

Date of birth: 21-11-1949, Doctor of Oriental Philology (1976).

Professor, tenured, in charge of the chair of Japanese studies, Department of Oriental Studies, Catholic University of Leuven (1981-to present).

Visiting professor, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto (1993).

Chairman of the Educational Affairs Committee of the Department of Oriental Studies (October 1983-September 1990).

Chairman of the Department of Oriental and Slavonic Studies (1993-2001).

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Instituut voor Levende Talen (Institute of Modern Languages), Catholic University of Leuven, (1996-).

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Centrum voor Levende Talen (Centre of Modern Languages), a non-profit institution sponsored by the government in cooperation with the Catholic University of Leuven, (1996-).

Head of the Department of Area Studies (2010-2013).

Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Royal Museums of Art and History, Brussels (2013-).

Chairman of the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists - 日本資料専門家欧州協会 (2003-).

Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Koninklijke Musea voor Kunst en Geschiedenis/Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, Brussels (2013-present).

Awarded the Japan Foundation Special Prize of the year 2000 for contributing to a better relationship between Japan and Europe as an educator and a scholar (2000-).

[Recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun with Gold Rays and Neck Ribbon](#), 9 June 2006.

[Awarded an honorary doctorate at Kansai University](#), 28 June 2009.

Publications

Numerous articles in internationally reviewed journals, articles in other scientific journals etc.

Books as author:

& Ludo Meyvis. *Japan: Het onvoltooide experiment*. Tiel: Drukkerij-Uitgeverij Lannoo, 1989, 224 pp.

Haiku: van scherts tot experiment. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2003, 119 pp.

Een geschiedenis van Japan: Van samurai tot soft power. Derde herwerkte uitgave. Leuven: Acco, 2014, 517 pp.

Books as editor:

& al.eds. *L'homme et son image / De mens: beeld en evenbeeld*. Brussels: Europalia Foundation International, 1989, 390 pp.

& Kazuhiko Kasaya, co-ed. *Dodonæus in Japan: Translation and the Scientific Mind in the Tokugawa Period*. Leuven & Kyoto: Leuven University Press & International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2001, 383 pp.¹

& Paul Servais, ed. *Orientalia: Études orientales et bibliothèques à Leuven et Louvain-la-Neuve*. Symbolae Facultatis litterarum Lovaniensis B, vol. 20. Louvain: Leuven University Press, 2001, 193 pp.

& Noël Golvers, co-ed. *The History of the Relations Between the Low Countries and China in the Qing Era (1644-1911)*. Leuven Chinese Studies XIV. Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2003, 508 pp.

¹ Reviewed in Benjamin A. Elman, *Journal of Asian Studies* 62:3 (Aug 2003), pp. 963-965; Margarita Winkel, *IIAS Newsletter* 32 (Nov 2003), p.32; Michael R. Auslin, *Monumenta Nipponica* 58:4 (Winter 2003), pp. 556-558.

Japan & Belgium: Four Centuries of Exchange. Brussels: Commissioners-General of the Belgian Government at the Universal Exposition of Aichi 2005, Japan, 2005, 423 pp.

Articles in or parts of books

- "Count Charles Descantons de Montblanc, Agent for the Lord of Satsuma." In *Leaders and Leadership in Japan*, ed. Ian Neary, pp. 39-55. Richmond Surrey: Japan Library, 1996.
- "Kotowaza no gengo shisō" ことわざの言語思想. In *Kotowazagaku nyūmon* ことわざ学入門, ed. Kotowaza kenkyūkai ことわざ研究会, pp. 157-171. Tokyo: Yūgisha 遊戯社, 1997 (in Japanese).
- "Belgium: 17-24 February 1873." In *The Iwakura Mission in America and Europe: A New Assessment*, ed. Ian Nish, pp. 86-108. Richmond (Surrey) Sandgate: Curzon Japan Library, 1998.
- "The encounter between Europe and Asia in Pre-colonial Times." In *Asian Values-encounter with Diversity*, ed. J. Cariquelin, P. Lim, & B. Mayer-Konig. Richmond (Surrey) Sandgate: Curzon Japan Library, 1998.
- Chapter on "Linguistics." In vol. 1 of *Handbook of Christianity in China*, ed. Nicolas Standaert, pp. 861-878. Leiden, Boston & Köln: Brill, 2001.
- "The Iwakura Mission in Belgium." In *19 Seiki no Nihon to Berugī: Kindaika to kokusai kankyō* 19世紀の日本とベルギー - 近代化と国際環境 (Japan and Belgium in the 19th Century: Modernization and the International Environment), ed. Asaji Keizō et al., pp. 61-72. Osaka: Kansai Daigaku, 2002.
- "Berugī: Shōkoku ga idai ni naru hōhō; 1873 nen nigatsu jūshichinichi - nijūyokka" ベルギー : 小国が偉大になる方法 - 1873年2月17日-24日. In *Ōbei kara mita Iwakura shisetsudan* 欧米から見た岩倉使節団 (The Iwakura Mission seen from Europe and America), pp. 123-152. Kyoto: Minerva Shobō, 2002.
- "Belgian Treaties with China and Japan under King Leopold I." In *The History of the Relations Between the Low Countries and China in the Qing Era (1644-1911)*, ed. W.F. Vande Walle & co-ed. Noël Golvers, pp. 419-437. Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2003.
- "Iwakura shisetsudan to shōkokushugi" 岩倉使節団と小国主義. In *Iwakura shisetsudan no saihakken* 岩倉使節団の再発見, ed. Beiō kairan no kai 米欧回覧の会, pp. 161-167. Kyoto: Shibunkaku shuppan 思文閣出版, 2003.
- "Le comte de Montblanc (1833-1894) - entre commerce et diplomatie." In *Actes du troisième colloque d'études japonaises de l'Université Marc Bloch - La Rencontre du Japon et de l'Europe: Images d'une découverte*, ed. Sakae Murakami-Giroux, pp. 295-318. Strasbourg/Colmar: Centre Européen d'Études Japonaises d'Alsace Département d'Études Japonaises de l'Université Marc Bloch, 2006.
- "Tabi to seihen: Bakumatsu Meiji shoki o ryokō shita Monburan haku (Shiroyama haku) 旅と政変—幕末明治初期を旅行したモンブラン伯 (白山伯) ." In *Tabi to Nihon hakken: Idō to kōtsū no bunka keiseiryoku* 旅と日本発見—移動と交通の文化形成力, ed. Shirahata Yōzaburō 白幡洋三郎, pp. 209-232. Nichibunken sōsho 日文研叢書 43. Kyoto: Daigaku kyōdō riyō kikan hōjin ningen bunka kenkyū kikō 大学共同利用機関法人人間文化研究機構 - Kokusai Nihon Bunka Kenkyū Sentā 国際日本文化研究センター, 2009.
- "Geographical Intelligence on the Tartar Lands in Pereyra's time. The Peking - Moscow - Amsterdam Connection." In *Tomás Pereira, S.J. (1646-1708): Life, Work and World*, ed. Luís Filipe Barreto, pp. 375-432. Lisbon: Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau, 2010.