

Everything has its Jaguar. A narratological approach to conceptualising Caribbean Saladoid animal imagery

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Curriculum vitae

Eva Paulsen was born in 1983 in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. In 2002, after completing secondary school in Nijmegen, she moved to Leiden in order to study Archaeology to next specialise in Caribbean Archaeology (Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University). Here she combined an interest in archaeology and the Caribbean with courses on Meso-American iconography, Oral traditions in contemporary North American societies, Shamanism, and Trio language and culture. As a student, she participated in several archaeological fieldwork campaigns (Den Haag, Schipluiden, Naaldwijk, andthe Dominican Republic) conducted by Leiden University. Her BA and MA theses already concentrated on Caribbean iconography, hereby focussing on South American narratives. After graduating in 2007, she was given the opportunity to embark upon a self-funded PhD project embedded in the now Caribbean Research Group at the Faculty of Archaeology (Leiden University). This pursuit was combined with a budding career at the IT Department of the LUMC (Leiden University Medical Center), where she specialised in Communications. In 2009, her PhD research project included a visit to the Wayana people (Carib speakers residing at Apetina in the interior of Suriname) and Matta, an Arawak village located in the Para district. This sojourn brought her into contact with Sjaak and Yvonne Ebecilio who orally shared their knowledge of indigenous Amerindian folklore. During the final stages of work on her dissertation, she has recently been appointed a Senior Communication Advisor at DICTU (Dienst ICT Uitvoering), a section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Climate Policy based at The Hague.