



Report of a meeting with art historians from University of York 24 June 2014

Attending from York: Claudia Jung, Jeanne Nuechterlein, Michael White.

Attending from Sheffield: Henriette Louwerse, Roel Vismans, Jan Woudstra; Clare Scott from the University Library joined us for lunch.

Purpose of the meeting was to get to know each other and exchange information about each other's work, and to explore possible future collaboration.

1. Inventory of interests

In the first half of the meeting people talked about their own research interest. Details can be found on websites (see below). It is clear that a wide variety of interests is represented in the two institutions, ranging over time from the medieval period to the present-day, with overlaps in the 17th and 20th centuries. York obviously specialises in Low Countries art and art history, whereas Sheffield has expertise in Dutch literary and cultural studies, history, landscape and linguistics. The potential overlap lies in the role and impact of these areas of expertise in society.

2. Possibilities for collaboration

Despite the diverse nature of our research, there was an obvious collaborative spark at the meeting. We are interested in and can complement each other's work. Relatively simple ways of furthering collaboration identified (and to be actioned) are:

- Exchange information about local events
- Invitations for lectures/seminars:
 - MW to come to Sheffield for a research seminar about De Stijl in autumn 2014 (RV/HL to ensure this)
- York colleagues' membership of Centre for Dutch Studies and presence on its website (RV)
- Linguistic support in Sheffield for York colleagues
- Investigate local and White Rose funding for further exploratory collaborative work (pump priming; RV/MW)
 - N.B.: Some White Rose funding (e.g. WRoCAH studentship network) requires involvement by all three universities, but there is little evidence of Dutch interest in Leeds. However, the White Rose Collaboration Fund does not require this.
- Exploit London diplomats 'desires for a 'northern presence', e.g. anniversary of Dutch-Flemish cultural alliance in 2015 (HL)

The aim is to continue discussions with a view to possible larger research projects (and funding) for the longer term. A possible theme that may bring our variety of interests together is the development over the last ten years of a Dutch national canon, which has spread beyond history to other areas (e.g. film, language). MW's work on De Stijl has recently attracted considerable interest in the Netherlands in that context. We can bring a unique external perspective on this phenomenon and its reception.

Links to websites of members of the Centre for Dutch Studies can be found on [the Centre website](#). In addition, [Cyd Sturgess](#) is a postgraduate student working on lesbian identity in the Netherlands and Germany in the two decades after 1918.

Websites in York:

[Department of History of Art](#)

Claudia Jung (PhD, Claudia is associated with the project [Visual Translations of Jerusalem](#), as is Hanna Vorholt)

[Jeanne Nuechterlein](#)

[Hanna Vorholt](#)

[Michael White](#)

[Cordula van Wyhe](#)

Roel Vismans

30 June 2014