



# Uitnodiging

Publisher AUP and SPUI25 cordially invite you

**Monday, March 6, 2017, 17:00h**

to the presentation of the book:

## Computerpioniers

by Gerard Alberts & Bas van Vlijmen

Midsummer 1952 The Netherlands entered the digital age through the dedication event of the ARRA, de Automatic Relay Calculator Amsterdam. Its technical performance was low, it never worked properly after the inauguration, but the cultural impact was deep. It was the era of constructing such automatic calculators as the ARRA, the ZEBRA and the X1. If the constructors and users were called pioneers, society made them pioneers. The cultural effect preceded the computational effectiveness.

### *Hidden figures*

The book *Computerpioniers* offers a cultural history of The Netherlands in the 1950s. It relates the story of the "Wave-Dynamics Club" of scientists and engineers "gently competing" their experimental digital and analogue devices. It sheds light on Van Wijngaarden's girls, the hidden figures of "modern computing" in The Netherlands –the movie by that title is released in The Netherlands only on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**On March 6, 17:00 h**, authors and special guests will dedicate the book.

**Hans Blom**, professor of contemporary history and former director of NIOD, discusses the Dutch road to modernisation in the 1950s.

**Gerard Alberts** demonstrates the sounds of modern computing.

**Dineke Kronemeijer-Botterweg**, the computer on the cover, will receive the first copy of the book.

**Els Kloek**, of *1001 vrouwen-fame*, will interview the 85 year old lady and make sure she is hidden no longer.

Moderator is **Machiel Keestra**, Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies, UvA



### **Computerpioniers**

Gerard Alberts & Bas van Vlijmen | paperback  
€ 22,95 | ISBN: 978 94 6298 378 6 | 20 feb 2017  
Further information [click here](#).

**Gerard Alberts**, historian of digital cultures, is an associate professor at the Korteweg – de Vries Institute for Mathematics, University of Amsterdam.

**Bas van Vlijmen** is a computer scientist, editor of scientific journals, and creates art on the theme of man and technology.

**Venue:** SPUI25

**Address:** Spui 25-27 | 1012 XM Amsterdam

**Date & time:** Monday March 6 | 17:00 PM

**To attend the presentation,**  
please register [here](#)

**Video:** "Remembering ARRA", can be viewed at Google's [computingheritage channel](#)