

# NEWW newsletter

5.2

April 2011



## NEWW project news

On April 14-16, the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade hosted the Workshop International Female Networks, second workshop of our COST Action *Women Writers in History*, organized by Biljana Dojčinović.

30 Action members (see picture above), as well as the participants in the Serbian research project *Knjiženstvo – theory and history of women's writing in Serbian until 1915*, took part. Several colleagues and students from other institutions in Belgrade and other cities in Serbia also attended the meeting.

The three days were quite different from each other. On Thursday 14, Action members presented their work in progress, reflecting on *femininity* as related/opposed to *authorship*. The presentations took place in different sessions entitled “Networks and Genealogies”, “Male-Female Transvesting”, “Evaluating Women Authors”, “Norms and Exceptions” and “Gender vs. National Identities”. (See for details the [program](#) online).

Friday 15, these presentations were commented within the Working Group meetings, where also more generally the collaboration per Working Group was discussed – after a plenary meeting where GertJan Filarski, developer of Huygens ING, sketched the ways in which we are proceeding from the present version of *WomenWriters* database to a more advanced Virtual Research Environment, in which interconnectivity will be created with other online projects in women's literary history.

Saturday 16 was the conference day of the meeting, open to a wider audience. Key-note speakers were Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Vraneš (*Multiculturalism*) and Prof. Dr. Ljiljana Marković (resp. dean and vice-dean of the Faculty). The latter, for the first time within our collaboration, spoke about the reception of European women's writing in *Asia*: in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Japan.

Ele Carpenter's lecture (*Ada Lovelace and Notational Knowledge*) was directly related to her project The Embroidered Digital Commons, which run during the three conference days, so that the Action members also were offered the

occasion of showing their skills in embroidering – instead of writing – text. This generated quite some (critical) discussion which was concluded by Suzan van Dijk's lecture (*Embroidery, Networks and Networking*).

On Saturday the presentation of the Serbian research project *Knjiženstvo*, by 11 of the 15 members of the team, led by Biljana Dojčinović, also took place. This project was helped by the group's being member of the European COST Action IS0901, and the Serbian database will be created using the structure and the code of the *WomenWriters* database.

Serbian television conducted short interviews with Suzan van Dijk, Magdalena Koch and Biljana Dojčinović, which were broadcast during the week after Easter.

## **COST news: Training School**

From 9-14 May 2011 a "Training School" will take place at Huygens ING The Hague, financed thanks to COST. This is the second Training School, the first one having been held, equally in The Hague, in October 2010. Colleagues and in particular young researchers in this way get the occasion to become familiar with the tool, while discussing with each other and with the trainers their own research needs and the solutions expected and provided by either this version of the database, or the future Research Environment which is being prepared.

As the first Training School was a very successful and inspiring week, we expect this next one to be just as useful to the collaborative work.

## **COST news: Short Time Missions**

Another COST instrument will also be used soon and for the first time within the Action: the "Short Time Scientific Missions". They allow young researchers to work, together with a specialist abroad, on a particular subject or research question. In our case two types of STSMs will take place: those focusing on content, and those concerned with technological aspects.

Concerning content: next June Tanja Badalic (Nova Gorica, Slovenia) and Begona Regueiro (Madrid) will go to Nancy, in order to collaborate, under the direction of Kerstin Wiedemann, about "George Sand's 19<sup>th</sup>-century reception abroad" (in Slovenia, Spain and Germany): how to study this question? Which sources to be used? In which ways? How to use, or to adapt the database?

These kinds of questions will be addressed; they will lead to an article to be signed by the three of them.

Any colleagues working also on George Sand's reception might either contact Kerstin Wiedemann, or include their research material in the database, suggesting that comparison might be made.

Concerning technology: an STSM will be carried out by Carme Font Paz. This will concern the interconnectivity to be realized between different databases. For different reasons this STSM cannot take place in May, parallel to the Training School in The Hague; it had to be postponed to some weeks later.

The present announcement can also be considered as an invitation to other Action members to propose suggestions for STSMs to be carried out in the future – concerning either content or tool questions.

## **Database news**

At the end of the first Training School (October 2010), the suggestion had been made to create an Editorial Board for the *WomenWriters* database, which will be concerned with the presentation of the database, not its content.

Since then this Editorial Board has been realized, and has started functioning. Members are Astrid Kulsdom (Chair), Els Naaijken and Ursula Stohler (members).

All database users are asked to send to the Chair of this Ed. Board any questions about the ways in which the database is presented. Questions may concern for instance: the clearness of the database Instructions, terms used in the search screens, ways in which the listings are presented, etc. The questions (which in part concern also discussions within Working

Groups, and will then be communicated to WG leaders) are discussed within the Ed. Board first, and then with GertJan Filarski (developer in charge of our database). He is the one who decides if the solution will be: adaptation on the relevant point of the present version of database, or including the question with the requirements for the new Virtual Research Environment.

The present announcement can also be considered a question to all database users: who wants to take responsibility for (parts of) the *content*? We will need, at some moment, to guarantee that a “board” of specialists is supervising and checking it. Action members might decide to become responsible for those parts of the content which correspond to their expertise.

## **NEWW website**

On the occasion of the Belgrade workshop the NEWW site has prepared a number of new “Portraits of Authors”! Thanks to WG 4 members Kati Launis, Gillian Dow and Astrid Kulsdom, you can now read about: Teresa de Avila, Beatriz Bernal, Minna Canth, Ida Hahn-Hahn, Zofka Kveder, Louisa Sigea, Maria de Zayas y Sotomayor. We are working on other portraits. If you want to propose further writers to be presented, please inform Gillian Dow (WG4-leader).

Do not forget to keep in mind that quotations to be used in Authors about authorship can also be sent.

And check information about your own research on the Participants’ page.

## **COST 2<sup>nd</sup> Milestone conference**

The second Milestone conference of our COST Action will be held in Chawton (UK), at Chawton House Library, in November 2011, continuing on the discussions we have had in Belgrade. Organisers Nicole Pohl and Gillian Dow are currently preparing the Call for Proposals.

## **Conferences**

The conference entitled *La francophonie aux XVIIIe-XIXe siècles : perspectives littéraires, historiques et culturelles*, organised by Catherine Viollet, Elena Gretchanaia and others in Paris (29-30 April 2011) was interesting and successful. Once more, “new” Russian women authors writing in French have been presented. “L’autre francophonie” is clearly rich – on the male *and* the female side.

Anne Birgitte Ronning organised (29 April, Oslo) a research seminar entitled “Women Writers before 1800”, where she also presented the COST Action “Women Writers In History”.

The conference “Les rôles transfrontaliers joués par les femmes dans la construction de l’Europe”, organised by Guyonne Leduc will take place in Lille, 16-18 June 2011. Here the COST Action WWIH will present a half day session, in which 6 Action members will take part.

In the 13. Internationaler Kongress zur Erforschung des 18. Jahrhunderts (13<sup>th</sup> Enlightenment Congress), Graz, Austria (July 25-29, 2011) different Action members will take part. Some of those in the session organised by Catriona Seth, which is entitled: “The Time of women’s memoirs”.

## **Members’ activities**

On November 29, 2010 Elisa Müller-Adams participated in a Research Seminar: Center for Gender Studies in Europe, University of Sheffield, GB: „A Woman cannot bear London“– Travelogues about London by German-speaking Women Writers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

On December 14, 2010 Ursula Stohler gave a paper on the topic of “Women in Czech literature textbooks” at the University of Pardubice in the Czech Republic. This presentation took place in the context of the research project “Canon, Identity and Literary Learning in Czech

Literature Textbooks”, which is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and lasts from 2011-2013.

On March 3rd 2011 Juliana Jovicic gave a paper on the topic “New approach to the contributions of Therese Albertine Luise von Jakob-Robinson (Talvj, 1797-1870) and Wilhelmine Karadzic-Vukmanovic (Mina, 1828-1894) to Slavic and Serb literature and culture“ at the conference “The First Conference for young Slavs“ taking place on March 3-4 at ELTE University in Budapest, Hungary.

Vanda Anastacio participated in the Research Seminar *Mulheres, Sociedade e Cultura / Donne, Società e Cultura* at the Università degli Studi della Tuscia, in Viterbo (Italy) 15 March 2011 with the paper: «Mulheres e livros. Marcas de posse femininas em livros da biblioteca antiga do Palácio Fronteira/Women and books. Signs of female power in the books of Lisbon’s Palacio Fronteira’s library».

On 13 April 13, 2011 Henriette Partzsch gave a paper on the topic of “Violets and Abolition: The Discourse on Slavery in Faustina Sáez de Melgar’s Weekly Magazine *La Violeta: Revista hispano-americana* (Madrid, 1862-66)” at the “Annual Conference of the Association of Hispanicists in Great Britain and Ireland” held on 12-14 April at King’s College London, United Kingdom.

In the Colloque International *Les femmes écrivains en France au XVIIIe siècle: Nouvelles approches*, Université d’Alicante, Suzan van Dijk gave a key-note lecture “D’une écrivaine à l’autre: perspectives internationales grâce à un outil électronique, la base de données *WomenWriters*”, thanks to Amelia Sanz, who herself organised a round table entitled “Initiatives pour la visibilité des textes de femmes” (13 April 2011).

Mónica Bolufer participated with different papers in several conferences: 1. “Comparecer ante el teatro del mundo: vida y obra de Inés Joyes y Blake, Vélez Málaga”, March 2011; 2. “Itinerarios ilustrados. Mujeres y hombres ante

la experiencia y el relato de viajes”, in V Seminario de Estudios del siglo XVIII “Vivir en las Luces: El siglo XVIII en femenino”, Ferrol, Universidad de la Coruña, April 2011; 3. “Reasonable sentiments: Sensibility and Balance in eighteenth-century Spain”, in *Emotional Cultures in Spain, from the Enlightenment to the Present*, New York University, April 2011.

Kerstin Wiedemann and Elisa Müller-Adams, "Deutsche Schriftstellerinnen im internationalen literarischen Markt: eine Fallstudie zu Ida Gräfin Hahn-Hahn", contribution to *German Women's Writing in its European Context, 1700-1900*, conference in London, 25-26 November 2010.

Marie-Louise Coolahan gave a paper ‘Literary memorialization and women's manuscripts’ at the *Renaissance Society of America*, Montreal, Canada, March 2011; and an invited lecture ‘Archipelagic identities in Europe: Irish nuns in English convents’, at the Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute, UCD, April 2011.

Viola Capkova gave lectures entitled "Literature, Gender and History", and "Women Writers in History", at the Department of Gender Studies, University of Turku (February 2011) and the Departments of History and Cultural History, University of Turku (March 2011).

## New projects

A project entitled “*Feminine cultural networks in the Iberian Peninsula (16th to 19th Century)*” has been granted by the Portuguese and Spanish Ministries of Science. It will be carried out by two teams of researchers coordinated by Vanda Anastácio (University of Lisbon) and Nieves Baranda (UNED – Madrid) has been awarded funding. This is a Portuguese-Spanish Integrated Action, part of the larger project represented by COST-WWIH. The main objective of this project is to increase the critical knowledge on the common elements regarding women’s written culture in the Iberian Peninsula. For more information, see [NEWW site](#).



Madeleine Jeay and her team (McMaster University Hamilton) have received a Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for a project on interconnectivity between databases in French Literature.

### Recent books by NEWW members

Biljana Dojčinović, *Susreti u tami: Uvod u čitanje Virdžinije Vulf*. (Encounters in the Dark: Introduction to Reading Virginia Woolf). Belgrade, 2010.

Isabel Lousada, *Perfil para uma pioneira: Adelaide Cabete 1867-1935*, Coleção Livros República. Lisboa, Fonte da palavra/Editora Cedro, 2011.

Rotraud von Kulesa, *Entre la reconnaissance et l'exclusion. La position de l'autrice dans le champ littéraire en France et en Italie à l'Epoque 1900*. Paris, Honoré Champion 2011.

Mónica Burguera, *Las damas del liberalismo respetable: la reinención de lo social y las fronteras políticas de la mujer de "clase media" en España (1834-1843)*. Madrid, Cátedra, 2011.

### Recent articles by NEWW members

Elisa Müller-Adams, "Ein bischen Sünde, ein bischen Unglück macht die Frauen erst reizvoll". In: Caroline Fouqués Eheromane *Die Frau des Falkensteins und Resignation*. In: *Blätter öffentlich in die Welt. Caroline de la Motte Fouqués und Sophie Tieck-Bernhardi-von Knorring. Schriftstellerinnen in Preußen*. Ed. by Wolfgang de Bruyn and Barbara Gribnitz., Hannover 2011, pp.107-128.

Elisa Müller-Adams, "A German Jane Eyre? – Amely Bölte and the English governess novel." In: *Women's Writing* Vol. 18 No 1 (February 2011) Special Edition: *Readers, Writers, Salonnières: Female Networks in Europe, 1700-1900*, pp.103-120.

Vanda Anastacio, «A Marquesa de Alorna (1750-1839: Poesia e Galanteria no Portugal das Luzes)» in: Alda Correia (ed.), *A Arte da Cultura – Homenagem a Yvette Centeno*, Lisboa, Edições Colibri, 2011, pp. 399-415.

Maarit Leskelä-Kärki, "Songs of comfort and lamentation. Autobiographical connections in the texts of ageing Aino Kallas." In: *Aino Kallas. Negotiations with modernity*. Eds. Leena Kurvet-Käosaar and Lea Rojola. SKS, tulossa helmimaaliskuussa 2011.

Mónica Bolufer, "Inés Joyes, autora de la *Apología de las mujeres*: en defensa de las mujeres en la Andalucía de la Ilustración", in: *Andalucía en la Historia*, 32 (april 2011), ISSN 1695-1956, pp. 80-83.

Mónica Bolufer, "De madres a hijas, de padres a hijos: familia y transmisión moral", in: Joan Bestard and Manuel Pérez García, eds., *Familia, valores y representaciones*. Murcia, Universidad de Murcia, 2011, ISBN 9978-978-84-8371, pp. 217-238.

Kerstin Wiedemann, "Fanny Lewald und George Sand (1804-1876): Vom Vorbild zum Gegenbild", in: Christine Ujma (dir.), *Fanny Lewald (1811-1889). Studien zu einer großen europäischen Schriftstellerin und Intellektuellen*. Bielefeld, Aisthesis 2011, p. 93-114.

Kirsty Hooper. "As viaxeiras británicas a Galicia e a poesía de Rosalía de Castro". in *Festa da Palabra Silenciada* 25 (2011).

### Calls for papers

The Faculty of Letters of Spiru Haret University, (Bucharest) in collaboration with the Department of German Studies (University of Vienna), and the Contemporary Science Association (New York), the Centre of Research in Gender Studies (New York), and Addleton Academic Publishers (New York) invite proposals for the Conference: GENDER STUDIES IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION, to be held June 2-3, 2011. For information: Ramona Mihăilă, at

[genderstudies.conference@gmail.com](mailto:genderstudies.conference@gmail.com).

Hilde Hoogenboom organizes a session in the *Women in French* Conference “Crossing Boundaries: French and Francophone Women in Literature and Science, Culture and the Arts”, at Arizona State University, February 24-25, 2012.

Colleagues working on “Bio-Bibliographic Compilations of Women in France Before and After Fortunée Briquet” are invited to propose contributions to this session.

Papers are solicited on any aspect of these compilations and the crossing of generic and national boundaries. Please send abstracts of 250 words maximum to Hilde Hoogenboom ([hilde.hoogenboom@asu.edu](mailto:hilde.hoogenboom@asu.edu)). Deadline: 15 August 2011.

Juliana Jovicic announces the International Conference *Languages and Cultures across Time and Space*, to be held on Saturday, 26 November 2011, at the Faculty of Philosophy, Novi Sad, Serbia.

Abstracts for 20-minute presentations are invited at: [jezici.kulture@gmail.com](mailto:jezici.kulture@gmail.com), deadline: 1 September 2011.

## Teaching

As several of the NEWW members are not only researching women’s literary history, but also teaching it, we wonder if it might be useful to join efforts, [discuss our teaching materials](#), consider the possibilities of international collaboration.

Shaf Towheed would like to draw our attention to online teaching material put online by the Reading Experience Database, and which might also be useful for the NEWW members and COST-WWIH participants: a range of [web based tutorials](#) relating to readers in history. One of these tutorials looks at two British women writers with strong European connections: Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Vernon Lee. The tutorials are freely available for all to use, and are distributed through the Open University's OpenLearn division:

<http://openlearn.open.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=4386>

<http://openlearn.open.ac.uk/mod/oucontent/view.php?id=401097&direct=1>

There are also some new short essays on the topic of reading in the British Isles, 3 of which are about women readers or writers (Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, and Molly Hughes). Details can be found here:

[http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/reading/UK/explore\\_exploring.php](http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/reading/UK/explore_exploring.php)

## Receiving the NEWWletter

If you do not wish to receive the NEWW newsletter, please send a message stating so to [Suzan.van.Dijk@huygensinstituut.knaw.nl](mailto:Suzan.van.Dijk@huygensinstituut.knaw.nl).

## Contacts

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

Discussion list: [neww@unige.ch](mailto:neww@unige.ch).

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