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Visualizing the classics : reading surimono and kyōka books as social and cultural history

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Curriculum Vitae

Daan Kok (Amsterdam, 1978) went to school at Barlaeus Gymnasium, Amsterdam (1990-1996). He then studied Japanese language and culture at Hogeschool Maastricht (1996-1998) and at Leiden University (1998-2003). As part of his studies at Leiden, he spent the second academic year in Nagasaki province, Japan, and later enrolled in the Japan Business Program within the Leiden curriculum. He graduated cum laude in 2003, having written his MA thesis (then *doctoraalscriptie*) on the topic of *surimono*. While working part time at the Japanese embassy in The Hague and later for the website translation company he co-founded, he applied for a position as PhD researcher at the CNWS, now LIAS, part of the Faculty of Humanities, at Leiden University. After four years of research (2004-2008), he started his museum career as curator for the collections China, Japan, and Korea at the Royal Museums of Art and History, in Brussels, Belgium. Returning to Leiden in 2010, he continued to work for several museums, art dealerships, and individual collectors in the Netherlands and elsewhere in Europe on a freelance basis, and taught a number of courses for the Japan studies department at Leiden University, while continuing his research. In 2012, he was temporarily employed by Museum Volkenkunde, as documentalist for the Japan collection.

Since 2015, Daan Kok is curator for the Japan and Korea collections of the National Museum of World Cultures, The Netherlands - an institute comprised of Tropenmuseum Amsterdam, Afrika Museum in Berg en Dal, Museum Volkenkunde in Leiden, and Wereldmuseum in Rotterdam. In this capacity, he recently acted as curator for the exhibition *Cool Japan: Worldwide Fascination in Focus*, on display from mid-April to the end of October 2017.