

Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis by Mayke Groffen

Dissertation

The English term 'period room,' and its Dutch counterpart 'stijlkamer,' each paints a much too restricted picture of the potential coherence present in such a constructed interior ensemble.

A proactive contemporary collecting strategy requires museum expertise and is the responsibility of museum curators.

The concept of post-material culture not only heralds the intertwinement between objects and their intangible elements, but simultaneously also distinguishes it from intangible cultural heritage. This makes it a particularly suitable term for use in museology.

Their collections-management role means that museums favour photographs of single objects over those of ensembles. However, this impedes the view of coherent ensembles and, in doing so, diminishes what is understood of them.

Museums should develop a joint perspective on collecting contemporary home life in the Netherlands. A shared strategy is crucial to this end, if only for the sake of communication and mutual understanding.

General

Scholars should regard city museums not so much as the subjects of research, but as equal partners in it.

If IKEA's product range included the shelter box designed by Raymond Voogt (Museum Rotterdam, inventory number 71471) at a "breathtakingly" low price, it would alleviate the "home frustrations" of Sweden's approximately 33,000 homeless people.

The current shortages in the housing market do not encourage demand-driven project development.

As the following translation from Swedish to Dutch demonstrates, the use of Google Translate requires both knowledge of English and good association skills: "Het huiszwembad was het eerste zwembad dat begon met het verzamelen van beton in het nieuw opgerichte SAMDOK."

If it is presumed that museum professionals, like scholars, are capable of reflecting critically on their roles, the personal backgrounds of these employees should not be used as an argument in debates on collecting or presenting.

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Constant doubt is one of the symptoms often associated with the perimenopause. Does this mean that it's not a good time to conduct PhD research? Or, perhaps (maybe), it is!