

BOOK LAUNCH SIMON(E) VAN SAARLOOS

On May 23, 2023, the Graduate Gender Studies programme and the Modern and Contemporary Literature Research Group (ICON) organise a **book launch of Simon(e) van Saarloos' new book *Against Ageism. A Queer Manifesto*** in Utrecht.

Time: 16:00 - 17:30 hrs

Location: Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.01

Writer, scholar and activist Simon(e) van Saarloos will be joined by [Eva Hayward](#) (Media and Culture Studies/Gender Studies), [Domi Olivieri](#) (Media and Culture Studies/Gender Studies), and [Mia You](#) (English Language and Culture) to discuss Van Saarloos' new book *Against Ageism. A Queer Manifesto*. All are welcome for this open conversation on ageism, trans time, aging, nuclear family life, queer daddies, criminalization, consent, sex and intergenerational intimacy.

Against Ageism: A Queer Manifesto starts with what it is not: it is not a socio-economic argument against ageism, celebrating "the elderly" as economically viable.

Author Simon(e) van Saarloos is not interested in natural arguments about age, which portray different age groups as valuable because of assumed inherent qualities. Instead, this manifesto starts with an experience of childhood sexual abuse, and moves on to dissect the ways in which constructions of "age" and "youth" function to support and reproduce white supremacist patriarchy. Engaging with age and time in relation to crip and queer theory, anti-carceral approaches to harm and colonial notions of linear time, *Against Ageism* calls to abolish the legal age of consent, as well as age related voting rights.

Simon(e) van Saarloos is the author of *Playing Monogamy, Take 'Em Down. Scattered Monuments and Queer Forgetting* and *Against Ageism. A Queer Manifesto*. They also write fiction. Recent productions include the short sci-fi story "[Dreamdead Surrender](#)" (Postmodern Culture Journal) and [De Foetushemel](#), a theater play about abortion and violent resistance for Ulrike Quade Company at Bellevue Theater Amsterdam.

Van Saarloos works as an independent curator of public programming and artistic collaborations. Recent projects include the installation [Cruising Gezi Park, the spread of a mo\(nu\)ment](#), IDFA's 2022's [queer day Not Yet Yes](#), the 2023 lecture series [Juicy Refuge](#) at Rietveld Academy's Studium Generale, multi-year transnational queer community, nightlife and art project [Through the Window](#), and the [ABUNDANCE](#) exhibition at Het HEM.

They currently pursue a PhD in Rhetoric at the University of California, Berkeley.



Against Ageism
A QUEER MANIFESTO

23 MAY 2023
JK15A, RM 001

Simon(e) van Saarloos
in conversation with
Domi Olivieri, Mia You
& Eva Hayward

CO-ORGANIZED BY GENDER STUDIES &
MODERN & CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

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