

City Trip Leiden

Sanneke Stigter, 15 December 2019

Board member Aniek Manshanden organized this first City Trip of the [Alumni Network Conservation and Restoration](#) in her home town Leiden. With a nice mix of alumni from different specialisations and various years, the [City Trip Leiden](#) took place on Friday afternoon 29 November 2019. The tour included visits to the conservation studios of the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden (RMO), studio and storage facilities of Rijksmuseum Boerhaave, and Conservation studio Mandy Slager.

The first visit was to the conservation studios of Rijksmuseum van Oudheden -National Museum of Antiquities, where conservator Helbertijn Krudop showed us around. She explained about her daily practice at the museum and working with archaeological and historical materials, including the magnificent collection of mummies and mummy cases. Helbertijn herself graduated at the UvA programme in the specialization Wood and Furniture in 2013.



Helbertijn Krudop shows the preservation of a cat mummy from the collection of RMO. Photo: Sanneke Stigter

For the second visit we walked through sunny Leiden to the impressive building with the storage facilities of the Rijksmuseum Boerhaave, where conservator Auke Gerrits received us. Auke also graduated in the wood and furniture specialization at the UvA in 2013. When graduating he focused the conservation of ship models, while he now is concentrating on composite objects with precise metal work and the conservation of scientific instruments. The collection at Rijksmuseum Boerhaave consists of a wide range of scientific equipment, anatomical models, pharmacy jars and the like, requiring special care where functionality and history collide.



Auke Gerrits explaining his work at the conservation studio at Rijksmuseum Boerhaave. Photo: Sanneke Stigter

The third visit was to conservation studio Mandy Slager. She has a background in art history and pottery, and was finally trained as a glass and ceramics conservator at ICN. She will be celebrating her 25 years as independent conservator next year, and is now also engaged in teaching at the UvA. She explained the ins and outs of having your own studio and working with pieces from museums and the private sector. We ended the day here in an informal gathering over drinks looking back at an informative and inspiring day, happy to hear how everyone was doing.



Drinks at conservation studio Mandy Slager. Photo: Sanneke Stigter