

NEWW newsletter

3.2

April 2009



Pictured above: one of the slides accompanying our Powerpoint presentation of our project, on March 5 in Brussels, for the COST committee evaluating our grant proposal submitted in January. The slide illustrates the virtual networks constituted around the Dutch author/translator Margaretha Cambon-van de Werken (00-00), illustrating the kind of transnational approach that is central to our project.

NEWW project news

The big NEWW project news in the coming weeks is of course our third NEWW conference, which will take place at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum on May 15-16. Organizers Lieselotte Steinbrugge and Suzan van Dijk have put together an exciting programme, which includes 22 papers and two keynote addresses by Joan DeJean (University of Pennsylvania) and Vera Nünning (University of Heidelberg).

On the grant front, we are still waiting to hear the outcome of our proposal for a collaborative COST Action, which we submitted in January. The Action is entitled “Women Writers in History: Toward a New Understanding of European Literary Culture”. On March 5, Suzan and Vanda Anastácio presented it to a COST evaluation committee in Brussels. We expect to hear back from the COST offices in May. A number of NEWW members were involved in

preparing the proposal, but it is important for all of you to know that – in case the Action should indeed take place – the idea is that other colleagues join the operation.

In the meantime, in April, we submitted an Outline Proposal to the HERA Joint Research Programme (HERA JRP) “Cultural Dynamics: Inheritance and Identity”. Our project is entitled *Writing in Female Europe (WIFE). Women’s Authorship in Peripheral Cultures: Participation in Supra-National 19th-Century Developments*. Research will concern women’s literature of the long 19th century for the following “smaller” countries: Denmark, The Netherlands, Hungary, Slovenia, and Spain. The researchers involved are Annemarie Mai, Zsuzsanna Varga, Katja Mihurko, Henriette Partzsch, Lizet Duyvendak and Suzan van Dijk. Should the project be financed, it would be interesting to establish cooperation with colleagues working on

other “small” countries. At the moment, the Outline Proposals are being assessed by the HERA JRP international Review Panel; selected applicants will be invited to submit full proposals in September.

In November and again in February, the executive committee (Suzan van Dijk, Agnese Fidecaro, Anke Gilleir and Alicia Montoya) met in Utrecht, where they prepared upcoming NEWW events, including the third annual NEWW conference, to be held in May 2009 in Bochum. In addition, they worked on the COST proposal submitted in January, and on putting together the forthcoming NEWW volume *Women Writing Back / Writing Back Women*, scheduled for publication in 2009 by Brill.

NEWW discussion list

Our NEWW discussion list is now fully operational. The list is hosted by the University of Geneva and is administered by Agnese Fidecaro. All NEWW members who receive the newsletter should have automatically been registered as subscribers; however, should you have a question or problem, please write to neww-owner@list.unige.ch. The messages sent to the list should be related to the activities of the network. The topics may include:

- the database www.databasewomenwriters.nl
 - research and teaching about women writers' place in literary history
 - the theory and methodology of literary history and reception studies, especially in a gender perspective
 - the development of the NEWW network and possible collaborations with other projects.
- You may also send (in English or French):
- announcements for events, conferences, seminars, publications
 - calls for papers/projects/collaboration
 - information requests
 - discussion topics and contributions to debates
 - reviews of articles and books.

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

Upcoming NEWW events

On May 15-16, the third annual NEWW conference, entitled *Theorizing Narrative Genre and Gender*, will be held at the Ruhruniversität Bochum. Key-note lectures will be given by Joan DeJean (University of Pennsylvania) and Vera Nünning (University of Heidelberg). The day before the conference, on

Thursday May 14, a NEWW meeting will be held in order to discuss continuing research together, new projects for upcoming events to be organized, etc. On Sunday the 17th, a touristic programme is scheduled. NB: Bochum and the Ruhr region have been designated a “Cultural Capital of Europe” for the year 2010. Everyone is welcome to attend the conference. There are no registration fees. There are only fees on food and beverages for dinner and lunch. The full programme and registration form for visitors can be downloaded on our conference website: www.neww-bochum.de

At the Conference of the Western Association of Women Historians, to be held from April 30 to May 3, 2009, at Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, CA, Marie-Eve Lampron will represent the NEWW project. For details, please see <http://www.wawh.org/conferences/2009/index.html>.

At the annual conference of the CIEF (Conseil International d'Etudes Francophones) in New Orleans, 21-28 June 2009, there will be a NEWW session entitled “Le français langue de femmes?”. Speakers will include Suzan van Dijk, speaking on “Le français, langue de femmes? A propos de certaines écrivaines aux Pays-Bas (18^e-19^e siècles)”; Catherine Viollet, “Écrits personnels de femmes russes francophones (fin XVIII^e - début XIX^e siècle)”, and Séverine Genieys-Kirk, on “Importation de la culture française à l'usage des dames écossaises et anglaises au XVIII^e siècle: entre adoption et reniement”. For details, please see: <http://www.cief.info/congres/2009/index.html>.

Database news

The database *WomenWriters* at present (April 23, 2009) contains 18,508 records concerning the reception of women's literary works before 1900. The number of records is increasing, and information is being added in existing records thanks to contributions to the volumes we are preparing: during the editing work information contained in the articles is entered as much as possible into the database. The same holds for contributions to the upcoming Bochum conference.

All NEWW members are invited to enter any of their own data that may be of interest to colleagues. Please contact [Suzan van Dijk](mailto:Suzan.van.Dijk@ruhr-uni-bochum.de) 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), aims to provide, in addition to the information already listed, a bibliography of works on women writers within a transnational perspective, which should be relevant to all of us. If you wish to contribute references, please contact [Anke Gilleir](mailto:Anke.Gilleir@univ-lyon2.fr).

The site also furnishes information about ourselves, in the pages entitled "Participants". You might want to update or complete the information presently provided: in particular, if you have recently had to list your publication output for 2008 for your own institution, you may consider sending us this information to include here also.

Member profiles

Vanda Anastácio is an Associate Professor at the Faculdade de Letras of the University of Lisbon, where she teaches Portuguese Culture and Literature (1500 to 1830) as well as Brazilian Literature of the Colonial Period. She cooperates regularly with several research centers in Portuguese universities, such as *Centro de Estudos Clássicos* (CEC), *Centro de Literaturas de Expressão Portuguesa da Universidade de Lisboa* (CLEPUL), and the *Centro Interuniversitário de Estudos Camonianos* (CIEC) of the University of Coimbra. She is leading the team preparing the critical edition of the Works and letters of the Marquise of Alorna with the support of the *Foundation of the Houses of Fronteira e de Alorna* (Fundação das Casas de Fronteira e Alorna), a private institution devoted to the promotion of artistic and intellectual culture. She is a member of the project "Portuguese women writers" of the Universidade Nova of Lisbon led by Teresa Almeida. She has published scholarly editions of Portuguese authors of the 16th and 18th Centuries like: *Visões de Glória (Uma introdução à Poesia de Pêro de Andrade Caminha)*, 2 vols., Lisbon, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian - JNICT, 1998, Cavaleiro de Oliveira, *Viagem à Ilha do Amor*, Oporto, Caixotim, 2001, *Obras de Francisco Joaquim Bingre*, 6 volumes, Oporto, Lello Editores, 2000-2005, *Teatro Completo de Camões*, Oporto, Edições Caixotim, 2005, *Marquesa de Alorna, Sonetos*, Rio de Janeiro, 7Letras, 2008. She was responsible for the edition of the correspondence exchanged between the Marquise of Alorna and the Condessa do Vimiero during the

period of incarceration of the former in the monastery of Chelas (*Cartas de Lília e Tirse (1771-1777)*, Lisbon, Fundação das Casas de Fronteira e Alorna - Edições Colibri, 2007 and has just published a book of essays on the trajectory and works of the Marquise of Alorna: *A Marquesa de Alorna (1750-1839)*. Estudos, Lisbon, Prefácio, 2009.

Annette Keilhauer, one of the initial founders of our collaboration, completed a PhD dissertation on French chansons of the 18th century in 1997. Since then she has taught French and Italian literature at several German universities. Right now she holds an assistant professorship in French and Italian literature at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany. In her habilitation project at Humboldt University Berlin, finished in 2004, she worked in a transnational perspective on the French and Italian women's movements in the nineteenth century in relation to journalism and literature, and published several articles on the subject. Recently she became interested in autobiographical writing by women and published a collective volume on *Viellir féminin et écriture autobiographique* (Clermont-Ferrand, 2007).

Recent books by NEWW members

Anastácio, Vanda, *A Marquesa de Alorna (1750-1839)*. Estudos, Lisbon, Prefácio Editores, 2009.

Duivendak, Lizet and P. Pesch (eds.), *Grenzeloos lezen. 150 jaar Rotterdamsch Leeskabinet*, Rotterdam 2009. (This book will be presented on May 19, at the 150th anniversary celebration of the Rotterdamsch Leeskabinet.)

Fidecaro, Agnese, Henriette Partzsch, Suzan van Dijk and Valérie Cossy (eds.), *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*, Geneva: MétisPresses, 2009. (This book, the conference acts of the first NEWW conference, will officially be presented on May 15.)

Vandenbussche, Liselotte, *Het veld der verbeelding. Vrijzinnige vrouwen in Vlaamse literaire en algemeen-culturele tijdschriften (1870-1914). Studies op het gebied van de moderne Nederlandse literatuur* 13. (The book can be ordered for 30 euros through bookstores or by at secretariaat@kantl.be.)

Recent lectures by NEWW members

Vanda Anastácio participated in the conference *Voix féminines dans la littérature lusophone*, organized by ETOILL (Etudes occitanes, ibériques, latino-américaines et lusophones) at the Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier III, in January 2009, with a paper entitled “La Marquise d’Alorna: une voix féminine (et féministe) du siècle des Lumières”. On 13-14 April, she participated in the II Coloquio Internacional Relações Literárias Luso-Brasileiras, on the subject of Temas e Fronteiras, Faculty of Arts of the University of Lisbon, with a paper on “A Marquesa de Alorna (1750-1839) e o Brasil”. Finally, in March, she participated in an “Internationale Tagung Europäische Lyrik im 18. Jahrhundert. Zwischen Geselligkeit, Gelehrsamkeit und Galanterie” at the Institut Français de Berlin and at the University of Potsdam, and presented the paper “Poésie et galanterie. Les femmes écrivains portugaises (1750-1830)”.

Hilary Brown has recently given some talks relating to her current book project on *Luise Gottsched the Translator*. She gave a paper on “Gender and Translation in Eighteenth-Century Germany” at a Translation Research Seminar, Swansea University, 17 March 2009, and spoke on “The Gottscheds and English Literature” at the 77th Conference of University Teachers of German, University of Ulster, Belfast, 6-8 April 2009.

Gina Luria Walker, Associate Professor of Women's Studies at The New School in New York City, spoke on “Mary Hays: Texts and Contexts” at *Women in The Archives*, a conference at Brown University in celebration of twenty years of the Brown Women's Writers Project, May 5-7, 2009. She also participated in a panel discussion, “Pedagogy in the Archives.”

Alicia C. Montoya spoke on the gendering of 18th-century interest in the medieval (women authors, male scholars), in a talk entitled “Le temps des grandes passions. L’Académie des Inscriptions au carrefour de l’imaginaire littéraire et de l’érudition médiévale”, at the conference *Accès aux textes médiévaux du Moyen Age au XVIIIe siècle*, organized by the University of Rouen, in December 2008.

Other announcements

BOOK OFFER. We are pleased to be able to 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.

CALL. NEWW members are asked to consider propositions for a new part of the NEWW website, entitled ‘Highlights’. For details, see : [http://www.womenwriters.nl/index.php/Belle-van-Zuylen%2C for instance%3F%3F](http://www.womenwriters.nl/index.php/Belle-van-Zuylen%2C%20for%20instance%3F%3F).

Personal news

Congratulations to Kate Astbury, who recently gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Emma!

NEWW membership

During the workshop held last year in April, we talked of the necessity to further formalize NEWW membership. To that end, we will list names of active members on the website following [this format](#). If you wish to be listed, please send the relevant information to Suzan van Dijk.

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: Suzan.vanDijk@let.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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