

# NEWW newsletter

8.1

September 2014



Pictured above: Jasmine Westerlund, Päivi Lappalainen, Janouk de Groot at dinner on the boat "Svarte Rudolf" May 5 2014 (Photo Henriette Partzsch)

## First post-COST year...

In this first year after our COST-WWIH Action, we felt the ongoing positive feeling of having been brought together as a network thanks to COST, and at the same time we slightly missed the structure we had become accustomed to...

In the follow-up projects COBWWWEB (2013-14) and HERA *Travelling Texts* (2013-16) only a relatively small number of COST-WWIH members could be included as participants. However, we continue trying to create other possibilities for collaborating. This NEWWletter is one of them: those of you who might have some spare time are kindly invited to contribute to it ...

## COBWWWEB

The CLARIN-NL financed project entitled [COBWWWEB](#) (Connections Between Women and Writings within European Borders) is now officially closed, and the outcome will be presented at a CLARIN-NL conference next October, in Utrecht. Work is still going on for the preparation of this presentation.

The project had two important aspects: First, the new database structure which we had been preparing during our COST-WWIH Training Schools, had to be implemented. An important new feature concerns the way in which *reception documents* are handled by the system. Until now, we have seen them in the

*WomenWriters* database as the third (and kind of final) “layer” of our data: 1: author; 2: work; 3: reception. This 3-layered structure has been generating different kinds of problems. In the new version, “reception documents” will also be treated as “works”. The model will no longer be that of a *dialogue*, but rather that of an ongoing *chain*.

Second, there will be the possibility of creating connections between our database and other online projects. This has been done as a pilot with four other projects in women’s literary history – in the future it will be possible on a larger scale.

Projects included were *Female Robinsonades*, *Knjiženstvo*, *Selma Lagerlöf Archive*, *Swedish Literature Bank*, *Women in Arcadia (1690-1800)* and *NEWW/WomenWriters* directed by respectively [Anne-Birgitte Ronning](#), [Biljana Dojcinovic](#), [Jenny Bergenmar](#), [Tatiana Crivelli](#), [Suzan van Dijk](#) from resp. Norway, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Netherlands.

Note that starting August 20<sup>th</sup> the *WomenWriters* database is closed for data entry – in view of the transfer of data to the new version, which is planned to be opened towards the end of October. Consultation remains possible, however!

## HERA TRAVELLING TEXTS: Turku

The HERA Collaborative Research Project *Travelling Texts 1790-1914: The Transnational Reception of Women’s Writing at the Fringes of Europe* (TTT) is now well under way: the second meeting was held May 5-6 in Turku, organized by [Paivi Lappalainen](#) and [Viola Parente-Čapková](#). The objective was the exchange of information about the activities happening in the different teams in each of the five countries (Finland, The Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia [working on their respective literatures] and the United Kingdom [working on Spanish literature]).

The first day of the Turku meeting was dedicated to a public seminar hosted by Turku City Library, one of TTT’s two associated partner institutions. Turku City Library is a

modern institution with very strong roots in the nineteenth century. [Laura Yli-Seppälä](#) provided a fascinating introduction to the Old Collection of the library, which is now starting to yield unique insights into the reading culture at Turku during the late nineteenth century. From a variety of different perspectives, parts of the collection that are especially relevant for women’s authorship are used in the HERA TTT project by [Paivi Lappalainen](#) and [Viola Parente-Čapková](#). See also the [HERA TTT website](#).

## HERA TTT: Ljubljana

The next TTT meeting is to be held in Ljubljana, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of September. This is again an organisational meeting in which members of the five national teams come together in order to discuss the progress made since the Turku meeting.

However, the meeting is connected to the 29<sup>th</sup> International Vilenica Literary Festival, which takes place in different Slovenian cities at the beginning of September. The collaboration between the Festival and the HERA TTT project is in particular marked by a Round Table session entitled “Meeting Literary Foremothers” on Friday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 12.00. [Viola Parente-Čapková](#) will chair this session in which [Elsa Korneti](#) (Greece and Germany), [Dimitra Xidou](#) (Canada and Ireland) and [Gabriela Babnik](#) (Slovenia) will participate. It will be held in Kult3000 in Ljubljana.

Another important event is to take place on Thursday September 4<sup>th</sup>: the public defense by [Tanja Badalič](#) of her PhD thesis. It will take place in the PhD room of the University of Nova Gorica (in the Lanthieri Maison, Glavni trg 8, Vipava), at 3.00 p.m. The title of her thesis is: *Reception of European Women Writers in Slovenian Multicultural Territory of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century until the End of the First World War*. Her supervisor is our colleague [Katja Mihurko Poniž](#), and [Alenka Jensterle Doležal](#) is one of the committee members.

As many of the members of the COST-WWIH members know, Tanja’s trajectory as a PhD-student was roughly parallel to the “Women

Writers in History” activities. She had just started her research when we had our first meeting in Ljubljana (September 2010); she participated in many of the meetings, conferences and Training Schools; now, one year after closing the Action, she presents her results, which have been the subject of discussions with WWIH colleagues. Tanja is now also participating in the HERA TTT project.



## Conference in Belgrade, October

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Department of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade, an international academic conference *Encompassing Comparative Literature: Theory, Interpretation, Perspectives*, will be held from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014, at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade.

The conference will celebrate the anniversary with academic discussions and presentations of papers dealing with topics from comparative literature to cultural studies, comprising of

challenges such as gender theories and digital humanities. At the session devoted to these latter topics, former members of the COST-WWIH Action will present their research.

Anne Birgitte Rønning from the University of Oslo will present the paper “The Female Robinsonades: A Challenge to Comparative Literature and the Potential of Digital Tools”. Katerina Dalakoura from the University of Crete will speak about Greek women’s press in Ottoman Empire and digitalization of these data in the paper entitled “Digitalizing Women’s Periodicals: Issues and Methodologies”. Biljana Dojčinović, from the University of Belgrade, will talk about the history of gender theories in the Serbian context, with a special focus on digital humanities as its most recent phase.

Also participating in this session will be Saša Rudan, from the University of Oslo, and Evgenija Kelbert, from the Yale University.

The final program of the conference will be posted at the Faculty of Philology website [www.fil.bg.ac.rs](http://www.fil.bg.ac.rs) on October 1st, 2014.

## NEWW conference in Madrid

As previously announced, the next NEWW conference will again take place in Madrid. It will be entitled: *Intellectual Women: Dissatisfied Modernities*, and concerns the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century – a period that witnessed several revolutions: scientific and technological advances, new media, oriental spiritual influences, social advances, new aesthetics... Women’s role in these revolutions has not been always recognized.

Continuing the tradition created within the NEWW network and the COST Action “Women Writers In History”, the Complutense Groups LEETHI (European Literatures from Texts to Hypermedia) and TEGEP took the responsibility of organizing this meeting. It will be held at Complutense University (Madrid) on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. The program is currently being assembled, and will be announced soon at:

<https://www.ucm.es/leethi/women-writers>.

For information, contact [Begoña Regueiro](#) or [Amelia Sanz](#).

## First volume in book series WWIH

In the recently created series entitled “Women Writers in History” (Rodopi, Amsterdam/New York), the first volume was now published. It contains the proceedings of the [COST-WWIH conference, organized in Madrid November 2010](#) by [Amelia Sanz](#) *Women telling Nations*. The editors are Amelia, Francesca Scott and Suzan van Dijk.

*Women Telling Nations* highlights how, from the 16th to the 19th centuries, European women, as readers and writers, contributed to the construction of national identities.

The book, which presents twenty countries, is divided into four parts. First, it examines how women *belonged to nations*: they represented territories and political or religious communities in their own style. Second, it deals with the ways in which *women wrote the nation*: the network of relationships in which they were involved that were not necessarily national or territorial. The *legitimation* that women writers succeeded in finding is emphasized in the third section, while in the fourth is analysed how and why women were *open to the outside world*, beyond the country’s borders.

*Women Telling Nations* underlines the quantitative importance of the circulation of these women’s writings and demonstrates the extent as well as the impact of the international cross-fertilisation of nations, especially by and for women: focusing on *routes* rather than *roots*.

Online information to be found at:

<http://www.rodopi.nl/senj.asp?SerieId=WWIH>.

For ordering please contact Masja Horn at Rodopi: [M.Horn@rodopi.nl](mailto:M.Horn@rodopi.nl).

Members of the NEWW network are entitled to a 40% reduction.

Other volumes in the WWIH series are presently being prepared. The series publishes outcomes of collaborative NEWW research, but the Editorial Board also invites researchers who are not necessarily current members of this group to

submit proposals for volumes and monographs to be included in the series. Research outcomes to be published here would typically *not* concern individual authors, but would preferably take larger-scale research as a starting point—in particular, empirical data concerning the *reception* side of literary communication. Research would focus on the *communication* that took place between these female authors and their (contemporary) readers at home and abroad, and provide insight into the positions taken by these women.

## Calls for proposals

The 14th International Congress for Eighteenth-Century Studies will be held in the Netherlands, July 26-31 2015, at Erasmus University Rotterdam. It is entitled: *Opening Markets, Trade and Commerce in the Eighteenth Century*. Online address is:

<http://isecs2015.wordpress.com/>

Several NEWW colleagues propose panels and roundtables which might be of interest to members of the network:

1. [Nina Geerdink](#) and [Claudette de Baar](#): a roundtable entitled *Female friendship in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century / Amitiés féminines au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle*.

Proposals can adopt different perspectives toward friendship between women: its expression in letters, representation in novels, comparison to “male” friendship, etc.

2. [Francesca Scott](#) and [Suzan van Dijk](#): a panel entitled *The international circulation of women’s writings*.

In the context of the NEWW network, inventory and research has considered the reception and circulation of women’s texts. An empirical basis was created in the database *WomenWriters*, which, thanks to COST and CLARIN funding, is now being developed into a VRE at Huygens ING The Hague. We plan to use the data we have accumulated over recent years to understand the role played by women in the literary field of 18th-century Europe.

3. [Suzan van Dijk](#) and [Madeleine van Strien-Chardonneau](#): a panel entitled « ...*un marché, où*

*il arrive et d'où il part des idées... ».* Isabelle de Charrière and the market place of ideas.

Belle de Zuylen/Isabelle de Charrière described herself as being at the very center of an intense exchange of ideas. Much of this took place in her correspondence – recently described by Monique Moser-Verrey as a “virtual salon”.

This correspondence is presently being digitized at Huygens ING The Hague, and will be available online. This will provide new possibilities for systematic research of the salon which is also a “virtual market place”. We invite colleagues to participate in this project, and present some first outcomes in Rotterdam.

See: <http://www.huygens.knaw.nl/de-brieven-van-belle-van-zuylen/?lang=en>.

Colleagues who would want to participate in one of these sessions are kindly invited to contact – soon, preferably –

1. [baar0307@planet.nl](mailto:baar0307@planet.nl)
2. [F.M.Scott@auc.nl](mailto:F.M.Scott@auc.nl)
3. [suzan.van.dijk@huygens.knaw.nl](mailto:suzan.van.dijk@huygens.knaw.nl)

## Members' activities

Vanda Anastacio organized the GEMELA biennial conference hosted by the University of Lisbon, in Lisbon, Portugal, which will take place on September 8-10, 2014.

The conference focuses on women's cultural production in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia and Colonial Latin America, and the theme is *Tracing Paths*. See the program here: <http://www.gemela.org/Conference-14.pdf>

In December 2013, a conference *Ways of Experiencing Modernity in Estonian and Finnish Literature and Culture at the Beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: Similarities and Differences* took place in Tallinn, Estonia. The conference was organized by Mirjam Hinrikus (Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, Tallinn University) in collaboration with Viola Parente-Čapková (University of Turku) and Pirjo Lyytikäinen (University of Helsinki). The conference was a result of long term cooperation between Estonian

and Finnish colleagues specializing in the literature of the *fin de siècle* in Estonia and in Finland. A substantial part of the papers was dealing with women writers of the period and their reception from a comparative and transnational perspective (Ellen Key, Aino Kallas, Marie Under, L. Onerva, Hella Wuolijoki, Lilli Suburg).

Ursula Stohler participated in the conference *New Horizons: Reassessing Women's Travel Writing, 1660-1900*, with the paper “Contributions to the education of Czech readers: Božena Němcová's (1820-1861) travelogues and ethnological studies”. Chawton House Library, Hampshire, UK 10-11 July, 2014;

and:

in a radio programme: “Kanon, Identität und literarisches Lernen in tschechischen Lesebüchern, 1948-2010”, Radio LoRA, Sendung *FöNixen: Schreibende Frauen lesen*, [www.lora.ch](http://www.lora.ch), 28 April 2014 (with a particular focus on the Czech author Karolina Svetla);

and:

in a workshop (as moderator): “Transcultural Influences of Popular Literature by Women in 19th-Century Europe: The Case Study of the Czech Lands” (Transkulturelle Einflüsse von Populärliteratur von Frauen im Europa des 19. Jahrhunderts: Die Fallstudie der böhmischen Länder), Workshop on Gender Studies with Dr. Agnieszka Mroziak, Slavisches Seminar, University of Zurich, 14 Mai 2014;

and:

in research seminar: “Kanon, Identität und literarisches Lernen in tschechischen Lesebüchern, 1948-2010”, Slavisches Seminar, University of Zurich, 3 June 2014;

and:

she received a research grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) for 12 months, in the Department of Slavonic Studies, University of Zurich.

Amelia Sanz was interviewed about her ways of using digitized textual material by *Europeana*

*Newspapers.* See: [Q&A with newspaper researchers.](#)

Amelia Sanz will also present a paper entitled „Women and Writings in Europe: Visualizing transfers in Virtual Environments”, in the Fourth European Congress on World and Global History *Encounters, Circulations and Conflicts*, which will take place at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, September 4-7.

Suzan van Dijk, together with Ronald Dekker, Gertjan Filarski, Henriette Partzsch, Montserrat Prats Lopez, Amelia Sanz, presented a paper at the *Digital Humanities 2014* Conference in Lausanne. Title: Digitizing Women’s Literary History: A Possibility of Collaborative Empowerment.

Jenny Bergenmar participated also in the *Digital Humanities 2014* Conference, in a collective paper entitled: The Inherited Self: Reappraising Literary Cultural Heritage through Digital Methods.

Last time we announced the new project *Swedish Women Writers on Export in the 19<sup>th</sup> century* by our colleagues from the “Gothenburg group” (Yvonne Leffler, Jenny Bergenmar, Gunilla Hermansson, Birgitta Johansson and Åsa Arping). The project’s website can be found here:

<http://swedishwomenwriters.wordpress.com/>

Janneke Weijermars (HERA Travelling Texts) will present at the upcoming SHARP conference in Antwerp a contribution entitled: “Religious reception? Conrad Busken Huet and the transnational reception of women writers” (17-20 September 2014).

Gillian Dow has recently taken over as Executive Director of Chawton House Library, following the departure of Stephen Lawrence.

She is doing it as a secondment for two years, after which she will return to her position as Senior Lecturer at the University of Southampton. There’s a blog post about the new role here:

[http://www.chawtonhouse.org/?library\\_blog=change-and-continuity-or-of-old-books-and-new](http://www.chawtonhouse.org/?library_blog=change-and-continuity-or-of-old-books-and-new)

## Recent books by NEWW members

Lieselotte Steinbrügge, Suzan van Dijk (eds.), *Narrations genrées. Ecrivaines dans l’histoire européenne jusqu’au début du XXe siècle* (Proceedings of the [Bochum conference](#) May 2009). Louvain etc., Peeters, 2014. The book contains articles by: Vera Nünning, Carin Franzén, Madeleine Jeay, Henriette Partzsch, Isabel Morujao, Geneviève Patard, Esther Pabst, Marianne Charrier-Vozel, Marianna d’Ezio, Valérie Cossy, Hendrik Schlieper, Carme Font Paz, Véronique Church-Duplessis, Elisa Müller-Adams, Ursula Jung, Kerstin Wiedemann, Katja Mihurko Poniz, Hanneke Boode.

Amelia Sanz, Francesca Scott and Suzan van Dijk (eds.), *Women telling Nations*. Amsterdam/New York, Rodopi, 2014 (Women Writers in History, vol. 1; mentioned above) contains articles by: [Madeleine Jeay](#), [Inês de Ornellas de Castro](#), [Nieves Baranda](#), M. Jesús Pando, [Henriette Goldwyn](#), [Biljana Dojcinovic](#) and [Ivana Pantelic](#), Alejandro Hermida, [Nadezhda Alexandrova](#), [Katja Mihurko Poniz](#), [Ileana Mihaila](#), [Kati Launis](#), [Jenny Bergenmar](#), [Viola Parente-Capkova](#), [Hilde Hoogenboom](#), [Rotraud von Kulesa](#), [Maarit Leskelä-Kärki](#), [Sirmoula Alexandridou](#), [Henriette Partzsch](#), Joanna Partyka, [Elena Gretchanaia](#), Begoña Lasa, [Carmen Beatrice Dutu](#), [Senem Timuroglu](#).

Magdalena Ozarska, *Lacework or Mirror? Diary Poetics of Frances Burney, Dorothy Wordsworth and Mary Shelley*. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013. 327 pp.

and

by the same : *Two Women Writers and their Italian Tours: Mary Shelley's "Rambles in Germany and Italy in 1840, 1842 and 1843" and Lucja Rautenstrauchowa's "In and Beyond the Alps"*. Lewiston, NY, USA; Queenston, Canada; Lampeter, UK: Edwin Mellen Press. 2014. 220 pp.

Marie Nedregotten Sørbo, *Irony and Idyll: Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice and Mansfield Park on Screen*, published by Rodopi, 2014. Note that anybody interested in buying this can get 30 per cent discount from Rodopi, if you indicate that you are Marie's colleagues, or part of her network.

Viola Parente-Čapková, *Decadent New Woman (Un)Bound: Mimetic Strategies in L. Onerva's Mirdja*. University of Turku, 2014.

This study examines mimetic strategies in L. Onerva's (the pen name of Hilja Onerva Lehtinen, 1882–1972) novel *Mirdja* (1908) and some other early texts (1900–1915) within the process of the creation of female subjectivity in the aesthetic and historical context of the early twentieth century. A Finnish poet, prose writer, essayist, critic and translator, L. Onerva was a major mediator of French culture in Finland of her time. Her writing engaged in a dialogue with a number of aesthetic and philosophical trends typical of the European *fin de siècle*, including decadence, symbolism and Nietzscheanism, all famous for their particular approach to the issue of mimesis. The study, written from a comparative perspective and a gendered point of view, approaches mimesis broadly, highlighting the political dimension and societal character of the concept, as well as the paradoxes inherent in a decadent woman writer's mimetic strategies.

Alessa Johns' new book *Bluestocking Feminism and British-German Cultural Transfer, 1750-1837* will be published this fall by the University of Michigan Press.

Tatiana Crivelli, *La donzella che nulla teme. Percorsi alternativi nella letteratura italiana tra Sette e Ottocento*, Roma, Iacobelli, 2014, 288 pp. The book can be ordered at: <http://iacobellieditore.it/workshop/230-la-donzella-che-nulla-te-mea.html>

## Recent articles by NEWW members

Suzan van Dijk and Maria Schouten, "Numériser les lettres de Belle de Zuylen : Un regard plus précis sur les rapports familiaux", in *Cahiers Isabelle de Charrière/Belle de Zuylen Papers* 8 (2013), p. 24-44.

Ursula Stohler, "Women Writers in Czech Literature Textbooks after the Revolution of 1989", in: *Kosmas: Czechoslovak and Central European Journal* (forthcoming).

Juliana Jovičić, "Migrant Women Acting as Intercultural Mediators: Therese Albertine Luise Von Jakob-Robinson and Wilhelmina Karadžić-Vukomanović", in: *Displaced Women: Multilingual Narratives of Migration in Europe*, Edited by Lucia Aiello, Joy Charnley and Mariangela Palladino. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014, p. 91-116. <http://www.cambridgescholars.com/download/sample/5>.

The volume *Le Temps des femmes. Textes mémoriels des Lumières*, edited by Anne Coudreuse et Catriona Seth (Paris, Garnier, 2014) contains several articles by NEWW members :

Catherine Viollet, "Temps du vécu, temps de l'écriture. Mémoires et journaux russes féminins rédigés en français (fin du XVIIIe siècle)" (p. 137-151) ;

Rotraud von Kulessa, "L'expérience du temps dans les lettres de voyage de Madame du Boccage" (p. 153-162) ;

Suzan van Dijk, “Isabelle de Charrière, une romancière qui regarde en arrière. Est-elle crédible ?” (p. 223-238) ;

Vanda Anastácio, “Ecrire pour le futur. Perceptions de la longue durée dans les stratégies d’auteur de la marquise d’Alorna” (p. 241-249).

Suzan van Dijk, “Vele schrijfsters in een klein land” (Large numbers of women authors in a small country), in *Historica*, 2, 2014, p. 17-23. (article in Dutch about Dutch 19th-century women authors ; translation into English will be available).

## Note !

Henriette Partzsch moved from St. Andrews University to the University of Glasgow. Her new address:

[Henriette.Partzsch@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Henriette.Partzsch@glasgow.ac.uk)

## The NEWW list

If you want to be informed and inform colleagues in the simplest way: use the NEWW electronic list.

Go to:

[http://www.womenwriters.nl/index.php/NEWW\\_List](http://www.womenwriters.nl/index.php/NEWW_List).

## Facebook group

You might also want to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wwhist/>

## This NEWWletter

NEWWletters are issued *twice* a year. For urgent news you might prefer the NEWW list. When sending messages to be included in the

*letter*, please use as subject: “Insert\_in\_next\_NEWWletter”.

Online versions of the NEWWletters continue to be available at [www.womenwriters.nl](http://www.womenwriters.nl) (click: NEWWletters). Here hyperlinks direct to the programmes, further information on the researchers, etc.

## Contacts

NEWW network manager:

[Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl](mailto:Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl).

Project websites: <http://www.womenwriters.nl>,

<http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl> (database).

Discussion list: [owner-neww-eu@lists.soton.ac.uk](mailto:owner-neww-eu@lists.soton.ac.uk)

Newsletter editors:

[vargazsuzsi@hotmail.com](mailto:vargazsuzsi@hotmail.com),

[julianajovicic@yahoo.de](mailto:julianajovicic@yahoo.de),

[Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl](mailto:Suzan.van.Dijk@huygens.knaw.nl).

