

Dr. Erik de Maaker (Leiden)

Institute of Cultural and Social Studies
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Erik de Maaker is Anthropologist and ethnographic filmmaker, Leiden/Nijmegen. He is one of our partners within the interdisciplinary transnational working group 'Ritual, Media and Conflict'.

Main Research and Ongoing Projects

De Maaker's field of research lies in religion, performance, material culture, qualitative analysis and Visual Anthropology. He is specialized on upland Northeast India and Bangladesh.

Earlier research involved an analysis of the mortuary rituals of the Garo that was strongly geared towards performance practice. Present research in the same region deals with the transformation of religious beliefs and ritual practices, and their dissemination among various communities.

In addition, he is engaged in research on contemporary mortuary practices in the Netherlands. The latter project is conducted within the framework of the NWO sponsored project 'Refiguring Death Rites,' headed by Eric Venbrux.

Curriculum Vitae

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| 2006 | Lecturer, Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies, Leiden University. Co-responsible for the introductory course on the Anthropology of South Asia. |
| 2006 | Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Leiden University. Co-responsible for the Visual Anthropology program. |
| 2001 – 2002 | Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Leiden University. |
| 1995 | Instructor short course in Visual Anthropology, Department of Anthropology/ European Ethnology (Volkskunde), Westfälische Wilhelms Universität, Münster, Germany. |
| 1995 | Instructor of a short course in Visual Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University College of London. |
| 1992 – 1993 | Instructor at the Department of Anthropology, Leiden University. Tailor-made training program in Visual Anthropology for four members of the Arts Council of Irian Jaya (Indonesia). |
| 1993 | M.A. in Anthropology, University of Amsterdam |

Major Publications

Books

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| 2007 | (accepted for publication) <i>Negotiating Life: Garo Death Rituals and the Transformation of Society</i> (which includes the DVD-video appendix: <i>An Untimely Death</i>). CNWS Publications, Leiden |
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Articles

- 2006 "Recording, Constructing and Reviewing *Teyyam, The Annual Visit of the God Vishnumurti*," in Peter Crawford and Metsje Postma (Eds), *Reflecting Visual Ethnography: Using the Camera in Anthropological Research*. Leiden/ Aarhus: CNWS Publication/ Intervention Press.
- 2000 "Integrating Ethnographic Research and Filmmaking: Video Elicitation for a Performance Oriented Analysis of the Teyyam Ritual," *Visual Anthropology* 13(2): 185-197.

Films

- 2007 *Ashes of Life, the Annual Rituals of Laboya, Sumba 1996* (ethnographic films to be published as a three-part DVD-series, co-authored with Dirk J. Nijland and Danielle C. Geirnaert). Part I: *Padu Laboya* (Betacam-SP, 117 min.); Part II: *Padu Patyala* (Betacam-SP, 83 min.); Part III: *Nyale* (Betacam-SP, 77 min.). Göttingen: IWF Wissen und Medien.
- 1998 *Teyyam: The Annual Visit of the God Vishnumurti* (ethnographic film, 57 min.) Watertown, MA: Documentary Educational Resources.