



BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM
Monday, November 4th, 5.00 pm

**THE LATE NEOLITHIC IN THE NETHERLANDS: TRYING TO POSE
(NOT ANSWER) QUESTIONS THAT ARE NEVER ASKED.**

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The Late Neolithic in the Netherlands (c. 2950-2000 cal BC) is generally nick named: The Beaker period. Research has been dominated by Beaker studies, in the Netherlands most prominently by Jan and Albert Lanting. The data from barrow excavations were central in these studies. Beaker typology and its dating based on radio carbon still is an important issue (see Lanting 2008). The Dutch model, which shows a continuous typological development from Corded Ware to Bell Beakers, continues to be used by scholars in the Netherlands and abroad. It is one of the main reasons that Bell Beaker origins are sought for in the Lower Rhine-Meuse delta and the adjacent German Rhine land.

Even if this approach is still main stream in the Netherlands, and indeed in many countries, many new questions can be asked and answered, and many new approaches to the Late Neolithic are possible. In my lecture I would like to re-paint the cultural palette of the Netherlands in the 3rd millennium BC and indicate problems that so far have got very little attention. In this I will use, amongst others, settlement data from the Vlaardingen culture.

I will focus on Vlaardingen and Funnel Beaker cultures as a cultural background to the advent of the Corded Ware and Bell Beaker traditions. I try to explain these cultural changes from a perspective of the adoption of innovations. (see [http://www.academia.edu/1018641/The temporality of culture change](http://www.academia.edu/1018641/The_temporality_of_culture_change)). This does not mean that migration is taboo, for me, but it needs more proof than I read in most applications of the concept. These ideas will also be used in the discussion of the spread of the Bell Beaker phenomenon.

Venue: Leibnizstraße 1, Seminar Room 204