

# Susanne Boersma, MA

Curriculum vitae, May 2021

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## EDUCATION

- 2018 – present**      **PhD Anthropological Studies in Culture and History, University of Hamburg**  
**Museum Europäischer Kulturen - Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, SPK**  
POEM Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network EU H2020  
Thesis: 'Extending and internalising participatory practices: towards an incorporation of multiple cultural memories in ethnographic representations in the museum.' [working title]  
Supervised by Prof. Elisabeth Tietmeyer & Prof. Gertraud Koch
- 2015 – 2016**      **MA Art Museum and Gallery Studies, University of Leicester**  
Dissertation: 'An engaging dialogue: On the potential of participatory curatorial practice applied to sculpture in the public space.'  
Supervised by Prof. Suzanne MacLeod
- 2014 – 2015**      **Minor Cultural Anthropology, University of Bologna**
- 2012 – 2015**      **BA Cultural Studies, University of Amsterdam**  
Dissertation: 'Memory and Emotion in the Museum of Broken Relationships'
- 2011 – 2015**      **BA Theatre Studies, University of Amsterdam**  
Dissertation: 'Randprogrammering in theaters voor een toegankelijke totaalbeleving' (*Side programming in Dutch theatres for an accessible and complete experience*)

## TEACHING & ADMINISTRATION

- 2020 – present**      **Organisation of the online Knowledge Hub 7 Berlin, POEM H2020**  
Organisation of the 7th Knowledge Hub: a week-long programme of lectures and training for POEM PhD fellows and supervisors, as well as the validation of the POEM Model and Toolbox.
- 2018 – present**      **Guest lectures and additional teaching**  
Guest lecture on 'Defining Curating in Museums' at Humboldt Universität Berlin with Christoph Bareither; guest lecture on 'Ethics of Memory Practices' at Radboud University Nijmegen; assistance with the seminar 'Community-Based Research: Social Impact Evaluation in the Cultural Sector'; organisation of a PhD colloquium on power relations and fieldwork at Universität Hamburg.
- 2020**      **Fellows' Representative in the Training Board, POEM H2020**
- 2016 – 2017**      **Dutch language assistant, University of Sheffield**  
Teaching and examining Dutch language on all levels of proficiency
- 2015 – 2016**      **Department and Course Representative for Art Museum and Gallery Studies, School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester**
- 2012 – 2013**      **Course Representative in the Cultural Studies Committee, University of Amsterdam**
- 2010 – 2011**      **Study coach and tutor, Centrum voor Studiebegeleiding, Alphen aan den Rijn**  
Study coaching and individual tutoring sessions for mathematics and English language

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2018 – present**      **Museum Curator, Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin**  
Curating the exhibition 'Murcia: in Europe's Garden' and its cultural programme and catalogue, providing assistance for the workshop on Sami Collections at the MEK about repatriation and planned provenance research, organising the international conference 'What's Missing? Collecting and Exhibiting Europe' (June 2019), and fundraising for, organising and editing the conference publication.
- Winter 2019-20**      **Project Lead, Hello Europe, Ashoka UK, London**  
Setting up the project 'Changemakers for Migration' as an integral part of Hello Europe's work with the aim to challenge political and media narratives.
- 2017 – 2018**      **Exhibitions Manager, Atelier Van Lieshout, Rotterdam**  
Managing acquisitions, negotiating with galleries and museums regarding installation and conservation, curating exhibitions, supporting the artists-in-residence.
- 2016 – 2017**      **Curator, School of Life Sciences, University of Dundee**  
Curating the exhibition 'A diagram of forces' in collaboration with artist Andy Lomas and computational physicist Rastko Sknepnek.
- 2016 – 2017**      **Programme Assistant, S1 Artspace, Sheffield**  
Writing funding applications for exhibitions and gallery renovations, arranging edition sales, curating an exhibition for the launch of Sculpture Park Hill.
- Summer 2016**      **Assistant Curator, LifeSpace Science Art Research Gallery, Dundee**  
Curating and installing exhibitions 'Silent Signal' and 'Printroom Dundee', wrapping and packing artworks, scientific objects and taxidermy, filling out condition reports, cataloguing artists' books, prints, video artworks from the University of Dundee's collection.
- 2015 – 2016**      **Invigilator/Workshop Facilitator, Attenborough Arts Centre, Leicester**  
Setting up and facilitating educational family workshops, providing information and help in the galleries, supporting with exhibition changes.
- 2014 – 2015**      **Office Assistant, Het Balletorkest (Dutch Ballet Orchestra), Amsterdam**  
Supporting communicational, productional and financial tasks for HR and redeveloping the organisation's website and intranet.
- 2013 – 2014**      **Marketing Assistant, International Choreographic Arts Centre ICK, Amsterdam**  
Writing press releases and marketing texts, organising print and distribution of marketing materials, maintaining contact with theatres and partners.

## SKILLS

- Languages**      Dutch (native), English (native), German (professional), Italian (intermediate), Swedish (basic), Norwegian (basic)
- Databases**      FileMaker Pro, MuseumPlus, MuseumPlus RIA, Adlib, EMu Collection Management System
- Design**      Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign
- Online**      Java Script (basic), Wordpress, Squarespace, Google Analytics, MailChimp, social media.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (member since 2021)

Association of Critical Heritage (member since 2020)

Association of Social Anthropology (member since 2019)

DiscourseNet (member since 2020)

## PUBLICATIONS

Boersma, S. Aandacht voor 'de vluchteling' – Stereotypische representatie van vlucht in musea. Boekman Extra, Amsterdam, Maart 2021. [Access online.](#)

Boersma, S., Chahine, A., Mucha, F. & Zwart, I. The Archive of Forgotten Memories: A Participatory Process of Reflexivity. In: Tietmeyer, E., Edenheiser, I. & Boersma, S. (Eds.) What's Missing? Collecting and Exhibiting Europe. Museum Europäischer Kulturen 24, Reimer Verlag, Berlin, 2021.

Tietmeyer, E., Edenheiser, I. & Boersma, S. (Eds.) What's Missing? Collecting and Exhibiting Europe. Museum Europäischer Kulturen 24, Reimer Verlag Berlin, 2021.

Boersma, S. Facilitators of integration? Museums and their potential role in empowering refugees, *Museological Review*, Issue 24, June 2020, pp. 114-122. [Access online.](#)

## NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Boersma, S. Exhibiting migration. In: Boersma, S. & Wittenzellner, J. (Eds.) Göran Gnaudschun: The better life. Book for the exhibition 'Murcia: In Europe's Garden'. Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Michael Imhof Verlag, Berlin, 2021. [Exhibition catalogue] *[forthcoming]*

Wittenzellner, J. & Boersma, S. (Eds.) Göran Gnaudschun: The better life. Book for the exhibition 'Murcia: In Europe's Garden'. Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Michael Imhof Verlag, Berlin, 2021. [Exhibition catalogue] *[forthcoming]*

Boersma, S. Reflecting on the ethical implications of social inclusion. Contribution to the POEM Newsletter, Issue 6, 2021. [Access online.](#)

Boersma, S. & Mucha, F. What's Missing? Reflections on the thought-provoking conference at Museum Europäischer Kulturen, 26-28 June 2019 in Berlin. Contribution to the POEM Newsletter, Issue 3, 2019. [Access online.](#)

Boersma, S., Moraitopolou, E. & Theocharidou, M. The POEM Image Film: A participatory project. Contribution to the POEM Newsletter, Issue 2, 2019. [Access online.](#) Or [view the POEM film.](#)

Hutchinson, L. & Boersma, S. (Eds.) Sculpture Park Hill. A social history of the sculpture park's location. S1 Artspace, Sheffield, 2017.

## TALKS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

'Connecting people, connecting practices – The potential of extending participatory work into the online realm', Paper presentation with Cassandra Kist, SIEF Conference 'Breaking the Rules: Power, Participation, Transgression', University of Helsinki [online], June 2021. *[forthcoming]*

'Remixing museum objects – a co-creative intervention for cultural exchange', Poster presentation with Franziska Mucha, CARMAH Conference 'Now, to the future. Transformations in Museums and Heritage in the 21st Century', Berlin. *[rescheduled – tba]*

'Constructing a (different) message – Reflecting approaches and narratives that constitute discourses on migrants in museums', IMISCOE Spring Conference on 'Messaging Migration and Mobility', University of Oxford & COMPAS [online], March 2021.

'A story to keep? Infrastructures for the inclusion of forced migrants' narratives in museum collections', Panel 'Infrastructures and future possibilities for participation', ACHS2020 Conference, University College London [online], August 2020.

'The museum as a facilitator: Stimulating the integration of recent refugees in Berlin', ASA19 Conference on 'Anthropological Perspectives on Global Challenges', University of East Anglia, September 2019.

'Extending and internalising participatory practices', POEM Opening Conference on 'Participatory Memory Practices: Connectivities, Empowerment, and Recognition of Cultural Heritages in Mediatized Memory Ecologies', Museum der Arbeit, Hamburg, December 2018.

'Q&A with Dr Rastko Sknepnek and Susanne Boersma', Dundee Science Festival, Dundee, November 2017.

'Interpreting Public Sculpture', Museum Studies Dissertation Conference, University of Leicester, Leicester, June 2016.