

NEWW newsletter

3.3

September 2009



Pictured above: first meeting of the group “Portuguese Women Writers” organized by Vanda Anastacio on 13 and 14 July 2009 in Lisbon, the Palacio Fronteira.

NEWW project news

The big NEWW project news is of course the [COST Action](#) starting next month. The Action is entitled: “Women Writers in History: Toward a New Understanding of European Literary Culture”, and will take place from 2009 – 2013. Research carried out by NEWW members will be allowed to reinforce collaboration and to reach out to new colleagues in countries not included up to now. As the NEWWletter planned for last July had to be postponed, we can now welcome those new NEWW members who are joining us thanks to COST.

We will meet some of them during the first meeting of the COST Management Committee, which is to take place in Brussels on 1 and 2

October. MC members have been invited by the Brussels COST Office.

In the next NEWWletter, planned for *October*, you will find a brief account of this meeting. For any news about the COST Action, see www.womenwriters.nl.

Executive Committee

In May and July, the NEWW Executive Committee (Agnese Fidecaro, Anke Gilleir, Alicia Montoya and Suzan van Dijk) met in Geneva and The Hague, where they discussed in particular the continuation of the NEWW network, made possible by the COST Action. They decided that most of the tasks of the Executive Committee might be taken over by the COST Management Committee, provided MC

members will agree. However, if any of you is interested in taking responsibilities, for example for editing this NEWW'sletter, she (he) will be very welcome.

The Executive Committee also decided that NEWW members would be asked to pay a small financial contribution for receiving the NEWW'sletter, for membership of the NEWW list and for having the possibility of acquiring a password for the database *WomenWriters*. This will also be discussed during the COST MC meeting. We will inform you in the next NEWW'sletter.

The Committee members (in particular Anke Gilleir and Alicia Montoya) also worked on the finalizing of the forthcoming NEWW volume *Women Writing Back / Writing Back Women*, scheduled for publication in 2010 by Brill, Leiden.

Third NEWW conference

The third international NEWW conference has taken place at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum on May 15-16, organized by Lieselotte Steinbruegge and Suzan van Dijk. 22 papers have been presented; two keynote addresses were given by Joan DeJean (University of Pennsylvania) and Vera Nünning (University of Heidelberg). The programme is still visible on the [NEWW website](#).

The day before the Bochum conference, on Thursday May 14, a NEWW meeting has been held in order to discuss continuing research together.

At present, work on the proceedings has started: most of the texts have already been received. Thank you very much!

New collaborative research proposal

In April, an Outline Proposal to the HERA Joint Research Programme "Cultural Dynamics: Inheritance and Identity" had been submitted; in June we have been invited to develop it into a full proposal. The project entitled: "Writing In Female Europe (WIFE). Women's authorship in peripheral cultures: participation in supra-national 19th-century developments" has been

indeed further developed and submitted on September 1.

This research will concern women's literature of the large 19th century for five "smaller" countries: Denmark, Hungary, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain. Researchers implied are: Annemarie Mai, Zsuzsanna Varga, Katja Mihurko, Henriette Partzsch, Lizet Duyvendak and Suzan van Dijk. End of December we will be informed about the outcome. In case the project will be financed, it will be interesting to establish cooperation with colleagues working on other "small" countries. We invite those of you who are concerned to think about it and take contact.

Events

A meeting has taken place in Lisbon, July 13 and 14, between the group "Portuguese Women Writers" and Suzan van Dijk representing NEWW. Organized by Vanda Anastacio and Teresa de Almeida, it intended to create and reinforce collaboration between Portuguese researchers working on women's writing and literary history, concerning Portugal as well as Brasil and other Lusophone countries. This meeting was very fruitful and constituted in fact an example of the usefulness of, also, trying to collaborate on the national level, considering COST MC or WG members as "representatives" of national groups.

NEWW discussion list

Our NEWW discussion list being fully operational, we invite you to use it for any announcement (related to the activities of the network) you might want to communicate to colleagues who are interested. The list, hosted by the University of Geneva, is administered by Agnese Fidecaro. All NEWW members who receive the NEWW'sletter should have automatically been registered as subscribers: however, should you have a question or problem, please write to neww-owner@list.unige.ch.

To write to the list, please send a message to neww@list.unige.ch.

NEWW November meeting

In collaboration with Huizinga Institute (Amsterdam, Doctoral school in cultural history) and Huygens Institute (The Hague), NEWW will again organize in November a one-day workshop addressing in particular (but not exclusively) PhD-students, who are invited to present (parts of) their work.

This year the theme will be: *Quantitative methods in cultural history*. Keynote speaker will be : Franco Moretti (author of *Atlas of the European Novel, 1800-1900* (1998) and *Graphs, Maps, Trees: Abstract Models for a Literary History* (2005)). He will present an introduction entitled: « Network Theory, Plot Analysis ». Other speakers : Madeleine Jeay (McMaster University) and Joris van Zundert (Huygens Institute The Hague).

You are invited to further distribute this announcement. Participants are asked to inscribe for participation in this workshop. Please, inform any student or colleague who may want to present a paper. More information on the [NEWW website](#).

Database news

The database *WomenWriters* at present (September 25, 2009) contains 18.584 records concerning the reception of women's literary works before 1900. During the COST Action content and structure will be discussed, further developed, adapted, and tested.

All NEWW members continue to be invited to enter any of their own data that may be of interest to colleagues. Please contact [Suzan van Dijk](#) to obtain a password, instructions for use, and (if needed) support by telephone or E-mail. It is important that "new" users experiment and comment on the user-friendliness of the tool. Their 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.

The companion website, *Women Writers' Networks* (www.womenwriters.nl), is presently being considered in order to be adapted, and be used in the near future more consistently as a

publishing site. We will have the help of a trainee, Marie Boeuf, student of Alicia Montoya.

For the moment, the site principally furnishes information about participants. You might want to update or complete the information presently provided: please check it! And send additional information.

Information about members

Gina Luria Walker (Associate Professor of Women's Studies at The New School, University of New York) just accepted the editorship of the Chawton House Library Edition of [Mary Hays's](#) 6 volume *Female biography: or memoirs of illustrious and celebrated women, of all ages and countries* (1803) to be published by Pickering & Chatto. A small group of distinguished scholars and students will help her with the new material to be added to the entries for the 288 women Hays included.

Recent books by NEWW members

Lisa Vollendorf and Daniella Kostroun (eds.), *Women and Religion in the Atlantic World*. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2009.

Agnese Fidecaro, Henriette Partzsch, Suzan van Dijk, Valérie Cossy (éds.), *Femmes écrivains à la croisée des langues / Women Writers at the Crossroads of Languages, 1700-2000*, Actes du colloque organisé à l'Université de Genève les 9 et 10 mai 2007. Genève: [MétisPresses](#), 2009. See the table of contents on the [NEWW website](#).

Monique Moser-Verrey, Lucie Desjardins, Chantal Turbide (eds.), *Le corps romanesque. Images et usages topiques sous l'Ancien Régime*. Actes du XX^e colloque de la SATOR. Presses de l'Université Laval, 2009.

Recent articles by NEWW members

Several articles in Tom Toremans and Walter Verschuren (eds.), *Crossing Cultures. Nineteenth-Century Anglophone Literature in the Low Countries*. Leuven, Leuven University Press, 2009:

Ton van Kalmthout, "Eccentric Authors: Cd. Busken Huet and Taco H. de Beer on English literature", p. 35-52;
 Anne van Buul, "British Influences on Dutch Book Designs: A Case Study on Dutch Bibliophilic Editions of Works by Dante Gabriel Rossetti", p. 69-82;
 Karen Vandemeulenbroucke, "Presence and Treatment of English Poetry in 19th-Century Belgian Literary Periodicals", p. 121-136;
 Liselotte Vandebussche, "The Import of English Literature by Women Translators in Flanders, 1870-1914. A Comparative Survey", p. 137-154.
 Suzan van Dijk, "Was Jane Austen read in the 19th-Century Netherlands?", p. 161-176;
 Lizet Duyvendak, "English reading in a Dutch Library for Women, 1894-1900", p. 177-188;
 Laura Kirkley, "Feminism in Translation: Re-Writing the *Rights of Women*", p. 189-200;
 Stephanie Walker and Suzan van Dijk, "What Literary Historians 'Forgot': American Women Authors in the 19th-Century Netherlands", p. 201-215.

Articles in Moser-Verrey *et al.* 2009 :

Monique Moser-Verrey, "Corps admirables : présentation", p. 1-24 ;
 Madeleine Jeay, "Quête de la nudité eschatologique dans les vies de saints en français au XIII^e siècle", p. 57-72 ;
 Suzan van Dijk, "Présentations et jugements : beauté ou laideur attribuées à des romancières et à leurs personnages féminins", p. 245-266.

Recent lectures by NEWW members

In the annual conference of the CIEF (Conseil International d'Etudes Francophones) a NEWW session has been organized: "Le français langue de femmes". Participating: Catherine Viollet, Séverine Genieys-Kirk, Suzan van Dijk. See the programme on the [NEWW website](#).

Other announcements

CALL FOR PAPERS *Lectures de Mme de Maintenon (Reading Mme de Maintenon)*. Paris-Versailles, 11, 12, 13 March 2010.

A new edition of Mme de Maintenon's correspondence (first volume published September 2009) provides the occasion for this conference (in French), where the text of the letters will be studied, but also its (international) reception.

Proposals can be sent before 30 September to the organizers: Christine Mongenot (Christine.mongenot@free.fr) and Marie-Emmanuelle Plagnol (plagnol@univ-paris12.fr).

CALL FOR PAPERS *The Author-Translator in the European Literary Tradition*. Swansea University, 28 June – 1 July 2010.

The recent "creative turn" in translation studies has challenged notions of translation as a derivative and uncreative activity which is inferior to "original" writing. Commentators have drawn attention to the creative processes involved in the translation of texts, and suggested a rethinking of translation as a form of creative writing. Hence there is growing critical and theoretical interest in translations undertaken by literary authors. This conference focuses on acts of translation by creative writers.

Keynote speakers: Susan Bassnett, David Constantine, Lawrence Venuti.

Proposals are invited for individual papers (max. 20 minutes) or panels (of 3 speakers). The conference language is English. It is anticipated that selected papers from the conference will be published. Please send a 250-word abstract by 30 September 2009 to the organisers, Hilary Brown and Duncan Large (author-translator@swan.ac.uk). Further information at: <http://www.author-translator.net/>.

CALL FOR PAPERS *Topique(s) du public et du privé dans l'espace de l'écriture romanesque européenne (du Moyen-Âge à la fin du XVIII^e siècle)* [Public and private in the European novel from the Middle Ages up to 1800]. XXIV^e Colloque International SATOR (Société de l'Analyse de la Topique Romanesque avant 1800). 28-30 June 2010, University of Coimbra, organizer : Marta Teixeira Anacleto.

The theme of the 2010 annual conference of SATOR is particularly relevant for NEWW members. Given the collaboration between SATOR and NEWW, it would be interesting to

have NEWW members reflecting on specific narrative topoi, or taking them as starting points for analysis. Contributing in English or Portuguese is possible.

Please take contact with Madeleine Jeay (jeaymad@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca) or Suzan van Dijk (S.vanDijk1@uu.nl).

More information at: www.satorbase.org.

CALL FOR PAPERS *Raynal's Histoire des deux Indes : colonial writing, cultural exchange and social networks in the age of the Enlightenment*. Newnham College Cambridge, 1-3 July 2010

This international, three-day conference will focus on the twin concepts of exchange and networks, understood from textual, cultural and social perspectives. It seeks to explore Raynal's *Histoire* within the multiple circuits of communication that simultaneously shape the colonial world, its modes of sociability and its literature.

Proposals for a 20-minute paper (in English or French) can be sent to the organizer, Dr Jenny Mander (jsm15@cam.ac.uk).

CALL FOR PAPERS *German Women's Writing in its European Context, 1700-1900*. 25 and 26 November 2010, at the Institute of Germanic & Romance Studies, University of London

Proposals are invited for a two-day conference to be held at the Institute of Germanic & Romance Studies [IGRS], University of London, on 25 and 26 November 2010. The event is organized jointly by the German Section at Swansea University, the Department of Germanic Studies at the University of Sheffield and the IGRS.

How European was German women's writing of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries? What opportunities did women writers have to participate in cross-cultural interchange? How did they react to developments outside their own borders in their writing? The conference aims to open up new perspectives on German women's writing of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by exploring how it engages with the cosmopolitanism which was so characteristic of much of this era.

Keynote speakers: Norbert Bachleitner (Vienna), Magdalene Heuser (Osnabrück/Berlin), Susanne Kord (London).

20-minute papers are invited, for which abstracts (200-300 words) can be sent by 30 September 2009 to the co-ordinators :

Dr Hilary Brown (h.j.brown@swansea.ac.uk), Dr Caroline Bland (c.bland@sheffield.ac.uk).

It might be interesting to plan NEWW sessions in these conferences. Who feels like organizing them?

BOOK OFFER. We can still offer NEWW members the volume *Writing the History of Women's Writing. Toward an International Approach*, edited by Suzan van Dijk, Lia van Gemert and Sheila Ottway (Amsterdam 2001) at a special 50% discount, for 25 euros. Please contact Suzan van Dijk if you wish to order a copy.

Receiving the NEWWletter

If you wish to receive the NEWW newsletter, please send a message stating so to A.C.Montoya@rug.nl, and including your full contact information (university affiliation, address and e-mail address) and area of expertise (e.g. "Russia, 17th century").

Contacts

Project director: S.vanDijk1@uu.nl.

Project websites: <http://www.womenwriters.nl> (general website, currently under reconstruction), <http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl> (database)

Discussion list: neww@unige.ch.

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