


## Provenance report regarding Model of a Javanese Marketplace

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	Custodian	Rijksmuseum Amsterdam
	Current possessor	Dutch State
	Inventory number	NG-2009-134
	Material/technique	Wood; glass; figures: rice paste; paint; metal
	Measurements	69 x 22 x 49 cm

*Photo: Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, inv.no. NG-2009-134*

### Summary of findings

Documentation in the Rijksmuseum collection system indicates that this model of a Javanese marketplace was an acquisition of the Rijksmuseum in 2009. The model itself and the museum's documentation offer too little starting points for provenance research further back than 2008. However, on the basis of physical similarities we have been able to locate at least 20 similar models in Dutch and Scottish museums. It was not possible to find the workshop where these models were made, but the biographical details of the donors give an impression of the area (East Java) and period (1830s-1850s) in which the models were likely produced. Future research may lead to a breakthrough for one of the 21 models and help to learn more about the provenance of the others.

### Reconstruction provenance

**[no date] - 2008**

"Antiquités de la baie", Perros Guirec, France

*Information about NG-2009-134 in the Rijksmuseum collection system Adlib*

**2008 - 29 October 2009**

Antiquariaat Forum B.V.

*Information about NG-2009-134 in the Rijksmuseum collection system Adlib*

**29 October 2009 - today**

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

*Information about NG-2009-134 in the Rijksmuseum collection system Adlib*

## Object information

This model of a Javanese marketplace consists of 154 figures, positioned under and around two open roof structures in parallel position. Most of the figures depict market salesmen and customers, but there are also scenes of two orchestras, a regent's procession, and a small shelter for the Chinese market official. Moreover, several figures depict Chinese, Malabar, and European nationalities. The marketplace is positioned on a wooden box which is dated around 1840-1850 and has space for the storage of books and other items. The figures are made of organic material, probably agar-agar mixed with rice husk, and attached to the bottom with bamboo sticks.

## Provenance report

The model of a Javanese market in Rijksmuseum with number NG-2009-134 is a recent acquisition of the Museum. The Museum's information system and the curator who was involved in the acquisition indicate that the model was purchased in October 2009 from the Dutch antiquarian book dealer Antiquariaat FORUM B.V.. A year before, in 2008, this dealer had bought the model from the French antique dealer 'Antiquités de la baie' in the village of Perros-Guirec in Brittany. It is not known where the latter dealer, who probably retired around 2015, had acquired the model. Attempts to reach the dealer were unsuccessful. Museum curators have dated the wooden base around 1840-1850. The clothing style of the European couple was estimated from the period 1825-1835. Other than that, the museum documentation offers no other starting points for further research about the provenance of the Rijksmuseum model proper.



*Photo 1: European and Malabar couples, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, inv.no. NG-2009-134*

However, comparative research of the author and museum curators indicates that there are at least 20 similar models in a Scottish and a number of Dutch museums. They display a variety of scenes but with a very distinct style and with interchangeable figures. This strongly indicates that the models were produced by a single workshop in the Netherlands Indies. Provenance information about the other models leads to an impression of the origin of the Rijksmuseum model.

A broad search in museum registration systems, historical newspaper databases, and correspondence with museums in the Netherlands, Indonesia, and Scotland has led to the identification of the following similar models:

Museum/number	Description	First museum	Donor/seller/year
<b>Rijksmuseum</b>			
NG-2009-134	Market place	Rijksmuseum	Antiquariaat Forum B.V., 2009
<b>NMFW - Tropenmuseum</b>			
TM-H-511	Market scene	Koloniaal Museum Haarlem	Dirk Scheltema, 1864 or 1866
TM-A-5291	Gamelan scene	Kon. Gen. Natura Artis Magistra	Unknown
TM-A-5292	Wedding procession	Idem	J. Lingeman Jr., 1873
TM-A-5293	Princely procession	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11154	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11155	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11156	Gathering	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11157	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11158	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11159	Gathering	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11160	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11161	Market scene	Idem	Unknown
TM-A-11163a	Chinese court	Idem	Unknown
<b>NMFW - Volkenkunde</b>			
RV-360-5793	Princely procession	Kon. Kabinet van Zeldzaamheden	A Resident, 1836
RV-360-5794	Chinese court	Idem	Idem
<b>NMFW - Wereldmuseum</b>			
WM-5204	Wedding procession	Museum voor Land- en Volkenkunde	J. Pijnappel, 1897
WM-5205	Market place	Museum voor Land- en Volkenkunde	A. van Hoboken van Cortgene, 1884

<b>Museum Bronbeek</b>			
1999/00-358	Market place	Museum Bronbeek	C.A. Smits-Heineken, 1904
<b>Univ. of Aberdeen/ Marichal College</b>			
ABDUA:9572	Market scene	Banchory House	Arthur Fraser, 1860s
ABDUA:9496	Market scene	Banchory House	Arthur Fraser, 1860s
<b>Unknown</b>			
Unknown	'Neat model Javanese market'	Koloniaal Museum Haarlem	J. E. Banck, 1885

The models are similar, because they consist of a group of figures of a similar height, colour, and shape that are made of organic material, most likely rice paste, and attached to the surface with wooden sticks. There are a variety of scenes, such as wedding processions, gamelan orchestra's, market scenes, and Chinese court scenes. Two scenes are exactly the same as the Rijksmuseum model: Wereldmuseum model WM-5205 and Bronbeek model 1999/00-358 (*see photo 4*). These three models consist of a market place with two parallel positioned open roof structures, a small shelter for the Chinese market official, surrounded by more than a hundred sellers, customers, musicians, and notables.



Photo 2: Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam,  
inv.no. NG-2009-134



Photo 3: Tropenmuseum, inv.no. TM-A-5293



Photo 4: Wereldmuseum, inv.no. WM-5205

One of the three marketplaces (or a yet unknown fourth model) was displayed at the Internationale Koloniale en Uitvoerhandel Tentoonstelling of 1883 in Amsterdam, along with six other models.<sup>1</sup> This was most likely not the Rijksmuseum model, because the description of the model in the 1883 catalogue mentions the presence of a Dutch resident who is not to be found on the Rijksmuseum model. The Wereldmuseum marketplace model does depict a Dutch resident and seems to match the 1883 catalogue, which is confusing because the seven models at the Internationale Koloniale en Uitvoerhandel Tentoonstelling were formally registered as contributions of the Koninklijk Genootschap Natura Artis Magistra.

We have no information about the history of the Rijksmuseum-model before 2008. However, by reconstructing the biographies of the known donors of the other models, we get an impression of the origin of the Rijksmuseum model. Apart from J. Pijnappel (1822-1901; WM-5204), who was a professor in Malay linguistics, and C.A. Smits-Heineken (1839-1923; 1999/00-358), who was a widow of the first director of Bronbeek, the other five donors were traders and businessmen with strong links to the Javasche Bank in Soerabaya, Semarang, and Batavia. Dirk Scheltema (1815-1886), who donated a market scene (TM-H-511) to the Koloniaal Museum in Haarlem in 1864 or 1866, was in the Netherlands Indies between July 1837 and 1853. He settled in Surabaya, traded in coffee and other colonial wares and was an agent at the Javasche Bank in Semarang between 1842 and 1850.<sup>2</sup> J. Lingeman Jr. (1811-1873), whose model of a wedding procession (TM-A-5292) was donated to Natura Artis Magistra in Amsterdam after his death in 1873, was a trader in Javanese tea and coffee in Amsterdam. His brother, Cornelis Lingeman (1816-1854), acted as a liaison in the Netherlands Indies and was a cashier and later secretary

<sup>1</sup> P.J. Veth (ed), *Catalogus der afdeeling Nederlandsche Koloniën van de internationale koloniale en uitvoerhandel tentoonstelling (van 1 Mei tot ult°. October 1883) te Amsterdam* (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1883), groep II, 9e klasse, p. 12-13, nr. 21a.

<sup>2</sup> 'Vendu-departement', *Javasche courant*, 10 December 1842. Accessed 19 May 2021, [https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?facets%5Bperiode%5D%5B%5D=0%7C19e\\_eeuw%7C&facets%5Bspatial%5D%5B%5D=Nederlands-Indi%C3%AB+%7C+Indonesi%C3%AB&query=Scheltema+%22Javasche+Bank%22&coll=ddd&maxperpage=50&sortfield=date&page=1&identifier=ddd:010503238:mpeg21:a0007&resultsidentifier=ddd:010503238:mpeg21:a0007&rowid=4](https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?facets%5Bperiode%5D%5B%5D=0%7C19e_eeuw%7C&facets%5Bspatial%5D%5B%5D=Nederlands-Indi%C3%AB+%7C+Indonesi%C3%AB&query=Scheltema+%22Javasche+Bank%22&coll=ddd&maxperpage=50&sortfield=date&page=1&identifier=ddd:010503238:mpeg21:a0007&resultsidentifier=ddd:010503238:mpeg21:a0007&rowid=4).

of the Javasche Bank in Batavia.<sup>3</sup> Johann Erich Banck, Jr. (1833-1902) donated a missing “elegant model of a Javanese market” to the Koloniaal Museum Haarlem in 1885.<sup>4</sup> His father Johann Erich Banck, Sr. (1797-1857) was an executor and businessman in Surabaya, and between 1833 and 1837 was a commissary at the Javasche Bank in that same city.<sup>5</sup> In 1837 he occupied this position together with Arthur Fraser (1811-1881).<sup>6</sup> Fraser, who donated two market scenes (ABDUA:9572 and ABDUA:9496) to the Scottish lawyer and antiquary Alexander Thompson, was a founding member of the trading company Fraser, Eaton & Co in Surabaya. Before he left the Netherlands Indies in May 1846 to settle in Edinburgh, Scotland, he was commissary of the Javasche Bank, at least between 1837 and 1842.<sup>7</sup> Fraser, finally, was also a business associate of Anthony van Hoboken van Cortgene (1840-1922).<sup>8</sup> This Rotterdam businessman and trader, who donated the marketplace model to the Museum voor Land- en Volkenkunde in 1884 (WM-5205), was member of the wealthy merchant’s family A. van Hoboken & Zonen, later A. van Hoboken & Co. Van Hoboken van Cortgene operated his business from the Netherlands, but he invested in numerous Indies’ companies and infrastructural projects. Together with Arthur Fraser he made plans to establish a steam shipping line with Australia in 1866.<sup>9</sup> Together, these biographies suggest that the models circulated in a network or business milieu between Java and the Netherlands in the 1830s-1850s.

A few other research indications are too isolated to include in the analysis. They may provide openings for further research. Firstly, translation of the Chinese characters on the model of the Chinese courthouses in the Tropenmuseum (TM-A-11163a) and in Museum Volkenkunde (RV-360-5794) indicate that they depict the Haicheng County Court (Tropenmuseum) and Longxi County Main Hall (Magistrate’s Court; Volkenkunde). These neighbouring counties were merged into today’s Longhai District, in the south of the Chinese Fujian province. This is the area where most of the Peranakan Chinese in Java came from.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>3</sup> ‘Nederlanden’, Dagblad van ’s Gravenhage, 22 August 1849.

<https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?coll=ddd&resultsidentifier=ddd:010059963:mpeg21:a0004&page=1&maxperpage=50&identifier=ddd:010059963:mpeg21:p003&sortfield=date&objectsearch=Lingeman&query=Lingeman+%22Javasche+Bank%22>

<sup>4</sup> ‘Verslag over het Koloniaal Museum. Uit te brengen aan de Algemeene Vergadering in 1885’, *Tijdschrift uitgegeven door de Nederlandsche Maatschappij ter Bevordering van Nijverheid* 48 (1885), p. 174. Accessed 19 May 2021,

<https://www.delpher.nl/nl/tijdschriften/view?identifier=dts:2139001:mpeg21:0178&query=model+%22javaansche+markt%22&coll=dts&sortfield=date&page=1&rowid=3>.

<sup>5</sup> ‘Verschillende bekendmakingen’, *Javasche courant*, 25 April 1833.

<https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?query=%22J.E.+Banck%22+%22Javasche+Bank%22&coll=ddd&sortfield=date&identifier=ddd:010502296:mpeg21:a0010&resultsidentifier=ddd:010502296:mpeg21:a0010&rowid=1>

<sup>6</sup> ‘Verschillende bekendmakingen’, *Javasche courant*, 15 April 1837. Accessed 19 May 2021,

<https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?coll=ddd&resultsidentifier=ddd:010500919:mpeg21:a0012&identifier=ddd:010500919:mpeg21:a0012&sortfield=date&objectsearch=Banck+Fraser&query=%22J.E.+Banck%22+%22Javasche+Bank%22>.

<sup>7</sup> Ibidem; ‘Verschillende bekendmakingen’, *Javasche courant*, 19 February 1842. Accessed 19 May 2021,

<https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?query=%22Arthur+Fraser%22&coll=ddd&sortfield=date&identifier=ddd:010503155:mpeg21:a0007&resultsidentifier=ddd:010503155:mpeg21:a0007&rowid=3>.

<sup>8</sup> In 1892, Jean Henri Appellius van Hoboken (1835-1893) was vice-president of the Javasche Bank, but this is only a very distant family member of Anthony van Hoboken van Cortgene.

<sup>9</sup> ‘Kolonien, Batavia 14 september (per Engelsche mail)’, *Rotterdamsche courant*, 31 October 1866.

[https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?query=Samarang+Hoboken+%22Javasche+Bank%22&coll=ddd&sortfield=date&page=2&facets%5Bperiode%5D%5B%5D=0%7C19e\\_eeuw%7C&identifier=ddd:010389983:mpeg21:a0002&resultsidentifier=ddd:010389983:mpeg21:a0002&rowid=8](https://www.delpher.nl/nl/kranten/view?query=Samarang+Hoboken+%22Javasche+Bank%22&coll=ddd&sortfield=date&page=2&facets%5Bperiode%5D%5B%5D=0%7C19e_eeuw%7C&identifier=ddd:010389983:mpeg21:a0002&resultsidentifier=ddd:010389983:mpeg21:a0002&rowid=8)

<sup>10</sup> The author wants to thank Zhou Taomo and Seng Guo Quan for their translation and interpretation. The scenes can probably be related to the lithos in George Henry Mason, *The punishments of China, illustrated by twenty-two engravings with explanations in English and French* (London: W. Bulmer and Co., 1801).



Secondly, the description of the marketplace that was donated in 1904 to Bronbeek by C.A. Smits-Heineken reads: “Model of a bazaar [pasar] or festive bazaar [feestpasar] (Pasar Malam) [‘night market’] in the Vorstenlanden [Central Javanese princely states near Surakarta and Yogyakarta].”<sup>11</sup>

Finally, the figures on model TM-H-511, donated by Dirk Scheltema to the Koloniaal Museum in Haarlem, inspired the French amateur draftsman Ernest du Bois de Jancigny (1790-1862) to make a few drawings that were later published as lithographs by Coenraad Ritsema under the title “Types Indiens pris au marché à Sourabaya”.<sup>12</sup> Interestingly, even though the title explicitly refers to the cabinet of Scheltema, the figures on TM-H-511 and their activities do not match with the drawings of Du Bois de Jancigny. In fact, the drawings are more similar to the Rijksmuseum model than to Scheltema’s model in Koloniaal Museum in Haarlem.<sup>13</sup>

### Suggestions for further research

Further archival research to any of the other models may result in new research leads and indications of the time and place of the creation of this type of models. Another research option to find information about the Javasche Bank is the large business archive of this bank that is held by Bank Nasional Indonesia in Jakarta.<sup>14</sup> Finally, a detailed analysis of the clothes, kerises, and payungs may provide further indications to the regional and temporal characteristics of the figures.

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<sup>11</sup> ‘Model van een pasar of feestpasar (Pasar Malam) in de Vorstenlanden’

<sup>12</sup> E. Dubois, ‘Types indiens pris au marché à Sourabaya: dessinés d’après des figures, qui se trouvent dans le cabinet de D. Scheltema’, (Haarlem: J.J. van Brederode, 1860); L. Haks and G. Maris, *Lexicon of Foreign Artists who Visualised Indonesia* (Utrecht: Bestebreurtje 1995), 137.

<sup>13</sup> Compare for instance the regent and his entourage of three on the model with the wedono and his entourage on the image ‘Boeaginees; Wedono; Toe Kang Reaal’ in Dubois, ‘Types indiens’, accessed 7 April 2021, [https://digitalcollections.universiteitleiden.nl/search/Jancigny%20Dubois%2C%20Ernest%20de?type=edismax&cp=collection%3Akitlv\\_photos](https://digitalcollections.universiteitleiden.nl/search/Jancigny%20Dubois%2C%20Ernest%20de?type=edismax&cp=collection%3Akitlv_photos).

<sup>14</sup> J.T.M. van Laanen, ‘Het archief van De Javasche Bank: 125 jaar bedrijfs-, monetaire en algemeen economische geschiedenis van Nederlands-Indië’, *Nederlands Archiefblad* 87-3 (1983): 275-297.