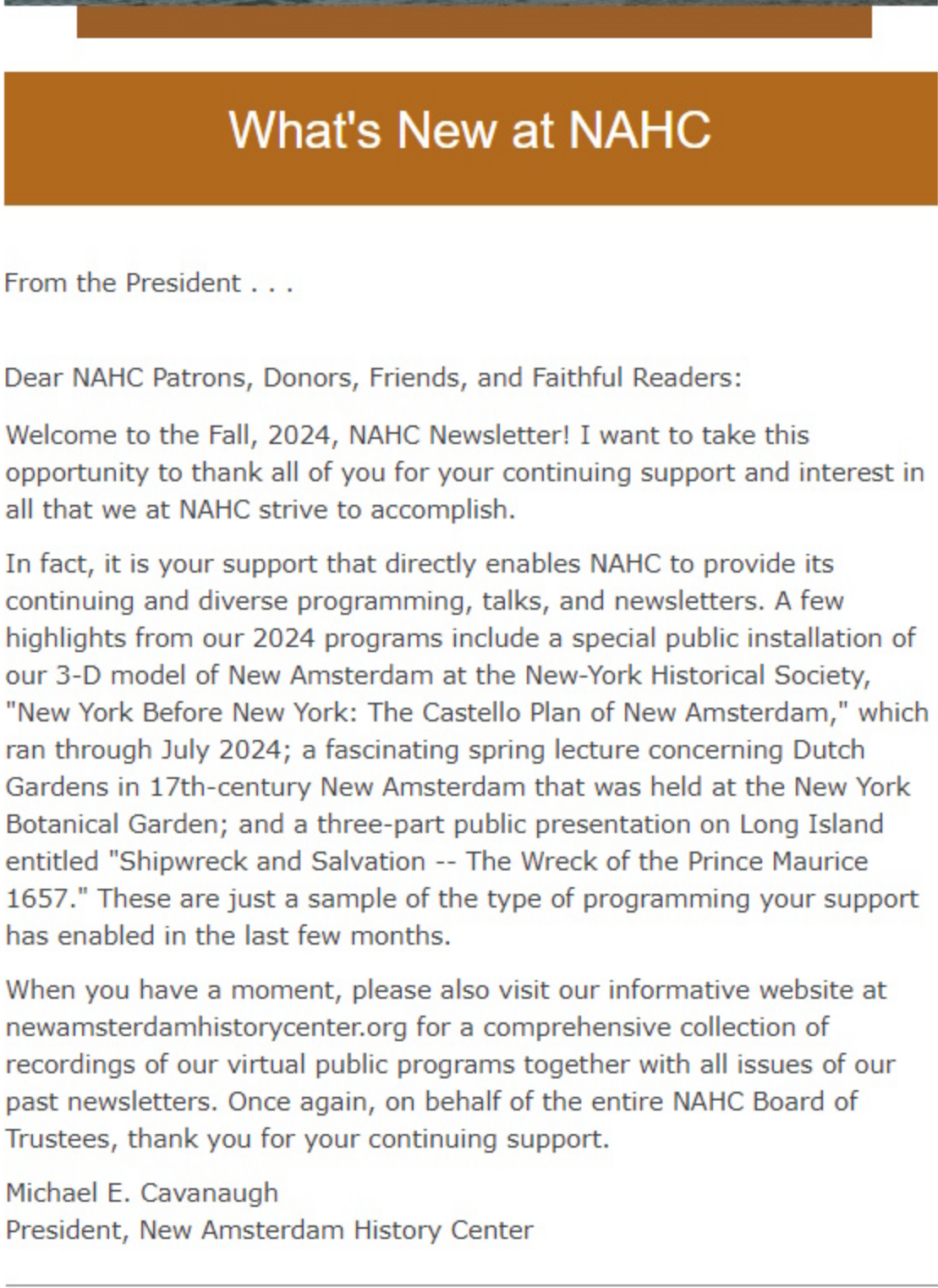


New Amsterdam Yesterday, & Today

New Amsterdam History Center Newsletter

Fall 2024, Vol. 7, No. 3

Editor, Firth Haring Fabend
Production Editor, Cynthia Bogart



What's New at NAHC

From the President . . .

Dear NAHC Patrons, Donors, Friends, and Faithful Readers:

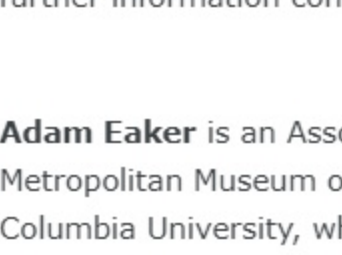
Welcome to the Fall, 2024, NAHC Newsletter! I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continuing support and interest in all that we at NAHC strive to accomplish.

In fact, it is your support that directly enables NAHC to provide its continuing and diverse programming, talks, and newsletters. A few highlights from our 2024 programs include a special public installation of our 3-D model of New Amsterdam, the New-York Historical Society, "New York Before New York: The Castello Plan of New Amsterdam," which ran through July 2024; a fascinating spring lecture concerning Dutch Gardens in 17th-century New Amsterdam that was held at the New York Botanical Garden; and a three-part public presentation on Long Island entitled "Shipwreck and Salvation -- The Wreck of the Prince Maurice 1657." These are just a sample of the type of programming your support has enabled in the last few months.

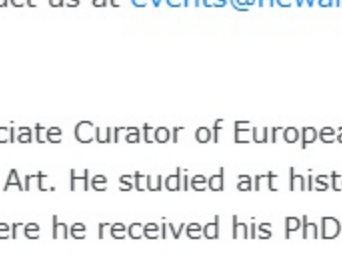
When you have a moment, please also visit our informative website at newamsterdamhistorycenter.org for a comprehensive collection of recordings of our virtual public programs together with all issues of our past newsletters. Once again, on behalf of the entire NAHC Board of Trustees, thank you for your continuing support.

Michael E. Cavanaugh
President, New Amsterdam History Center

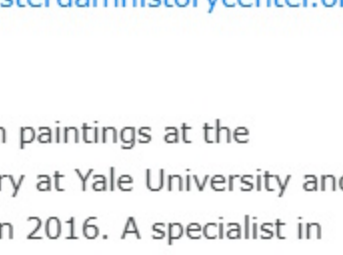
Special NAHC Evening at the Arader Galleries, October 9, 2024



Wijnne De Groot



Firth Haring Fabend



Sandra Lazo

The New Amsterdam History Center will hold this event at the Arader Galleries, the noted auction house located in a 1906 Madison Avenue townhouse.

What NAHC has been doing since 2005 with in-person and online talks and lectures, research, and newsletters, Arader Galleries does with works of art. In the words of its founder, W. Graham Arader, "To us, nothing is more engaging than a map, a document, a book or a painting that illustrates history, bringing the past into the present with vivid power."

This very special event features three NAHC trustees: historian and novelist Firth Haring Fabend, family historian Sandra Lazo, and Wijnne De Groot. Both Firth and Sandy trace their ancestors to early Dutch settlers in New Netherland. Wijnne, Columbia University Senior Lecturer in Dutch, will introduce and read from recently translated 400-year-old letters that reveal the inner thoughts of some of the colony's early settlers.

Did life in New Amsterdam live up to the promises of lawyer Adriaen van der Donck and entrepreneur Jonas Bronck of an Eden-like destination for ambitious immigrants? Or did the newcomers meet unimaginable perils and challenges at the end of their 3,000-mile journey west?

We expect a lively discussion among our speakers and provocative questions from the audience. At the post-event wine reception, Michael Foley, Arader's cartography specialist, will comment on some of the gallery's most important historic maps, reflecting the expansion of the United States across the continent and the unexpected role that New York City played in that story.

Adam Eaker, Associate Curator of European paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, discussing his new book *Gesina ter Borch*.



On December 11, 2024, the New Amsterdam History Center will join with The Netherland Club for a program featuring Adam Eaker, Associate Curator of European paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, discussing his new book *Gesina ter Borch*. Wayne Franits, Distinguished Professor of Art History at Syracuse University, and Nicole Cook, Senior Program Manager of the Center for Netherlandish Art at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, will join him to talk about his book—the first full-length study devoted to the best-documented Dutch woman artist of the seventeenth century.

The event will take place from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at The Netherland Club, located at 3 West 51st Street, New York. General admission is \$20, while NAHC, Netherlands Club members, and students can attend for \$10. For further information contact us at events@newamsterdamhistorycenter.org

Adam Eaker is an Associate Curator of European paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He studied art history at Yale University and Columbia University, where he received his PhD in 2016. A specialist in Northern European and British painting of the sixteenth through the eighteenth century, he was an Anne L. Poulet Curatorial Fellow and subsequently a guest curator at the Frick Collection, where he co-curated the exhibition *Van Dyck: The Anatomy of Portraiture* (2016). At the Met, he curated the exhibition *In Praise of Painting: Dutch Masterpieces at the Met*, as well as co-curating *The Tudors: Art and Majesty in Renaissance England*. His previous publications include *Van Dyck and the Making of English Portraiture* (2022).

Wayne Franits, Distinguished Professor of Art History at Syracuse University, is a specialist in seventeenth-century Dutch and Flemish art. His extensive publications have explored a variety of topics within the field, ranging from genre painting and portraiture to the work of the Dutch followers of Caravaggio. In recent years, Franits has published books on the seventeenth-century Dutch painters Johannes Vermeer (2015) and Godefridus Schalcken (2018 and 2023), as well as *The Ashgate Research Companion to Dutch Art of the Seventeenth Century* (2016).

Nicole Elizabeth Cook is the new Senior Program Manager of the **Center for Netherlandish Art** at the MFA Boston. She researches, curates, and teaches the arts and culture of the Netherlands of the 17th-century, with special interests in histories of women, gender, and LGBTQIA+ experiences in the early modern era. Nicole is completing a book manuscript about artists' representations of night in the Netherlands and interconnections with cultures and experiences of nighttime, which includes discussion of Gesina ter Borch's nocturnal watercolors. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Delaware and an M.A. from Temple University, Tyler School of Art.

The Summer Course in Dutch at Columbia University By Wijnne de Groot, Trustee



Crispijn de Passe, *Hortus Floridus*, Utrecht, 1615 – Colorized – NYBG Collections

May 28-June 13, 2024

Each June, a three-week intensive language course for PhD students is held at Columbia University. This course, known as the "zomercursus" (summer course), consists of two parts: two weeks of training in reading modern Dutch texts and one week of reading 17th-century texts and paleography. During the first part, students meet for a total of 40 hours on Zoom, while participants in the third week meet in person for 20 hours of intensive training at Columbia University. That third week is taught by me and Dr. Frans Blom, a paleography specialist from the University of Amsterdam.

Students do not pay any tuition for the course, as it is wholly funded by the Dutch Language Union in The Hague. It has been held in its current form since 2008. It is a unique course—nowhere else can students acquire a sound grasp of the language in such a short time. And it is important. Dutch is taught only at around ten universities and colleges in the U.S., while the need to learn Dutch for research purposes reaches far beyond these places.

Students attend from universities all over the U.S., Canada, Europe, and beyond. They include students of history, art history, religious studies, and musicology who need to acquire a reading knowledge of Dutch to help them in their research. Many of them focus on the early modern period, and knowledge of the language from that period and the ability to read 16th- and 17th-century handwritten texts is crucial.

This year's summer course took place from May 28 through June 6 for the modern Dutch weeks, while the 17th-century week ran from June 10 through June 13.

This year, that last week was attended by twelve students, from universities as close by as Columbia itself, and as far away as Johns Hopkins, Indiana, and Northwestern in the U.S. and there were even a participant from Shanghai University and one from Newcastle, England. Their fields were as diverse as the places they came from. One student's research focus was on the depiction of blackness and Africans in the Low Countries during the late medieval and early modern period, another student studied religious art-collecting practices of the Jewish community in 17th-century Amsterdam, while a third student was researching the circulation of medical knowledge in the Dutch East Indies.

2024's participants studied printed texts by, among others, the artist Samuel van Hoogstraten, the physician Steven Blankaart, and the explorer skipper Dirck Albertsz. Raven, as well as handwritten texts such as the bankrupter inventories of Rembrandt, letters from the Vrooman family from the Prize Papers collection, and the so-called Schagen letter on the acquisition of Manhattan.

Although this year's course did not include any students focusing on New Netherland, we often get participants interested in the Dutch colonies in the West Indies, Brazil, and North America.

Students benefit not only from the teaching materials but also from each other. Over the years, a network has formed among students who have completed the summer course. They stay in touch either on social media or in the Netherlands itself, doing research in city archives and the National Archive in The Hague. Every other year, a fourth week is added, during which students learn about what archives are available, how to use them, and meet and talk with archivists who may be important to them as they progress in their fields.

News from Mapping Early New York and Toya Dubin, Project Director

Shipwreck and Salvation: The Wreck of the Prince Maurice 1657

As we know, until now, the story of a dramatic shipwreck and rescue on Long Island nearly 400 years ago has been known only to a handful of historians and local Algonquians. But now, thanks to a generous grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, the New Amsterdam History Center's ground-breaking Mapping Early New York project has combined old-fashioned research and AI to open a new window on the past.

This endeavor pushes the boundaries of history, culture, and the digital world by integrating 3D models, original documents, the rich NAHC database known as the Encyclopedia, and maps in a wholly new way. In addition to the Gardiner Foundation, NAHC Director Esme Berg warmly thanked for their support the Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, the First Families of New York, NAHC Trustee Ken Chase, the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Port Washington Library's National Advisory Council, and members of the New Amsterdam History Center.

King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands / The creative team at Mapping Early New York / L-R: Cynthia Bogart, Toya Dubin, Nitin Gadia, Russell Shorto, Ryan Lentini, Eduard van Dijk, Jessica Kowal, Drew Shuptar-Rayvis. Not pictured in the photo: Jerry O'Toole, Mustafa Akbay / The Kiosk

Drew Shuptar-Rayvis and Nissa Mortensen enjoy the kiosk / Kathryn Curran of the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, NAHC Trustee Toya Dubin, NAHC President Michael Cavanaugh, and NAHC Trustee Kenneth Chase at the New-York Historical Society / NAHC Trustees, Toya Dubin and Esme Berg at a reception for the King and Queen of the Netherlands.

Re-imagining New Amsterdam

How the Society of Daughters of Holland Dames helped to create a 21st-century view into 17th-century Manhattan

In April 2024, a Mapping Early New York presentation for the [Society of Daughters of Holland Dames](#) detailed the history and evolution of the 3D model. The presentation is available on the NAHC's YouTube Channel [here](#). The Society of Daughters of Holland Dames was instrumental in the early funding of the project, and generously honored both Toya Dubin and NAHC Executive Director Esme Berg with their Stuyvesant Pear Award for their exceptional leadership. NAHC Trustees Suzanne Roff and Susan Brydow were instrumental in explaining the Mapping Early New York Project to many organizations over the past decade.

Impressions of a New World

Impressions of a New World, Jacob Leisler, Nicasius de Sille, and the Promised Eden of 1660's New Amsterdam

[Impressions of a New World, Jacob Leisler, Nicasius de Sille, and the Promised Eden of 1660's New Amsterdam](#), a collaborative online presentation with the [Jacob Leisler Institute](#) and the Hudson Area Library, has been added to the New Amsterdam History Center's Youtube Channel. This presentation used maps, encyclopedia entries, and 3D model views all from the Mapping Early New York project. The presentation has also been featured in the exhibit "[Becoming a New People: New Netherland Under British Rule 1664-1773](#)," open through September 29th at Circle 46 Gallery in Hudson, NY.

David Voorhees of the Jacob Leisler Institute, Toya Dubin, Mapping Early New York

Dutch-American Story When did it all begin?

Netherland America Foundation, physical scale model of New Amsterdam, courtesy of Jaap Jacobs

It seems a simple enough question: when was New York founded? So when and how should we celebrate or commemorate it? As we come to the end of this blog series, Jaap Jacobs takes a look at previous commemorations of Dutch-American friendship. An exploration of what shaped these events leads to the question of how to commemorate New York's Dutch history and Dutch-American friendship in 2024 and beyond.

On 16 November 1776, the brig *Andrea Doria*, flying an American flag, arrived at the roadsteads of the Dutch-held island St. Eustatius. The ship fired the customary gun salute, and the guns of Fort Orange replied in like fashion. The 'First Salute' quickly came to be regarded as the first recognition by a foreign official of the independence of the rebellious American colonies, declared a few months earlier. It upset the British government, which was most seriously displeased and used the salute as an argument to issue a diplomatic protest to the Dutch Republic. Many years later, in 1939, to be exact, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt landed at St. Eustatius for a two-hour visit to unveil a commemorative plaque to mark the First Salute. 16 November was declared "Dutch-American Heritage Day" in 1990.

[Read More](#)

Michael J. Douma, [The Slow Death of Slavery in Dutch New York](#) (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2024.)
Reviewed by Firth H. Fabend

Michael J. Douma's book, *The Slow Death of Slavery in Dutch New York*, will be published in October by Cambridge University Press, and we are thrilled to be able to give an advance peek of it to our readers. Besides being Associate Professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University, Michael Douma is director of the Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics.

[READ MORE](#)

Debra Bruno, [A Hudson Valley Reckoning: Discovering the Forgotten History of Slaveholding in My Dutch American Family](#) (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2024)
Reviewed by Firth H. Fabend

As her title suggests, Debra Bruno's "reckoning" had to do with her coming to terms with the fact that her revered ancestors in the seventeenth-century Hudson Valley were slave owners. At first disbelieving and denying, then gradually persuaded of the truth, her research methods are as honed as any historian's, and she tells the story in an engaging and conversational manner.

[READ MORE](#)

Catalyntje Trico: [A Life in New Amsterdam](#)
Reviewed by Esme E. Berg

In *Catalyntje Trico: A Life in New Amsterdam*, author Lana Holden offers us a vivid re-creation of life in New Amsterdam and New Netherland in the 17th Century. This book is carefully and extensively researched and includes many of the major events that occurred during Catalyntje's long lifetime. We follow her from 1623 when she leaves Amsterdam, until her death in 1689. She was the only European who lived in this settlement from the first day colonists stepped off the ship until the English took over forty years later, sixty-six years in all.

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