

Picturing landscape: contemporary photography, collective visual memory and the making of place in the Netherlands

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Citation

Heuvel, M. E. N. van den. (2018, September 18). *Picturing landscape : contemporary photography, collective visual memory and the making of place in the Netherlands*. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/65568

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Issue Date: 2018-09-18

Biography

Maartje van den Heuvel (Horst, 1967) took grammar school at the Jacob-Roelandslyceum (1985) in Boxtel, before entering Utrecht University to obtain her Bachelor's degree in Italian language and culture (1987) and, after an internship at the Istituto Universitario Olandese di Storia dell'Arte (Dutch University Institute for Art History) in Florence, her Master's degree in art history (1993). She devoted her final internship and Master's thesis to the City of Amsterdam's contemporary documentary photography commissions, which visually explore the capital's live and culture while at the same time develop and showcase artistic tendencies in contemporary photography. After an affiliation as assistant curator at the Nederlands Foto Instituut (now Nederlands Fotomuseum) in Rotterdam (1995-1999), Van den Heuvel was coordinating professor at the photography department of Avans/St. Joost postgraduate school of arts in Breda (2001-2007) and curator of photography at Leiden University Library's Special Collections (2007-currently). She is guest curator for photography and art exhibitions in museums in the Netherlands and abroad, and writer for the accompanying books. Among them are Nature as Artifice: Contemporary Dutch Landscape in Photography and Video Art, which after a display in the Kröller-Müller Museum in Otterlo (NL) travelled to the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich (D), the George Eastman House in Rochester (USA) and Aperture Gallery in New York (NY, USA); and Sweet&Salt. Water and the Dutch in the Kunsthal in Rotterdam. Her research in the connection between landscape art and photography dates back to 2004, culminating in this dissertation, which was prepared interdisciplinary in art history at the Faculty of Humanities at Leiden University and cultural geography/landscape and heritage studies at Leiden University's Faculty of Archaeology.