

Dr. Christian Ersten

(16 November 1979, Delfzijl)

Assistant Professor in Heritage Studies
Maastricht University
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EMPLOYMENT

- 2019-present **Assistant Professor** (tenure track) in Heritage Studies, Maastricht University (NL)
- 2018-2019 **Postdoctoral Researcher** in Heritage Studies, Maastricht University (NL)
- 2015-2018 **Lecturer** in Cultural Heritage and Museology, Reinwardt Academy, Amsterdam University of the Arts (NL)
- 2009-2011 **Director**, Amsterdam 4 and 5 May Committee, the Amsterdam-based organization that coordinates the WWII commemoration events.
- 2008-2010 **Lecturer**, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Amsterdam (NL), part-time position
- 2008-2010 **Lecturer**, Dutch Art Institute, ArtEZ University of Arts (NL), part-time position
- 2006-2014 **Director**, Partizan Publik V.O.F., an Amsterdam-based company in the fields of art and heritage

AFFILIATION

- 2018-present Maastricht Centre for Arts and Culture, Conservation and Heritage (MACCH), Maastricht University

EDUCATION

- 2013-2017 **PhD in African Studies**
University of Cape Town (SA)

Thesis: “Renaissance and Revenants in an Emerging Global: Discourses of Heritage and Urban Design in Cape Town’s District One and District Six, 2002-2014”

2005-2006 **MPhil in African Public Culture** (with distinction)
University of Cape Town (SA)

2000-2004 **MA in Contemporary History** (with distinction)
University of Groningen (NL)

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

The Haunted Metropolis. Excavating the Ruins of Cape Town’s Rebirth. New York: Springer (manuscript under review)

Peer-reviewed journal articles

A Decolonial Diary: Traversing the Colonial Pasts and Presents of the Cape of Good Hope. *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology* (accepted for publication, with N. Shepherd)

Utopia and Dystopia in the Post-Apartheid City: The Praxis of the Future in Cape Town. *Social Dynamics: Journal of African Studies*, 45 (2), 286-302 (2019)

The “Bigger Picture”: How the 2010 FIFA World Cup and the 2014 World Design Capital Events Conditioned Cape Town’s Urban Transformation. *Urban Forum*, 29, 63–84 (2018)

The Dead of Cape Town’s District One. *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 23 (6), 575–586 (2017)

The Ruins of Cape Town’s District Six. *Archaeologies*, 11, 342–371 (2015)

Following the Ancestors: A Genealogy of Urban Design in Cape Town: 6 moments. *Archaeologies*, 10, 108–131 (2014)

Chapters in books

An Anthropocene Journey: Walking as Embodied Research. In H. S. Rogers, M. K. Halpern, D. Hannah, and K. de Ridder-Vignone. *The Routledge Handbook of Art, Science and Technology Studies*. London: Routledge (Accepted for publication, with N. Shepherd)

The Death Roads of Cape Town’s Renaissance. In M. Rufer and C. Gnecco. *Time of Ruins*. Mexico: Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco (Accepted for publication)

An Anthropocene Journey: Walking as Embodied Research. In A. Ladenburg, & A. Twemlow. *Walking as a Research Method in Art and Design*. The Hague: KABK Lectorate Design. (2020, with N. Shepherd and D.J. Visser)

A Renaissance with Revenants: Images Gathered from the Ruins of Cape Town's Districts One and Six. In L. McAtackney and K. Ryzewski. *Contemporary Archaeology and the City: Creativity, Ruination, and Political Action*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2017)

The World Below: Post-Apartheid Urban Imaginaries and the Bones of Prestwich Street Dead". In: N. Murray and N. Shepherd (eds). *Desire Lines: Space, Memory and Identity in the Post-apartheid City*. London: Routledge (2007, with N. Shepherd)

Edited volumes

Drift, Pause, Indirection: Walking as Embodied Research in Emergent Anthropocene Landscapes. London: Routledge (Proposal accepted, with N. Shepherd)

The Walking Seminar: Embodied Research in Emergent Anthropocene Landscapes. Amsterdam: ON AIR, Amsterdam University of Arts (2018, with N. Shepherd and D-J. Visser)

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2017 | Visiting Fellow, Uses of the Past Centre, Aarhus University (DK) |
| 2015 | Visiting PhD Researcher, Conservation Department, University of Gothenburg (SE) |
| 2014 | EFL Foundation research grant (NL) |
| 2014 | Visiting PhD Researcher, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam (NL) |
| 2013 | Prince Bernard Culture Foundation scholarship (NL) |
| 2013 | Fellow, Curate Africa Project, University of Cape Town (SA) |
| 2013 | Harry Oppenheimer Institute Scholarship (NL) |
| 2005 | VSB fonds scholarship (NL) |

RESEARCH FUNDING

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|------|--|
| 2021 | 53.240 euro
Walking Seminar The Hague (financially coordinated by Stroom Art Centre) |
| 2021 | 9150 euro
Colonial Conquest, Travel Writing and the Anthropocene online exhibition and seminar. Funded by MACCH, UM University Library and SWOL |

- 2018-2020 55.000 euro
Voorland. Wandelen in Groningen door het Anthropoceen. Funded by several Dutch arts & culture foundations (financially coordinated by Stichting de Middendijk, initiator)
- 2019 8500 euro.
Biography of the Meuse conference. Funded by MACCH, SWOL, Limburgs Museum and Nationale Wetenschapsagenda.
- 2017 25.000 euro
Artist-in-Residency project, Reinwardt Academy, Amsterdam University of the Arts (NL)
- 2016 4800 euro.
Walking Seminar Cape of Good Hope (financially coordinated by Conservation Department, University of Gothenburg)

INVITED TALKS

Ways of Walking, Ways of Knowing, Workshop on Urban Memory Walks series, The Netherlands Institute in Turkey, 22 February 2021

River Love. Walking as Heritage Practice in the Anthropocene, The Berlage Design Master Class, Delft University, 3 November 2020

On Walking As Research Method in Heritage Studies, MUSTS Conference, Maastricht University. 23 September 2020

The Haunted Metropolis, Future of the African City conference, African Studies Centre, Leiden University, 24 January 2020

An Anthropocene Reading of the Travel Writing of Peter Kolbe, History Department, Maastricht University, 2 July 2019

Rewilding River History. A Walk through the Meuse's Living History, Arts, Media and Culture colloquium, Maastricht University, 22 May 2019

The Haunted Metropolis. Excavating the Ruins of Cape Town's Rebirth, Department of Architecture, Geology, Environment and Constructions, University of Liege (BE), 12 March 2019

A World within Worlds: Images Gathered from Cape Town's District One and District Six, Research Workshop on Critical Heritage, Urban Activism, and the Decolonial Turn, Centre for Uses of the Past, Aarhus University (DK), 14 May 2017

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP ORGANISATION

Organizer, Geul River Walking Seminar, 9-11 July 2020

Organizer, 2nd Biography of the Meuse conference (with N. Randerad), Historical Centre Limburg/Maastricht University, 4-5 October 2019, 60 participants

Organizer Colloquium, Collaboration in the Engaged Humanities (with V. van Saaze), Arts, Media and Culture research Group, Maastricht University, 17 October 2019

Panel Organizer, *Making Tracks: Walking as Embodied Research Methodology* (with N. Shepherd), SIEF2019 14th Congress, 14-17 April 2019, Santiago de Compostela

Organizer, 1st Biography of the Meuse conference (with N. Randerad), Limburgs Museum/Historical Centre Limburg/Maastricht University, 17-18 January 2019, 120 participants

Organizer, Walking Seminar Cape of Good Hope (with N. Shepherd), Reinwardt Academy Amsterdam University of the Arts/University of Cape Town, 5-15 March 2018, 12 participants

Organizer, Walking Seminar Cape of Good Hope (with N. Shepherd), Gothenburg University/University of Cape Town, 6-13 December 2015, 12 participants

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Walking and Rewilding History, 16th Annual Conference of the Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory (CHAT), Aarhus University, 27 October 2018

A World within Worlds: Decolonizing the Archaeology of Cape Town's District Six and District One, 15th Annual Conference of the Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory (CHAT), University of Amsterdam, 4 November 2017

The Ruins of Cape Town's District Six, 13th Annual Conference of the Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory (CHAT), University of Sheffield (UK), 31 October 2015

Haunted Metropolis: The Stylizing of Cape Town as a Global City, Spectral Cities seminar, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam, 2014

Ruins of Alternative Futures in Cape Town: A Visual History, Centre for African Studies event, University of Basel (CH), 2014

Following the Ancestors: Heritage and Urban Design in Post-apartheid Cape Town, Critical Heritage Studies event, Department of Conservation, University of Gothenburg (SE), 2014

A Genealogy of Heritage and Urban Design in Six Moments, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies event, University of the Western Cape (SA) 2014

VALORISATION

Invited Talks

Voorland Groningen. Panorama Groningen event by the College of State Advisors (College van Rijksadviseurs) and Platform Gras, Groningen, 14 October 2020

Rivierliefde. Netwerk Historisch Cultuurlandschap event, Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency, St. Agatha, 21 October 2019

Publications

Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen. NPO 2Doc. Radio documentary series with 4 episodes (2020, with M. Minkema and D-J. Visser)

Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with M. Minkema and D-J. Visser)

Wandelen in het antropoceen. In C. Ernten, M. Minkema and D-J. Visser. *Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen*. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with Nick Shepherd).

Agtech landschap. In C. Ernten, M. Minkema and D-J. Visser. *Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen*. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with Janna Bystrykh).

Landschap en zingeving. In C. Ernten, M. Minkema and D-J. Visser. *Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen*. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with Maike van Stiphout).

Natuur als algoritme. In C. Ernten, M. Minkema and D-J. Visser. *Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen*. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with Clemens Driessen).

Nieuwe Wierden. In C. Ernten, M. Minkema and D-J. Visser. *Voorland Groningen. Wandelingen door het antropoceen*. Rotterdam: nai010 publishers (2020, with Kim Cohen).

A post-industrial walk in Genk. Engaging with heritage through participatory design. *CAMOC Museums of Cities Review*, 1, 25-29. (2019, with M vd Weijer and M Zuljevic M)

Towards an Anatomy of Maastricht-Style Artistic Research. Report on Doing Artistic Research: A Collaboratory Symposium on Artistic Research Practices. 20 March 2018 (2018)

Goede Hoop na #RhodesMustFall". *NRC newspaper*, C8–9 (2017, with N. Shepherd)

Kaapstad in Zes Momenten. *Platform Voer*. <http://www.platformvoer.nl/kaapstad-in-zes-momenten/> (2017)

Following the Ancestors. In Z. Asmal and I. Wolff. *Movement Cape Town*. Cape Town: The City (2015)

The Story of a Dutch Farm. *Volume 32* (2012, with D.J. Visser)

Shaping Memory in South Africa. *Domus 958* (2012)

Hide and Seek in Suburbia. *Domus 951* (2011)

Mokum: A Guide to Amsterdam. Amsterdam: Archis (2011, editor)

A Memorial for Forgetting. *Abitare 505* (2010, with A. Brennen)

The Spontaneous City. Amsterdam: BIS (2010, editor)

Love and Hate Atlas of Detroit. *Volume 22* (2009, with A. Herscher and E. Gardner)

Beyroutes. A Guide to Beirut. Amsterdam: Archis (2009, editor)

Warren Special Report. *Volume 20* (2009, with T. Mocerri)

After Post, Ex, Neo, End and Re". *Volume 16* (2008, with J. Janmaat)

Hotel Abkhazia: Accommodating the Victims of Georgia's Past". *Abitare 480* (2008, with M. Shoshan)

Extreme Makeover: The Reconstruction of Post-Soviet Karabakh". *Volume 11* (2007, with M. Shoshan)

Urban Imaginaries and Memories of Violence: Cape Town's Prestwich Street". *Volume 11* (2007, with N. Shepherd)

TEACHING

Supervision of 16 Master and 15 Bachelor Dissertations (since 2015)

MA Arts & Heritage, Maastricht University

As coordinator

- Researching Arts & Culture, period 2 (since 2018-2019)
- Thesis (since 2018-2019)
- Internship (since 2020-2021)
- Heritage & Society 1, elective, period 3 (in 2019-2020)

- Arts & Audiences 2, elective, period 4 (in 2019-2020)

As tutor

- Heritage & Society 1, elective, period 3 (since 2018-2019)
- Heritage & Society 2, elective, period 4 (since 2018-2019)
- Research & Writing, period 3 (from 2018-2019 until 2019-2020)
- Studying Arts & Culture, period 1 (in 2019-2020)

As lecturer

- On *Archives*, period 2 (since 2018-2019)
- On *Unsilencing History*, period 4 (since 2020-2021)
- On *Exhibition Making*, Arts & Audiences 2 (in 2019-2020)
- On *World Heritage*, period 1 (in 2019-2020)

BA Arts & Culture, Minor Arts & Culture, Research MA CASTS, Minor Globalisation & Development Studies, Maastricht University

As coordinator

- River Care in Europe: Policy, Participation and Protest (since 2019-2020)
- CAST Joint Project (since 2020-2021)

As tutor

- Urban Development and Poverty, Minor GDS (since 2019-2020)
- Othering Europe, BA AC (since 2020-2021)
- Policy and Politics, Minor BA AC (in 2018-2019)

As lecturer

- On *Fragmented histories*, Othering Europe, BA AC (since 2019-2020)
- On *Global Urban History*, Global Histories elective, (since 2019-2020)

PhD training

Lecture: *River Love. Walking and caring for river landscapes*, WTMC Netherlands Graduate Research School of Science, Technology and Modern Culture workshop on Care as Concept, Method and Ethic, Radboud University Nijmegen, 20 June 2020.

FASoS Liaison for the current MERIAN artistic research PhDs: Antye Gunther and Marlies Vermeulen. M responsibilities concern, amongst others, assisting these PhDs in their integration into the relevant educational and research networks.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2021-present **Board Member**, MERIAN Graduate School for artistic research. (A collaboration between Maastricht University, Zuyd University of Applied Sciences and the Jan van Eyck Academy)

2020-present	External Evaluator , Museum Grants program, Dutch Research Council (NWO)
2020-present	Advisory Board Member , Arts & Heritage Committee, Maastricht University
2020	Member Selection Committee , UD tenure track Cultural Policy and Management, Maastricht University
2015-2019	Ad Hoc Advisor , Mondriaan Fund, Public fund for art and cultural heritage in the Netherlands
2011-present	Curator, Atelier aan de Middendijk artist-in-residency, Usquert
2009	Curator, <i>Microrayon Living</i> , 4 th International Architectural Biennale Rotterdam
2008	Editor, <i>Archiphoenix</i> , Dutch pavilion, 11 th Architectural Biennale of Venice
2006-2010	Editor, Volume. A Quarterly on Architecture and Visual Culture, Amsterdam.

TRAINING

2018–2019	IMPACT course on societal impact and knowledge utilization, University of Maastricht
2018–2019	University Teaching Qualification training
2018	Problem-Based Learning training, University of Maastricht

LANGUAGES

Dutch	Native
English	Fluent (C2)
German	Good
French	Fair