

# Carlo Bretti

PHD CANDIDATE

Amsterdam, Netherlands

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I am a PhD candidate in computer vision and multimedia working on video understanding, with a focus on movies and cultural artifacts. I have 5 years of experience leading and conducting independent research projects, ranging from developing zero-shot action recognition models to comprehensively testing multi-modal LLMs for movie understanding.

## Experience

### University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

PHD CANDIDATE, MULTIMEDIA ANALYTICS LAB (MULTIX)

Sep. 2022 - currently

- Worked on multiple research projects, from training small models for use-specific video understanding tasks, to inference with vision-language models for retrieval and large scale video collection analysis
- Teaching in Master's level ML courses and supervising multiple student theses and other research projects.
- Supervised by dr. Nanne van Noord and dr. Pascal Mettes.

### National Institute of Informatics

Tokyo, Japan

RESEARCH INTERN, SHIN'ICHI SATOH'S LAB

Sep. 2025 - Feb. 2026

- Visited prof. Shin'ichi Satoh's lab to work on NII TV-RECS, a large scale video corpus consisting of the past 17 years of television broadcast across 7 channels.
- Worked on exploring a collection of 30M video advertisements. Developed a pipeline for deduplication, automatic annotation, and analysis to identify trends in 17 years worth of ads.

### University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, VIDEO AND IMAGE SENSE LAB (VIS LAB)

Feb. 2022 - Aug. 2022

- Worked on automatic trailer-worthy scene selection for movies and TV shows, to assist editors in their creative efforts.
- Combining visual and semantic information from long-form content to identify trailer-worthy scenes.
- In collaboration with RTL Nederland, supervised by dr. Pascal Mettes and dr. Daan Odijk, in prof. Cees Snoek's lab.

### VICE Media

Amsterdam, Netherlands

DATA & INSIGHTS INTERN

Jan. 2020 - Jun. 2020

- Survey building, reporting, data cleaning, analysis, and visualization using Excel, SPSS Statistics, and Google Dashboard
- Wrote a VBA macro to speed up data cleaning practices, and a web scraping tool for task automation.

## Education

### University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

MSc IN DATA SCIENCE

Sep. 2020 - Jul. 2021

- Focused on computer vision during my thesis, working on zero-shot action recognition in videos, advised by dr. Pascal Mettes
- Graduated cum laude and resulting paper accepted at BMVC 2021.

### University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

BSc IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE

Sep. 2017 - Jun. 2020

- Graduated with honors in persuasive communication, with a focus on developing effective messaging for health communication.
- Completed a minor in Data Science and AI, interned at VICE Media working on data analytics.

## Publications

**Carlo Bretti**, Pascal Mettes, Nanne van Noord. ["Are Multimodal LLMs Movie Buffs?"](#). In: *EACL Findings*, 2026.

**Carlo Bretti**, Pascal Mettes, Hendrik Vincent Koops, Daan Odijk and Nanne van Noord. ["Find the Cliffhanger: Multi-modal Trailerness in Soap Operas"](#). In: *MMM* 2024.

**Carlo Bretti** and Pascal Mettes. ["Zero-Shot Action Recognition from Diverse Object-Scene Compositions"](#). In: *BMVC*, 2021.