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"This is Roosevelt's World" - FDR as a Cultural Icon in American Memory
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Citation

Polak, S. A. (2015, December 8). *"This is Roosevelt's World" - FDR as a Cultural Icon in American Memory*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/36996>

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

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Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

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Author: Polak, Sara Anne

Title: "This Is Roosevelt's World" : FDR as a cultural icon in American memory

Issue Date: 2015-12-08

Acknowledgements

Few people enjoy doing a PhD as much as I have. While often considered an inherently lonely journey, it is my experience that both process and product depend heavily on the support and input of many. Mobilizing that support has been an exhilarating pursuit, and receiving it in such generous measure has been humbling, and extremely gratifying. I have felt borne by the many great teachers, colleagues, students, relatives, friends, blog readers, and tweeps I have had the privilege to encounter in the past years and throughout my life.

My supervisors, Peter Liebrechts and Frans-Willem Korsten, have, each in their own way, been brilliant midwives to this dissertation, and to my academic development in a far broader sense. Ruud Janssens, Eduard van de Bilt, Hans Krabbendam, and Kees van Minnen have helped shape this project in its earliest stages. The Roosevelt Study Center has been a much appreciated supporter, offering its great facilities, and funding an important research trip in 2010. The project received further funding from NWO, LUCAS, Fulbright, and LUF. I have interviewed Cynthia Koch, Gina Pollara, William vanden Heuvel, and Ross Patterson about their work in representing and remembering FDR, which has provided key insights.

My colleagues in English Language and Culture, particularly in the modern literature section, have welcomed and inspired me throughout. The PhD candidates with whom I formed the LUCAS PhD Council 2011-2013, Odile Bodde, Anna Dlabacova, Max van Duijn, Jacqueline Hylkema, and David Louwrier, have played a crucial role in making me feel truly at home at Leiden University. Many at LUCAS – particularly Thony Visser, Kitty Zijlmans, and Korrie Korevaart – have facilitated my research, and have helped create the conditions I needed to thrive. Of the Humanities Faculty support staff, I am indebted to controller Petra Kamer, and media wizard Marten Jesse Pot. At the University Library, former deputy director Josje Calff, Fieke Schoots, reference librarian for English, and countless other staff members have been warmly supportive.

The Huizinga Institute has introduced me to Linda Bleijenbergh, David Duindam, Marringje Pajmans, Marringje Rikken, Loes Rusch, Abel Streefland, Suze Zijlstra, and others whom I immediately recognized as my tribe. The UvA's American Culture Seminar provided a space to discuss work-in-progress with Sandra Becker, George Blaustein, Joyce Goggin, Dan Hassler-Forest, Jaap Kooijman, Maryn Wilkinson, and others. Frans-Willem's "Jolly Wednesdays" allowed me to share the joys and woes of work with beloved fellow PhD candidates Cui Chen, Marijn van Dijk, Gerlov van Engelenhoven, Inge 't Hart, Looi van Kessel, Tine Nederveen, Emma de Vries, and Tessa de Zeeuw.

Several scholars have shared invaluable knowledge and insights with me, and have helped me organize my thinking and writing – Adam Fairclough, Dario Fazzi, Joke Kardux, Diederik

Oostdijk, Judith Pollmann, Ann Rigney, and especially Paul Knevel have been important teachers, readers and referents along the path. I am grateful to Jay Winter for his mentorship and for inviting me to Yale in the fall of 2014. Many of my friends have lent their scholarship to my work, including Tazuko van Berkel, Beerd Beukenhorst, Albertine Bloemendal, Froukje Demant, Janna Houwen, Isabelle Ley, Tjerk Jan Schuitmaker, Lieke Stelling, Maaïke Warnaar, and Faidra van der Wal. Yvonne van Meer has provided her writing companionship and house, and has fed me hundreds of krentenbollen. I am deeply grateful to Petra Sijpesteijn for being a wonderful mentor and role model, and to Louise van Swaaij, whose incredibly perceptive ear has taught me better to hear myself.

Menno Polak, Paul Knevel, Harry Perrin and Vincent van der Noort have commented on drafts of this thesis. Remaining mistakes are entirely my own.

I dedicate this thesis to Vincent, the show-don't-tell feminist who has more than anyone enabled its writing, and to Abel and Ilias who have made me more eager than ever to understand the world we have thrust them into.

Curriculum Vitae

Sara Polak (1981) graduated from the Vossius Gymnasium in Amsterdam in 1998. She studied mathematics for one year, and then switched to the BA English Literature at Cambridge University (UK). After graduating in 2003, she became a funeral director. Between 2005 and 2007 she completed the University of Amsterdam's two-year Research MA program in Literary Studies (*cum laude*), with a focus on American history and literature, and, as a side-project, a BSc in psychology. She then started a small enterprise writing life narratives and family histories, and initiating community memory projects, leading among other things to the publication *Meerstemmig Verleden*, about the cultural memory of Dutch slavery history (Amsterdam: KIT Publishers, 2011; with Paul Knevel and Sara Tilstra). In the fall of 2008 she started teaching in the American history program at the University of Amsterdam, and in the fall of 2010 took up her current position as lecturer and PhD candidate (50/50) at the Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society. Since then, she has spent several periods in the US, most importantly as a Fulbright scholar from August 2014-February 2015 at Yale University, and had her two children.

