

# NEWW newsletter

1.3

October 2007

## ISECS Enlightenment Congress, Montpellier



In July, the NEWW project organized a round table session during the Twelfth International Enlightenment Congress (quadrennial congress organized by ISECS - International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies) held at Montpellier. Some of us had dinner together afterwards. Seated clockwise: Vanda Anastacio, Teresa Almeida, Suzan van Dijk, Ursula Stöhler, Marianne Alenius, Gillian Dow and (seen from back) Susan Dalton and Michaela Mudure (photo: Marie-Pierre Legrand).

### **NEWW project news**

In July, at the 12<sup>th</sup> quadrennial International Enlightenment Congress of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, held at Montpellier, NEWW organized a round table session, in which NEWW members Susan Dalton, Ursula Stohler, Marie-Pierre Legrand and Suzan van Dijk participated. The session, in French and English, entitled “L’importance d’Internet pour la reconstitution d’une histoire au féminin”, was well attended. Presentations of projects concerning Italian, Russian and French women, and of the database WomenWriters, were commented and discussed with visible enthusiasm. During the discussion other NEWW members were also present: Gillian

Dow, Vanda Anastacio, Teresa Almeida, Zeina Hakim, Marianne Alenius and Ileana Mihaila. Possible collaboration was also discussed with Michaela Mudure and Hilde Hoogenboom.

The digitizing project “The International Reception of Women’s Writing”(2004-2007), which concentrated on the reception of women’s writings in the Netherlands, came to an end in September. This means that, for the moment, project assistants Susanne Parren and Johanneke Straasheijm will no longer participate in our continuing activities. We would like to express here our gratitude for their valuable contribution, as well as our hope that we will be able to invite them to join us again in a next phase.

On September 21, at the Huygens Institute in The Hague, the closure of “The International

Reception of Women's Writing" (2004-2007) was marked with a workshop focusing especially on using the database in teaching. Speakers included Gillian Dow (University of Southampton), as well as Rotraud van Kulesa's student Ann Böckle, who described their experiences working with the database, and suggested possibilities for new research lines within the programme. In the afternoon, we celebrated the "Susannas" in the project, and in particular project assistant Susanne Parren. Karina van Dalen-Oskam (literary onomastics, Huygens Institute) and Yvonne Bleyerveld (art history, University of Utrecht) discussed names in novels and "Susanna" as a symbolically charged name. This opened reflection on the necessity of the database's new version being able to support comparative research dealing with this type of questions.

As for the electronic conference which was launched in Geneva in May 2007, we have concluded that this way of communicating does not work well for us, at least for the time being. In order to create concrete forms of collaboration, focused discussions between the executive committee and individual NEWW members seem preferable. Members will be contacted by Suzan van Dijk during the coming months about possibilities and opportunities for collaboration, both in research as well as in teaching. Please feel free to make suggestions or raise concerns or any questions you may have.

In September, Suzan van Dijk applied for a grant from NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research) to cover the costs of preparing a completely new version (2.0) of the database WomenWriters. This would cover the costs of administering the project for the period 2008-2010. The University of Groningen, where NEWW members Alicia C. Montoya and Petra Broomans are based, declared itself willing to provide part of the required financial matching.

The executive committee (Suzan van Dijk, Anke Gilleir and Alicia C. Montoya) met again in September in Utrecht, where they looked back on the activities of the previous months and discussed upcoming NEWW events, notably the first in our series of "November meetings", and the Chawton NEWW conference in May 2008.

## Upcoming meetings and events

September 21-December 21, Geneva. *Emile, Sophie, Claudine et les autres: littérature et éducation entre normes de genre et émancipation*. Seminar organized by the University of Geneva's Gender studies programme, including lectures by NEWW members Gillian Dow (November 16), Agnese Fidecaro (November 23), and Henriette Partzsch (November 30). For details, please contact Agnese Fidecaro: 022 379 73 28.

October 13, Bremen. The network *FrideL, Frauen in der Literaturwissenschaft*, coordinated by Anke Gilleir, is organizing a workshop on the historiography of women's literature. Suzan van Dijk will present the NEWW project there, and other speakers will present similar initiatives. For details, see <http://www.fridelev.de/>

October 20, Utrecht. The Belle de Zuylen/ Isabelle de Charrière Association will hold its annual meeting. Lectures will be given by Magdalene Heuser (Osnabrück/Berlin) about the Charrière-Huber connection and by Ruud Spruit, who will present a new television film about Belle de Zuylen. Caroline Godfrey, studying at Southampton University, will receive the Belle van Zuylen prize, awarded every two years to an MA thesis on Belle van Zuylen or a contemporary woman author. For details, contact Suzan.vanDijk@let.uu.nl.

October 24-27, Leuven. *Irish women writers: national and European contexts*. International conference organized by K.U. Leuven. Plenary speakers will be Patricia Coughlan, Ann Owen Weekes, Anne Fogarty, Anne Enright and Sinéad Morrissey. For further information, contact Elke D'hoker: [elke.dhoker@arts.kuleuven.be](mailto:elke.dhoker@arts.kuleuven.be) or Hedwig Schwall: [Hedwig.Schwall@arts.kuleuven.be](mailto:Hedwig.Schwall@arts.kuleuven.be).

October 25-27, Nancy. Conference on Romantisme et frontière, organized by the Centre d'études germaniques et interculturelles de Lorraine (CEGIL). Kerstin Wiedemann will present a paper entitled "Recréer l'unité perdue:

E.T.A. Hoffmann et le théâtre de Nohant de George Sand.”

November 8, Chawton House Library. *Remapping Austen. Jane Austen in Europe and Beyond*. A one-day conference to mark the launch of *The Reception of Jane Austen in Europe*, edited by Anthony Mandal and Brian Southam. Speakers include NEWW members Gillian Dow and Suzan van Dijk. For details, see [www.chawton.org](http://www.chawton.org), or contact Gillian Dow ([G.Dow@soton.ac.uk](mailto:G.Dow@soton.ac.uk)) or Anthony Mandal ([Mandal@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:Mandal@cardiff.ac.uk)).

November 8-9, 2007, Düsseldorf. International conference *Übersetzen im Vormärz. Erkundung eines untergegangenen Kontinents*. Kerstin Wiedemann will speak about “Übersetzung und Rezeptionssteuerung: Das Beispiel der frühen Romane George Sands und ihre Übertragungen ins Deutsche”.

November 16, Brussels. Study day organized by the CELV-CETRA (Centre for the Study of English Literature in Dutch Translation) about “Anglo-Dutch Relations in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century”. A NEWW panel about women’s roles in this context will include Lizet Duyvendak, Stephanie Walker and Suzan van Dijk. For further information, see [tom.toremans@kubrussel.be](mailto:tom.toremans@kubrussel.be).

November 22, Utrecht. NEWW is organizing the first of its yearly “November meetings”, in collaboration with the Huizinga Institute / Interuniversity Dutch Doctoral School in Cultural History, entitled “What is a female author? Who is a woman writer?”. Speakers will include NEWW members Teresa Sousa de Almeida and Vanda Anastácio, Agnese Fidecaro, and Zsuzsanna Varga, as well as Dutch doctoral students Annemarie Doornbos and Nina Geerdink. For information and registration, contact [huizinga-fgw@uva.nl](mailto:huizinga-fgw@uva.nl).

November 23, Groningen. The Centre for Gender Studies of the Faculty of Arts, together with the Department of Romance Languages, is hosting a lecture by NEWW members Vanda Anastácio and Teresa Sousa de Almeida, entitled “Between convent and salon: the writings of

Portuguese women writers in the 18<sup>th</sup> century”. For details, contact [A.C.Montoya@rug.nl](mailto:A.C.Montoya@rug.nl).

December 6-7, Groningen. Workshop of the “Peripheral autonomy-project” funded by NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research): *The Development of Literary Fields and the Influence of Foreign Literature from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century until 1950*, conference site: [www.rug.nl/grssh/peripheralautonomy](http://www.rug.nl/grssh/peripheralautonomy).)

December 7-8, Edinburgh. International conference “*Ut Pictura Poesis* and the *Querelle des femmes*: Dedicating, Prefacing, Portraying and Engraving in Early Modern France”, organized by the University of Edinburgh. Keynote addresses will be made by Prof. Sharon Nell (“Introducing heroic women in the seventeenth century”), Prof. Gabriella Parussa (“Femmes actrices au Moyen Age”) and Prof. Nicole Pellegrin (“De quelques frontispices d'ouvrages féminins de la fin du XVIIIe siècle”). Speakers will include NEWW members Gillian Dow and Séverine Genieys-Kirk. For more information, see the conference website <http://www.selc.ed.ac.uk/french/> or contact Séverine Genieys-Kirk: [sgenieyskirk@yahoo.ie](mailto:sgenieyskirk@yahoo.ie)

January 18, Paris. Opening session of the seminar of the AIRE (Association internationale pour la recherche sur l'épistolaire). Suzan van Dijk will present a paper on Isabelle de Charrière’s correspondence. For information, please contact [genevieve.haroche@wanadoo.fr](mailto:genevieve.haroche@wanadoo.fr).

## **NEWW calls for papers**

CALL FOR PAPERS. On May 22-23, the second annual NEWW conference will be held, organized in collaboration with the University of Southampton English Discipline, the University of Warwick French Department and Swansea University German Section. Keynote speakers are Isabelle Bour (Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris III), Helen Chambers (University of St Andrews) and Dena Goodman (University of Michigan). Proposals are invited for this interdisciplinary two-day conference to be held at Chawton House Library, Hampshire.

The eighteenth and nineteenth centuries saw an explosion of interest in Europe in foreign languages and literatures, and recent research has begun to explore the part played by women in cross-cultural interchange. This conference seeks to examine the trans-national links between literary women in Europe in the period 1700-1900. To what extent were women writers from different countries aware of each other and each other's work? We invite papers which look at women who read or were inspired by the work of women abroad, as well as papers exploring actual links (for example, through correspondence, visits or contact in the salons) between women writers of different nationalities.

Papers should be a maximum of 20 minutes and should be given in English. Please send a 250-word abstract for the attention of the organisers Katherine Astbury, Hilary Brown and Gillian Dow to the conference administrator Sandy White: [sw17@soton.ac.uk](mailto:sw17@soton.ac.uk) <<mailto:sw17@soton.ac.uk>> The deadline for abstracts is 7th January 2008.

**CALLS FOR PARTICIPATION.** We would like to send NEWW delegations, consisting of a panel of 3-5 members, to some of the following conferences. If you wish to participate in one of them, please contact Suzan van Dijk.

- March 27-30, 2008, Portland (Oregon), ASECS (American Association for Eighteenth Century Studies). NEWW will be organizing a roundtable, "Toward a transnational and relational history of women's writing", call for papers, see: <http://asecs.press.jhu.edu/2008CFP.htm>
- May 9-11, 2008, Leeds. Women in French conference. See previous NEWW newsletter for the full call.
- July 8-10, 2008, Aberdeen. *The novel and its borders*, on novels crossing borders, 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries (proposal deadline: 31 December, call for papers : <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/novelconference/>)
- July 21-23, 2008, London. *Evidence of reading, reading the evidence*, on the history of reading, 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries (proposal deadline: 31 January, 2008, for the full call for papers, see:

<http://ies.sas.ac.uk/events/conferences/2008/RED/index.htm>)

## Database news

The database *WomenWriters* at present (September 2007) contains 17,639 notices concerning the reception of women's literary works before 1900; of these, 13,075 concern the Dutch reception. From this point onward, because of the closure of the previous digitizing project, progress may be slower than before for some time. All NEWW members are however invited to enter any of their own data that may be of interest to colleagues, and to experiment and comment on the user-friendliness of the tool. This feedback will be important in discussions about perfecting and upgrading the database. The database in its present form can be consulted at: [www.databasewomenwriters.nl](http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl).

On the companion website, *Women Writers' Networks* ([www.womenwriters.nl](http://www.womenwriters.nl)), it is now possible to access some classifications and preliminary results (see "Dutch sources"). During the coming months, their number will grow as new text is added to the site.

## Teaching

At Southampton University, Gillian Dow is teaching an MA Unit focusing on the reception of European women writers in Britain in the Romantic period.

NEWW members interested in creating a course that makes use of the Women Writers database are encouraged to contact Suzan van Dijk.

## Conference reports

In July, in Utrecht, at the International conference "Re-Mediating Literature", Suzan van Dijk presented a paper on the benefit to be gained from systematic use of online resources such as, for the Netherlands, digitized early 19<sup>th</sup>-century literary histories: considerable quantities of information are to be found on women writers whose names have since been forgotten as well as, of course, striking examples of gender bias.

In August 2007, Séverine Genieys-Kirk presented a paper at the *IFRWH conference, Women, Gender and the Cultural Production of Knowledge, held at the University of St. Kliment Ohridski, Sofia*. Her paper entitled 'Women and knowledge in the works of Madeleine-Angélique de Gomez, Eliza Haywood and Ann Thicnesse : a cross-cultural perspective' sought to explore the ways in which we can assess the role female writers played in the shaping of a cultural memory for women by women. Although this multidisciplinary conference, which gathered historians, sociologists and anthropologists from all over the world, mainly concentrated on contemporary issues, equally fascinating papers focussed on the early modern period, and more particularly on 'Women, Writing and Cultural Transmission in Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century Ireland': Mary O'Dowd (Queen's University, Belfast), 'Women readers and Irish Periodicals c. 1770-1820'; Rosemary Raughter (University College Dublin), 'Temporal Affairs and Paternal Conflicts: reading between the lines in the Spiritual Journal of Elizabeth Bennis', Clara Cullen (University College Dublin) 'Women and the Pursuit of Scientific Learning in nineteenth-century Ireland', Nini Rodgers (Queen's University, Belfast), 'Women's writing in a revolutionary age: The Works of Mary Leadbeater'. Other panels revisited women's movements and feminisms throughout the nineteenth century: June Purvis (University of Portsmouth, UK): 'Memory and myth Making in writing British suffrage history: cultural representations of Christabel Pankhurst (1880-1957), suffragette leader in Edwardian Britain'; Nadine Boucherin (University of Fribourg, Switzerland), 'Women between Political Culture and Medical Knowledge: The Fight around Representations', and Lea Laitinen and Kaisa Kauranen (Finland): 'Three women as writers and social activists in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Finland'.

NEWW members planning to speak at other conferences are encouraged to use to occasion to distribute the new NEWW flyers to interested colleagues (for extra copies, please contact Suzan van Dijk).

## Member profiles

Mónica Bolufer Peruga is Senior Lecturer in Early Modern History at the University of Valencia (Spain) and has also held visiting positions at various Spanish and European universities. She is a cultural historian specialising in the Spanish eighteenth century and its European context, particularly from a gender perspective. Her research fields include eighteenth-century discourses on gender; women's writing; privacy and domesticity; the secularization of morality in conduct books and medical advice literature; the making of European identities, and cultural contacts between Spain and the rest of Europe (correspondence, travel, translation). Her publications include three books: *Mujeres e Ilustración. La construcción de la feminidad en la España del siglo XVIII* (Valencia, 1998); *Amor, matrimonio y familia. La construcción histórica de la familia moderna* (Madrid, 1998), in collaboration with Isabel Morant, and a study and critical edition of Antonio Ponz's *Viaje fuera de España [1785]* (Alicante, forthcoming 2007), as well as articles in journals such as *Gender and History*; *History Workshop*; *Clio. Histoire, Femmes et Sociétés*; *Women. A Cultural Review*; *Dieciocho. Hispanic Enlightenment*; and *Cheiron*, among others. She has been assistant editor of the collective work *Historia de las mujeres en España y América Latina*, ed. Isabel Morant (Madrid, 2005-2006, 4 volumes), and has recently finished a biography of the writer and translator Inés Joyes, together with an edition of her *Apología de las mujeres [1798]*.

Hilary Brown is Lecturer in German at Swansea University. Her research focuses on German women's writing from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, and she is particularly interested in how early women's writing in Germany fits into the wider context of European literary history. She has published a book on *Benedikte Naubert (1756-1819) and her Relations to English Culture* (2005) and articles on other women writers including Sophie von La Roche, Luise Gottsched and Johanna Eleonora Petersen. She is currently working on women

and translation in Germany in the period 1600-1760. In 2004, she co-organized a conference on women translators in France and Germany (*Übersetzungskultur im 18. Jahrhundert: Übersetzerinnen in Deutschland und Frankreich*, Forschungszentrum Europäische Aufklärung, Potsdam). Along with Gillian Dow (Southampton) and Katherine Astbury (Warwick), she is currently co-organizing the conference on *Readers, Writers, Salonnières: Female Networks in Europe, 1700-1900*, Chawton House Library, 22-23 May 2008.

Gina Luria Walker is Associate Professor of Women's Studies at The New School in New York City, where she teaches Women's Intellectual History to undergraduates, as well as graduate students at The New School for Social Research. She is also Guest Faculty in Global Studies for 20007-8 at Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, where she teaches "The World's Women during the Enlightenment." Her current research and writing projects include a popular history of women intellectuals; collaboration with Mary Spongberg (Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia) and Arianne Chernock (Boston University) on "Writing/Rewriting Feminist History 1792-1918"; and inquiry into women's autodidactic participation in the production of new knowledge in the modern period. In March 2008 at meeting of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism ("NASSR") in Bologna she will chair and participate in a panel on "Female Biography: Imagined Communities of Women Intellectual." Gina is eager to learn what is known about early learned women in diverse cultures.

Liselotte Vandenbussche holds a PhD from Ghent University, where she studied liberal women writers' contributions to literary and cultural journals in Flanders (1870-1914). Her research will be published as *Het veld der verbeelding. Het aandeel, de receptie en het literair-sociale gedrag van niet-confessionele publicistes in Vlaamse, literaire en algemeen-culturele tijdschriften, 1870-1914* (Gent: Koninklijke Academie voor Nederlandse Taal- en Letterkunde). She is currently starting a research project on literary translators in

Flanders (1830-1914) at the University College of Ghent (Hogeschool Gent). Her research will focus on male and female translators transferring foreign literature to Flanders. It will study their efforts and strategies to introduce particular authors as well as the text-intrinsic aspects of their translations. This project is directed by dr. Stefaan Evenepoel (HoGent) and prof. dr. Marysa Demoor (UGent).

Please send your brief profile (300 words maximum) for inclusion in one of the following newsletters to: [A.C.Montoya@rug.nl](mailto:A.C.Montoya@rug.nl).

### **Recent books by NEWW members**

Gramich, Katie, *Twentieth-Century Women's Writing in Wales: Land, Gender, Belonging*, Cardiff, University of Wales Press, 2007.

Luria Walker, Gina, *The Idea of Being Free: A Mary Hays Reader*, Broadview Press, 2005

Luria Walker, Gina, *Mary Hays (1759-1843): The Growth of a Woman's Mind*, Ashgate 2006.

### **Edited volumes by NEWW members**

Brown, Hilary (ed.), *Landmarks in German Women's Writing*, Oxford, Peter Lang, 2007.

Lombez, Christine and Von Kulesa, Rotraud (ed.), *De la traduction et des transferts culturels*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2007.

### **Recent articles by NEWW members**

Brown, Hilary, "Johanna Eleonora Petersen and the Reception of Molière in Germany", *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, 43 (2007), 69-80

Wiedemann, Kerstin, "L'Orient aux yeux des femmes : la poétique du regard dans les 'Lettres orientales' (1844) de la comtesse Ida Hahn-Hahn, in Grimm-Hamen, Sylvie/Philippe Alexandre (ed.), *L'Orient dans la culture allemande aux XVIIIe et XIXe siècles*, Nancy, Presses universitaires de Nancy, 2007, p. 73-83.

Van Dijk, Suzan, "Madame de Genlis traduite par Elisabeth Bekker: transfert culturel ou participation à un même mouvement international?", in Lombez and Von Kulesa 2007, p. 63-74.

Keilhauer, Annette, "Traduction, transferts culturels et gender. Réflexions à partir des relations franco-italiennes au XIXe siècle", in Lombez and Von Kulesa 2007, p. 113-126.

Von Kulesa, Rotraud, "Le théâtre français en Italie au XVIIIe siècle: Luisa Bergalli Gozzi, traductrice et médiatrice", in Lombez and Von Kulesa 2007, p. 127-136.

## Other announcements and calls

CALL FOR PAPERS. *Women's Literary Networks: 1580 to the present day*. Saturday 9 March 2008. Organised jointly by the English Department at Oxford Brookes University and the Institute of English Studies, University of London. This one-day conference seeks to explore from a variety of perspectives the ways in which women's literary achievements have been shaped by their relationships with one another. In what ways have female communities enabled creativity, and how have such communities changed over time? To what extent does the history of female friendship overlap with the history of women's writing, and how have women's professional and personal alliances shaped the development of print culture? And to what ends have women represented networks - literary or otherwise - in their poetry, prose and drama. Topics may include, but are not limited to: salon culture, literary coteries, manuscript circulation, clubs and rivalries, women's presses and literary inheritance. We welcome papers on literary networks/friendships in Britain, Europe and America. Keynote Speakers: Professor Hermione Lee and Professor Elisabeth Jay. Venue: Institute of English Studies, Senate House, University of London. Please send paper proposals (300 words) by December 1, 2007 to Dr Nicole Pohl, Oxford Brookes University: [npohl@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:npohl@brookes.ac.uk). NEWW members

planning to attend, please contact Suzan van Dijk.

## Other publications of interest

Mandal, Anthony and Southam, Brian (eds.), *The Reception of Jane Austen in Europe*, Continuum, 2007.

Robin, Diana, *Publishing Women: Salons, the Presses, and the Counter-Reformation in Sixteenth-Century Italy*, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 2007.

## Contacts

Project director: [Suzan.vanDijk@let.uu.nl](mailto:Suzan.vanDijk@let.uu.nl).

Project websites: <http://www.womenwriters.nl> (general website, currently under reconstruction), <http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl> (database), <https://www.surfgroepen.nl/sites/NEWW-CMG> (internal project website, accessible only with a password)

Newsletter editor: [A.C.Montoya@rug.nl](mailto:A.C.Montoya@rug.nl)

## Mailing list

The NEWW newsletter has been mailed to the following people. Please report any inaccuracies or omissions to Suzan van Dijk:

Dr. Marianne Alenius (Museum Tusulanum Press, Copenhagen)  
Dr. Teresa Sousa de Almeida (Universidade Nova de Lisboa)  
Dr. Vanda Anastácio (Universidade de Lisboa)  
Dr. Katherine Astbury (University of Warwick)  
Dr. Anne Hilde van Baal (Huizinga Institute, Amsterdam)  
Dr. Mirjam de Baar (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen)  
Susanna de Beer (Huizinga Institute, Amsterdam)  
Nannie van Berkum (Hedel)  
Dr. Yvonne Bleyerveld (Universiteit Utrecht)  
Dr. Margriet Blom (Universiteit Utrecht)  
Dr. Gerrit Bloothoof (Universiteit Utrecht)  
Dr. Mónica Bolufer Peruga (University of Valencia)  
Dr. Babs Boter (Universiteit Utrecht)  
Dr. Petra Broomans (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen)  
Dr. Hilary Brown (Swansea University)  
Dr. Marianne Charrier-Vozel (Université de Rennes)  
Prof. dr. Elisabeth Cheaure (Albert Ludwigs Universität, Freiburg)

Dr. Annie Cointre (Université de Metz)  
 Dr. Valérie Cossy (Université de Lausanne)  
 Dr. Karina van Dalen-Oskam (Huygens Instituut, The Hague)  
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 Dr. Rudolf Dekker (Erasmus Universiteit)  
 Dr. Suzan van Dijk (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Annemarie Doornbos (Universiteit van Amsterdam)  
 Marjet Douze (International Informatiecentrum en Archief voor de Vrouwenbeweging, Amsterdam)  
 Dr. Gillian Dow (University of Southampton)  
 Dr. Lizet Duyvendak (Open Universiteit Nederland)  
 Aurore Evain (Société internationale pour l'étude des femmes de l'Ancien Régime, Paris)  
 Dr. Agnese Fidecaro (Université de Genève)  
 Arja Firet (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Yasmina Foehr-Janssens (Université de Genève)  
 Claire Fourquet (Université Paris IV-Sorbonne)  
 Nina Geerdink (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)  
 Prof. dr. Lia van Gemert (Universiteit van Amsterdam)  
 Dr. Séverine Genieys-Kirk (University of Edinburgh)  
 Dr. Anke Gilleir (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)  
 Nicolien Gouwenberg  
 Dr. Katie Gramich (University of Cardiff)  
 Dr. Nathalie Grande (Université de Bordeaux III)  
 Dr. Elena Gretchanaiia (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow)  
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 Dr. Francisca de Haan (Central European University, Budapest)  
 Dr. Zeina Hakim (Université de Genève)  
 Nahigan Haliloglu (University of Heidelberg)  
 Dr. Henk Harmsen (Data Archiving and Networked Services, The Hague)  
 Prof. dr. Ute Heidmann (Université de Lausanne)  
 Dr. Hilde Hoogenboom (SUNY Albany)  
 Edda Holm (The Hague)  
 René van Horik (Data Archiving and Networked Services, The Hague)  
 Dafne Jansen (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Monica Jansen (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Madeleine Jeay (MacMaster University)  
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 Dr. Nathalie Kremer (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)  
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 Dr. Jacqueline Labbe (Warwick University)  
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 Begoña Lasa (University of La Coruña)  
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 Dr. Milena Lenderova (University of Pardubice, Czech Republic)  
 Prof. dr. Sophie Levie (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen)

Dr. Maria Jesus Lorenzo Modia (University of La Coruña)  
 Dr. Jasmina Lukic (Central European University, Budapest)  
 Dr. Gina Luria Walker (New School, New York)  
 Dr. Anne-Marie Mai (Syddanksuniversiteit)  
 Dr. Alison Martin (University of Kassel)  
 Marlise Mensink (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Janet van der Meulen (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)  
 Annette Mevis (Internationaal Informatiecentrum en Archief voor de Vrouwenbeweging, Amsterdam)  
 Dr. Ileana Mihaila (Bucarest University)  
 Dr. Isabelle Mons (Université de Franche-Comté)  
 Dr. Alicia C. Montoya (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen)  
 Dr. Monique Moser-Verrey (Université de Montréal)  
 Brenda Mudde (Utrecht)  
 Dr. Michaela Mudure (Babes-Bolyai University, Romania)  
 Dr. Catherine Mueller (Neuchâtel)  
 Dr. Elisa Mueller-Adams (University of Sheffield)  
 Els Naaijken (Digitaal Vrouwenlexicon Nederland)  
 Prof. dr. Ton Naaijken (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Mary Orr (Southampton University)  
 Dr. Henriette Partzsch (Université de Genève)  
 Dr. Nicole Pellegrin (CNRS, Paris)  
 Dr. Francien Petiet (Universiteit van Amsterdam)  
 Dr. Marie-Pascale Pieretti (Drew University)  
 Dr. Beata Rajba (University of Wroclaw)  
 Dr. Martine Reid (Université de Lille III)  
 Dr. Geraldine Reymenants (University of Ghent)  
 Dr. Amelia Sanz (Universidad Complutense, Madrid)  
 Peggy Schaller (Florida Atlantic University)  
 Stephanie Schouten Walker (Universiteit Utrecht)  
 Dr. Catriona Seth (Université de Nancy II)  
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 Prof. dr. Paul J. Smith (Universiteit Leiden)  
 Dr. Lisbeth Stenberg (University of Goteborg)  
 Prof. dr. Lieselotte Steinbrügge (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)  
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 Johanneke Straasheijm (Groningen)  
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 Dr. Paul Wouters (Virtual Knowledge Studio)  
 Dr. Joris van Zundert (Huygens Instituut, The Hague)

