Statements
accompanying the dissertation

A Study of Architect Cosman Citroen (1881-1935) and His Works in Surabaya

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1. In its trajectory from a draughtsman to an independent professional architect with an international award, the career of the architect Cosman Citroen started from the lowest position in the architectural domain, and ended at the highest level.

2. Citroen’s works were accepted by the various communities in Surabaya because they turned out to be successful combinations of contemporary Dutch and international architectural elements, and local ones.

3. Citroen should be commemorated not only through his works but also through his social activities.

4. The success of Citroen resulted from a combination of strong will, high capabilities, available opportunities, an extensive network and above all the support of Surabaya Mayor G.J. Dijkerman.

5. Research into the works of the Austrian-Dutch engineer B.N. de Vistarini (b. Marburg a/d Drau, Austria, 8 April 1891 - d. after 1938) is necessary to deepen our insight into the architecture of the Netherlands Indies, and especially into the architectural developments in Surabaya before the Second World War.

6. In a few illustrated pages in A. Boeken, J.H. van den Broek, G. Friedhoff a.o. (eds.), Nederlandse Architectuur: Uitgevoerde Werken van Bouwkundige Ingenieurs (Amsterdam: Argus, 1956), 15-21, J.H. van den Broek supplies his readers with rather interesting information on how - in the mid fifties - pre-war Dutch architecture in the Netherlands Indies was evaluated.

7. Research into the more than 100 sugar mills and compounds that were realized in the Netherlands Indies from the late of 19th century up to the Second World War can throw light upon the raise and development of a building and settlement type that up to now has been overlooked by Dutch architectural historians.

8. For an architectural historian, illustrations (photographs, sketches, maps, blueprints etc.) have an importance that is equal to that of textual sources. They often ‘speak’ out more than the textual ones.

9. In the information technology era, well-organized data and the mastering of a variety of computer software programs will accelerate finishing a dissertation, but a Repetitive Strain Injury will decelerate it.

10. Leiden is conducive for the study but unfavourable for the wallet.