

Bio Prof. dr. Alex van Stipriaan Luïscius

Alex van Stipriaan Luïscius (1954) is professor of Caribbean History at Erasmus University of Rotterdam (EUR), the Netherlands, since 1986 (since 1997 as full professor). He lives with his family in Amsterdam.

In 1991 he defended his PhD at the Free University Amsterdam, which was granted a *cum laude* qualification. Title: *Surinaams contrast; Roofbouw en overleven in een Caraïbische plantagekolonie, 1750-1863* (Surinamese Contrast; Exhaustion and Survival in a Caribbean Plantation Colony, 1750-1863), published Leiden: KITLV 1993.

Most of van Stipriaan's research focuses on the history and (afro-)cultures of Suriname, as well as cultural heritage and processes of creolisation in the Black Atlantic, including the Netherlands. Starting as a socio-economic historian he has moved over the years (also) into the field of cultural history and to a certain extent art studies. Within these fields he published extensively on themes varying from slavery to contemporary art, and from naming systems, to the concept of 'roots' as well as cultural heritage.

From 2004 to 2014 he combined his professorship at Erasmus University with a curatorship at the Tropenmuseum Amsterdam, then part of the Royal Tropical Institute, where he was responsible for research, international projects and exhibitions related to Latin America and the Caribbean. There he organized two major exhibitions: *Art of Survival (Kunst van Overleven)*, Maroon cultures from Suriname (2009-2010) and *Black & White (Zwart & Wit)*, 150 years of black and white relations in the Netherlands (2013-2014).

Between 2006 and 2012 van Stipriaan did several international projects on identifying, professional empowerment, capacity building and collaboration in the cultural heritage field of the Dutch Caribbean and Suriname as well as projects on critical museology a.o. in Indonesia.

During the same period he was a board member of the Atlantic World and the Dutch (1500-2000) shared heritage project for which he organized several workshops in the Caribbean and the Netherlands and produced several reports.

Van Stipriaan initiated and organized between 2006 and 2009 a combined scholarly, artistic and youth empowering project on the concept of (African) 'roots', which resulted in several publications, a television documentary, public performances, museum installations.

Van Stipriaan also was a co-founder of the National Monument for the Commemoration of Slavery and the National Institute of the Dutch Slavery past and its Legacies (NiNsee), both in Amsterdam. He still is co-chair of NiNsee's Scientific Board.

For NiNsee van Stipriaan did several projects. Most recently he was asked to initiate and advise a pilot project to develop a digital tool kit for secondary school teachers on Slavery and Citizenship (2013-2014).

For the Board of the City of Amsterdam Van Stipriaan was asked to do a project on the public and institutional awareness of Amsterdam's involvement in the slavery past as well as its current legacies as well as advise on building a sustainable infra structure to anchor this awareness (2013-2014). The results of the project are now being implemented.

A new project for the Municipality of Amsterdam has started on Urban Identifications and Shared Histories, for which Van Stipriaan is now organizing a series of workshops.

Currently he also is:

Member of Global History Research Cluster (EUR)

Member of Centre for Historical Culture (EUR)

Member of N.W.Posthumus Research School on Economic and Social History

Member of UNESCO's International Scientific Committee on the Slave Route Project