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The life of Governor Joan Gideon Loten (1710-1789) : a personal history of a Dutch virtuoso

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Cover illustration: Front cover: Pieter Cornelis de Bevere, *Collection of birds from Sri Lanka*, circa 1754. Loten collection Natural History Museum, London. The black bird on the right is Loten's Sunbird, *Cinnyris lotenia lotenia* (Linnaeus, 1766); Peter Mazell, engraving after watercolours in the Loten collection of the Orange Minivet, *Pericrocotus flammeus* (Forster, 1781) and the Ceylon little Minivet, *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus* (Linnaeus, 1766). Detail of plate XV in Johann Reinhold Forster *Indische Zoologie* (1781).

Back cover: Jean Michel Aubert, *Waterfall near Maros, Sulawesi*, circa 1745. Detail of drawing in pen and brush. Rijksprentenkabinet, Amsterdam (RP-T-00-3230); John Bird, *Portable astronomical 12-inch quadrant* from the collection of Joan Gideon Loten, circa 1772. University Museum, Utrecht. Background front cover and back cover: Pieter Cornelis de Bevere or Balthasar van Lier, *Country seat of Governor of Ceylon* Uytvlucht, circa 1755. Detail of watercolour. Rijksprentenkabinet, Amsterdam (RP-T-00-3250).

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A Personal History of a Dutch Virtuoso

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John Gideon Loten, F.R.S. & F.S.A.

All joy or sorrow for the happiness or calamities of others is produced by an action of the imagination, that realises the event however fictitious, or approximates it however remote, by placing us for a time, in the condition of him whose fortune we contemplate; so that we feel, while the deception lasts, whatever motion would be excited by the same good or evil happening to ourselves.

Samuel Johnson, *The Rambler* no 60, 13 October 1750

Voor Annemarie van Santen
uit liefde
en in bewondering