

Biography Institute



Annual Report 2012



university of
 groningen

Annual Report Biography Institute
University of Groningen, The Netherlands
2012

Voor het eerst op de Kermis alhier!

Nieuw. Nieuw.

Levende Fotographiën.

ENORM SUCCES.

Gedurende de Kermis is alhier gearriveerd

De Electriscbe Kinematograaf

en BIOGRAAF,

Standplaats Vischmarkt.

 Hiermede hebben wij de eer het geachte publiek dezer gemeente en omstreken kennis te geven, dat wij zijn gearriveerd met de onovertroffen ELECTRISCHE KINEMATOGRAAF, zijnde een verbeterd systeem, waardoor het trillen voorkomen wordt.

De Machine geeft de beelden levensgroot en zeer duidelijk weer, zelfs zoo, dat men meent de Tooneelen in werkelijkheid te aanschouwen. De Salon is geheel naar de eischen des tijds ingericht en electrisch verlicht.

De nieuwste en pracatigste Tableaux zullen worden vertoond, als:

Het optrekken der Transvaalsche Boeren naar het oorlogsterrein. Het transporteeran van Engelsche krijgsgevangenen door te Boeren naar Pretoria. De aftocht der Engelsche Lanciers na den slag bij Modderrivier. Aankomst van den spoortrein te Pretoria. Een stierengevecht te Madrid (zeer interessant!) Gesnapte dieven, enz. enz. Meer dan 1000 verschillende tableaux!

Elk uur een voorstelling met afwisselend programma.

's-Middags Extra KINDERVOORSTELLING.

DE DIRECTIE, N. H. SCHINKEL.

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Biografie Instituut



Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

www.biografieinstituut.nl

RuG



Biografie Instituut

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Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
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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 2012. Previously our annual reports provided an overview of the academic year.

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.

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. For Bachelor students the institute set up a lecture series, titled 'Dutch History II, Dutch identity; Theme: Dutch politics after 1900 in biographies'.

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.

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.

MIRJAM DE BAAR, YME KUIPER
& HANS RENDERS [RED.]



BIOGRAFIE & RELIGIE

DE RELIGIEUZE FACTOR IN DE BIOGRAFIE

Boom | BIOGRAFIE INSTITUUT

1.1 Employees

- Prof. J.W. Renders, director (0,4 fte), manages the institute.
- I.L. Hengeveld, coordinator, is responsible for the coordination of the institute.
- A. Dekker, PhD researcher, in September 2010 appointed to write the biography of Anton Kröller.
- B.B.J. de Haan MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte) in September 2009 appointed to conduct theoretical research on biographical traditions in international perspective.
- Dr H.J. Langeveld, associate professor (1 fte), in December 2005 appointed to write the biography of Willem Schermerhorn..
- Dr E.M. Rovers, senior researcher (1 fte), in September 2011 appointed to write the biography of Boudewijn Büch.

1.2 PhD Researchers

In the year 2012 the Biography Institute guided six PhD's in total, apart from two senior researchers. Two of these PhD's are employees of the institute, the other four are external PhD researchers.

- Ariëtte Dekker writes the biography of Anton Kröller; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. P. Kooij (em. RUG).
- Binne de Haan is conducting research on the theory of the biography; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.

External PhD Researchers

- Bas Kromhout is writing the biography of Henk Feldmeijer; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Dr B.E. van der Boom (UL) and E. Klijn MA (NIOD).
- Boudewijn Smits writes the biography of Loe de Jong; Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Prof. J.C.H. Blom (em. UVA) and Prof. P. Romijn (NIOD/UVA).

- Maarten Ternede is writing the biography of J.C.J. Lammers;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.C.H. Blom (em. UvA), Dr H. Pruntel (Nieuw Land Erfgoedcentrum), Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. P. de Rooij (UvA).
- Roelie Zwikker is writing the biography of Vincent Willem van Gogh;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.

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, Prof. G.T. Jensma, T.P.M. Strengers and Prof. G.C. Wakker.

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 staff costs of the Biography Institute and the costs of conferences, symposia and conference volumes. The existence of the institute itself is supported by the Democracy & Media Foundation (SDM).

For the projects of the biographies of Anton Kröller and Helene Kröller-Müller, a grant was awarded by the Foundation for the National Park De Hoge Veluwe and the Kröller-Müller Museum, in addition to the contribution of the Faculty of the University (Graduate School OGWG). The Democracy & Media Foundation contributes financially the biography of Schermerhorn.

Other projects were financially supported by Archive and Documentation centre for Dutch Behavioral Sciences (ADNG), Theo van Baaren Foundation, National Museum of Education, Dutch Foundation of Literature, Foundation Nicolaas Muleriusfonds and Research School OGWG.

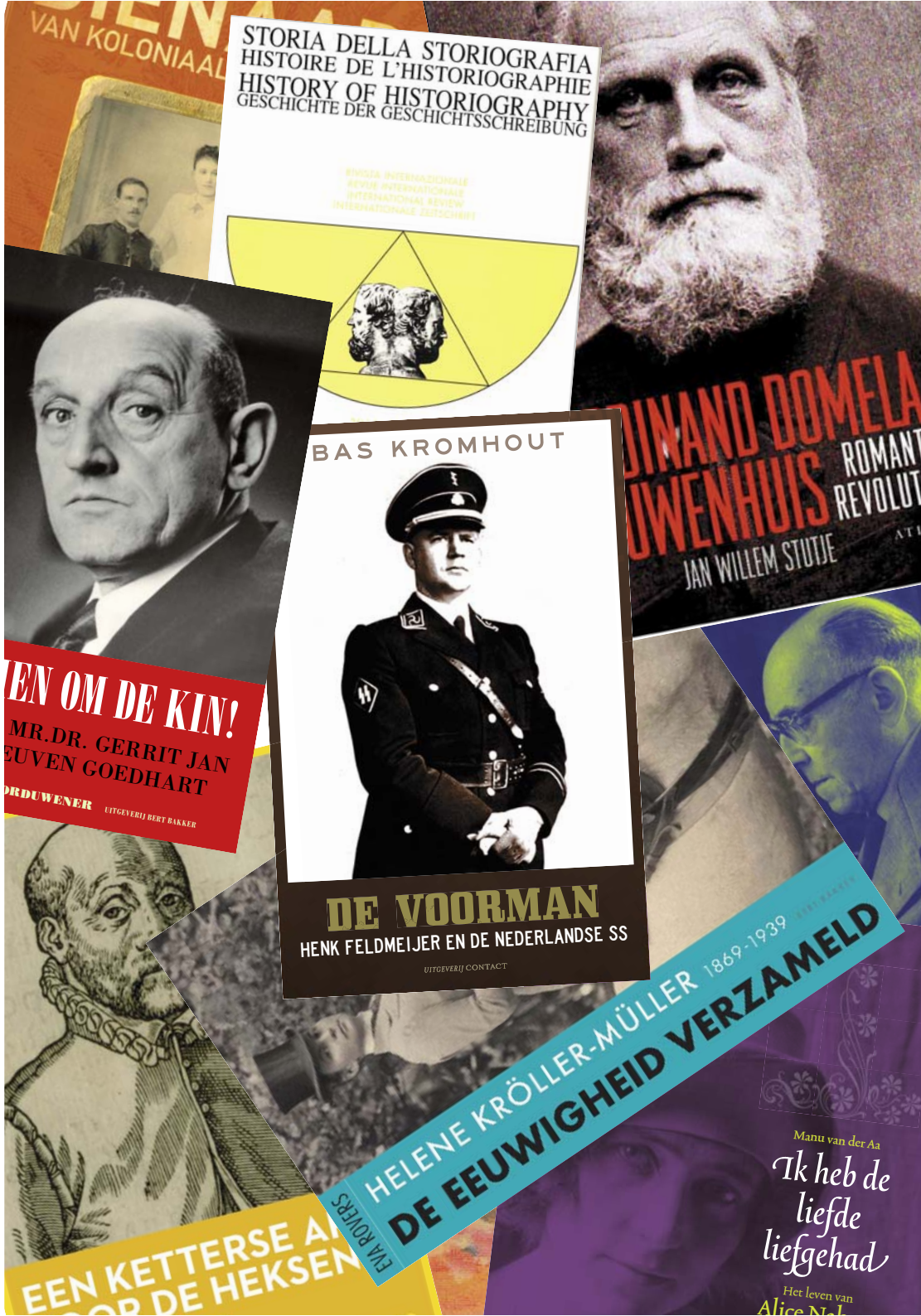
1.5 Website and Newsletter

The Biography Institute has its own website: www.rug.nl/BiografieInstituut, also accessible via www.BiografieInstituut.nl. On this website, visitors can access information about the objectives and the subjects of research of the institute, as well as information on ongoing projects and conferences, both in Dutch and English.

The site features a news section that is updated at least once a month. The website also includes files made accessible by the institute through digitalization. Furthermore the website contains an extensive list of related links about 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 23.000.

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. Three newsletters have been distributed during this academic year.



Projects

2.1 Biography projects

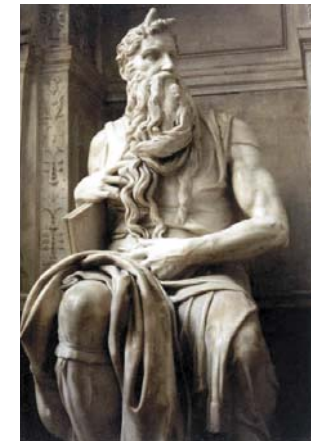
One of the main goals of the Biography Institute, giving guidance to biographers, was accomplished this year by guiding, among others, the following biographers: Ariëtte Dekker (Anton Kröller), Binne de Haan (Denken over Biografie), Bas Kromhout (Henk Feldmeijer), Boudewijn Smits (Loe de Jong) en Roelie Zwikker (Vincent Willem van Gogh).

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 *Considering Biography. Criticism, theory and historiography in the twentieth century*. 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.



Michelangelo, Mozes



Boudewijn Büch
© Klaas Koppe

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 wasn't 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.

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 aroused 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 news paper 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. It was exactly his versatility and the range of media Büch used to ventilate his preferences, through which he managed to revive interest in literature, history and poetry among a broad and young audience.

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 Bongers (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 publicising 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 31 January 1978 and he devoted his energies to everything related to Vincent, Theo and the museum.

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's standard work, *Het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in de Tweede Wereldoorlog* (The Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Second World War), is a monument to the years of occupation. No individual researcher would allow him or herself to ignore what has become a benchmark (whether to confirm a particular interpretation by drawing upon the relevant facts, or to criticize the work). This is apparent from the history of the work's reception, which was published in 1991 as an extensive anthology and incorporated into the series as its fourteenth (most of them in two parts) and final volume.

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 inextricably 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, RIO), he knew how to leave a prominent mark on the collective conceptualization

of the Second World War. His socialist convictions, his prewar journalistic career as the foreign editor of the newsmagazine *De Groene Amsterdammer* and his personal experience of the war as an (assimilated) Jew, contributed to his unyielding conviction that he had a moral duty to let Good triumph over the Evil of National Socialism in the post war Netherlands.



This research project aims at evaluating De Jong's position and his influence over national themes and incidents of fundamental importance, such as foreign journalism in the Netherlands during its period of neutrality, in particular the latter half of the 1930's, as well as the Cold War, with the focus on the 1950's and 1960's, Allied propaganda during the occupation, the continuous Good versus Evil debate, the Three of Breda and the downfall of the well-known ARP-politician, Willem Aantjes. From the perspective of a biography, it is possible to cast light on the formation of his opinions and to determine which cultural historical factors influenced this process. One can also identify the networks he belonged to and the role he played by journalism therein. This study 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.

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.



Han Lammers

When Han Lammers died in July 2000, this event was given much attention by the press. In obituaries, the authors especially stressed the activities of Lammers as alderman in Amsterdam and as a provincial officer in the Flevopolder. After his death, Lammers was described as an energetic, wilful and an exceedingly self-assured statesman. He was a 'wilful regent' and a 'strong statesman with a national persona'. Only on a few occasions was it attempted to analyse the tension in Lammers' character between the characterizations mentioned above and his role as critical journalist and columnist and his role as spokesman for the Nieuw Links-movement (New Left).

In this PhD-research this apparent ambivalence in his life and career is an important starting point. By analyzing which persons or events influenced the development and change in his thinking, a useful and clarifying biography of Lammers will be written. This biography will contribute to the study of Journalism in the Netherlands in the second half of the twentieth century, the understanding of the political struggles within the PvdA (Dutch Labour Party) in the sixties and seventies, and of an interpretation of the functioning of the public governing board in the Netherlands in the second half of the twentieth century. More concretely Lammers's role as a concerned journalist in the public debate in the Netherlands during the fifties will be examined. This research also will focus on his method of realising ideas within the Dutch Labour Party as prominent member of the New Left-movement, on how Lammers functioned as alderman in Amsterdam during difficult times for the municipal authorities and, finally, this study reflects on his acts as provincial officer in the IJsselmeerpolders, where he sometimes literally aimed for the ideal society.



Willem Schermerhorn

For a long time, it seemed that the son of a farmer Willem Schermerhorn would acquire fame through a scientific career rather than from his political work. When he was aged 31, he 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 during the Second World War, 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. In the early summer of 1945, Queen Wilhelmina appointed Schermerhorn and Willem Drees as architects of a cabinet of 'Convalescence and Renewal'; Schermerhorn became Prime Minister. In the same year, the Dutch Labour Party was established, as an embodiment of the renewal in Dutch politics. Yet, at the elections of 1946, it appeared that this renewal was only supported by a minority of the Dutch population; also in the political area the pre-war, religious- and ideologically-based frameworks returned. Schermerhorn could not return as Prime Minister, and there was no place for him in the new cabinet.

Schermerhorn was sent to the Dutch East Indies to try to find a peaceful solution in negotiations with the leaders of the Republic of Indonesia on the issue of decolonisation. This resulted in the agreement of Linggadjati in November 1946. However, because both parties did not maintain the provisions of the agreement, Schermerhorn's policy failed, and the Netherlands opted for a violent 'solution' (July 1947). This in fact marked the end of Schermerhorn's political career; after his return to the Netherlands he was not appointed to any important political function again, and he decided to return to science.



Gedragen door de oosterstorm

GESCHIEDENIS Vergeleken met Henk Feldmeijer was Mussert een doetje. In Duitse ogen was De Voorman een voorbeeldige nazi.

Bart Funnekotter

Henrich Boere kon niet anders, zei hij. De Nederlandse ss'er stond in 2009 in Aken terecht omdat hij tijdens de bezetting onschuldige Nederlandse burgers had vermoord. Waarom gaf hij gehoor aan het bevel hiertoe, wilde de rechter weten. Als hij dat niet deed, zouden zijn meederen hem naar een concentratiekamp sturen, zei Boere. Wie in het Sonderkommando-Feldmeijer zat, moest gehoorzamen.

Henk Feldmeijer was al meer dan zestig jaar dood toen de misdaden van de naar hem genoemde moordbrigade in Aken de revue passeerden. Door het proces tegen Boere raakte een breder publiek bekend met het optreden van de leider van de Nederlandse ss. Volgens Bas Kromhout, redacteur van het *Historisch Nieuwsblad*, was Feldmeijer tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog de grote concurrent van ss-leider Anton Mussert. Hij ontvouwt deze these in zijn biografie *De voorman: Henk Feldmeijer en de Nederlandse SS*, waarop hij afgelopen maandag promoveerde aan de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. Feldmeijer, en niet Meinoud Rost van Tonningen, was voor de nazi's de aangewezen persoon om de slappe en onvolgende Duitse Mussert op te

volgen, stelt Kromhout.

Johannes Hendrik Feldmeijer werd in 1910 in Assen geboren. Zijn vader was beroepsmilitair, net zoals zijn grootvader. Henk bleek goed te kunnen leren. Na de hbs kreeg hij een beurs om in Groningen wis- en natuurkunde te gaan studeren. Die studie bracht hem niet wat hij zocht, schrijft Kromhout. Feldmeijer wilde deel uitmaken van iets 'groots', iets wat de wereld zou veranderen. In het nationaal-socialisme vond hij wat hij zocht. Hij werd in 1932 lid van de Nationaal-Socialistische Beweging (nsb) van Anton Mussert, die een jaar ervoor was opgericht.

Het lidmaatschap van de nsb was de eerste stap van Feldmeijers radicalisering, die er uiteindelijk toe zou leiden dat hij niets gaf om het leven van de onschuldige Nederlanders die hij door ondergeschikten als Boere liet vermoorden.

Eigengereid

De officiële partijlijn van de nsb werd Feldmeijer al gauw te gezellig. Enthousiast keek hij over de grens, naar het nationaal-socialisme van Adolf Hitler, dat hem meer aansprak. Dat bracht hem al voor de oorlog herhaaldelijk in conflict met Mussert, die niet gediend was van het eigenge-reide optreden van de jongeman.

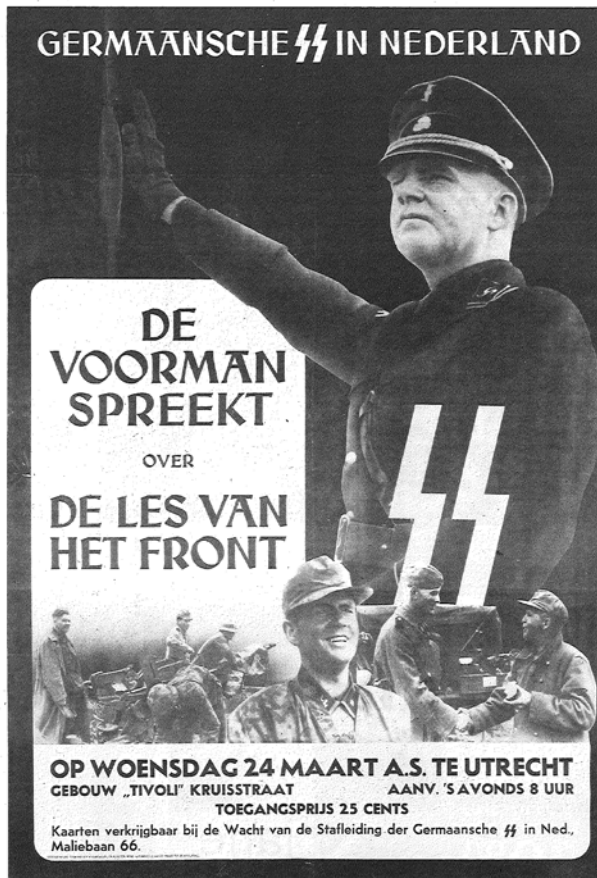
Nadat de Duitsers Nederland in 1940 hadden bezet, kreeg Feldmeijer de kans de strijd met Mussert aan te gaan. In september van dat jaar werd de Nederlandse ss opgericht, naar het voorbeeld van de Duitse *Schutzstaffel*, het elitekorps van de nazi's. De bezetter benoemde Feldmeijer tot Voorman van deze organisatie. Hanns Rauter, de Duitse ss-baas in Nederland, en zijn chef Heinrich Himmler waren gefascineerd van het ideologisch fanatisme dat Feldmeijer aan de dag legde.

Vanaf dat moment was er sprake van een constante strijd tussen de nsb en de Nederlandse ss, die later werd omgedoopt tot Germaansche ss in Nederland. Feldmeijer was formeel gehoorzaamheid verschuldigd aan Mussert, maar deed er alles aan om achter diens rug om rechtstreeks zaken te doen met de Duitsers.

Himmler en Rauter maakten graag gebruik van de diensten van Feldmeijer. Terwijl Mussert nog sprak over een 'Duits' rijk bestaande uit Nederland en Vlaanderen, bekende de leider van de Nederlandse ss de dood voor de Nederlandse nazi's. Van Feldmeijer mocht Nederland opgaan in het Duitse land van Adolf Hitler. Hij legde dan ook zonder bezwaren een eed van trouw af op de Führer.

De Germaansche ss moest volgens Feldmeijer de radicale ideologie van zijn vader het Nederlandse nationaal-socialisme. Voorwaarde daarvoor was dat de ss'ers gehard werden aan het front. Feldmeijer gaf het goede voorbeeld, en reisde in de zomer van 1942 af naar de Kaukasus, waar hij als lid van de ss-divisie Viking tegen het Rode Leger vocht.

De nietsontziende wreedheid van de oorlog aan het Oostfront leidde de volgende fase in van Feldmeijers radicaliseringsproces, schrijft Kromhout. 'Hier werden de laatste draden die Feldmeijer verbonden aan de burgermaatschappij verbroken. (...) Aan het front in de Sovjet-Unie, waar hij



Aankondiging van een voordracht door Feldmeijer op 24 maart 1943. Foto Beeldbank WO2/NIOD

medestrijders zag sneuvelen en zelf op 'wonderbaarlijke' wijze aan de dood ontsnape, werd hij nog fanatieker en meedogenlozer.'

Terug in Nederland vormde hij in het najaar van 1943 de moordbrigade die later zijn naam kreeg. Tijdens de zogenaamde Silberanne-acties vermoordden Feldmeijers mannen 45 mensen als represaille voor aanslagen van het verzet.

Ruzie

Terwijl de Duitsers op alle fronten in het defensief werden gedrongen en de oorlogskansen zich tegen het nationaal-socialisme keerden, bleven in Nederland de nsb en de ss ruzie maken om de macht. Feldmeijer schurkte daarbij steeds dichter tegen de Duitsers aan. In maart 1944 veranderde hij de groet van de Germaansche ss van 'Hou zee' in 'Heil Hitler'. Mussert protesteerde bij Himmler, maar die steunde Feldmeijer. De hoogste ss-leider vond het verzet van Mussert 'meer dan kinderachtig'.

Dat de Duitsers onvoorwaardelijk achter Feldmeijer stonden, blijkt wel uit het feit dat ze hem telkens weer de hand boven het hoofd hielden als de

voorman van de Nederlandse ss in een schandaal verwickeld was. Feldmeijer drukte geld achterover dat aan de beweging toebehoorde, hij dronk te veel en had een aantal buitenechtelijke affaires. Iedere keer opnieuw werden zijn fouten hem vergeven, omdat de Duitsers niet wisten dat de ss een andere leider kreeg. Niemand was zo recht in de leer en trouw als Henk Feldmeijer. Daarvoor werd hij keer op keer beloond.

Toen het eind van de oorlog naderde, wilde Feldmeijer zichzelf aan het hoofd plaatsen van de Landstorm, die aan de Maas tegenover de Britten en Canadezen lag. Op weg naar het front werd de auto waarin hij zat door een Brits vliegtuig beschoten. Feldmeijer stierf aan zijn verwondingen op 22 februari 1945.

Zijn uitvaartdienst vond plaats op paleis Het Loo. In het blad *Storm-S* was daags erna te lezen: 'Zoo rees rondom zijn lichaam de verheven dom van het Germaansche naaldwoud met ongebroke rechte pijlers ten hemel, terwijl de grijze wolkenflarden hoog over de kruinen joegen, geleid door den bloedsdorstige SS, die de stijgende hemelpaarden zuid-

waards joeg, in de richting van het nabije strijdfront, waarvan de donkere donder tot in deze gewijde stilte drong.'

Kromhout kon bij het optekenen van het levensverhaal van de Voorman van de Nederlandse ss beschikken over een aantal bijzondere bronnen, waaronder een groeiboek voor Feldmeijers zoon Ekke. Feldmeijer hield vanaf het moment dat zijn vrouw in verwachting raakte dit boekje bij voor zijn kind. Ook na de geboorte van zijn zoon in 1938 bleef hij hierin schrijven. Feldmeijer noemde zich niet alleen trots over de verichtingen van Ekke, hij besprak met hem ook zijn nationaal-socialistische levensovertuiging. 'Je zult je in de strijd moeten onderscheiden, je strijd zal open en eerlijk moeten zijn, als de strijd met het zwaard voor ons ras immer was.'

Het was deze onverbiddelijke houding die Feldmeijer voor de Duitsers Nederlands voorbeeldigste nazi maakte, concludeert Kromhout.

2.2 Completed projects



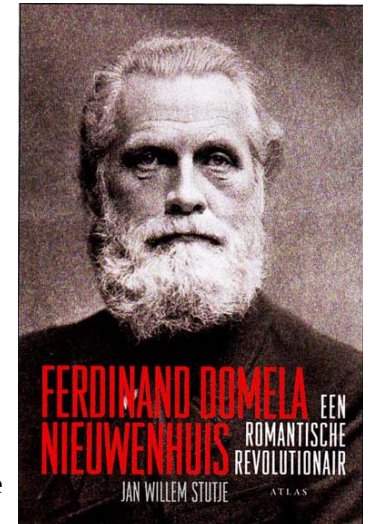
J.C. Bloem

Bart Slijper (1963) wrote the biography of Bloem under the title *Van alle dingen los. Het leven van J.C. Bloem*, which was published in May 2007 by Uitgeverij De Arbeiderspers. 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

Few figures in the labour movement have captured the imagination like Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis (1846–1919). Since 1 September 2006, Jan Willem Stutje has been researching the life of the founding father of Dutch socialism. This project is made possible through a so-called Vidi-subsidy from The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO).

Through the use of a number of new approaches, Stutje seeks to supplement and correct the prevailing image. Central to this is Domela's charisma, his romantic revolutionary commitment, the oral culture and international contacts. His leadership is compared to that of contemporaries within his own country, among them Abraham Kuyper and Pieter Jelles Troelstra, as well as foreign kindred spirits such as César de Paepe and Ferdinand Lasalle. This biography of Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis sheds new light on three separate, but interrelated components: Domela's work in the socialist movement, his theoretical and published work and his personal life. The biography is a contribution to the history of ideas and to the historical sociology of social movements and political culture. The biography *Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis. Een romantische revolutionair* was first published on May 2012 by publisher Atlas.



Feldmeijer in het uniform van de Nederlandse SS. Vanaf 1940 woedde er een machtsstrijd tussen deze Germaansche SS en de nsb. Foto's NIOD

Henk Feldmeijer

Johannes Hendrik (Henk) Feldmeijer was 29 years old when the German occupational regime in the Netherlands appointed him '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.

Feldmeijer's 'Great-German' politics put him into a five-year conflict with Mussert. Meanwhile, due to the course of the war, Feldmeijer had to put his political SS-organization more and more into service for the German warfare. He himself went to serve at the front as a soldier twice, respectively in Greece and the Soviet-Union.

Bas Kromhout obtained his doctorate on his thesis on 6 June 2012. The commercial edition, titled *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*. Within a few years he became a member of its editorial board and from 1930 he was editor-in-chief. In 1933 he was fired by the owner H.C.M. Holdert for, among other reasons, resisting the newspaper's pro-German slant. A month later, he became editor of the *Utrechtsch Nieuwsblad*. He turned this newspaper into a leading daily with a national tone. As editor-in-chief, he took a stand against Nazism. 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, within one month, 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. The commercial edition of his thesis, titled *Riemen om de kin! Biografie van mr. dr. Gerrit Jan van Heuven Goedhart*, is published by Bert Bakker.

Frederik Christiaan Hendrik Hirschmann

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

Hirschmann retired with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Some biographies of famous members of the KNIL have been published, but detailed biographies that focus on the 'average' officer of the East Indian Army, like Hirschmann, were not published yet.

The life and work of Hirschmann also include his activities after the completion of his military career. He has been an expat for 28 years, due to which one might expect that upon his return in the Dutch society he would have faced major difficulties. The opposite is the case. He became a tax inspector and mayor.

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





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'. This goal had a major impact on Kröller-Müller's manner of expanding her collection: according to herself she was no longer led by personal taste, but by the question whether a work of art would stand the test of time.

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 four times by publisher Bert Bakker.

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. Van der Aa worked under the auspices of the Biography Institute and obtained his doctorate on 27 October 2008. His thesis entitled: *'Ik heb de liefde liefgehad'*. *Het leven van Alice Nahon (I loved love itself. The life of Alice Nahon)* was published by Lannoo, Tiel 2008.



Radio Oranje

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.



Jan Wier

The physician Jan Wier is known as the first serious opponent of the witch persecution. In his books *De praestigiis daemonum* or *On diabolic delusions* of 1563 and *De lamiis* or *On witches* of 1577 he called it nonsense that old women made a pact with the devil and that they thus obtained magical powers by which they caused harm to others. In his view, the witch trials were unlawful because they dealt with non-existing offences and because suspects were tortured, humiliated, confined in degrading circumstances and subjected to the water ordeal.

Because Jan Wier described some witches as mentally ill, he can be regarded as a founder of modern psychiatry. He furthermore advocated the necessity of a humane treatment of (some) suspects, the result being that he has been presented as a champion of human rights *avant la lettre*. Critics believe that he inadvertently stirred up the witch persecution, that he is wrongly regarded as a figure-head of psychiatry.

Vera Hoorens obtained her doctorate on 6 June 2011. The commercial edition of her thesis *Een ketterse arts voor de heksen. Jan Wier (1515-1588)* was published by Bert Bakker.



2.3 Candidate biographers

The Biography Institute has proven and continues to prove to be very attractive to researchers and aspiring biographers. Some proposals are immediately rejected because they are incompatible with the aims of the institute, because they do not hold sufficient promise to warrant the mobilization of high-quality support by the institute, or because the proposal addresses an issue outside the institute's domains of specialization. If required advice was given to postgraduate scholars envisaging biographical research.

Selection

The selection of all candidate biographers took place on the basis of a research plan. The workload associated with the selection process is a matter of concern because the selection activities pose a major burden on the capacity of the institute. Nevertheless, in order to realize its own policy the Biography Institute has devoted much of its time to initiatives leading towards the creation of PhD positions. The PhD positions with regard to the biographies of Henk Feldmeijer, Vincent Willem van Gogh, Anton Kröller and Binne de Haan's research project on biography in international perspective are successful cases in point. Over the past year, plans were made for the doctorate programs 'Biography André van der Louw' and 'Biography Jelle Zijlstra'.

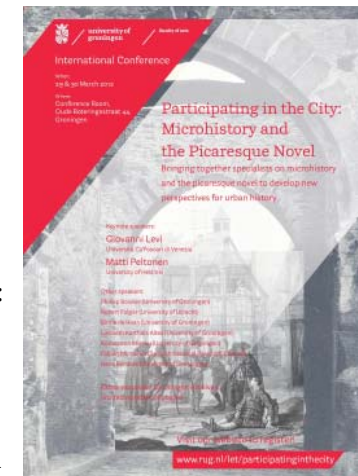
2.4 Congresses and Edited Volumes

Participating in the City: Microhistory and the Picaresque Novel

Microhistory is a scholarly approach based on reconstructing individual perspectives and experiences in order to question and adjust macro-scale generalizations. The Picaresque Novel is a literary genre that chooses the first-person perspective of a marginal character in order to question the validity of the appearance of a society as it is portrayed in the established modes of representation. In fact, the Picaresque Novel finds its origins in the humanist search for an expansion of the historiographical genre, merging literary form with historical form.

Microhistory and Picaresque Novel coincide on the level of the represented perspective: they start from the particular. These two disciplines, then, share the interest for the problematic relation between the individual participant's perspective (agency) and the generalizations of historiography. In different ways they pose the same question: How can the perspective of an individual be used to problematize the understanding of the larger context?

The conference took place on 29 & 30 March 2012 at the University of Groningen and was organized by the Biography Institute in cooperation with the Department of Romance Languages and Cultures and the Groningen Research Institute for the Study of Culture (ICOG). The conference brought together an international group of experts in the field of Microhistory, Biography, the Picaresque Novel and literary representation in general. Key note speakers were prof. Giovanni Levi (Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia), who founded the discipline of microhistory together with Carlo Ginzburg, and prof. Matti Peltonen (University of Helsinki). The programme of the two day conference also included an excursion to the Archives of Groningen (RHC Groninger Archieven). An edited volume of the contributions will be published.



Edited volume conference *Biography and Religion*

Less church, more religion – the relationship between religion, society and individuals in the Netherlands in the present time has already been summarized this way.

Social life from the late nineteenth century was increasingly organized and disciplined on a religious and ideological basis, but after the secularization that started in the 1960s religion primarily became a matter of personal faith, according to public opinion. In biographies of people from the period 1880-1980 however, rarely attention has been paid to personal religion in order to interpret public actions of authors, politicians, entrepreneurs, scholars or artists.

Following the conference ‘The religious factor in biography’ an edited volume is being published early 2012, with contributions by Erik Borgman, Doeko Bosscher, Han van Bree, Fia Dieteren, Jan Fontijn, Gert van Klinken, Jeroen Koch, Yme Kuiper, Herman de Liagre Böhl, Elsbeth Locher-Scholten, Paul Luykx, Marit Monteiro, Hans Renders and Jan Willem Stutje.



Edited volume conference *Biography & Pedagogy*

Work has been done on this edited volume by Jaques Dane and Hans Renders. It will be published in the following year.



Published conference proceedings until now



2.5 Digitization projects

In order to facilitate faster and easier access to (rare) 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 Calcker-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 our website www.biografieinstituut.nl/familiearchief.

With our digitized documents, we also contributed to the content of the Dutch Biography Portal.

Dutch National Pseudonym Archives

Last year, corrections, additions and technical improvements have been made to the National Pseudonyms Archives, that 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 can be found via a link on our website or directly at www.biografieinstituut.nl/npa.

2.6 Publications

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- Renders, Hans, 'De beste biografieën', in: *Vrij Nederland* 22 december 2012.
- Rovers, Eva, 'Het voyeurisme van de biograaf', in: *Tijdschrift voor Biografie*, 1(2012)1, p. 34-36.
- Rovers, Eva, 'Tegen het heroïsche beeld. Enid Bagnolds Dagboek zonder data', *Geschiedenis Magazine*, 47(2012)6, p. 24-25.
- Rovers, Eva, 'Boekengekken als Komrij en Büch zijn noodzaak voor antiquarische boek', *NRC Boekenblog*, 4 oktober 2012.

- Rovers, Eva, 'Boudewijn Büch en het Goetheaanse spel met feit en fictie', *Tijdschrift voor Biografie*, 1(2012)3, p. 22-31.
- Rovers, Eva, 'Droom der tandeloze oude stumperds', *Goede papieren* (uitgave van het Letterkundig Museum), 6(2012)3, p. 33-37.
- Smits, B.J., "Und bist du nicht willig, so brauch' ich Gewalt" – Verzetlitteratuur van Loe de Jong in de Tweede Wereldoorlog', in: *Tijdschrift voor Biografie*, 1(2012)3, p. 32-41.

Lectures and scientific activities

- Haan, Binne de, 30 March 2012, Bestuursgebouw Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, 'Capturing City Life. How Biography and Urban History Meet in the Street'. Lecture for congress: 'Participating in the City: Microhistory and the Picaresque Novel', congress organized by Biography Institute, Dept. of Romance Languages and Cultures (RUG) and ICOG.
- Haan, Binne de, 17 April 2012, 'Kroon of bastaard? De biografie en geschiedschrijving', Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. Lecture for 'Geschiedenis rond de middag'.
- Renders, Hans, 12 April 2012, University of Groningen, member of the defending committee, PhD dissertation/biography Willem Jansz Blaeu.
- Renders, Hans, 8 May 2012, University Utrecht, member of the defending committee, PhD dissertation *Eerst de waarheid, dan de vrede. Jacob Revius 1586-1658*.
- Renders, Hans, 18 & 19 May 2012, Los Angeles USA, (co)organisator as Member of the board Biographers International Organisation (BIO).
- Renders, Hans, 4 June 2012, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, promotor PhD dissertation Bas Kromhout, biografie Henk Feldmeijer.
- Renders, Hans, 4 July 2012, Universiteit Antwerpen, doctorate jury dissertation Dieter Vandenbroucke, *Dansen op een vulkaan. Victor Brunclair als representant van de activistische tegentraditie in de Vlaamse letteren (1899-1944)*.
- Renders, Hans, 8 September, Open Monumentendag Amsterdam, Vondelpark, Lezing over het duel tussen Jan Campert en Jacques Gans. 5 October, Spui25, Cultureel debatcentrum Amsterdam. Beslissende dagen. Over historische data in de literatuurgeschiedenis
- Renders, Hans, 18 October, University of Groningen, member of the defending committee, PhD dissertation *James Eastland: the shadow of Southern Democrats, 1928-1966*.
- Renders, Hans, 25 October, Faculteit Katholieke Theologie Utrecht, Key-note speaker 'Biografie en Religie'.
- Renders, Hans, 8 November, member of the defending committee, PhD dissertation Alessandro Grazi, *Patria ed Affetti, Jewish Identity and Risorgimento Nationalism in the Oeuvres of Samuel Luzzatto, Isaac Reggio, and David Levi*.
- Rovers, Eva, lecture 'De eeuwigheid verzameld. Helene Kröller-Müller', Wageningen 10 January; Hengelo 23 January; Rotterdam 25 April, Arnhem 21 October, Wassenaar 23 November 2012.
- Rovers, Eva, 10 January 2012, Sociëteit de Hereeniging Deventer, 'Keizerin, erfgename, zakenvrouw: hoe verzamelaarsters de kunstgeschiedenis bepalen'.
- Rovers, Eva, 24 February 2012, Inheritance/Nottingham Contemporary, 'Missing houses. The collaboration between Helene Kröller-Müller and Mies van der Rohe'.
- Rovers, Eva, 20 April 2012, Vereniging Kunst, Cultuur en Recht, 'Kröller-Müller: de dubieuze schenking van een miljoenencollectie'.
- Rovers, Eva, 25 April 2012, De Balie, Amsterdam, panel discussion Mediawijsheid.
- Rovers, Eva, 26 April 2012, Instituut Posterheide, Oosterbeek, 'Helene Kröller-Müller als inspiratie voor het huidige mecenaat', seminar.
- Rovers, Eva, 13 September 2012, 'Dé foto van Boudewijn Büch', lezing tijdens biografendag van het Nederlands Letterenfonds.
- Rovers, Eva, 26 September 2012, Openingslezing Kunst- en Antiekbeurs Delft.
- Rovers, Eva, 5 October 2012, Openingslezing Amsterdam Antiquarian Book, Map and Print Fair.
- Rovers, Eva, 9 November 2012, Lezing 'Boudewijn Büch en het Goetheaanse spel met feit en fictie', congres *Wahrheit & Dichtung*, georganiseerd door het Tijdschrift voor biografie.
- Rovers, Eva, 10 October 2012, Interview Bart Slijper i.v.m. publicatie *In dit geveesd gemis. Het leven van Willem Kloos*, Selexyz Groningen.
- Rovers, Eva, 17 November 2012, Inleiding bij Boudewijn Büch-lezing door Adriaan van Dis, Wassenaar.
- Rovers, Eva, 18 November, Interview Marion Bloem i.v.m. publicatie *Een meisje van honderd*, literair festival 'Het grote gebeuren', Groningen.
- Smits, Boudewijn J., 22 November 2012, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, 'Maatschappelijke opwaartse mobiliteit Loe de Jong', gastcollege voor Master geschiedenis onderzoekcollege.

2.7 Editorships and advisory committees

During the year 2012 Herman Langeveld has been chairman of the Workgroup Biography of the Society of Dutch Literature.

Hans Renders is editor of the Flemish-Dutch scientific journal *ZL. Literair-historisch tijdschrift* (Antwerp) and 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 of the Royal Academy of Science in Flanders, Gent (Belgium) and for the scientific publishing house Routledge.

For the project on the history of newspapers in the 20th century in 24 European countries, 'Dictionnaire de la presse (écrit) en Europe xx^e siècle', or 'Encyclopaedia of the European Press', hosted by the research institute Sciences Po in Paris, Hans Renders is coordinator for The Netherlands.

Renders has been requested to be advisor by Elsevier Academische Enquête, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), Research School KU Leuven, Democracy & Media Foundation (SDM). He is member of the board of the 'Biographers International Organization' and Member of the Board of Governors of Stichting Media Ombudsman Nederland.

As in previous years, Hans Renders was a book critic for the Dutch radio programme on history on Sunday *OVT* (VPRO Broadcasting Corporation).

Renders is chairman of the board of Stichting Innovatie Media, founded last year, and is a member of the board and the board of editors of the Dutch Biography Portal.

Renders (co-)edited the following titles:

- Mirjam de Baar, Yme Kuiper & Hans Renders (red.), *Biografie & Religie. De religieuze factor in de biografie*, Boom, Amsterdam 2011 [=2012], 300 pagina's.
- Manu van der Aa, Sjoerd van Faassen en Hans Renders, Themanummer P.-G. van Hecke, *Zacht Lawijd*, 307 blz.

Eva Rovers was in 2012 editor and member of the board of *Tijdschrift voor biografie* [Magazine for Biography].

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 lecture series for both Bachelor and Master students. In the previous academic year the lecture series 'Historical approach to Biography' was developed and given, intended for Master students of the Faculty of Arts. For Bachelor students the institute set up a lecture series, titled 'Dutch History II, Dutch identity; Theme: Dutch politics after 1900 in biographies'.

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 conference Biography and Pedagogy.

With the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the University of Groningen and the School for the Study of the Humanities (OGWG) has been collaborated with regard to the edited volume *Biography and Religion*.

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 about the inhabitants of the Netherlands, from the earliest times to the present, digitally accessible via the internet.



Publicity (selection)

- *Bres*, May/June 2012
- *Dagblad van het Noorden*, 25 April 2012, 9 June 2012.
- *De Gelderlander*, 25 May 2012.
- *De Groene Amsterdammer*, 13 May 2012.
- *NRC Handelsblad*, 22 January 2012, 24 April 2012, 18 May 2012, 9 June 2012.
- *Historisch Nieuwsblad*, March 2012.
- *Leeuwarder Courant*, 19 May 2012.
- *Het Parool*, 24 April 2012.
- *De Telegraaf*, 27 April 2012.
- *Trouw*, 3 March 2012.
- *Vrij Nederland*, 27 June 2012.
- *de Volkskrant*, 19 January 2012, 21 April 2012, 25 April 2012.

Radio

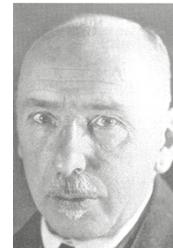
- *Kunststof*, Radio 1, 9 May 2012.
- *OVT*, 27 May 2012, 3 June 2012.

Prizes

- Eva Rovers: Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Biography Prize 2012.



Suetonius Aubrey Boswell Plutarchus Stephen Brantome Vasari



J.F. Ankersmit



J.C. Bloem



Jan Campert



Jan Hanlo



F. Domela Nieuwenhuis



Vincent Willem van Gogh



F. Hirschmann



G.J. van Heuven Goedhart



Loe de Jong



Henk Feldmeijer



Anton Kröller



H. Kröller-Müller



D.F. Malan



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