

SAVE the DATE/CALL for CONTRIBUTIONS for the Annual MACCH Event
Circularity in Arts and Heritage: Practice, Policy & Research

Friday 15 March 2024, Maastricht, venue tba

With this one-day event we invite researchers, arts and heritage professionals, and designers to come together in examining what circularity means for the arts and heritage fields. Circularity has become a key concept and practice in production cycles and in both urban and rural development plans, with programs on re-use, regeneration, and recycling abound. But how do arts and heritage practices relate to the ambition to make the metabolism of our society circular? And what does circularity even mean in the context of the arts and heritage domains?

Across the arts and heritage fields, organizations and individuals seek to reduce their own ecological footprint by reducing waste, experimenting with bio-based materials, and by reusing, repairing, and recycling. Apart from implementing practical changes, many organizations also seek to promote circular and sustainable values. For instance, by means of public programming and by openly discussing how practices that are often still aimed at conservation and preservation, or at innovation and expansion, can or cannot align with circular values.

With this event we invite arts and heritage professionals, artists, designers, policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders to critically engage with circularity. By doing so we aim to stimulate exchange and collaboration between different disciplines and between research and practice (i.e. humanities, sciences, business, law, design, and artistic research). We identify three themes:

- Can circularity exist in the arts and heritage domains? How is it currently operationalized? How are choices for day-to-day operations, collecting, programming, and strategic management being made, and on the basis of what criteria? And how are current legal and policy frameworks, such as pertaining to monuments or landscape management, impacting on opportunities and challenges?
- What does the concept of circularity mean from an arts and heritage perspective? What kind of language, metaphors, symbols and images do we use for imagining dealing with the consequences of the climate crisis. How is the role of arts and heritage in circularity transitions presented and imagined?
- And what do such understandings and practices of circularity mean for *how* we research this? Does the concept of circularity (or the underlying need for change) ask for different modes of researching, different spaces and sites at which research is taking place, different ways of sharing research etc. (for instance through collaborations with designers, and the creation of art-science spaces)?

If you'd like to contribute with a presentation or workshop (or just register your attendance) please contact [Claartje Rasterhoff](mailto:c.rasterhoff@maastrichtuniversity.nl) c.rasterhoff@maastrichtuniversity.nl. Organised by the [Maastricht Centre for Arts & Heritage, Conservation & Heritage \(MACCH\)](#).