blanchot and Tom McCarthy”

- Michiel Verheij, (LUCAS, Leiden University): “Death by Representation: Mimesis Between Murder and Immortality in Edgar Allan Poe’s ‘The Oval Portrait’”

– 12:45 Lunch (Lipsius building, foyer Lak Theater) –

14:15 - 15:45 Sessions 2

Session 2A: Medieval Iconography: (Re-)Presenting Absence

Chair: Maureen Warren

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Joanna Krawczyk-Coltekin, (Utrecht University): “The Angels Ascending the Souls of the Dead in Medieval Art”
- Marlène Delsouiller, (Lille University): “The Medieval Iconography of Adam’s Death, XIVth-XVth Century”
- Sotiria Kordi, (University of Leeds): “Re-presenting the Absent, The Presence-Absence Dualism in the Paintings of the Chora Chapel”

Session 2B: Dying with Dignity: Autonomy and the End of Life

Chair: Thijs Porck

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Wouter Schrover, (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam): “In Control or Out of Control? The Representations of Euthanasia in Simon and *Amsterdam*”
- Inta Otte & Corinna Jung, (University of Basel): “Dying with Dignity –The Role of General Practitioners”
- Leen van Brussel, (Vrije Universiteit Brussel): “The Articulation of Autonomy and Dignity in Contemporary Debates on the End-of-Life: Theoretical Perspectives, Media Constructions and Audiences’ Receptions”

Session 2C: Private Spaces and Collective Memorial Architecture

Chair: Linda Bleijenberg

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 005)

- Sabina Tanovic, (University of Technology, Delft): “Contemporary Memorial Architecture and Prospect of the Afterlife”
- Krien Clevis, (Academy of Arts, Leiden University): “Towards the Final Place?”
- Deborah Levy & Antoine Wang, (l’Université Libre de Bruxelles): “Modern Architecture and Death”

– 15:45 Tea/Coffee Break –
(Coffee Room, ground floor of P.N. van Eyckhof 3)

16:00 - 17:30 Sessions 3

Session 3A: Rituals of Death and Religious Tradition

Chair: Max van Duijn

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Imma Ramos, (Cambridge University): “The Ecstasy of Death: Tantric Ritual and Visuality at Bengal’s Tarapith Temple”
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- Eran Laish, (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): “A Gate for Liberation: On the Dynamic Meanings of Death within Tibetan Buddhism”
- Cheryl Ann Palyu, (University of North Texas): “Contextualizing *Dying Inayat Khan*: Nature and Mortality in the *Jahangir-nama*”

Session 3B: Being and Non-being: Visibility and Cinematic Spectacle

Chair: Sara Polak

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Roger Mas Soler, (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona): “Death, Anguish and Lars von Trier’s *Melancholia*”
- Nawel Sebih, (Paris Est/Laboratory of Lisaa): “Death, a Light Figure”
- Isabelle van den Broeke, (University of Ghent): “The Phantasmagoria as a Visual Research Model in the Analysis of (Cinematographic) Art and its Materialisation of the Modern Haunted Vision on Death and Temporality”

Session 3C: Contemporary Media and the Politics of Mourning

Chair: Odile Bodde

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 005)

- Golie Talaie, (Griffith University, Australia): “When the Private Dead Go Public: The Move of Funerary Photographs from the Private Site of Family to the Public Domain of Media”
- Jadwiga Kamola, (Heidelberg University): “‘Sterile Deaths in ‘Life After Death’: Dying as Observed in Contemporary Popular Photography”

– 19:00 - 22:00 Informal Dinner (optional) –
(restaurant Malle Jan, Nieuwsteeg 9-11 Leiden)

Program: Day 2

Friday 25 January

08:15 Registration for those only attending the second day and coffee (reception area, Academy building)

08:45 Announcements (reception area, Academy building)

09:15 Keynote lecture by prof. dr. Rosi Braidotti, Universiteit Utrecht:
“Forensic Futures: An Affirmative Approach to Death.”
(Academy building, small Auditorium)

10:30 Official launch of the Journal of the LUCAS Graduate Conference (Academy building, small Auditorium)

11:00 - 12:30 Sessions 4

Session 4A: Medieval Literature: Attitudes Towards Death

Chair: Jenny Weston

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Yves van Damme, (LUCAS, Leiden University): “In Between Groenendaal’s Hope and Deventer’s Fear: Attitudes Towards Death in the 14th Century Religious Literature of the Low Countries”
- Roy Vilozny, (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): “Death in Medieval Shiite Thought”
- Thijs Porck, (LUCAS, Leiden University): “‘Leeve mooder, leet me in’—Attitudes towards Old Age and Death in Medieval English Literature”

Session 4B: Modern Literature: Reflections on Human Finitude

Chair: Odile Bodde

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Gregor Baszak, (Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz): “Fear of Death After the Antimodern Turn: Don DeLillo’s *White Noise*, *Cosmopolis*, and *Falling Man*”
- Nur Soliman, (American University of Kuwait): “Revelations of Life and Death: Spatial Analysis of Tolstoy’s *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*”

Session 4C: Religion, Rites and the Afterlife

Chair: Max van Duijn

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 005)

- Ingrida Bakutyte, (LUCAS, Leiden University): “Reincarnation in Baltic Folklore”

- Nur Yasmin Ural, (Écoles des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales Paris): “Cemetery in France and the Place of Muslim Deads”
- Hélène vu Thanh, (University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense): “From Accommodation to Intransigence: Jesuit Missionaries and Japanese Funeral Rites (16th-17th Centuries)”

– 12:30 Lunch (Lipsius building, foyer Lak Theater) –

13:30 - 14:45 Optional Excursions - the Siebold House, the Bibliotheca Thysiana, and a guided city walk (for all excursions meet in the main hall Lipsius building)

15:00 - 16:30 Sessions 5

Session 5A: Representation: Objects and Icons

Chair: Jacqueline Hylkema

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Sarah Iepson, (Temple University, Philadelphia): “Poignant Corporeality: Affect and Posthumous Photographs of Children in Nineteenth Century American Culture”
- Emily Knight, (University of Oxford): “*Casting Presence*: The Death Mask of Sir Thomas Lawrence”
- Sara Polak, (LUCAS, Leiden University): “Ruling from the Grave: How Franklin Roosevelt Continues to Influence Representations of His Death”

Session 5B: Death in Plain Sight: Gender and the Corpse

Chair: Julie Somers

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Marjolein Platjee, (ASCA/University of Amsterdam): “Hiding Death in Plain Sight: The Denial of Death in Victorian Fiction and Painting”
- Christina Steffen, (University of Bern): “Eroticising Death: The Female Vampire in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*”
- Veronika Tocha, (Berlin University of the Arts): “‘More than meets the Eye’: Notes on the Iconography of the Bathtub Corpse”

Session 5C: Collective Memory, Mourning and Politics

Chair: David Louwrier

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 005)

- Jessica Adach, (Kingston University London): “Lost Children: Cultural Genocide and the Lebensborn Program in Poland”

- Natashe Lemos Dekker, (University of Utrecht): “Bereavement in the Political Realm: Women’s Collective Action in Argentina”
- Shumay Lin, (National Central University, Taiwan): “Mourning in Our Land: Cinematic Mourning and its Potentiality in 2000s Québécois Films”

16:30 - 18:00 Sessions 6

Session 6A: The Ethics and Controversies of (Assisted) Suicide

Chair: Chris Staalman

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 003)

- Marko Stamenkovic, (University of Ghent): “The End of Life Controversies: Images of Death—Icons of the Future”
- Anu Salmela, (University of Turku): “Lethal Emotions: Shaken Emotions and Female Suicides in Late 19th Century Finland”
- Dennis Vanden Auweele, (KU Leuven): “Schopenhauer and the Problem of Suicide”

Session 6B: Choreography and Performance: The Aesthetics of the Body

Chair: Jenny Weston

(Location: P.N. van Eyckhof 2, Room 004)

- Sofia Mazar, (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): ‘Meaning of Death in Italian Opera Seria of Ottocento’
- Svetlana Makeyeva, (Dortmund University of Technology): “The Near Death Experiences of Thumbtack Jack and Hate: The Aesthetics of Death Matches in Pro Wrestling”

— 18:00 Conference drinks at Grand Café de Koets (Doelensteeg 8) —

Keynote Biographies

Professor Joanna Woodall (Courtauld Institute, University of London)



Joanna Woodall read history at the University of York, with a year abroad at Vassar College. She trained as an art historian at The Courtauld Institute and began her PhD at the University of Cambridge, as Speelman Fellow in Dutch and Flemish Art. Having spent several years in curatorial work at Christ Church Picture Gallery in Oxford, and a year on a Leverhulme Fellowship at the University of Leiden, she joined the academic staff of The Courtauld Institute of Art in 1986 as Lecturer in Netherlandish Art. From 2002-2005 she was Deputy Director, Head of Studies, with responsibility for the teaching and research programmes, widening participation and staff development. She has currently returned to her research and teaching, in which she is committed to a theoretically informed, historical analysis of visual materials. She has published widely in Art History, the *Berliner Jahrbuch*, the *Leids Kunsthistorisch Jaarboek* and the *Nederlands Kunsthistorisch Jaarboek*. Her edited book: *Portraiture: Facing the Subject* (Manchester University Press, 1997) has become a standard work on the subject. She is a member of the editorial board of the *Nederlands Kunsthistorisch Jaarboek* and is co-organiser, with Dr. Rose Marie San Juan (UCL), of the London Seminar in Early Modern Visual Culture.

Joanna is interested in the creative and educational potential of collaboration. Her previous work in conjunction with others includes the exhibitions *Rubens. A Touch of Brilliance* (2003-4) and *Self Portrait. Renaissance to Contemporary* (2005). She co-curated the latter exhibition and built her MA option that year around it; students were involved in writing catalogue entries. She is responsible for the website *Picturing the Netherlandish Canon*, an online project focused on a crucial early modern text on Netherlandish art and culture: Hendrick Hondius the Elder's print series of artists, *Pictorum aliquot celebrium, præcipuè Germaniæ Inferioris, effigies* (The Hague 1610). This makes accessible online English translations by Daniel Hadas of the Latin texts relating to these prints and includes essays by Joanna Woodall and Stephanie Porras. Designed by Eva Bensasson, the website has an interactive dimension.

www.courtauld.ac.uk/people/woodall-joanna.shtml

Keynote Biographies

Professor Rosi Braidotti (Universiteit Utrecht)



Braidotti, who holds Italian and Australian citizenship, was born in Italy and grew up in Australia, where she received a First-Class Honours degree from the Australian National University in Canberra in 1977 and was awarded the University Medal in Philosophy and the University Tillyard prize. Braidotti then moved on to do her doctoral work at the Sorbonne, where she received her degree in philosophy in 1981. She has taught at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands since 1988, when she was appointed as the founding professor in women's studies. In 1995 she became the founding Director of the Netherlands research school of Women's Studies, a position she held till 2005. Braidotti is a pioneer in European Women's Studies: she founded the inter-university SOCRATES network NOISE and the Thematic Network for Women's Studies ATHENA, which she directed till 2005. She was a Leverhulme Trust Visiting Professor at Birkbeck College in 2005-6; a Jean Monnet professor at the European University Institute in Florence in 2002-3 and a fellow in the school of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton in 1994. Braidotti is currently Distinguished University Professor at Utrecht University and founding Director of the Centre for the Humanities.

Braidotti's publications have consistently been placed in continental philosophy, at the intersection with social and political theory, cultural politics, gender, feminist theory and ethnicity studies. Throughout her work, Braidotti asserts and demonstrates the importance of combining theoretical concerns with a serious commitment to producing socially and politically relevant scholarship that contributes to making a difference in the world. Braidotti's output also included several edited volumes. Her work has been translated in a total of 19 languages and all the main books in at least three languages other than English.

Influenced by philosophers such as Gilles Deleuze and especially "French feminist" thinker Luce Irigaray, Braidotti has brought postmodern feminism into the Information Age with her considerations of cyberspace, prosthesis, and the materiality of difference. Braidotti also considers how ideas of gender difference can affect our sense of the human/animal and human/machine divides. Braidotti has also pioneered European perspectives in feminist philosophy and practice and has been influential on third-wave as well as post-secular feminisms.

On 3 March 2005, Braidotti was honored with a Royal Knighthood from Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands; in August 2006 she received the University Medal from the University of Lodz in Poland and she was awarded an Honorary Degree in Philosophy from Helsinki University in May 2007. In 2009, she was elected Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

www.rosibraidotti.com/

Contact Information

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Organizing Committee Members:

Odile Bodde

Maarten Jansen

David Louwrier

Jenny Weston



Directions to Leiden University Buildings:

For a detailed map showing where to find the Academy Building, Lipsius, and the P.N. van Eyckhof buildings, please follow the link:

<http://www.leidenuniv.nl/loc/index.html?lang=en&loc=0>



(Just click on the building that you wish to find from the list, located on the left-hand side of the map).