



Biography Institute



Annual Report Biography Institute 2015

Postal address

Biography Institute
University of Groningen
p.o. Box 716
nl-9700 AS Groningen
The Netherlands

Visiting address

Faculty of Arts
Oude Kijk in 't Jatstraat 26
nl-9712 EK Groningen
Room 13.12.128/132

Telephone

+31 50 363 5816/9069

E-mail

Biografie.Instituut@rug.nl

Website

www.biografieinstituut.nl
www.rug.nl/biografieinstituut
ISBN: 978-90-367-8628-7

Annual Report 2015



university of
 groningen

Annual Report Biography Institute
University of Groningen, The Netherlands
2015

GRONINGEN UNIVERSITY PRESS



Wolfgang Amad. Mozart.

Eine
begründete und ausführliche

Biographie

desselben

Herausgegeben von
Joh. Aloys Schlosser



Table of Contents

Preface	6
Biography Institute	
1.1 Employees	7
1.2 PhD positions	7
1.3 Advisory committee	8
1.4 Finance	8
1.5 Funding	8
1.6 Website and Newsletter	9
Projects	
2.1 Biography projects	11
2.2 Completed projects	21
2.3 Edited volumes conferences	28
2.4 Digitization projects	28
2.5 Publications	30
Scientific publications	30
Professional publications	33
Lectures and scientific activities	37
2.6 Editorships and advisory committees	45
Education and partnerships	
3.1 Education	47
3.2 Partnerships	47
3.3 Dutch Biography Portal	47

Preface

On 1 September 2004 the University of Groningen established the Biography Institute. This annual report provides an overview of the principal activities, developments and activities of the Biography Institute in the calendar year 2015.

The Biography Institute is associated with the Faculty of Arts. Its founding was financially made possible by Stichting Democratie en Media (SDM, Democracy and Media Foundation). However, the institute applies a strict policy of autonomy.

The Biography Institute has the following objectives:

- to offer an infrastructure and specific support to graduate students doing biographical research,
- to stimulate the development of theoretical perspectives on biography as an academic genre.

With regard to the development of theoretical perspectives on biography the Biography Institute aims at organising scientific conferences and symposia and at publishing biographies, conference proceedings and academic articles. In order to achieve these aims, a chair in biography was founded on 1 March 2007 and on 1 March 2012 the Department of History and Theory of Biography was established.

The Biography Institute supervises graduate students preparing biographies as PhD's, as well as Master students writing master theses or taking part in research classes within the domain of biography. For three successive years now, the institute has provided the research course 'Biographical Approach of History'. This course is also open for contract students.

Over the next few years, researchers of the institute will study the theme of 'journalism, publishing, and social democracy' on various levels, focusing on sources, narrative forms, and social-cultural contexts. They will also explore related domains such as art, entrepreneurship, education, politics, religion and technology.

1.1 Employees

- Prof. J.W. Renders, director, manages the institute.
- I.L. Hengeveld, coordinator,
is responsible for the coordination of the institute.
- B.B.J. de Haan PhD, PhD researcher; researcher/staff member,
was appointed in September 2009 to conduct theoretical research on
biographical traditions in international perspective; since 1 June 2015
responsible for research, website and communication of the institute.
- A. Dekker PhD, PhD researcher,
was appointed to write the biography of Anton Kröller until 1 June 2015.
- J.S. Harmsma MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte),
appointed in April 2013 to write the biography of Jelle Zijlstra.
- Chris Hietland MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte),
appointed in April 2014 to write the biography of André van der Louw.
- E.M. Rovers PhD, senior researcher (1 fte),
appointed in September 2011 to write the biography of Boudewijn
Büch.

1.2 PhD Researchers

In 2015 the Biography Institute guided ten PhD's in total. Four of these PhD's were employees of the institute, six were external PhD researchers.

- Ariëtte Dekker wrote the biography of Anton Kröller;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. P. Kooij
(em. RUG).
- Binne de Haan conducted research on the theory of the biography;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Jonne Harmsma writes the biography of Jelle Zijlstra; Doctoral
Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. J.M. Berk.
- Chris Hietland writes the biography of André van der Louw; Doctoral
Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Prof. P. van de Laar and Prof. G.
Voerman.

External PhD Researchers

- Richard Hoving is writing the biography of Joseph Kotälla; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Roelie Zwikker is writing the biography of Vincent Willem van Gogh; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Gerben Wynia is writing the biography of C.O. Jellema; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. G.J. Dorleijn and Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Co Strootman is writing the biography of P.J.Bouman; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. K. van Berkel and Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Nigel Hamilton is writing a partial biography of Franklin Delano Roosevelt; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. D.F.J. Bosscher.
- Chris Gevers is writing the biography of Petrus Tammens; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and B.B.J. de Haan, PhD.

1.3 Advisory committee

The Biography Institute is assisted in its development by an advisory committee. Members of the advisory committee are: Prof. J.C.H. Blom (chairman), Prof. E. Etty, T.P.M. Strengers, Prof. G.C. Wakker en Prof. C.J.W. Zwart.

1.4 Finance

In terms of its finance the Biography Institute is, according to the Faculty Board within the University of Groningen, regarded as a project. This entails that external financial resources are acquired to cover the costs of conferences, symposia and edited volumes. The existence of the institute itself is supported by the Democracy & Media Foundation.

Other projects were financially supported by the funding bodies mentioned below.

1.5 Funding

The funding bodies mentioned below financially supported projects within the Biography Society in 2015:

Kröller-Müller Museum

Foundation Het Nationale Park De Hoge Veluwe

De Nederlandsche Bank (The Dutch Bank)
Dr. Abraham Kuyperfonds
Municipality of Rotterdam
NOS
NPO
VARA
Graduate School RUG
Democracy & Media Foundation (SDM)
SNS Reaal

The funding was allocated to the biography projects Anton Kröller, André van der Louw and Jelle Zijlstra.

1.6 Website and Newsletter

The Biography Institute has a bilingual website (Dutch and English): www.rug.nl/BiografieInstituut, also accessible via www.BiografieInstituut.nl. On this website, visitors can access information concerning the objectives and the topics of research of the institute, as well as information on ongoing projects and conferences. The site features a news section which is updated continuously.

The website also includes files made accessible by the institute through digitalization. Additionally, the Biography Institute has published online a database with pseudonyms, the National Archives of Pseudonyms. Furthermore the website contains an extensive list of related website links on biography, and it is possible to contact the institute and its members via the website.

The website of the Biography Institute has been the most visited website of all the research websites of the Faculty of Arts since it was established. The annual number of visitors this year is more than 26.000.

Those who are interested, can be kept informed about activities of the institute through a newsletter which is distributed by email. Currently, more than 800 people are receiving the newsletter. During this year, four newsletters have been distributed.

Founding of The Biography Society

On Saturday November 7, 2015 The Biography Society has been founded at Aix-Marseille Université. The aim of The Biography Society is to foster international research and practice in the field of biography studies.

President of the Society is Prof. Joanny Moulin (Aix-Marseille Université).

Vice President is Prof. Hans Renders (Biography Institute/University of Groningen). Nigel Hamilton (University of Massachusetts Boston) has been appointed as

Honorary President. Other

members of the Board are

Prof. Sigurður Gylfi

Magnússon (Reykjavík

Academy), Alexandre

Tremblay (Aix Marseille

Université), Prof. Martine

Boyer-Weinmann

(Université Lumière-Lyon 2), prof. Sophie Vallas (Aix-Marseille

Université), Binne de Haan (Biography Institute/University of Groningen)

and Maryam Thirriard (Aix-Marseille Université). More information can be found on the website of The Biography Society:

<http://biographysociety.org/>.



New scholarly publication series: Biography Studies

From 2016 on, under editorship of the Biography Institute and in collaboration with The Biography Society, the scholarly publication series ‘Biography Studies’ will appear at Brill Publishers (Boston/Leiden).

Annually, at least one new study in the field of biography studies will

appear in this series. The editors of the series are Hans Renders and Binne

de Haan (both Biography Institute). The Advisory Board consists of Joanny

Moulin (Aix-Marseille Université), Sigurður Gylfi Magnússon (Reykjavík

Academy), Nigel Hamilton (University of Massachusetts

Boston/Biography Institute) and Lindie Koorts (University of the Free

State).

Projects

2.1 Biography projects

One of the main goals of the Biography Institute, giving guidance to biographers, was accomplished this year by guiding, among others, the following biographers: Jonne Harmsma (Jelle Zijlstra), Chris Hietland (André van der Louw), Richard Hoving (Joseph Kotälla), Nigel Hamilton (Franklin Delano Roosevelt), Ariëtte Dekker (Anton Kröller; finished), Binne de Haan (theory of biography; finished).

P.J. Bouman

At the age of thirty Pieter Jan Bouman (1902-1977) took a task upon himself: 'to be a spiritual leader in a dislocated time'. To this end he wrote several books, which made him the most famous and widely read historian in the 1950's. In Bouman's books the point of focus are his fellow creatures with their personal fortunes and perception of history. His *Revolution of the lonely* (1953) became a best-seller with thirty-four print and translated into eight languages.



Bouman, from 1946 professor of sociology in Groningen, was often asked as a speaker and had an extensive network: journalists, university colleagues at home and abroad, entrepre-neurs, ministers and members of the Royal family.

Historians were unhappy with the work of Bouman. His so-called 'free books' were firmly criticized and vilified. The publications were said to be unscientific and shoddy works. Bouman was convinced, however, that his 'free books' should not be assessed scientific but still could meet the highest standards.

Within the sociological world Bouman with his socio-cultural attitudes found himself in an equally awkward position. When starting in Groningen he brought his own manual of sociology. Many generations of sociology students were trained this way. But when in the early 1950's the so-called

'modern' sociology became dominant, attitudes such as Bouman's classic socio-cultural concept were seen as irrelevant.

Bouman harboured a distrust of science and preferred not to use the title of professor. At his retirement in 1968 he refused to be portrayed in cap and gown. Twenty years later the university restored this omission. It symbolizes the struggle with science Bouman engaged in virtually all his life. In the domain of science he didn't want to feel at home, it was the perfect place for him to be out of place. And yet he belonged there and did what he had to do. He wrote several scientific publications, was proud to be rector magnificus and happy to be free of its burden.

Never before have Bouman's fight with science and cause of his popularity been examined in a full biographical approach. The biography reveals an almost unknown Bouman: the obsessive labour on his project of life and his underlying motives, his simultaneous fight against and service to science. The biography shows Bouman as a self-appointed culture carrier who sometimes took a wrong turn, but above all gained success and fame.

Boudewijn Büch

After the death of writer Boudewijn

Büch in 2002 many have tried to capture the life of this striking personality. Countless books, newspaper articles, and television programs have been dedicated to bibliophile Boudewijn, the poet Boudewijn, collector Boudewijn, Boudewijn who grew up in Wassenaar, Boudewijn the Goethe devotee, the fallen communist, the gay who was straight, the friend of... Most attention by far was paid to Boudewijn Büch the master of deceit, the man who needed more than reality alone and who therefore created a parallel universe.

The abundant attention which was devoted to his many mystifications eclipsed the perception of the person Boudewijn Büch and of his tumultuous career. That is a shame, as he left a collection of unusual poems, several moving books and countless unequalled coverages, which introduced a broad audience to the most remote corners of the world. Not in the least Büch knew how to convey his inexhaustible enthusiasm for books. As a weekly guest in the talk show of Frits Barend and Henk van

Dorp for instance, he arose the curiosity of the Dutch for long forgotten novels and authors.

After Büch's death however, hardly any attention was paid to the role he had played within the Dutch cultural field the previous twenty years. The literary establishment considered him little more than a rascal who read a book or two. However, in

retrospect he proves to be exemplary for the changing beliefs regarding taste in the last quarter of the twentieth century, when the traditional distinction between high and low art began to fade. In an infectious way Büch showed that a person does not need to be a stuffy professor in order to love history or poetry. He was a cultural omnivore, who started his career as a poet and wound up to be a television personality. In the period between he worked as passionately on columns for *Playboy* and *Nieuwe Revue* as he did on articles on Rimbaud for a quality newspaper as

NRC *Handelsblad*. The one day he would write about major authors in literary journal *Maatstaf*, the next he would throw new publications he disliked around the studio of his television program Büch's books. At least as poignant was the contrast between the introspection of his own novels and the philosophical thoroughness of Goethe's work, whom he greatly admired.



Boudewijn Büch
© Klaas Koppe

Vincent Willem van Gogh

The leading emphasis of the extensive research that takes place at the Van Gogh Museum is on the artist Vincent van Gogh and his contemporaries. Until now, a more specific focus on his nephew, the founder of the Van Gogh Museum who died in 1978, has remained in the background. The planned biography will establish a picture of the life and career of this man,

who was determined to preserve the collection of Vincent and Theo van Gogh and to open it up to the public.

Vincent Willem Van Gogh was born in Paris on 31 January 1890, the son of Theo Van Gogh (1857-1891) and Jo Bonger (1862-1925). They named their only child after Theo's brother, the artist Vincent Willem Van Gogh (1853-1890). After Theo's untimely death in 1891, Van Gogh's collection of drawings, paintings and letters, as well as Vincent and Theo's collection of the works of contemporaries, went to Jo. When she died in 1925, her son inherited the collection.

Van Gogh was a versatile and enterprising person. From 1907-1914 he studied mechanical engineering at the University of Delft. After marrying Josina Wibaut in January 1915, he lived and worked as an engineer in France, the United States and Japan. In the early 1920s, the couple returned to the Netherlands. Together with a fellow student from his university days, Ernst Hijmans, Van Gogh founded an organisation consultancy firm in Amsterdam, one of the first in The Netherlands.



After 1945, he turned more and more to studying and publicizing the work of his famous uncle. He thought it was important for the collection to remain intact after his death and so, in 1962, at the suggestion of the national government, he placed it with the Vincent van Gogh Foundation, which was established specifically for the purpose. On 3 June 1973, the Vincent van Gogh Museum opened its doors to the public. Van Gogh was in the museum virtually every day until shortly before his death on 28 January 1978 and he devoted his energies to everything related to Vincent, Theo and the museum.

C.O. Jellema

C.O. Jellema (1936-2003) studied theology and German language and literature and taught German literature at Groningen University. He was a well-respected poet: his work has been translated into English, German and French. Jellema participated in Poetry International, was a member of literary juries and committees and reviewed literature for several newspapers for many years. He was also an essayist and a translator. In this research project there are two main angles: the struggle to maintain literary autonomy and the role of homosexuality in the construction of Jellema's personal and poetic identity.



The autonomy issue will be explored using a set of cohering questions. For example, how did Jellema achieve his hard-won literary recognition? Jellema's work and poetic principles showed little, if any, resemblance to the views of the then-dominant poets and critics. That is why it is interesting to explore the development of his literary work and his views on literature. His interest in the work of the German mystics, which he also translated, is of special importance in this matter. As early as in his 1961 debut a religious theme can be observed in Jellema's work. What did this thematic interest signify during a time in which it was unusual to address religious and metaphysical issues?

In the second half of the Twentieth century homosexuality underwent an important transformation, from a taboo subject to being socially accepted. Important questions are: how did Jellema's acceptance of his own homosexuality develop? In what way did his encounter with a German soldier as a six-year-old, an early initiation into homo-eroticism, influence his life and work? To what extent is the eroticism in his work homo-erotic? How do these things all relate to the characteristics of the lives and works of other authors from this period, during which homosexuality and homosexual emancipation received a lot of attention.

For Jellema writing was a quest for identity, an affirmation of self-worth. Key factors in this are the one-and-a-half-year period during which he underwent tuberculosis treatment as a young boy, his struggle with his homosexuality, being raised with a strong class-consciousness, and his aborted theology studies. The chosen research method makes it possible to explore these and other factors and expand their implications beyond the particular, creating insight into the literary and socio-cultural climate in which Jellema worked.

Joseph Kotälla

A ‘human devil’, he was called by the former resistance newspaper *Het Parool* shortly after the war. The paper reported on excavating the victims of Joseph Kotälla in the vicinity of the German concentration camp Amersfoort in November 1945. As a deputy camp commander, the small SS member was extremely cruel and led several firing squads during the war years. The newspaper stated that Kotälla ‘found his greatest pleasure in looking at tormented bodies and watching the pain and agony in the eyes of the dying’.

This study gives a detailed outline of Kotälla’s problematic youth in Upper Silesia, a region that was dominated by ethnic conflicts. His career in the German army during the war will be described in detail.



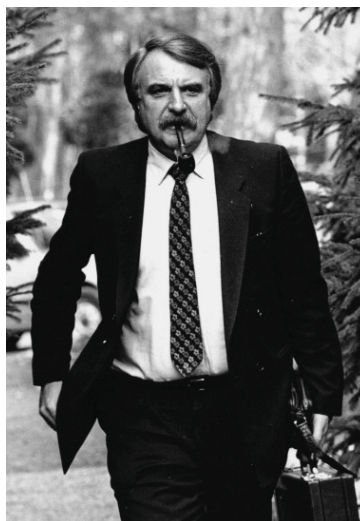
After a brief period at the Eastern Front, he was transferred to the Netherlands. His work in concentration camp Amersfoort is an important part of this research. It answers the question whether Kotälla with his cruel actions was an exception compared to the other guards in the camp. Studying the deputy commander gives the perspective of a participant (or agency perspective) on the notorious camp Amersfoort that has never been used before, namely that of

‘perpetrators’. On the basis of unique sources and eyewitnesses accounts it becomes clear what Kotälla thought of himself.

Hitherto the study’s concerning the postwar trial of Joseph Kotälla and the lingering debate on his parole are dominated by the political and public discussion on how to deal with war criminals. This study, however, focuses primarily on Kotälla’s motives and interpretations.

André van der Louw

André van der Louw (1933-2005) had a versatile career. He was a journalist, a social democratic politician and a chairman of several public organizations. As a journalist he worked for the social democratic broadcasting association *vara* and the cultural youth magazines *Twen/Taboe* and *Hitweek*. In the late sixties, Van der Louw became widely known as a leading member of *Nieuw Links*, a movement that strived for change within the social democratic party. He was



chosen in the central committee of the PvdA in 1967, and became the party’s chairman four years later. From a rebellious party member, he turned into a professional politician. Van der Louw was sworn into office as mayor of Rotterdam in 1974. He seemed to be in his element in Rotterdam. Even so, he became Minister of Culture, Recreation and Social Work in the second Van Agt government in 1981. After the rapid fall of this unsuccessful cabinet, Van der Louw appeared to be in the running to become Den Uyl’s successor as PvdA leader. Instead, he disappeared from the political scene in The Hague. He became, among other things, chairman of the Dutch football association *knvb* (1986-1989) and chairman of the national broadcasting organization *nos* (1994-1997). In the early nineties, twenty years after *Nieuw Links* dissolved, Van der Louw campaigned once again in order to chart a new political course for the PvdA. With little effect this time.

This biographical research aims to show the connection between Van der Louw's personal background and his public activities, and it will put it into a historical context. This will probably shed light on how Van der Louw's various activities related to one another and it will give insight in the development of his political views. Four research subjects are of central importance: Van der Louw's journalistic and cultural activities, his position within the PvdA, his political style and his (self)representation. This research will contribute to the historiography of postwar Dutch social democracy and political culture.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Although many biographies have been written about Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), they have largely ignored or dismissed his command of all U.S. Armed Forces throughout the global conflict we call the Second World War.

Since the role of Commander in Chief in peace and war is one of the essential tasks of a U.S. President – mandated by its Constitution – and since that role has been exercised with both success and failure over the past seventy years of American



global hegemony since his death, this dearth is a surprising gap in our biographical understanding and knowledge. Was America's military victory in World War II only attributable to its generals and admirals – men like Marshall, MacArthur, Leahy, Arnold, King, Nimitz, Eisenhower, Patton and Bradley? Was Churchill really the architect and strategic mastermind behind the Allied winning of the war – as Churchill painted his own performance in his great six-volume memoir, *The Second World War*, which helped win him the Nobel Prize for Literature after the war?

Clearly, the death of Franklin Roosevelt from a cerebral hemorrhage on April 12, 1945, several weeks before the fall of Adolf Hitler, was a

calamity for his biography as the dominant military leader of the western Allies, for the President had fully intended to write his war memoirs, and had already begun assembling the materials. He had, after all, rallied his country after defeat at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and had been the ultimate figure responsible for turning that misfortune into military victory – victory that then permitted the United States to become the world’s foremost postwar superpower, for good and ill.

This biography seeks to re-examine and more deeply research the character, *modus operandi*, decisions, relationships and true role of Franklin Delano Roosevelt – who often called himself an ‘obstinate old Dutchman’ – as U.S. Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II.

Petrus Tammens

Petrus Tammens was ‘by far the least popular mayor of Groningen’, wrote town historian Beno Hofman in his book about the men who have headed the municipal offices of the city Groningen until today. Tammens was probably also the one who had least hoped that he once would fulfill the office, which he did from 1943 to 1945. After the German occupiers removed prewar mayor P.W.J.H. Cort van der Linden from office, the Dutch collaborationist National Socialist Movement (NSB) searched for a suitable successor for a long time. Several candidates dropped out, mostly because they accepted another post. Finally, the choice was made for the farmer Tammens from the Groningen agrarian village Ruigezand. Until then, he held various managerial positions in agricultural organizations and assisted as administrative council member the commissioner of the province, his party colleague C.F. Staargaard. Letters show that Tammens in first instance refused to accept the position. However, there were not many suitable candidates for the NSB, and Tammens yielded to the pressure exerted on him personally by the national NSB -leader Anton Mussert. In the beginning of 1943, the inauguration took place, with much national-socialist display of power.

Peter Romijn made a distinction between two types of NSB-mayors in his study *Burgemeesters in oorlogstijd* [Mayors in wartime]. The first group of mayors aimed to prove that nazis could be good mayors. Some of them

even managed to gain a certain popularity in their community. The other group of mayors consisted of convinced national-socialists who seized the public office to achieve a political goal. This group mostly consisted of hawks. This biography will demonstrate that Tammens belonged to the second category. Furthermore, Tammens also is a type of individual that has not been studied in a Dutch biography before: a combination of governor, farmer and NSB-politician.

Jelle Zijlstra

During Jelle Zijlstra's (1918-2001) career the Frisian economist acted as minister of Economic Affairs and Finance, senator, prime minister and finally became president of the De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB). Even though Zijlstra was active in politics for over fifteen years between 1952 and 1967, he never regarded himself as a politician. Zijlstra labeled the academic world of the Vrije Universiteit as his 'paradise lost' and only when he became president of De Nederlandsche Bank he felt in place. In his memoirs Zijlstra pointed out that the reason for this was he had never been a homo politicus and had always remained a homo economicus.



Nevertheless, Zijlstra's departure from the political stage took a long period and several of his attempts to withdraw from The Hague failed or were short-lived. Seemingly unwilling Zijlstra stayed on as minister, leader of the Antirevolutionary Party (ARP) and ultimately even became prime minister.

Trained as an economist, Zijlstra distanced himself from political routines and preferred a professional, businesslike style, favoring consensus and the long term above devout phrases and idealism. On the level of both national and party politics Zijlstra represented pragmatism, earning him popularity as well as fierce criticism. Zijlstra held a prominent

role within the modernization of the ARP and the rapidly changing landscape of Dutch politics in general; where the importance of national reconstruction and governing on a broad basis began to fade.

This research aims at the life and work of Jelle Zijlstra in which the following questions play a significant role: What was the influence of the crisis and the Second World War on the development of Zijlstra as a person, politician and economist? What was Zijlstra's role within the Antirevolutionary Party and Dutch politics? This research will contribute to the historiography of Dutch post-war politics, balancing between reconstruction, social engineering and fiscal policy.

2.2 Completed projects

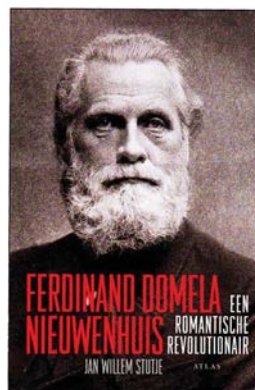


J.C. Bloem

Bart Slijper wrote the biography of Bloem entitled *Van alle dingen los. Het leven van J.C. Bloem*, which was published by Uitgeverij De Arbeiderspers in May 2007. A reprint appeared in the same year. This biography was short-listed for 'The Best Historical Book 2007, Historisch Nieuwsblad/de Volkskrant Award'. Bart Slijper obtained his doctorate on 10 May 2007.

Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis

The project Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis (1846–1919) is made possible by a so-called Vidi-subsidy from The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). The biography is a contribution to the history of ideas and to the historical sociology of social movements and political culture. *Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis. Een romantische revolutionair* was first published

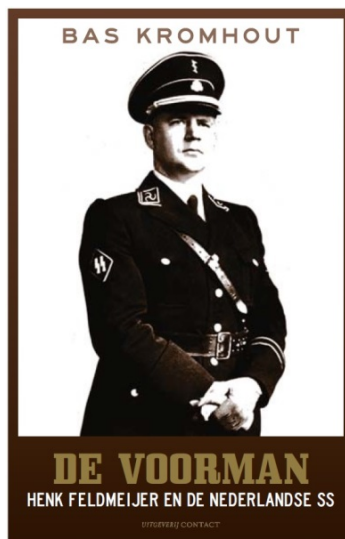


Een romantische revolutionair was first published May 2012 by publisher Atlas. In 2012 the biography was short-listed for the Libris History Prize and in 2013 for the Gouden Boekenuil.

Henk Feldmeijer

Johannes Hendrik (Henk) Feldmeijer was the 'Foreman' of the Dutch SS. As such, he was one of Heinrich Himmler's most valuable pawns in the occupied Netherlands. Feldmeijer radicalized rapidly. Because of this Feldmeijer in 1937 clashed with NSB-leader Mussert. In 1939 he established a new militia that was modelled after the German SS: the 'Mussert- Guard'. After the occupation of the Netherlands in 1940 Feldmeijer was made responsible for building up the Dutch SS.

Bas Kromhout obtained his doctorate on his thesis on 6 June 2012. The commercial edition, entitled *De Voorman. Henk Feldmeijer en de Nederlandse SS*, is published by Contact.



Gerrit Jan van Heuven Goedhart

After studying law at Leiden, Van Heuven Goedhart was employed by the Dutch newspaper *De Telegraaf*, and from 1930 he was editor-in-chief of the paper. In 1933 he became editor of the *Utrechtsch Nieuwsblad*. He became involved with the resistance and through it with the illegal newspaper *Het Parool*. Van Heuven Goedhart edited *Het Parool* from 1942 until mid-1944, when he had to flee to London, where he was named Minister of Justice in the government in exile.

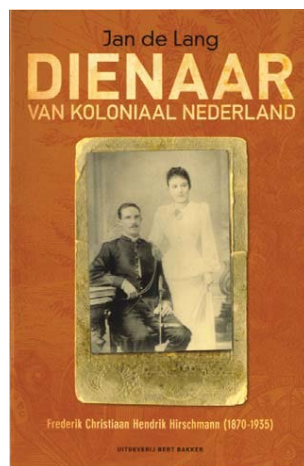
Back in the Netherlands, after its liberation, he became editor-in-chief of *Het Parool*. On 1 January 1951 he was named High Commissioner for Refugees of the newly established UNHCR. He continued to occupy this position until his death on 8 July 1956. Jeroen Corduwener obtained his doctorate on 28 February 2011.



Frederik Christiaan Hendrik Hirschmann

This project consists of a biographical study with a colonial military historical perspective. The central question was to what extent Hirschmann was exemplary for the Dutch officers of the KNIL trained at the Royal Military Academy in Breda in three decades around 1900.

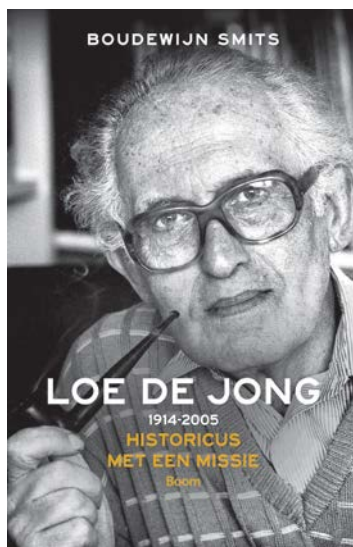
Jan de Lang obtained his doctorate on 14 October 2010. The commercial edition of his thesis, entitled *Dienaar van koloniaal Nederland. Biografie van Frederik Christiaan Hendrik Hirschmann (1870-1935)*, was published by Bert Bakker in April 2011.



Loe de Jong

Never before was such an extensive study, covering such a short time span, written by a single author who was able to devote decades of uninterrupted labour to it: Loe de Jong published between 1969 and 1988 the standard work *Het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in de Tweede Wereldoorlog* (The Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Second World War).

After the author had withdrawn from public life for more than a decade, he passed away in 2005. This presents a unique opportunity to examine a particular aspect of his life's work: the extent to which public discussion of the Second World War was, since 1945, tied to Loe de Jong in one way or another. When the last, that being the thirteenth, volume of the series was published in 1988, the author had spent nearly half a century in the centre of the collective processing of the war record. De Jong's scientific practice was inextricable bound to his interpretation of



democratic citizenship. He therefore tried to direct the undigested past according to his will. As a historian and public persona, who was well known in the newspapers, on radio, film and television and as the director of the Rijksinstituut voor Oorlogsdocumentatie (National Institute of War documentation, RIOD), he knew how to leave a prominent mark on the collective conceptualization of the Second World War.

This study, defended as PhD thesis by Smits on April 24, 2014, will make a meaningful contribution to the history of public opinion and the social repercussions of journalism in the Netherlands during the second half of the twentieth century. This biography, published by Boom, has been nominated for the Boerhave Biography Prize 2015 of the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities.

Helene Kröller-Müller

Between 1907 and 1938 Helene Kröller- Müller assembled a collection of modern art which was unrivalled in Western Europe. At first she collected out of personal interest, guided and inspired by art teacher H.P. Bremmer. But soon, in 1911, she decided to build a museum for her collection in order to establish a ‘monument of culture’.

Who was this woman, who seemed hardly interested in art until the age of thirty five, and who then suddenly dedicated her life and a considerable part of her family’s fortune to establishing a collection of modern art?



Eva Rovers obtained her doctorate on 15 November 2010. Since then the commercial edition of *De eeuwigheid verzameld. Helene Kröller-Müller 1869-1939* has been reprinted five times by publisher Bert Bakker. In 2012 the thesis was awarded with the Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Biography Prize and in 2011 with the Jan van Gelderprijs.

Alice Nahon

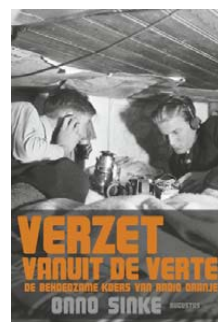
Apart from Guido Gezelle, no other Flemish poet has sold more copies than Alice Nahon (1896-1933). Her poetry was received with enthusiasm by literary critics in



Flanders and the Netherlands. Yet, her work was also dismissed as sentimental, doggerel verse, or ‘Gartenlaube poetry’, as Paul van Ostaijen coined it. Manu van der Aa wrote her biography. He has paid close attention to her role within literary circles, her relation to Flemish nationalism and her unconventional attitude to sexuality and relationships, which was ahead of her time. His research resulted in doctorate on 27 October 2008 and was published entitled: *‘Ik heb de liefde liefgehad’*. *Het leven van Alice Nahon* (‘I loved love itself’. The life of Alice Nahon), Lannoo, Tielst 2008.

Radio Orange

At the outbreak of the Second World War, radio was considered the fourth fighting arm, as important as the army, the navy and the air force. Many celebrities, including the German writer Thomas Mann and the French anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss, supported the allied war effort and broadcasted to their compatriots in the occupied territories. The Dutch language radio stations saw many well-known writers like A. den Doollaard and Herman de Man, and journalists like Henk van den Broek and Loe de Jong, taking up the cause and fighting the Germans through their spirited talks. As a government broadcaster Radio Orange had a authority that other Dutch radio stations such as the Dutch division of the BBC or WRUL station from Boston lacked.



Onno Sinke obtained his doctorate on 20 April 2009 and his thesis entitled *Verzet vanuit de verte. De behoedzame koers van Radio Oranje* was published by publisher Augustus. He was nominated by the University of Groningen for the Praemium Erasmianum 2008/2009.

Willem Schermerhorn

When he was aged 31, Willem Schermerhorn had already been appointed as professor at Delft University of Technology. As a pioneer of air cartography he became internationally recognized. However, at the end of the thirties he became



politically involved when he became the president of Unity through Democracy, a movement that tried to end the emergence of the Dutch Fascist Party (NSB). Because of his leadership of this movement, Schermerhorn was imprisoned together with a number of other prominent Dutch political leaders, in the internment camp in Sint Michielsgestel. Here, Schermerhorn became a leader among the prisoners: he was seen as a suitable person who should become Prime Minister after the war, to guide the Netherlands into an era of political and social renewal.

Jan Wier

The physician Jan Wier is known as the first serious opponent of the witch persecution. In his view, the witch trials were unlawful because they dealt with non-existing offences and because suspects were tortured.

Because Jan Wier described some witches as mentally ill, he can be regarded as a founder of modern psychiatry. Vera Hoorens obtained her doctorate on 6 June 2011. The commercial edition (and a second edition) of her thesis *Een ketterse arts voor de heksen. Jan Wier (1515-1588)* was published by Bert Bakker.



Considering Biography

Which theoretical-critical approaches have shaped the international reflection on biography in the twentieth century and what have been the consequences of this reflection on the interpretation of biography as a form of historiography? This is the main topic of the PhD-thesis *Van kroon tot bastaard: Biografie en het individuele perspectief in de geschiedschrijving* [From prince to pauper. Biography and the individual perspective in history]. This research focuses on three fields of scholarly activity: the critical developments in social sciences and especially in historiography, the studies that have paid specific attention to biography, and finally the biographies themselves, the research conducted and the



design chosen by biographers. The relationship between biography and historiography is especially at stake.

In the twentieth century, biography at large, and as a form of historiographical research, has been neglected in respect to critical investigation. Finally, biography was even considered more as a literary form than as a component of historical science.

Several objections have been raised against biography as a method being part of historiography. Because biography focuses on one individual only, we may not call it ‘full’ historiography. Furthermore, biographers would have put biography outside the fences of academic historiography by using too liberally ‘literary’ narrative techniques, and by not being transparent about their research criteria, as a result of which biographers fail to use new insights that have emerged in academic research.

These and other questions that are raised by a reflection on biography, have been the subject of study for small groups of social scientists around the world, who worked in the previous decades on the margins of the academia to assess the merits of biography. Some referred to each other’s work, but more often that was not the case. Partly due to the lack of this academic framework, a coherent interpretation and analysis of the different directions of academic research concerning biography in the twentieth century is missing.

For this reason this study will not only provide an overview of the academic visions on biography developed in the twentieth century, but also offer an interpretational framework for the questions which have been asked over time in considering biography. Binne de Haan obtained his doctorate on May 28, 2015.

Anton Kröller

Anton Kröller is known to most of the public only due to his wife, Helene Kröller-Müller, who used her husband’s money to create a world-famous art collection. Yet this Rotterdam entrepreneur was one of the richest, most powerful and most controversial figures in the Netherlands during the first half of the twentieth century. Before the First World War, Kröller was a successful business man. During the war he and a small group of business

leaders determined the Netherlands' foreign and economic policy. This earned him the nickname 'the uncrowned king of the Netherlands'.

He continued to do justice to this reputation throughout the 1920's thanks to the global company Müller & Co, a great number of commissions, involvement in the establishment of Hoogovens and KLM, an enormous estate named De Hoge Veluwe, a warm friendship with the German Prince Henry and his wife's internationally acclaimed art collection. However, during the crisis years, his business ran into stormy weather. Sky-high debt to the Rotterdamsche Bankvereniging (Robaver), a bank of which Kröller was a commissioner, almost led to the collapse of both Robaver and Müller & Co.

On June 2, 2015, Ariëtte Dekker obtained her doctorate for the biography *Leven op krediet. Anton Kröller (1862-1941)* [Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941]. The commercial edition has been published by Prometheus/Bert Bakker.



2.3 Edited volumes conferences

Edited volume conference Biography & Pedagogy

Work has been done on this edited volume by Jacques Dane and Hans Renders. This volume will be published next year.



Edited volumes that have been published so far.

2.4 Digitization projects

In order to facilitate faster and easier access to biographical research materials and to open up new opportunities for research, biographical research materials are being made available digitally via the website

<http://biografieinstituut.ub.rug.nl>.

This includes the project ‘Book Production 1940-1945’. The total [Dutch] book production between May 1940 and May 1945 has been mapped out and made digitally searchable for online research. Brinkman’s catalogus van boeken en tijdschriften forms the basis of this project.

The family archive of Van Calker-Clemens Schöner is being digitized by the Groningen Archives for the intended research project ‘Connoisseurs and trendsetters. Bourgeois culture in Groningen between nationalism and cosmopolitanism (1870-1970)’. This rich archive is freely accessible through [Groningen Archives](#).

With our digitized documents, we also contributed to the content of the Dutch Biography Portal (www.biografischportaal.nl). As of October 20, 2014, Hans Renders has taken over as chairman of the Foundation Biografisch Portaal from previous chairman Hans Blom.

Dutch National Pseudonym Archives (NPA)

Last year, corrections, additions and technical improvements have been made to the National Pseudonyms Archives, which was established by the Biography Institute in 2010. The National Pseudonyms Archives is an online searchable database of pseudonyms and corresponding civilian name, which can be searched at pseudonym, civilian name, or both. Users can send additions and corrections to us by e-mail. These will be checked before being added to the database. The National Pseudonyms Archives is accessible via www.biografieinstituut.nl/npa.

2.5 Publications

Scientific publications

- Dekker, Ariëtte, *Leven op krediet. Anton Kröller (1862-1941)* [Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941], PhD thesis, commercial edition: Amsterdam: Prometheus/Bert Bakker, 2015.
- Haan, Binne de, *Van kroon tot bastaard: Biografie en het individuele perspectief in de geschiedschrijving* [From prince to pauper. Biography and the individual perspective in history], PhD thesis, Groningen University Press, Groningen, 2015.
- Hamilton, Nigel, *The Mantle of Command. FDR at War, 1941-1942*, Boston: Mariner Books, 2015 (reprint of first edition: Boston-New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014).
- Renders, Hans, ‘Pourquoi la biographie n’est pas le roman’, in: *Cercles. Revue Pluridisciplinaire du monde Anglophone* 15(2015)35, p. 118-129.
- Renders, Hans, ‘Jacob Julius Max Nord. Gorinchem 1 april 1916 – Amsterdam 28 februari 2008’, in: *Jaarboek van de Maatschappij der Nederlandse Letterkunde te Leiden 2013-2014*, Leiden 2015, p. 146-155.
- Renders, Hans (together with S. van Faassen), ‘Four unknown postcards from Theo van Doesburg to Antony Kok; Vier onbekende briefkaarten van Theo van Doesburg aan Antony Kok’, in: *RKD Bulletin* (2015)1, p. 43-49.
- Renders, Hans, ‘Nawoord’ in M.J.F. Robijns, *De Intrigantenclub. Hoe radicale persmuskieten Willem II chanteerden en de democratie op weg hielpen*, Veen Media, Amsterdam 2015 [October], p. 303-310.
- Renders, Hans, ‘Een gemaltraiteerde fan’, in: *Het motorzijspan van Willem Frederik Hermans*, Mokken Boeken, Amsterdam 2015, p. 10-27.



PhD defence Binne de Haan, May 28, 2015 (Anouk Wubs Photography).

Anton Krölller

Anton Krölller was een opportunistische zakenman in elk opzicht en met alle malversaties van dien. De biografie over hem zegt ook veel over de zakenmannen van nu.



Ariëtte Dekker: Leven op krediet.
Anton Krölller (1862-1941).
Prometheus/Bert Bakker, 832 blz, € 45,-
●●●●●

Met haar rijk gevulde biografie over Krölller levert Ariëtte Dekker een bijzondere bijdrage aan de kennis van grote ondernemers in de eerste decennia van de vorige eeuw.

Kunst als goedmakertje

Door Merno Tamminga

Anton Krölller (1862-1941) was een zakenman pur sang. Hij trouwde de dochter van de baas, expandeerde met zijn Rotterdamse scheepvaartbedrijf Müller & Co over de hele wereld, en uiteindelijk steeds weer nieuwe projecten in bedrijfsstakken waar hij tot dan toe niet actief af. Tijdens de Eerste Wereldoorlog, waarin Nederland neutraal bleef, deed hij zaken met beide strijdende partijen. Hij maakte gretig gebruik van het gemak waarmee beleggers en financiers na die oorlog geld beschikbaar stelden. Hij sloot zich aan bij alle kartels die zijn activiteiten ten goede kwamen. Hij hield van prestigieuze kantoren en plantte een fraai exemplaar in Londen.

Zoals gebruikelijk bij dit slag onmatige ondernemers was hij een man van de grote lijn, die zijn aandacht snel verloor als het project meer tijd kostte of tegenviel en die de details en de onplezierige boodschappen van het zakenleven overliet aan medewerkers.

Tot zover is Krölllers loopbaan te lezen als een succesverhaal, maar zijn biograaf Ariëtte Dekker komt in haar proefschrift *Leven op krediet* pas goed op gang als Krölllers talen en malversaties de overhand krijgen. Hij leidde op grote voet, op kosten van zijn beleggers, en leende tientallen miljoenen van banken en beleggers, maar gaf weinig of geen financiële informatie. Of hij sloeg een keer een jaarje over als het hem financieel zo uitkwam.

Hij leende zelfs zoveel geld van de goedgelovige Rotterdamse Bankvereniging dat er een klassieke puntstelling ontstond: de bank had meer te verliezen dan Krölller. Als Krölller zich blijft verzetten tegen reorganisatie en sanering wordt het afgedwongen. Wat volgt zijn achterhoedegevechten, maar ook doortrapte trucs om zijn landgoed op de Veluwe en de kapitaal schildderfverzameling te redden. Bij dat laatste passeert hij zijn zuster, die mede-erfgename is, en weet hij ook een belastingvrije schenking te regelen. In zijn noden probeert Krölller via interventies bij de nazis de macht in zijn bedrijf terug te krijgen. Tevergeefs. Zijn naam en die van zijn vrouw Helene Müller (1869-1939) leven voort in het Krölller-Müller Museum in Otterlo.

Dekker, die eerder een biografie van scheepbouwer Cornelis Verolme (1900-1981) schreef, heeft hiermee ontduinsjournalistiek bedreven van de bovenste plank. Zij heeft met dit rijk gevulde, livige en aangename geschreven boek een bijzondere bijdrage geleverd aan de kennis van het groeiende opvre van grote ondernemers in de eerste decennia van de vorige eeuw, zoals D.G. van Beuningen en Anton Philips. Deze ondernemers stichtten familiebedrijven die als beursgenoteerde of familie-ondernemingen nog steeds bestaan. Ook enkele kleinschalige ondernemers bleken het ondernemerschap te bezitten en stichten of leidden zelf weer bedrijven. Niets van dit alles bij Krölller. Hij doortiep de cyclis die op zijn grafsteen staat: van stof tot stof.

Krölller komt in de beschrijving van Dekker naar voren als een Amerikaanse robbier baron die het begin van de vorige eeuw in Amsterdam zonder scrupules die hun eigen doelen en belangen najoegen en die, wars van zakelijke conventies, fortuinen vergaarden. Dekker heeft een knappe prestatie geleverd met de reconstructie van Krölllers zakelijk imperium. Knapp, omdat Krölller zijn persoonlijke archief liet vernietigen en zijn hoofdkantoor in Rotterdam in 1940 in vlammen opging.

Zo kun je haar royaal met foto's gefillu-



Anton Krölller, datum onbekend

streede boek lezen als een zakenbiografie. Maar je kunt het ook lezen als een boek over het hier en nu, waarin historische personen en gebeurtenissen model staan. En dan liggen de parallellen voor het oprapen. Nog, wat trends die wij als typerend voor onze tijd beschouwen, deden zich al veel eerder voor:

Veel trends die wij als typerend voor onze tijd beschouwen, deden zich al eerder voor

Economische globalisering? Krölller zat er een eeuw geleden al middenin en bouwde als ondernemer een multinational die overal ter wereld zaken deed. Zelfverrijking en bonascultuur? Gesneden koek voor de zakenman Möller. Hij wist inkomensstromen uit zijn bedrijf moeiteloos om te buigen naar privé-uitgaven en beloofde zichzelf rijkelijk. Boekhoudtrucs en erger om zaken beter voor te stellen dan ze waren? Krölller was een geoeend gebruiker. Hij had de accountant die zijn boeken controleerde in zijn zak. De mannen die hij uitloosde om hem en zijn bedrijf te advi-

seren en controleren zijn lange tijd meegaande types. Ternaauwermond ontvamen hij aan strafrechtelijke vervolging vanwege de manipulaties en verliezen die de beleggers voor hun kiezen kregen. Dekker beschijnt de verliezen van beleggers naar de huidige maatafen op bijna 700 miljoen euro en kwalificeert dat als 'een van de allergrootste beleggingsdebacles uit de Nederlandse geschiedenis'. Kunst aankopen als verliesruik van zakelijke ambities en als de bekroning van financiële succes, zoals blijkt uit de kunststrijpenhuusse van de afgedopen Jansen? Helene Müller wist samen met haar man en diens geld in hoog tempo een verbluffende verzameling schilderen op te bouwen.

De schilderenverzameling geeft voor Dekker de doorslag in de beoordeling van Krölller. Zijn zakelijke zonden en zijn gevoelloze krachten dat hem ook vervreemde van zijn kinderen, wegen zwaar. Maar de economische en culturele waarde van de kunstverzameling en het natuurpark laten wat haar betreft een positieve maatschappelijke balans zien. Daarmee slaat de schaal wel wat al te gunstig door. Klap op de vuurpijl: een van de zakelijke nazaten van Müller, installatiebedrijf Imtech, ging vorige maand in een vergelijkbaar krachtenveld falen.



On November 11, 2015 *Het motorzipspan van Willem Frederik Hermans* (Mokken Boeken Publishers) has been presented in the Tropeninstituut in Amsterdam. The volume is a collection of new essays on the Dutch writer Willem Frederik Hermans, edited by Max Pam, Hans Renders and Piet Schreuders, and includes contributions from among others Arnon Grunberg, Hans Sleutelaar, Joris van Casteren, Jeroen Vullings, Hans Ree and A.L. Snijders.

Professional publications

- Haan, Binne de, 'Biografie', in: *Geschiedenis Magazine* 50(2015)6, September, p. 58-61.
- Haan, Binne de, and Marijn Molema, *De boer hij investeerde voort. Persoonlijke verhalen over agrarisch ondernemerschap tussen 1955 en 1980*, Friese Pers Boekerij, Leeuwarden, 2015.
- Haan, Binne de, 'Zich in de tijd plaatsen. Autobiografieën van historici', *Geschiedenis Magazine*, 50(2015)7, October, p. 39-42.
- Haan, Binne de, 'Van kroon tot bastaard. Waarom biografie altijd geschiedschrijving is', in: *Tijdschrift voor Biografie* 4(2015)2, p. 67-74.
- Hamilton, Nigel, 'On Being American', in: *The Huffington Post*, URL: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nigel-hamilton/on-being-american_b_7579338.html, 16 June 2015.
- Hietland, Chris, review of Bas von Benda-Beckmann, *De Velser Affaire. Een omstreden oorlogsgeschiedenis*, in: *Tijdschrift voor Geschiedenis* 128(2015)3, p. 523-525.
- Renders, Hans, review W.H. Weenink, *Vrouw achter de troon. Marie Anne Tellegen 1893-1976*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)1, January, p. 90-91.
- Renders, Hans, review Herman Gorter, *Geheime Geliefden. Brieven aan Ada Prins en Jenne Clinge Doorenbos*, edited by Lieneke Frerichs, in: *Het Parool* 8-1-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Katrin Himmler & Michael Wildt, *Heinrich Himmler privé. Brieven aan zijn vrouw 1927-1945*, in: *Het Parool* 22-1-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Martine Artz, *Een keizerlijke vluchteling. Het leven van vorstin Marina Petrovna Romanova*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)2, February, p. 90-91.
- Renders, Hans, review Liao Yiwu, *God is Rood*, in: *Het Parool* 5-2-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Ronald Havenaar, *Babyboomers. Wat ze lazen, wat hen vormde hoe ze dachten*, in: *Het Parool* 19-2-2015.
- Renders, Hans, 'Hermans' Angst. Hoe de grote nihilist volhardde in een leugen', in: *Vrij Nederland* 28-2-2015, p. 66-71.
- Renders, Hans, review Ewoud Kieft, *Oorlogsentousiasme. Europa 1900-1918*, in: *Het Parool* 5-3-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Marc Dierikx, *Anthony Fokker. Een vervlogen leven*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)3, p. 88-90.
- Renders, Hans, interview Theo Kars, in: *Het Parool* 19-3-2015, PS, p. 12-13.

- Renders, Hans, review Léon Hanssen, 'De schepping van een aards paradijs. Een biografie van Piet Mondriaan in de periode 1919-1933', in: *Het Parool* 19-3-2015.

~DEBAT~

BIJ HET VERSCHIJNEN VAN

DE INTRIGANTENCLUB

M.J.F. ROBIJNS

Maarten van Rossem en Hans Renders in discussie over de pioniers van de Nederlandse politieke journalistiek

**DINSDAG
6 OKT
OM 17 UUR**

TOEGANG GRATIS

**BOEKHANDEL
SCHELTEMA**

- Renders, Hans, review Herman de Liagre Böhl, *Han Lammers (1931-2000). Amsterdammer in de polder*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)4, april, p. 90-91.
- Renders, Hans, review Larissa Juliet Taylor, 'Jeanne D'Arc' Biografie, in: *Het Parool* 2-4-2015.

- Renders, Hans, review Helen Rappaport, *De gezusters Romanov. De verloren levens van de dochters van Tsaar Nicolaas II*, in: *Het Parool* 16-4-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Leo Molenaar, *Nooit op de knieën. Marcus Bakker (1923-2009), communist en parlementariër*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)5, May, p. 92-93.
- Renders, Hans, 'Een bezoekje aan de Bankastraat in Dordrecht', in: *Prado* 31(2015)90, April, p. 24-27.
- Renders, Hans, review Nikolaus Wachsmann, *KL. Een geschiedenis van de naziconcentratiekampen*, in: *Het Parool* 30-4-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Auke van der Woud, *De Nieuwe Mens. De culturele revolutie in Nederland rond 1900*, in: *Het Parool* 21-5-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon de Grote*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)6, juni, p. 90-91.
- Renders, Hans, review Meindert Fennema, *Goed Fout. Herinnering van een meeloper*, in: *Het Parool* 4-6-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review *Stalin. De Biografie*, in: *Het Parool* 18-6-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Paul Luykx, *Heraut van de katholieke herleving. Gerard Brom 1892-1959*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)7/8, July-August, p. 87-88.
- Renders, Hans, review Rudiger Safranski, *Goethe. Kunstwerk van het leven*, in: *Het Parool* 2-7-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Tony Judt, *Wanneer de feiten veranderen*, in: *Het Parool* 17-7-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review *De correspondentie van Desiderius Erasmus*, part 12, translated by Jan Bedaux, in: *Het Parool* 30-7-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Anders Rydell, *De plunderaars. De nazi-obsessie met kunst*, in: *Het Parool* 13-8-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Piet de Rooy, *De Nederlandse Darwin. Bernelot Moens en het mysterie van onze afkomst*, in: *Het Parool* 3-9-2015.
- Renders, Hans, 'De pers chanteerde Willem II', in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)10, October, p. 42-49.
- Renders, Hans, review Jan Fontijn, *Onrust. Het leven van Jacob Israël de Haan*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)10, oktober, p. 87-88.
- Renders, Hans, review Julian Bell, *Van Gogh. De complete en compacte biografie*, in: *Het Parool* 1-10-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Nienke Denekamp and René van Blerk together with Teio Meedendorp, *De grote Van Gogh Atlas*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 24(2015)11, November, p. 91.
- Renders, Hans, editorship together with Max Pam and Piet Schreuders, *Het motorzjspan van Willem Frederik Hermans*, Mokken Boeken, Amsterdam 2015, 344 pages.

- Renders, Hans, together with Max Pam en Piet Schreuders ‘Vooraf’, in: *Het motorzjyspan van Willem Frederik Hermans*, Mokken Boeken, Amsterdam 2015, p. 4-7.
- Renders, Hans, ‘Personenregister’, in: *Het motorzjyspan van Willem Frederik Hermans*, Mokken Boeken, Amsterdam 2015, p. 334-344.
- Renders, Hans, review Arjen Fortuin, *Geert van Oorschot, uitgever*, in: *Het Parool* 5-11-2015, p. 12-13.
- Renders, Hans, review Paul Willetts, *Rendez-Vous in de Russian Thearooms*, in: *Het Parool* 12-11-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Georges Wildemeersch, *Hugo Claus. De jonge jaren*, in: *Het Parool* 26-11-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Steve Lee Myers, *De Nieuwe Tsaar* and Hubert Smeets, *De wraak van Poetin*, in: *Het Parool* 10-12-2015.
- Renders, Hans, ‘Romanov, Stalin en Napoleon’, in: *Het Parool* 17-12-2015.
- Renders, Hans, review Niall Ferguson, *Kissinger: 1923-1968. The Idealist*, in: *Historisch Nieuwsblad* 25(2016)1, p. 87.
- Renders, Hans, review Jacqueline Bel, *Bloed en rozen. Geschiedenis van de Nederlandse literatuur 1900-1945*, in: *Het Parool* 31-12-2015.

- Rovers, Eva, *Goethe voor de meute. Hoe Boudewijn Büch de grenzen afbrak tussen hoge en lage kunst*, [Goethe for the Masses. How Boudewijn Büch broke down the barrierers between high and low art], De Hof van Jan, Haarlem 2015.
- Rovers, Eva, ‘Verzamelen voor later. De liefde van Helene Kröller-Müller voor Vincent van Gogh’, [Collecting for the Future. Kröller-Müller’s fascination with Vincent van Gogh], exhibition magazine *Van Gogh & Co. Dwars door de collectie*, Kröller-Müller Museum, 25 April 2015
- Rovers, Eva, ‘Ruzie, roem en reputatie. De Parool-rel tussen Boudewijn Büch en Gerard Reve’, [Fuss and Fame. The *Parool* scandal of Boudewijn Büch and Gerard Reve] *Tijdschrift voor Biografie* 4(2015)2, p. 4-14.

- Wynia, Gerben [editorship], C.O. Jellema, *Mijn beste lezer. Brieven aan mijn broer*, Flanor, Nijmegen 2015.
- Wynia, Gerben, “‘Zoveel ellende om dit zo-zijn’”. C.O. Jellema’s worsteling met zijn homoseksualiteit’, in: *Tijdschrift voor Biografie*, 4(2015)3, p. 59-67.

Lectures and scientific activities

- Dekker, Ariëtte, March 12, 2015, Rentmeesterschap en Familiebedrijven (preview biography Anton Kröller), Rabobank Corporate Clients, Utrecht.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, April 18, 2015, Lecture *Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941*, preview lecture for descendants of Anton and Helene Kröller-Müller, National Park De Hoge Veluwe.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, April 24, 2015, panel member seminar Dutch Entrepreneurs 1850-1950, Stichting Bedrijfsgeschiedenis, Maritime Museum Rotterdam.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, June 5/6/7, 2015, Lecture and commercial presentation of *Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941* on the celebration of the 80th anniversary of Stichting Het Nationale Park De Hoge Veluwe.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, September 23, 2015, Lecture *Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941*, Jansen & De Feijter Booksellers, Velp.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, October 4, 2015, Lecture *Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941*, National Park De Hoge Veluwe.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, October 15, 2015, Lecture *Indebted Life. Anton Kröller 1862-1941*, Het Rotterdamsch Leeskabinet, Rotterdam.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, October 18, 2015, Biographers' Talk, History Festival 2015, Haarlem.
- Dekker, Ariëtte, November 20, 2015, Duet lecture with Eva Rovers on Anton and Helene Kröller-Müller, Donner Booksellers in cooperation with Historisch Genootschap Roterodamum, Rotterdam.

- Haan, Binne de, 22 May, Strand Campus King's College London, London. 'From War Rhetoric to Reporting: The Impact of World War I on War Journalism Traced in Biographies of Journalists', paper panel 'Tracing the Cultural Legacy of World War I in the Arts and Journalism in Biographies', conference 'Aftermath: The Cultural Legacies of WW1'.
- Haan, Binne de, 2 July, workshop Biograpy Institute. Discussing texts and working methodologies with biographers of the Institute.
- Haan, Binne de, (together with Marijn Molema), 30 augustus, Fries Landbouwmuseum, Eernewoude. Book presentation *De boer hij investeerde voort*, Fryske Akademy/Friese Pers Boekerij.
- Haan, Binne de, 18 September, guest lecture Master course 'Biografische benadering van geschiedenis' [Biographical Approach of History].
- Haan, Binne de, 6-7 November, Maison de la recherche - LERMA (EA 853) Aix Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence. 'Biography Theory: Building a Corpus', paper workshop 'Biography Theory' and foundation The Biography Society/Société de Biographie.

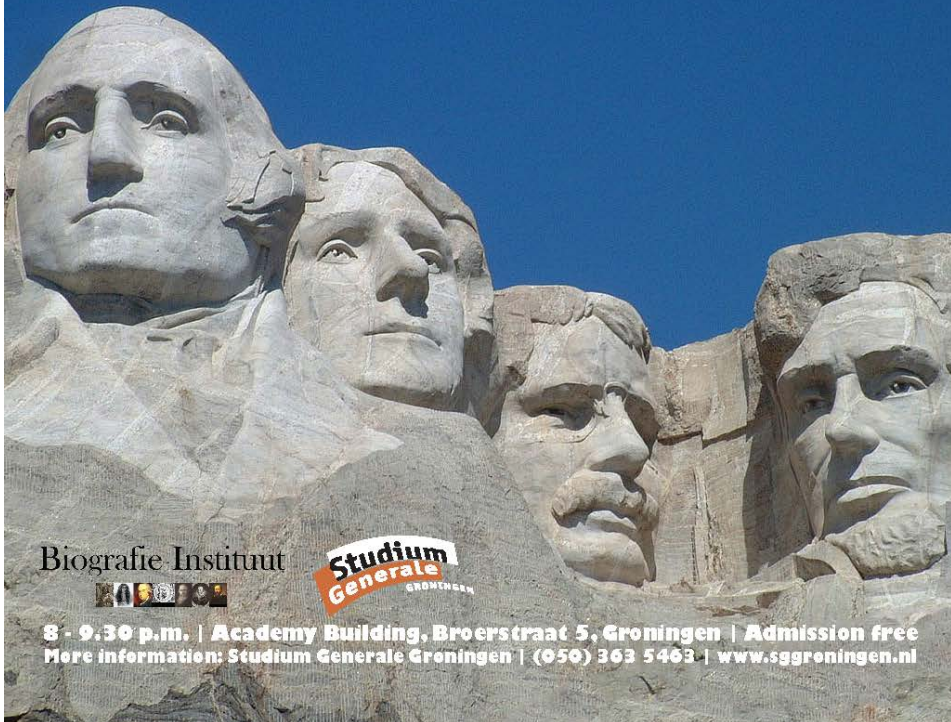
- Hamilton, Nigel, 7 February 2015, Hammond, Louisiana. Hammond Regional Arts Centre Literary Festival. Keynote Speaker, 'Biography and the Big Screen'.

AMERICAN CAESARS

The Empire strikes back?

Nigel Hamilton

Tuesday 15 September 2015



Biografie Instituut



Studium
Generale
Groningen

8 - 9.30 p.m. | Academy Building, Broerstraat 5, Groningen | Admission free
More information: Studium Generale Groningen | (050) 363 5463 | www.sgg groningen.nl

- Hamilton, Nigel, 7 February 2015, Hammond, Louisiana. Hammond Regional Arts Center, Literary Festival. Celebrating the Written Word: Masterclass on Biography.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 14 February 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana. Winston Churchill Society Annual Symposium, lecture 'Churchill: From Triumph to Tragedy: March – July, 1945'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 26 March 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana. Tennessee William Literary Festival, Masterclass on 'Writing True Stories'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 5 May 2015, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Churchill Society 51st Memorial Banquet, lecture, 'Churchill and Montgomery'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 7 May 2015, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Churchill Society of British Columbia Annual Banquet, lecture, 'Churchill and Montgomery'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 8 May 2015, Seattle, California. Churchill Society of Northern California, lecture, 'Churchill and Montgomery'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 10 May 2015, Marine Memorial, San Francisco, California, Churchill Society of the Bay Area, lecture, 'Churchill and Montgomery'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 6 June 2015, Washington DC. Attended annual conference of Biographers International Organization (BIO).
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 8 July 2015, Arlington, Massachusetts. Arlington Retired Men's Club, lecture, 'FDR at War'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 15 July 2015, Falmouth, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Falmouth Historical Society, lecture, 'The Mantle of Command: FDR at War, 1942-1942'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 3 August 1942, Lenox, Western Massachusetts. The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home, lecture, 'The Mantle of Command: FDR at War, 1942-1942'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 8 September 2015, Washington DC. Army and Navy Club, lecture, 'The Mantle of Command: FDR at War, 1942-1942'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 15 September, Groningen, Netherlands. Studium Generale, lecture, 'American Caesars: The Empire Strikes Back?'
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 23-24 October, New York. Panelist, Fall 2015 Conference (two day), New York Military Affairs Symposium, panelist, 'War's End: Victory over Germany and Japan, 1945'.
 - Hamilton, Nigel, 6-7 November, 2015. Aix en Provence, France. 2-Day Workshop panelist, 'Biography Theory,' Aix-Marseille University en oprichting The Biography Society/Société de Biographie.
- Harmsma, Jonne, 27 February, Expert meeting Biography Institute and Onderzoeksschool Politieke Geschiedenis [Research school Political History]. University of Groningen: 'Een politieke biografie tussen wetenschap en wereldbeeld: perspectief op Jelle Zijlstra' ['A political biography between theory and world vision: perspective on Jelle Zijlstra'].

- Harmsma, Jonne, 2 March, Joint Economic History seminar. University of Groningen: ‘Zijlstra between theory and vision: exploring Dutch economic thought’.
- Harmsma, Jonne, 2 July, workshop Biography Institute. Discussing textst and working methodologies with fellow biographers of the Institute.
- Harmsma, Jonne, 18 October, Haarlem, History Festival, panel ‘Biografen aan het woord’ [‘Biographers speaking’].
- Harmsma, Jonne, 29 October, ESTER Research Design Course. University of Göteborg, Sweden: ‘Biography on the crossroads between economics and politics’.
- Hietland, Chris, 2 July, workshop Biography Institute. Discussing textst and working methodologies with fellow biographers of the Institute.
- Hietland, Chris, 18 October, Haarlem, History Festival, panel ‘Biografen aan het woord’ [‘Biographers speaking’].
- Hietland, Chris, 21 November, City Hall Rotterdam, Interview at symposium ‘Eerbetoon oud-burgemeester André van der Louw’ [‘Tribute to former mayor André van der Louw’].
- Hoving, Richard, 2 July, workshop Biography Institute. Discussing textst and working methodologies with fellow biographers of the Institute.
- Hoving, Richard, 18 October, Haarlem, History Festival, panel ‘Biografen aan het woord’ [‘Biographers speaking’].

- Renders, Hans, 25 January, Interview from 8 PM to 9 PM by Coen Verbraak in De Kennis van NU.



- Renders, Hans, 15 February, Torpedotheater: ‘Biografie als handdruk’.
- Renders, Hans, 16 February, Opposition PhD thesis K. Simon, *De wetenschappelijke ontwikkelingen in de radiologie en radiotherapie binnen de geneeskunde in Nederland 1896-1922*, University of Groningen.
- Renders, Hans, 27 February, lecture Politiek netwerk [Political network], workshop organized by Biography Institute and Research school Leiden University: ‘Hoe microhistory ten dienste van biografie te stellen’.
- Renders, Hans, 27 February, co-assessor paper ‘W. Idenburg’.
- Renders, Hans, 28 February, lecture Academisch Genootschap Eindhoven
- Renders, Hans, 1-2 March, Visitation Boltzmann Biographie Institut, Vienna.

- Renders, Hans, 4 March, gast lecture course ‘Ondergronds drukwerk’, University of Amsterdam, course ‘Vormgeving in oorlogstijd’.
- Renders, Hans, 6 March, lecture Coevorden, presentation biography Relus ter Beek: ‘Autorisatie als recept voor herrie’.
- Renders, Hans, 15 March, lecture with Theo Kars, Amsterdam.
- Renders, Hans, 31 March, opposition University of Amsterdam, Jacoba Adriana de Boer, *Gertrud Leistikow en de morden, “Duitsche” dans. Een biografie*.
- Renders, Hans, 22 May, Strand Campus King’s College London, London. ‘Biographies as Multipliers: Theo Van Doesburg and other Avant Garde Artists and World War I’, paper panel ‘Tracing the Cultural Legacy of World War I in the Arts and Journalism in Biographies’, conference ‘Aftermath: The Cultural Legacies of WW1’.
- Renders, Hans, 28 May, Supervisor Phd thesis Binne de Haan, *Van kroon tot bastaard. Biografie en het individuele perspectief in de geschiedschrijving*.
- Renders, Hans, 4 June, Supervisor Phd thesis Ariëtte Dekker, *Leven op krediet. Anton Kröller (1862-1941)*.
- Renders, Hans, 6 June, Washington Biographical International Organization. Moderator panel ‘Biography as History: The Great War 1914–1918’. Lecture with the same title.
- Renders, Hans, 25 June, Masterclass.
- Renders, Hans, 2 July, workshop Biography Institute. Seven biographers discussed their texts and commented on working methodologies.
- Renders, Hans, interview with Hinke Hamer, ‘Biograaf Hans Renders over Jan Campert’, *Trouw* 8 August 2015.
- Renders, Hans, 15 September, moderator lecture Nigel Hamilton, organized by the Biography Institute and Studium Generale of University of Groningen.
- Renders, Hans, 23 September, opposition Theologische Universiteit Kampen, PhD dissertation Ab van Langeveld, C. Veenhof (1902-1983). *Leven en werk*
- Renders, Hans, 6 October, presentation *De Intrigantenclub* (afterword Hans Renders), together with Maarten van Rossem and Frans Smits. Book store Scheltema Amsterdam.
- Renders, Hans, 11 October, Deventer Literair with Hans Renders in Sociëteit de Hereeniging. ‘Biografie. Wat is dat?’
- Renders, Hans, 18 October, Haarlem, History Festival, presentation on biography and moderator of two panels ‘Biografen aan het woord’ [‘Biographers speaking’].
- Renders, Hans, 18 October, Haarlem, History Festival. Presentation ‘De Intrigantenclub’.
- Renders, Hans, 6-7 November, Workshop international biography Aix-en-Provence and foundation of The Biography Society/Société de Biographie.
- Renders, Hans, 11 November, book presentation Max Pam, Hans Renders and Piet Schreuders, *Het motorzjspan van Willem Frederik Hermans*.

- Renders, Hans, 18 november, Interview OBA Amsterdam, Theodor Holman interviews Hans Renders and Max Pam, subject Willem Frederik Hermans.
- Rovers, Eva, 9 February 2015, Sociëteit de Witte, Den Haag. ‘Helene Kröller-Müller and the Breakthrough of Modern Art’.
- Rovers, Eva, 11 February 2015, Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo. ‘Collecting and Entrepreneurship’.
- Rovers, Eva, 13 February 2015, Museum of Modern Art, Arnhem, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 12 March 2015, Public Library Groningen. ‘Boudewijn Büch and Books Week’.
- Rovers, Eva, 13 March 2015, Synagogue, Borne. ‘Why Boudewijn Büch Always Told the Truth’.
- Rovers, Eva, 26 March 2015, Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam. ‘Patronage: A Look at Eternity’.
- Rovers, Eva, 10 April 2015, conference Tijdschrift voor Biografie, Amsterdam. ‘Fuss and Fame. The Parool scandal of Boudewijn Büch and Gerard Reve’.
- Rovers, Eva, 14 April 2015, Allied Circle, Amsterdam, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 18 May 2015, Residence of the Canadian Ambassador, Wassenaar, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 6 and 7 June 2015, Nationaal Park de Hoge Veluwe, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 5 July 2015, Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo. ‘Helene Kröller-Müller and Vincent van Gogh’.
- Rovers, Eva, 27 September 2015, Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo. ‘Helene Kröller-Müller and Vincent van Gogh’.
- Rovers, Eva, 14 October 2015, IJmond Library, Uitgeest, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 7 November 2015, Vereniging voor Vrouwen met een Hogere Opleiding, afd. Enschede, ‘Eternity Collected. Helene Kröller-Müller (1869-1939)’.
- Rovers, Eva, 20 November 2015, Duet lecture with Ariëtte Dekker on Anton and Helene Kröller-Müller, Donner Booksellers in cooperation with Historisch Genootschap Roterodamum, Rotterdam.
- Rovers, Eva, 27 November 2015, Radboud University Nijmegen. ‘Collecting an Identity. Helene Kröller-Müller, Vincent van Gogh and the reciprocity of fame’. Paper presentation at the The Europe of Women conference.

- Rovers, Eva, 13 December 2015, Būchmania, Public Library Amsterdam. 'Goethe for the Masses. How Boudewijn Būch Broke Down the Barrierers Between High and Low Art'.
- Wynia, Gerben, 17 June, University Library Amsterdam, Mosse lecture (Stichting George Mosse Fonds), 'C.O. Jellema en homoseksualiteit: worsteling en acceptatie'.

SIXTH ANNUAL

**BIOGRAPHERS
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE**

JUNE 6, 2015



Bio
BIOGRAPHERS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

National Press Club
529 14th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

2.6 Editorships and advisory committees

Binne de Haan is deputy secretary of The Biography Society/Société de Biographie, editor of the Brill series 'Biography Studies', editor of *Tijdschrift voor Biografie* [Journal of Biography] and critic for *Geschiedenis Magazine*. He also is member of the editorial board of the scholarly series 'Microhistories' (Routledge).

Nigel Hamilton is Honorary President of The Biography Society/Société de Biographie.

Hans Renders is editor of the Flemish-Dutch scientific journal *ZL. Literair-historisch tijdschrift* (Antwerp) and the Brill series 'Biography Studies', and is a member of the editorial board of the scholarly magazine *Quaerendo. A Quarterly Journal from the Low Countries Devoted to Manuscripts and Printed Books* (Leiden) and of the scholarly magazine *Le Temps des Médias. Revue d'histoire* (Paris). He was asked as peer reviewer for *Quaerendo, Spiegel der Letteren. Tijdschrift voor Nederlandse Literatuurgeschiedenis en voor Literatuurwetenschap* and *Zacht Lawijd*. He is member of the editorial board of the scholarly series 'Microhistories' (Routledge).

Renders has been requested to be advisor by NWO (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research), Democracy & Media Foundation (SDM), was member of the board of the Biographers International Organization (BIO) and Member of the Board of Governors of Stichting Media Ombudsman Nederland. He is vice-president of The Biography Society/Société de Biographie.

Renders is member of the jury of the international Plutarch Award 2015 of BIO and of the Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Biography Prize 2015.

Renders is chairman of the board of Stichting Innovatie Media, is a member of the board of editors of the Dutch Biography Portal and is chairman of the Foundation Biography Portal. Additionally, he was a book critic for the Dutch radio programme on history on Sunday OVT (VPRO Broadcasting Corporation).

Eva Rovers was Board Member of the Werkgroep Biografie/*Tijdschrift voor Biografie* [Journal of Biography] and Member of the Supervisory Board Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam.

Education and partnerships

3.1 Education

The Biography Institute supervises graduate students preparing PhD's, as well as undergraduate students writing master theses or taking part in research classes within the domain of biography. The chair History and Theory of Biography provides courses for both Bachelor and Master students. In the previous academic year the course 'Historical approach to Biography' was developed and lectured for Master students of the Faculty of Arts.

3.2 Partnerships

With the Library of the University of Groningen is being collaborated on the aforementioned digitization projects.

With the Archive and Documentation centre for Dutch Behavioral Sciences (ADNG) and the National Museum of Education has been collaborated with regard to the edited volume *Biografie & Pedagogie* (Biography and Pedagogy).

3.3 Dutch Biography Portal

The Biography Institute collaborates with a number of other institutions, led by the Institute of Netherlands History (ING), on the project Dutch Biography Portal. This portal (www.biografischportaal.nl) is designed to promote scientific research by making biographical reference books with biographical information on inhabitants of the Netherlands, from the earliest times to the present, digitally accessible via the internet..

BIOGRAFISCH
portaal van nederland

Op de website van het Biografisch Portaal van Nederland vindt u wetenschappelijk onderbouwde informatie over steeds meer opmerkelijke Nederlanders uit het verleden (nu ruim 63.000). De gegevens komen uit een groot aantal collecties en naslagwerken. U kunt op alle mogelijke manieren zoeken en uw eigen selecties samenstellen. Het portaal is gratis toegankelijk.

De leveranciers van informatie zijn onder meer:
Biografie Instituut, Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie,
Digitale Bibliotheek voor de Nederlandse Letteren,
Huygens ING, Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale
Geschiedenis, Joods Historisch Museum, Koninklijke
Bibliotheek, Nationaal Archief, Museum Catharijne-
convent, Onderzoekscentrum voor Geschiedenis en
Cultuur (OUC), Parlementaire Documentatie Centrum,
Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie

WWW.BIOGRAFISCHPORTAAL.NL



Suetonius



Aubrey



Boswell



Plutarchus



Stephen



Brantome



Vasari



Franklin Delano
Roosevelt



Jan Campert



Pieter-Jan Bouman



Vincent Willem
van Gogh



F. Hirschmann



G.J. van Heuven
Goedhart



Loe de Jong



Henk Feldmeijer



A. van der Louw



Joseph Kotalla



Anton Kröller



H. Kröller-Müller



Alice Nahon



W. Schermerhorn



Theo van Doesburg



Jelle Zijlstra