

NEWW newsletter

6.1

April 2012



Pictured above: members of the MC core group having their meeting in The Hague (Huygens ING) January 2012: Vanda Anastacio, Marie-Louise Coolahan, Henriette Partzsch, Biljana Dojcinovic (Photo: Viola Capkova).

This NEWWletter

As you notice, this NEWWletter is arriving a bit later than “officially” planned. We apologize for that. Clearly there were many things to do over the last months.

If one of the network members is interested in joining the group of NEWWletter editors, she (he) will be very welcome...

The NEWWletters on-line

The online versions of the NEWWletters are available at www.womenwriters.nl (click: NEWWletters). Here hyperlinks direct to the programmes, further information on the researchers, etc.

COST-WWIH: Milestone 3

As you may have noticed, [Ramona Mihaila](#) is busy preparing the [COST-WWIH Workshop](#), which will take place in Bucharest 25-28 April.

Theme is: *Women's Writing and the East-West Connections within Europe: Visualizing the Channels*. We will in particular discuss the ways of *visualizing* our research material, as it has been entered into the *WomenWriters* database. In view of discussing the technical side of this, Gertjan Filarski will also be present during one of the meeting days.

The Bucharest program promises to be a real confrontation of authors from the eastern and the western parts of Europe. Being in Bucharest, we will also have the occasion of visiting the “writer’s house” of Marthe Bibesco.

As in the previous years, the Workshop will again be preparatory to the Conference to be held

in November, for which the same subject will have been further developed.

This November Milestone 3 Conference will take place this year in Poznan (Poland): 26-28 November 2012. Organizers will be [Magdalena Koch](#) and a team of colleagues of Poznan University. Magdalena will be present in Bucharest, where we will have the opportunity of establishing the link between the April Workshop and the November Conference.

COST-WWIH news

Important for all of us are the discussions as going on within the two subsequent COST-WWIH “Think-Tank-meetings”, about interconnectivity to be created between the (next version of the) *WomenWriters* database and some online projects directed by Action members. The idea is that this would allow relying not just on manual data entry, but having the benefit of material already available somewhere on the Internet. Huygens ING developer Gertjan Filarski is participating actively in these discussions, together with developers of the projects of Amelia Sanz, Jenny Bergenmar, Biljana Dojcinovic, Tatiana Crivelli. In order to plans into practice, we still need to find the appropriate funding...

COST-WWIH presence in conferences

At the recent *Women in French* conference held at Arizona State University (24-25 February 2012), [Hilde Hoogenboom](#) organized and chaired a [COST-WWIH session](#) entitled *Bio-Bibliographic Compilations of Women*.

Speakers were Vicki Mistacco (author of the anthology *Les femmes et la tradition littéraire*, 2006), [Caterina Nosdeo](#) (participating in Tatiana Crivelli’s project in Zürich) and Suzan van Dijk.

These compilations constitute one of the important and interesting types of sources providing us with information about impact, reputation and success of “our” authors. The compilers – male as well as female – need to be further studied. Discussions are going on about

this; interested colleagues can take contact with Hilde Hoogenboom.

A conference entitled *Displaced Women: Multilingual Narratives of Migration in Europe*, was held 28-30 March 2012, at the Glasgow Women’s Library. It was organized by Lucia Aiello, Joy Charnley and Mariangela Palladino. Here also COST-WWIH members participated: [Elena Gretchanaia](#), [Zsuzsanna Varga](#) and Suzan van Dijk. In addition to the papers, there was a presentation of the COST-WWIH Action, which led to discussion with colleagues interested in participating and using the database.

This was a very interesting and enriching experience, as the presentations were not restricted to the period before World War I, and in particular also included narratives by migrant women seeking asylum, who had been interviewed by sociologists. We noted next to obvious differences important parallels between the two groups.

Colleagues working on the present situation thus were provided with a historical dimension, while our historical research may find here a way of connecting to the modern field. Collaboration has been planned to continue. Colleagues interested can get in touch with Lucia Aiello.

Upcoming conferences

20-23 June 2012 will be held the annual conference of the [SATOR](#). Theme this year is: “Friendship”. Several NEWW/COST members will again [participate](#). Some preparatory discussion took place via the NEWW list some months ago. This will be reflected in Suzan van Dijk’s paper.

In the SHARP conference to be held 26-29 June 2012 in Dublin, a [COST-WWIH session](#) will be presented. Organized by Nina Geerdink, it is entitled: “Economic Imperatives for Women’s Writing”. Other speakers will be Marie Sorbo and Carme Font Paz.

In the Digital Humanities Conference to be held in Hamburg 18-20 July 2012, the COST-WWIH Action will also be present – not by a session,

but by a [Poster](#): “Data Sharing, Virtual Collaboration, and Textual Analysis: Working on *Women Writers In History*”. It will be put together by Amelia Sanz, Hilde Hoogenboom, Jenny Bergenmar and Suzan van Dijk.

Finally in the Frankoromanistentag 2012 (19-22 September, Leipzig) COST-WWIH will again be represented, in the session entitled: *Révolution des médias, évolution des études de lettres?*, by [Action members](#) Annette Keilhauer and Suzan van Dijk.

Database news

The 4th Training School of the COST-WWIH Action will take place between May 14-19 2012 at Huygens ING in The Hague. For information about the earlier Training Schools, see [here](#).

Recently an American colleague working on French educational literature by women joined the network: [Bénédicte Monicat](#) (Pennsylvania State University). She has an important corpus to work on, and decided to make use of the *WomenWriters* database, which will allow her to place “her” authors within the larger French and European context. She has started data entry.

Members’ activities

On the 7th of February, COST-WWIH member [Gillian Dow](#) gave a public lecture entitled *Translating Austen; or When Jane Goes Abroad*, to fulfill her requirements at Goucher College, Baltimore, Maryland as the Henry and Alberta Burke ‘28 Jane Austen Scholar-in-Residence for 2011-12. The lecture focused on the effect of quintessential “Englishness” on the translation of Austen's works into other languages and cultures, and Gillian is grateful to those NEWW members who brought copies of translations of *Pride and Prejudice* to the second COST Milestone conference at Chawton House Library in November 2011. The books proved invaluable in the preparation of this public lecture. For more information, please see: <http://www.goucher.edu/x45377.xml>.

[Ileana Mihaila](#) gave a lecture entitled: *Les débuts et l'âge d'or de la francophone chez les Roumains*, on the 8th of March, at the University of Bristol as part of the series of seminars exploring the use of French in Europe within the Faculty of Arts’ project entitled *The History of the French Language in Russia*. In her lecture, she focused also on the feminine contribution, especially that of the first translators from French into Romanian, Catinca Samboteanu, Hermiona Asachi and Maria Burada. See: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/research/french-in-russia/seminars/>.

In the series of weekly lectures entitled *New Trends in e-Humanities*, organized by the [e-Humanities Group](#) of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Wolfgang Kaltenbrunner held a presentation, 15 March 2012, about how the use of digital research technology in the Humanities not only encourages reflexivity with respect to disciplinary knowledge, but also raises awareness on its economic value.

Many of his observations and conclusions draw on interviews with members of our COST-WWIH Action. Colleagues (earlier interviewed or not) who might want to discuss with Wolfgang his ideas or their own opinions, feelings, doubts (etc.) may take contact.

19 March 2012, [Valérie Cossy](#) held her inaugural lecture as Associated professor in Gender Studies at the Université de Lausanne: *Etudes genre – année Rousseau* (Gender Studies – Rousseau year).

19-20 March 2012 the Symposium [Scholarly Digital Editions, Tools and Infrastructure](#) was the closing event of the COST Action *Interedition* (chaired by Joris van Zundert). It was held at Huygens ING in The Hague. Here Gertjan Filarski and Suzan van Dijk presented the collaboration as going on between *Interedition* and COST-WWIH in a common presentation entitled: *Women Writers in History – a distributed approach to comparative literature research*.

[Nina Geerdink](#) will defend her PhD-thesis 5 April 2012 at 13.45. This will take place in Amsterdam, Aula of the “Vrije Universiteit” Amsterdam. Title of her thesis: *Dichters en verdiensten* (Poets and their merits/salaries).

Member profiles

[Alenka Jensterle-Doležalová](#) is Associated Professor of Slovene and South Slavic Literatures at the Department for Balkan and South Slavic studies, Karlova University, Prague, Czech Republic. She is specializing in: Slavic literatures (especially Slovene and Czech literature), images of woman in literature and Ancient myths in Slavic literature. She recently joined the COST-WWIH Action and is member of Working Group 1.

[Zeina Hakim](#) is Assistant Professor of French at Tufts University (Boston, USA). She was a Visiting Professor at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) in the Spring 2011. Her book *Fictions déjouées. Le récit en trompe-l'œil au XVIII^e siècle* is forthcoming (Genève, Droz, 2012). She recently published on Rousseau and George Sand (*George Sand Studies*, 2012) and Louise Labé (*Approaches to Teaching World Literature*, MLA, 2011). Her current research deals with the role of women during the Quarrel of the Ancients and the Moderns in a project entitled *Traductrices du sacré (1645-1715) : entre discrétion et prise d'autorité*.

Questions to NEWW members

We wonder if you are aware of the existence of societies and/or writers' houses or museums dedicated to one or (perhaps) several women authors in your respective countries?

Houses/museums like *Chawton House* (Jane Austen), the *Maison de George Sand* in Nohant, the house of Marthe Bibesco in Bucharest, the *Museum Betje Wolff* in Midden-Beemster (NL), the *Fronteira Palace* in Lisbon (where lived the Marquesa d'Alorna) ?

Societies like the *Friends of George Sand*, *Jane Austen Society*, *Genootschap Belle van*

Zuylen, *Association Suisse Isabelle de Charrière*, *Stichting Babicka Nederland* (about Czech author Bozena Nemcova) ?

In some cases, directors of the museums/houses might be willing to contribute to disseminating activities we will need to carry out. Members of the societies might be interested not only in hearing about the outcomes of our research, but also in being engaged in crowdsourcing activities related to our project. It might be important to mention this in proposals for research funding.

Information about this can be sent to Henriette Partzsch (WG 4): hamp2@st-andrews.ac.uk.

NEWW/COST members who would like to carry out research at Chawton House Library, are invited to apply for Visiting fellowships. The deadline for the fellowship scheme is the 16th of April, 2012.

This might provide an interesting occasion for colleagues who would be keen on collaborating on material held at Chawton House Library such as translations into English, or bibliographical compilations. The outcome of such a common project might be presented, next July (2013), in a Conference which will be held to celebrating the 10th anniversary of the opening of Library.

Colleagues are invited to contact Gillian Dow on g.dow@soton.ac.uk. See for more information:

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/scecs/research/chawton_fellowships.html

New online journal

The first issue of *Knjiženstvo, Journal for Studies in Literature, Gender and Culture* has just been issued in Serbia! Both the journal and the database are at the website of the project Knjiženstvo – Theory and History of Women's Writing in Serbian until 1915: <http://www.knjizenstvo.rs/>.

The journal itself can be accessed at: <http://www.knjizenstvo.rs/magazine.php>.

New website

The new website of the History of Nordic Women's Literature has been launched:

<http://nordicwomensliterature.net/>.

Recent books by NEWW members

[Petra Broomans](#) and Ester Jiresch, *The Invasion of Books in Peripheral Literary Fields. Transmitting Preferences and Images in Media, Networks and Translation*", vol. 3 in the series *Studies on Cultural Transfer and Transmission* (CTaT), Groningen, Barkhuis Publishing, 2011, 237 pp.

[Alenka Jensterle-Doležal](#) (ed.), *V očeh drugega, Vzajemným pohledem* (In the view of the other, Czech-Slovene and Slovene-Czech relations). Prague, Slovanska knihovna – Národní knihovna, 2011 (with preface in Czech, p. 7-20, and in Slovene, p. 14-20).

[Valérie Cossy](#), *Isabelle de Charrière. Ecrire pour vivre autrement*. Genève, Presses polytechniques et universitaires romandes ([Coll. Le Savoir Suisse](#)), 2012.

Belle de Zuylen Prize for Master Thesis

The previous NEWW's letter announced the Belle de Zuylen Prize being awarded to Wyneke van Gelder (University of Groningen), for her Masters thesis.

Colleagues are now invited to report on Masters theses completed by their students, about women authors (roughly) contemporary to Belle de Zuylen (1740-1805), in order to be considered for receiving this Prize. You can contact the Editorial Board of the *Cahiers Isabelle de Charrière*: Valérie Cossy, Suzan van Dijk and/or Madeleine van Strien-Chardonneau.

Recent articles by NEWW members

[Alenka Jensterle-Doležalová](#), "Podobe iz sanj. Roman Hanka v luči korespondence med Zofko Kveder in Zdenko Haskovo" (The reconstruction of the autobiographical elements of the novel

Hanka in the correspondence between Slovene writer Zofka Kveder and Czech translator and writer Zdenka Hásková), in Jensterle-Doležalová (ed.), *V očeh drugega, Vzajemným pohledem*, 2011, p. 125-143.

[Suzan van Dijk](#) and Pim van Oostrum, "Sara Burgerhart et Marianne de La Prise. Réponse à Paul Pelckmans", in *Cahiers Isabelle de Charrière/Belle de Zuylen Papers* 6 (2011), p. 79-87.

[Ivana Pantelic](#) and [Biljana Dojcinovic](#), "Women's and Gender History: The Case of Serbia", in *Aspasia* 6 (2012), p. 136-142.

Quoting our authors

[Viola Capkova quoting Finnish author Lehtinen Onerva \(1882-1972\)](#):

"Vapauden rajoissa ainoastaan voin olla hyvä ja uskollinen" (Mirdja, 1908).

"It is only within the limits of freedom that I can be good and faithful" (Mirdja 1908).

Contacts

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