

## SBMK Day and OH-SMArt Symposium 2024 (Amsterdam, 29 Nov 24)

Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam, Roeterseilandcampus - Building B/C/D, Nov 29, 2024

Olivia Brum

We invite you to attend the joint OH-SMArt Symposium & SBMK Day 2024, themed FAIR use of Artist Interviews for Conservators and Curators, an in person international conference to be held this November 29th, 2024. This event is being hosted by the University of Amsterdam, in conclusion of its three-year research project Oral History - Stories at the Museum around Artworks (OH-SMArt) (2022-2025) and SBMK (Foundation for the Conservation of Contemporary Art). It's meant to share expertise, address concerns and initiate future collaborations. Symposium contributions as such will be published in a peer reviewed open access publication, in line with the project's goal to be FAIR about insight into artworks and their care.

Central to this project is the use of oral history for conservation research, following the FAIR Principles for research data which should secure and improve its findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability. This can be a challenge with spoken narratives, due to ethical questions, the laborious strain of processing interview materials, and lack of tools and infrastructure. However, all of these elements are crucial to consider for knowledge dissemination. Museums and institutions often hold a surplus of unique interview materials that often go unseen by researchers and professionals who would use it as a tool in their conservation practice. How then, can this be shared and prepared for further analysis in research, given the ever-growing possibilities for digital analysis? The three-year project OH-SMArt, funded by the Dutch Platform for Digital Infrastructure – Social Sciences and Humanities (PDI-SSH), has made a start in addressing this by developing a long-term digital research infrastructure for oral history with research into artworks as a use case. OH-SMArt is led by the University of Amsterdam in collaboration with DANS-KNAW (Data Archiving and Networked Services), Sound and Vision, Foundation for Open Speech Technology (SOS), the University of Twente and various Dutch museums, included through SBMK. The symposium as a result will focus especially on interoperability and reuse.

The symposium will span November 29th with an optional free on-site presentation by Ursula Davila-Villa and Miranda Samuels on the work of artist Cecilia Vicuña which will be held at the Stedelijk Museum the afternoon prior. To register email [ohsmartsymposium2024@gmail.com](mailto:ohsmartsymposium2024@gmail.com) with your name and contact details. There are limited spots available so apply quickly to ensure your attendance!

The symposium's morning will consist of a series of presentations followed by a catered lunch and an afternoon of workshops. Workshops will be presented parallel but double so that attendees will have the opportunity to attend two workshops of the selection of six. The afternoon will

then conclude with a panel discussion, closing remarks and drinks giving an opportunity to discuss at ease with colleagues and continue the conversation on FAIR use of artist interviews.

#### Price and Registration

The SBMK Day and OH-SMArt Symposium 2024 costs €125 excl. VAT and €60 excl. VAT for students. The day is free for museum partners of SBMK who pay an annual subscription. Interested parties can register via the registration form on the SBMK's website (<https://www.sbmknl/en/register-SBMKday2024>). Workshops can be registered for the morning of the symposium.

#### SBMK Day and OH-SMArt Symposium 2024

29th November 2024, University of Amsterdam, Roeterseiland Campus, De Brug

#### Preliminary Programme

9:30 - 9:50 Registration

10:00 - 10:10 Welcome and Introduction from OH-SMArt Organizing Committee

10:10 - 10:30 An Oral History of Precariousness: Case Study with Artist Cecilia Vicuña - Ursula Davila-Villa and Miranda Samuels (Davila-Vila & Stothart)

10:30 - 10:50 artemak.art: Archive for Techniques and Materials of Contemporary Artists - Ursula Haller and Sarah Giering (Dresden University of Fine Arts)

10:50 - 11:10 Weaving Together Narrative Threads: Oral History in the Context of Conservation Research - Catherine Bouvier, Sigrid Eyb-Green, and Magdalena Schindler (Academy of Fine Arts Vienna)

11:10 - 11:30 Coffee

11:30 - 11:50 Interview Snapshots

11:50 - 12:10 Generative Preservation and the Artist's Interview: mouchette.org - Olivia Brum (Conservator) and Martine Neddham (Artist)

12:10 - 12:30 The Politics and Ethos of Interview Transcription - Jennifer Thatcher (University of Kent)

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

#### Workshops

13:30 - 14:30 Parallel Workshops - Session 1, Tea provided

- Generate an automatic transcript (ASR), Arjan van Hessen (University of Twente)
- Transcribe your interview critically, Lucia Farinati (Kingston University London)
- Practice Interview Techniques, Paulien 't Hoen (SBMK)
- Record Nonverbal Aspects with Speech Communication, Khiet Truong (University of Twente)
- Deposit your interview, Jetze Touber (DANS)
- Be Reflexive in Research and Practice, Gerben Westerhof (University of Twente)

14:45 - 15:45 Parallel Workshops - Session 2, Tea provided

- Generate an automatic transcript (ASR), Arjan van Hessen (University of Twente)
- Transcribe your interview critically, Jean Wainwright (University for the Creative Arts) and Jennifer Thatcher
- Practice Interview Techniques, Sanneke Stigter (UvA)
- Record Nonverbal Aspects with Speech Communication, Khiet Truong (University of Twente)
- Deposit your interview, Jetze Toubert (DANS)
- Be Reflexive in Research and Practice, Gerben Westerhof (University of Twente)

16:00 - 16:30 Panel Discussion: Substantiating Artwork Interviews in Research - Moderator Paulien 't Hoen

- Lucia Farinati, Jennifer Thatcher, Jean Wainwright, Ursula Haller, Sarah Giering, Sylvia Schaik, Sanneke Stigter and Sigrid Syb Green

16:30 - 16:45 Closing Remarks - Paulien 't Hoen and Sanneke Stigter

16:45 - 17:45 Drinks

Extra feature for early birds

28th November 2024, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

16.30-17.30 Optional: On-site presentation on the oral history research of Cecilia Vicuña - Ursula Davila-Villa and Miranda Samuels (Davila-Vila & Stothart)

Limited places and reserved for delegates only. To register email [ohsmartsymposium2024@gmail.com](mailto:ohsmartsymposium2024@gmail.com). Note that museum entrance fee is still applicable. Allow time for checking in.

Reference:

CONF: SBMK Day and OH-SMArt Symposium 2024 (Amsterdam, 29 Nov 24). In: Arthist.net, Sep 3, 2024 (accessed Sep 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/42461>>.