



Netherlands Institute in Turkey
Annual Report 2018



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Photo front page: View of Galata Tower in the spring.

Photo right: Istanbul skyline, a view from Eminönü across the Golden Horn to Karaköy and beyond.



THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE IN TURKEY IN 2018

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey fosters the scholarly study of Turkey through the ages and stimulates academic dialogue and cooperation between the Netherlands and Turkey.

Based in the center of Istanbul, NIT conducts archaeological and historical research and hosts students and researchers in an inspiring environment for study and exchange of ideas. It also offers education programs and fellowships and organizes conferences and public events.

NIT began its work in 1958 and some of the activities in 2018 were organized specifically to celebrate this 60 year period. The societies and academic environments of the Netherlands and Turkey have changed in major ways over those six decades, as have their bilateral relationships. The scope and character of the activities of the institute have changed too, but its core aims have stayed the same, and they seem as relevant and necessary now as they were in the past.

This annual report aims to give you an impression of the diverse activities organized by NIT, highlighting the research projects of its staff members and research fellows, its education programs and public events.

Few of these activities were organized by NIT alone, and much of its work is possible only because of the partnerships, structural and ad-hoc, that the institute engages in both in the Netherlands and in Turkey. The NIT board and staff are very grateful for the generous hospitality and support of Koç University and especially its Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations ANAMED and to the Netherlands Consulate-General in Istanbul and Leiden University's Faculty of Humanities for the financial support that helps the institute carry out some of its programs.

Netherlands Institute in Turkey

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey turns 60

To mark the sixtieth anniversary of the institute, a day of festive activities took place on November 28 in Leiden, showcasing the work of the institute to colleagues, partners and the larger public in the Netherlands. Hosted by the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden, the day offered participants the opportunity to take part in workshops and panel discussions by staff, (former) fellows and friends of the institute. Workshop topics reflected the broad range of disciplines for which Turkey is of interest: from linguistics to urban geography, and from archaeology and ethnobotany to the history of science.

That same evening, historian Erdem Kabadayı of Koç University presented a keynote lecture to an audience of some 150 people. His current, ERC-funded, project investigates social and economic changes in late Ottoman society of Constantinople as well as the Ottoman provinces. His extensive use of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) enables him to incorporate and combine many data sources that have largely been neglected to date.

Using case studies from Ottoman military logistics and residential mobility of craftspeople in early 20th century Constantinople, professor Kabadayı shared his newest insights on the history of Ottoman transport logistics, migration and communication.

Additionally, the day was devoted to the launch of a new book: *Standplaats Istanbul. Lange lijnen in de cultuurgeschiedenis van Turkije* (see below). Two first copies of this book were presented to two scholars who have been important for the institute over the past years.

The first was Machiel Kiel, interim director of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey between 2003 and 2005, and NIT Senior Research Fellow since then. His scholarly work on Ottoman architecture and society in Southeastern Europe, carried out over a period spanning five decades, is widely recognized for helping to change academic and public views on the Ottoman legacy in Europe.



Learning how to make astronomical calculations with a medieval astrolabe, in a workshop by Hüseyin Şen. Photo: Karin Schuitema



Erdem Kabadayı during his keynote lecture.



Fokke Gerritsen looking back at the opening event 60 years ago, in front of RMO's Egyptian Taffeh Temple. Photo: Burak Fıçı.

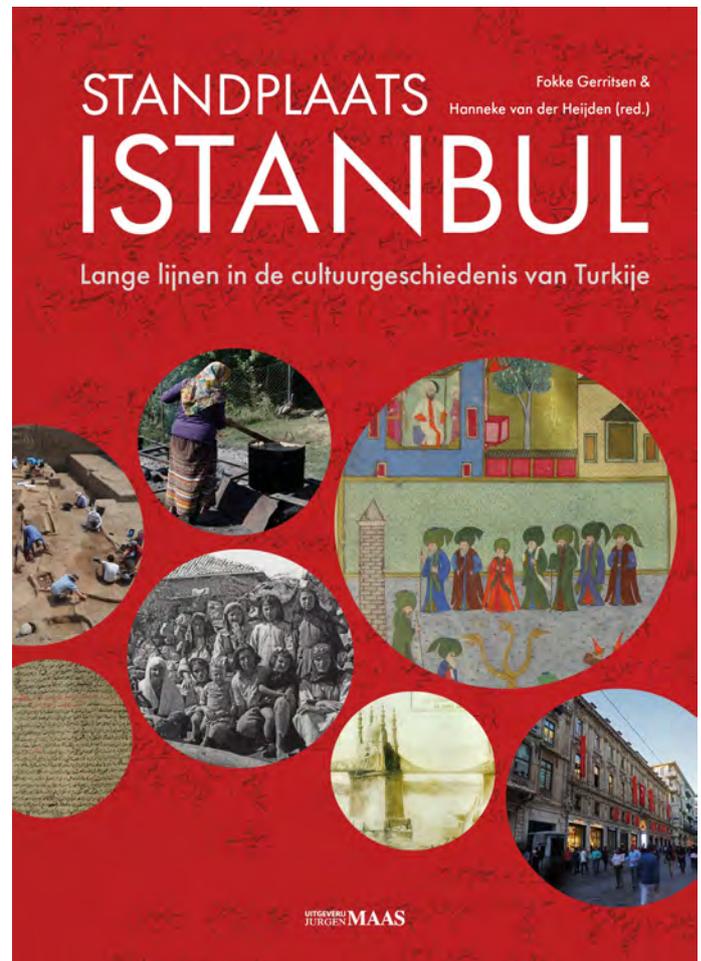
Providing an institutional home for Machiel Kiel's continuing research and writing activities, NIT is internationally recognized as a center for the study of the Ottoman Balkans.

The second recipient of a first copy was Sander de Groot, Ottoman historian and scholar of the history of Dutch-Turkish relations. He has served on the Curatorium, the governing board of NIT, for many years and NIT has profited immensely from his expertise, advice and contacts in Turkey.

Standplaats Istanbul

This book, published to mark the 60th anniversary of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey, gives a kaleidoscopic view of numerous aspects of Turkey in past and present as carried out in recent years by Dutch and Turkish academics. Many (former) NIT research fellows and staff members contributed chapters on their own research or area of expertise. Ignoring traditional disciplinary and temporal boundaries that all too often separate Byzantinists from Ottomanists, archaeological research from textual sources, or sociological perspectives from cultural history, the book highlights recurring themes such as the ever-present past in contemporary societies, intercultural curiosity and interaction, innovation and identity.

The book *Standplaats Istanbul. Lange lijnen in de cultuurgeschiedenis van Turkije* was written by thirty authors, edited by Fokke Gerritsen and Hanneke van der Heijden and published by Uitgeverij Jurgen Maas. It is aimed at a broad readership with an interest in Turkey and its cultural history. The publication was made possible by financial support from the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds and Stichting Oosters Instituut. The book is available in bookstores and can be ordered from the publisher.





Netherlands Institute in Turkey

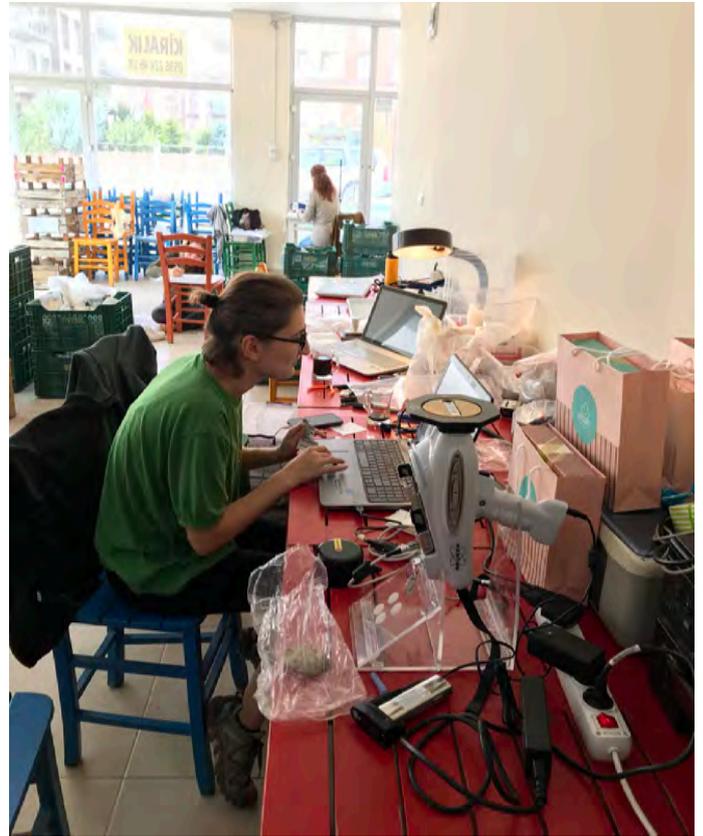
RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

Research at NIT is conducted by staff, affiliated researchers and short-term fellows. In addition to conducting projects aimed at scholarly output, NIT also engages in collaborative projects that focus on cultural heritage and contemporary urban issues.

Barcın Höyük Research Project

Members of the Barcın Höyük Research Project spent two weeks in October in Yenişehir, the small town in the province of Bursa not far from the archaeological site of Barcın Höyük that NIT excavated between 2007 and 2015. Whereas a small portion of the artefacts found in these excavations have become part of the collections of the Iznik museum, bulk finds such as pottery sherds and animals bones are currently stored in a depot in Yenişehir. This is where much of the ongoing analyses are carried out by specialist team members and students.

The brief 2018 depot season was largely dedicated to repackaging and consolidating many of the stored materials, and to select sets of artefacts for further study elsewhere. With permission from the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Iznik Museum, the lithics, botanical and zoological samples and some of the ceramics can now be studied in more detail at dedicated archaeology laboratories in Istanbul and Ankara.



Hüreyla Balcı at work in Yenişehir.

In the course of 2018, the following publications related to Barcın Höyük project appeared in print:

Atamtürk, D., R. Özbal, F. Gerritsen, İ. Duyar, 2018: Analysis and Interpretation of Neolithic Period Footprints from Barcın Höyük, Turkey, *Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry* 18, 163-174.

Gatsov, I., P. Nedelcheva, 2018: Bullet core pendants from South Marmara region, In P. Valde-Nowak et al. (eds), *Multas per gentes et multa per saecula. Amici magistro et collegae suo Ioanni Christopho Kozłowski dedicant*, Kraków, 301-301.



Barcın Höyük project members at work in the temporary work space in Yenişehir.

Gerritsen, F.A., 2018: Nieuwkomers en vernieuwers. Migrerende boeren in de prehistorie van West-Turkije, in F.A. Gerritsen, H. van der Heijden (eds), *Standplaats Istanbul. Lange lijnen in de cultuurgeschiedenis van Turkije*, Amsterdam, 89-99.

The Barcın Höyük Research Project has trained numerous students in archaeological fieldwork and has made available datasets for a number of student theses and dissertations. Two MA theses based on Barcın Höyük datasets were successfully completed in 2018:

Piet Gerrits (MA, Koç University Department of Archaeology and History of Art) wrote on the application of GIS techniques to analyze and visualize spatial and temporal variations in the datasets of Neolithic Barcın Höyük, in a thesis with the title: *Application Of GIS And Multiproxy Analysis In Neolithic Anatolia: An Intra-Settlement Spatial Analysis at Barcın Höyük*.

Hüreyla Balcı (MA, Istanbul University, Prehistory Department) wrote on the introduction of agriculture in northwest Anatolia from an archaeobotanical perspective in her thesis *Kuzeybatı Anadolu'da Tarımın Başlangıcı: Barcın Höyük Bitki Kalıntıları Üzerine Bir Değerlendirme*.

Netherlands Institute in Turkey

Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative

A visitor to the Feriköy neighborhood in the Şişli district of Istanbul, or even a Feriköy resident, can easily overlook the Protestant cemetery that has been located there since 1859. Only the trees rising up above the perimeter wall indicate that the area differs from the densely built-up urban space that surrounds it. And even though the cemetery is open to the public, few people walk in to explore this quiet green space.

The Feriköy Protestant cemetery has been and still is used by the non-Turkish protestant communities that live in Istanbul. It is managed collectively by the diplomatic representations of Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary and Switzerland. Over the last 160 years, an estimated 5000 people have been interred here, and in addition to their graves the cemetery also houses a number of grave stones moved here from older cemeteries.

In 2018 the American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), the Orient-Institut Istanbul (OII) and NIT initiated the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative. This initiative aims to document, study and preserve the cemetery. It aims to map the cemetery in its current form, to document each grave that is currently visible and to combine this with historical records such as church registers and the cemetery burial logs.

Using drone images made in early 2018, NIT began the creation of a georeferenced, digital map of the



Students and Faculty of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam deciphering a Latin inscription in the Dutch section of the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery.

cemetery. This will provide a major component of the integrated digital infrastructure to collect and store all textual, visual and cartographic information. In addition, it is expected that this can provide a tool for monitoring and preserving the cemetery.

In late October 2018, a group of students of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam helped test an early version of the form that will be used to create a record for each funerary monument, documenting its physical characteristics and inscriptions.

Fethiye Camii as a Cultural Heritage Site

Istanbul's religious cultural heritage includes the material remains of some thirty former Byzantine churches and chapels, which have survived in different conditions, forms and functions. The building that is called Fethiye Camii, located on the fifth hill of the city's historic peninsula in the neighbourhood of Çarşamba, was built in the 12th century as the Church of the Pammakaristos and was transformed into a mosque in the late 16th Century. While the main building is still in use as a mosque, the side chapel (beginning 14th Century), and a part of the ambulatory that enveloped the church have been restored between 1949 and 1963 and now function as a museum showing Byzantine mosaics.



For this research project, NIT Research Fellow Mariëtte Verhoeven focuses on the meaning and value of the Fethiye Camii/Pammakaristos Church as a cultural heritage site in Istanbul.

She currently explores virtual reality techniques to unlock and activate the memorial potential of historical buildings in a historically relativistic, non-normative and reversible manner. In the next phase of her project, Verhoeven wants to develop digital applications with rich content. These tools will not only offer the opportunity to visualize the multiple phases of transformation of the church but also to add historical and other information that will enhance and enrich this cultural heritage site.

Mariëtte Verhoeven published two articles in 2018 as outputs of the project:

Verhoeven, M., 2018: Bouwen en breken, onthullen en wissen. Het Fethiye-museum in Istanbul, In F.A. Gerritsen, H. van der Heijden (eds), *Standplaats Istanbul. Lange lijnen in de cultuurgeschiedenis van Turkije*, Amsterdam, 39-47.

Verhoeven, M., 2018: Revealing and presenting the past(s) for the public. Fethiye Mosque and Museum as a cultural heritage site in Istanbul. In *Heritage and Tourism: Places, Imageries and the Digital World (LHS)*, Amsterdam, 77-94.

Interior view of the side chapel of the Fethiye Camii/Pammakaristos Mosque. Photo: Mariëtte Verhoeven

Netherlands Institute in Turkey

Livable Cities: Past and Future of Living in Urban Environments

For the last several years, the Netherlands Institute in Turkey has worked together with the Netherlands Consulate-General in Istanbul to organize activities that make use of the diverse fields of expertise and networks of both organizations. The focus of this cooperation has been ‘Livable Cities’, in line with the current policy focus of the Dutch diplomatic missions in Turkey. The specific contributions that NIT brings to this focus are twofold: its academic network in the Netherlands and Turkey, and the expertise in urban heritage gained through the Tophane Project that NIT initiated in 2012 and that documented and investigated the material and immaterial heritage of a neighborhood in Istanbul during a time of immense changes to its demography and physical space.

In 2018, two public events were co-organized by the Consulate-General and the institute that brought together academics, policy makers and community representatives, from Turkey and the Netherlands. The first event took place on May 29 and was organized with the Municipality of Amsterdam. The event took as its departure a project that had been conducted in Amsterdam, *Dream your own future*, in which in Amsterdam 12 teams of designers, architects and diverse groups of residents had worked together to conjure up views and ideals on the city of the future. Three themes from the Amsterdam project were selected to be presented in Istanbul: circular economy, innovation in historical city centers, and leisure. Three projects conducted in Istanbul by Turkish architects and designers were presented alongside these.



‘Dream your own future’ at the chapel of the Netherlands Consulate-General.

A second event took place on November 15 and focused on ‘repurposing’, the reuse of architecture for new purposes. In dynamic urban environments everywhere, historical architectural complexes frequently lose their original function, be they former schools, churches, bath houses or factories. But as landmarks, they can continue to be important features of the urban fabric – and thus contribute to the livability of a place for residents. In recognition of this, repurposing has become a common strategy. During this meeting, discussions focused on the possibilities and challenges of repurposing, on policy frameworks, financing schemes and the importance of involving multiple stakeholders.

The Tophane Project was featured in 2018 in an article by project director and NIT Research Fellow Karin Schuitema: ‘Tophane: een veranderende wijk vol herinneringen’, in *Standplaats Istanbul* (see above).

Ottoman Architecture in the Balkans

Senior Research Fellow Machiel Kiel continues his long-term research on the Ottoman Balkans and its architecture. In May 2018, his seventeenth book to date appeared:

Zindel, Chr., A. Lippert, B. Lahi, M. Kiel, 2018: *Albanien, Ein Archäologie- und Kunstführer von der Steinzeit bis ins 19. Jahrhundert*, Wien: Böhlau Verlag.

1983 photo by Machiel Kiel of Bektaşi tekke of Hacı Süleyman Baba at Gjirokastër, Albania. Kiel's photo archive can be accessed online via the NIT website.

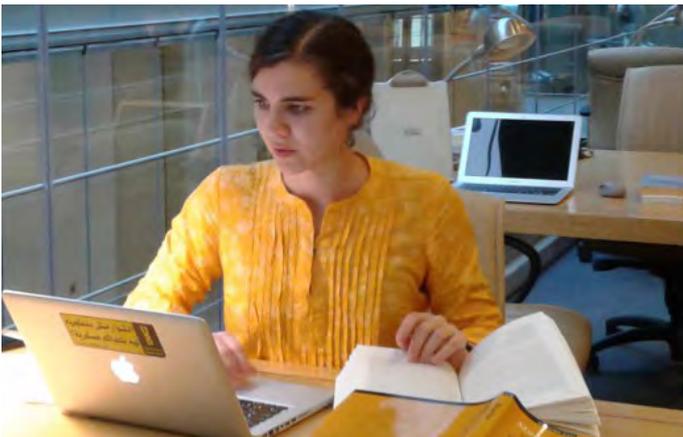


RESEARCH BY NIT FELLOWS

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey supports talented juniors scholar with a fellowship for a short-term residence at the institute. Fellows work on their research topics, while participating in and contributing to the lively academic atmosphere of the institute. Here several fellows reflect on their stay at NIT.

The forgotten decades: the Shaybanid take on Ferdowsi's Shahnama epic and artistic exchanges in late 16th-century Khorasan and Transoxiana

Jaimee Comstock-Skipp (Leiden University)



Jaimee Comstock-Skipp at the NIT library

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey awarded me the first fellowship of my PhD tenure. When asked whether I would like to give a presentation to the public about my project, I eagerly accepted this opportunity to focus on the aims of my dissertation and come up with a lecture that I would use as a chapter to it. During my residence at NIT, I studied textual sources from the Süleymaniye and Boğaziçi

University libraries. Able to work in the NIT and ANAMED libraries late into the night, I benefited from the obscure offprints and publications by Turkish scholars that I plucked from the shelves. Accompanying Machiel Kiel and Hedda Reindl-Kiel one day to the Ottoman Archives near the Golden Horn, I found several folios to the manuscripts I had wanted to see in the Topkapi Palace reprinted as good-quality color illustrations in a book on Ottoman art. In sum, I found expositions of a few complete manuscripts and image reproductions to some of them which sustained my research until I revisit Istanbul.

Once upon a Roman past. Anchoring Justinian's reign in his laws and the sixth-century literary landscape

Key Tengeler (Leiden University)

For a month, I was a resident fellow at NIT to work on my thesis about the legislation of Roman Emperor Justinian (c.482-565). The emperor ruled from Constantinople, current Istanbul, so what better place was there to revive his past?



Emperor Justinian (right) with the Virgin Mary and Constantine on a mosaic in the Hagia Sophia Museum.

In my thesis, I ventured to discover how the language of the Novels helped to increase the acceptance of the innovations they brought by anchoring those innovations in the worldview of the people. Istanbul possesses many beautiful stories for a lover of Ancient History. The average resident of the city might not see that history. However, for me the past was revived and I could see with my own eyes the world the laws of my thesis tried to capture and regulate. And with that experience, my courage was renewed and my inspiration kindled to delve into my books and write. I would recommend the experience and would urge anyone to apply for a fellowship at NIT.

Common ground: Design for a contemporary Caravanserai in Istanbul

Jorien Cousijn (TU Delft)

I had the great opportunity to be one of the fellows of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey, staying at NIT for three weeks in February 2018 to conduct architectural research for my graduation project. This graduation work was part of my study for the MA degree in Architecture at TU Delft and consisted of a year-long design project, in which the first phase involved mostly research and site analysis and the second phase the design of an architectural project. I conducted this project within the studio 'Design as Politics' which focused on spatial interventions for societal issues, with the theme of 2018: 'Migration: the city of comings and goings'. I chose Istanbul as the eternal city of comings and goings as the location for my project. My architectural design presented a contemporary han or caravanserai, intended as a first base for newcomers to the city.

Overall, staying at NIT, within touching distance to its library, and walking distance to my site at Unkapani, was very fruitful. Thanks to all the staff of NIT for the suggestions, assistance and the opportunity for me to stay at the institute.



Former flour factory in Unkapani in the historical peninsula, chosen as the location for a design for a contemporary caravanserai.



Tsjalline (center) at the Handmade Istanbul market selling 'Drop Earrings Not Bombs' created by Syrian women at the social enterprise of the NGO.

Changing narratives and practices of humanitarianism in the context of displacement in Istanbul, Turkey

Tsjalline Boorsma (University of Amsterdam)

In the fall of 2018, I did three months of fieldwork about humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees at a small NGO in Istanbul. During this period I had the opportunity to be a research fellow at NIT, which greatly contributed to my positive research experience. I was a resident at NIT for one month, which was a great chance to meet other students and professionals. In the beginning, I was invited to give a presentation of my research plans and received valuable feedback and questions, which helped me to sharpen the focus of my fieldwork. In my study with volunteers and staff members of the NGO, I wanted to know more about their motivation to be involved in humanitarian aid and their experiences in this organization.

This research project had been very personal for me, as I lived together with my research subjects, shared the office as colleagues, and participated in many of the activities that were part of the daily business of this humanitarian organization. At the end, I could say that I couldn't have wished for a better fieldwork experience, also with many thanks to NIT for their support and interest in my research project.

Connecting Thrace: Cross-border cooperation in the Bulgarian-Turkish border region

Robert Feller (University of Groningen)

I studied the state of cross-border cooperation in the Bulgarian-Turkish border region for my Master's thesis. What I argue is that the promotion of nationalist narratives, the refusal to decentralize, the relatively weak civil societies and several diverging aims between the two countries all inhibit successful cooperation. This Master thesis had been written during my time in Istanbul and while being a fellow at NIT. As a fellow, you are triggered and stimulated to think more - and also differently - about your own research and work.

At the same time, it has allowed me to perform field research and to talk to relevant actors, which all confirmed the conclusions that started to form

as the research proceeded. During my research, I received great assistance from the NIT team, particularly from Fokke Gerritsen and Ülker Sözen, for which I am very grateful.



Statute of Mimar Sinan and Selimiye Mosque in Edirne, at the Turkish-Bulgarian border.



CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey regularly organizes meetings – lectures, workshops, conferences – that serve to give scholars a platform to share and discuss their work with colleagues as well as the wider audience. Partly with the support of the Netherlands Consulate-General, and often in collaboration with partner institutions, NIT organized and (co-)hosted a series of events in 2018.

9 January: ‘Non-Istanbulites’ of Istanbul: The Right to the City Novels in Turkish Literature from the 1960s to the Present. Lecture by Buket Cengiz (Kadir Has University)

2 February: The Proof is in the Picture: Artistic Connections between Ottoman and Shaybanid (Uzbek) Centers in the late-16th Century.

Lecture by Jaimee Comstock-Skipp (Leiden University)

23 February: The Contemporary Khan: A Network of Employment Hubs in Unkapanı, Istanbul. Project presentation by Jorien Cousijn (TU Delft)

21 April: NIT / Leiden University Turkish Studies in Istanbul Network Meeting

15 May: Rebuilding Identity, Memory and Material Culture in Post-War Syria. Lecture by Nour A. Munawar (University of Amsterdam)

29 May: Dream Your Own Future. Imagining City Design in Amsterdam and Istanbul. Conference on livable cities, organized with the



Jaimee Comstock-Skipp speaking on the artistic exchanges between the Ottoman and Uzbek centers in the late 16th century.

Netherlands Consulate-General and the Municipality of Amsterdam (see above)

8 June: Homer, Troy and the Turks. Heritage and Identity in the Late Ottoman Empire, 1870-1915. Lecture by Günay Uslu (University of Amsterdam)

29 June: What is Prehistory? Gordon Childe, Prehistory and Politics. Lecture by Maxime Bra-mi (ANAMED Fellow)



Babylonian astronomical tablet and night sky featuring Jupiter (Cover photo, Science Magazine, Vol 351, Issue 627)

The Sky over Babylon Astronomy in Ancient Iraq

a lecture at the Netherlands Institute in Turkey
by

Mathieu Ossendrijver
(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

September 18, 2018, 18:30

Location: Merkez Han ANAMED Auditorium
For more information, please visit www.nit-istanbul.org

 Netherlands Institute in Turkey / Nederlands Instituut in Turkije / Hollanda Araştırma Enstitüsü
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Standplaats Istanbul

60 jaar Nederlands Instituut in Turkije
60 jaar ontmoetingen en ontdekkingen

28 november 2018

workshops
interviews
boekpresentatie
keynote lecture

Rijksmuseum van Oudheden
Leiden



NIT

Tijd: 14:00-17:00 & 19:00-22:00
Locatie: RMO, Rapenburg 28, Leiden, www.rmo.nl
Programma: www.nit-istanbul.org
Deelname gratis, **aanmelden:** www.nit-istanbul.org
Boek: *Standplaats Istanbul. Lange lijnen in de cultuurgeschiedenis van Turkije*
Fokke Gerritsen en Hanneke van der Heijden (red.), Uitgeverij Jurgen Maas

12 September: Body Modification in Hittite Anatolia. Lecture by Alice Mouton (CNRS, France)

18 September: The Sky over Babylon: Astronomy in Ancient Babylon. Lecture by Mathieu Ossendrijver (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

3 October: The humanitarian response to the refugee crisis in Turkey: Changing narratives and practices of a humanitarian NGO in Istanbul. Project presentation by Tsalline Boorsma (University of Amsterdam)

3 October: Re-uniting Thrace: The effects of EU cohesion funds on the social- and economic cohesion and integration in the border regions of Edirne and Haskovo. Project presentation by Robert Feller (Groningen University)

22 October: Debates about Morality and Moral Decline in the Ottoman Empire during World War I. Lecture by Çiğdem Oğuz (Leiden University)

15 November: Repurposing the Built Environment: Intersections of Design, Sustainability and Livability. Mini-conference organized in collaboration with the Netherlands Consulate-General in Istanbul

November 28: Staandplaats Istanbul -Celebrating 60 years of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey. Workshops, interviews, book presentation, keynote lecture by M. Erdem Kabadayı (Koç University)



Bilgi University SantralIstanbul, a former electricity factory. Source: www.arkitera.com

Repurposing the Built Environment

Intersections of Design, Sustainability and Livability

Mini-conference organized by the Netherlands Institute in Turkey, in collaboration with the Netherlands Consulate-General in Istanbul

November 15, 2018

Please follow our webpage for updates: www.nit-istanbul.org
Contact u.sozen@nit-istanbul.org for more information and registration.

Netherlands Institute in Turkey

EDUCATION

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey provides academic education and support for educational programs of universities in the Netherlands.

Turkish Studies in Istanbul Semester

This second edition of this semester took place at the Netherlands Institute in Turkey during the spring of 2018. Students of Leiden University took three undergraduate level courses and followed an intensive program of Turkish language acquisition. The courses are designed to immerse the students in numerous aspects of Turkish life and culture, history and contemporary issues and are taught by selected faculty of universities in Istanbul. Excursions to Ankara, Bursa and Edirne are part of the program.

Letters of Mercy

In October 2018, students of the honours course 'Letters of Mercy' of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam visited Istanbul for a 3-day program of lectures and site visits.



Leiden University students Maita Linzel and Selin Tuzgöl during a presentation

LIBRARY

The library of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey is an important resource for scholarship on the archaeology and history of Anatolia, the Near East and Southeast Europe.

As part of the ongoing Koç University - NIT cooperation agreement, the day-to-day management of the library is taken care of by Ms. İrem Ünal of the Suna Kırac Library of Koç University. Collection maintenance and development is in the hands of NIT.

The NIT library participates in the Bibliopera network and shared online catalogue of twelve research libraries located in the Beyoğlu district (bibliopera.org).

Through acquisitions, exchanges and gifts, the collections of the library expanded by about 250 volumes over 2018, adding to its collection of c. 25,000 monographs and journal volumes.



The NIT library doubling as a seminar space during a project presentation

ORGANIZATION AND STAFF

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey is set up as a foundation in the Netherlands that conducts its activities through a representation in Turkey. The institute is governed by a board ('Curatorium') that includes scholars from several universities in the Netherlands.

Funding is provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, via Leiden University.

Additional funding was received in 2018 from:

- Leiden University Faculty of Humanities
- Consulate-General of the Netherlands in Istanbul
- Embassy of the Netherlands in Ankara

Staff

The staff of the institute in Istanbul in 2018 consisted of Dr. Fokke Gerritsen (director), Güher Gürmen (assistant, until 1 September), and Dr. Ülker Sözen (assistant, from 1 August).

Staff of the Turkish Studies in Istanbul Semester were instructors Dr. Lerna Yanık (Kadir Has University), Dr. Eda Yücesoy (Istanbul Şehir University), Dr. Esra Almas (Haliç University) and coordinator Sevinç Kula.

İrem Ünal of the Suna Kıraç Library of Koç University is the NIT librarian.



New staff member

Ülker Sözen obtained her Ph.D. from the Sociology Department of Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts in 2017. Before joining NIT, she worked for several years as a teaching and research assistant in different universities.

COLOPHON

Where not specified otherwise, texts written and edited by Fokke Gerritsen and Ülker Sözen.

For more information about NIT activities: www.nit-istanbul.org.

