



Annual Report Biography Institute 2009 - 2010

Biography Institute



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Annual Report 2009 - 2010



university of
groningen


Annual Report Biography Institute
University of Groningen, The Netherlands
1 September 2009 - 31 August 2010

Voor het eerst op de Kermis alhier!
Nieuw. Nieuw.
Levende Photographiën!

ENORM SUCCES.

Gedurende de Kermis is alhier gearriveerd

**De Electriche 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 prachtigste Tableaux zullen worden vertoond, als:

Het optrekken der Transvaalsche Boeren naar het oorlogsterrein. Het transporteeren 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.**

Table of Contents

Preface	7
Biography Institute	
1.1 Employees	9
1.2 Doctors of Philosophy	9
1.3 Advisory committee	10
1.4 Finance	11
1.5 Website and Newsletter	11
Projects	
2.1 Graduate projects	12
2.2 Completed Graduate projects	25
2.3 Family archive	27
2.4 Candidate biographers	27
2.5 Congresses and Edited Volumes	28
2.6 Digitization projects	32
2.7 Encyclopaedia of the European Press	33
2.8 Publications	34
2.9 Editorships and advisory committees	41
Education and partnerships	
3.1 Chair	45
3.2 Partnerships	45
3.3 Dutch Biography Portal	45
Publicity	45



Biography Institute



University of Groningen - The Netherlands

www.biografieinstituut.nl

RUG



Biography Institute

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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 its sixth 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.

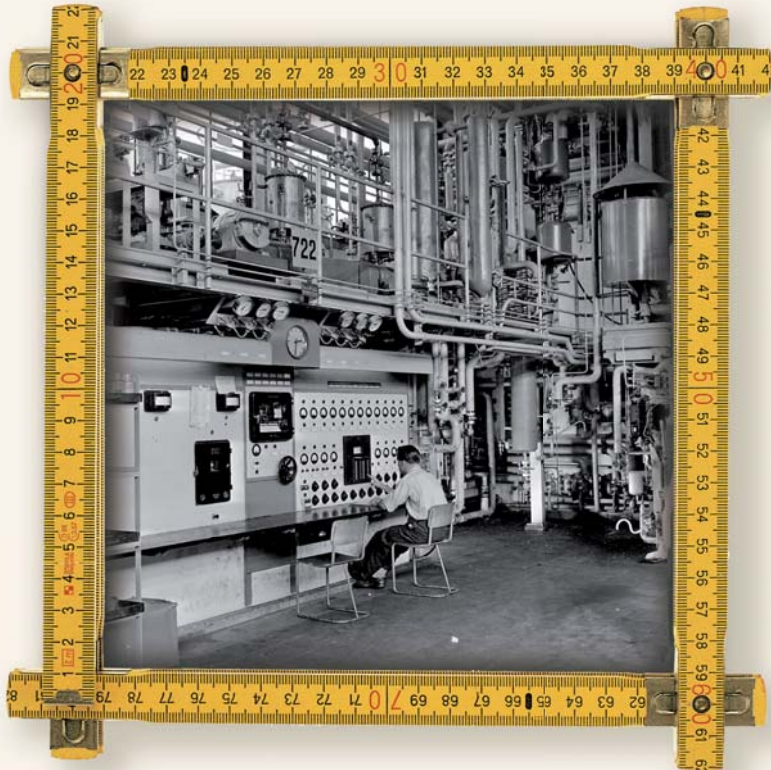
The Biography Institute has the following objectives:

- 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's theses or taking part in research classes within the domain of biography.

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

HANS RENDERS [RED.]



ONDER **INGENIEURS** BIOGRAFIE & TECHNIEK

Boom | BIOGRAFIE INSTITUUT

Biography Institute

1.1 Employees

- Prof. J.W. Renders, director (0,4 fte), manages the institute.
- I.L. Hengeveld, coordinator (0,2 fte), is responsible for the coordination of the institute.
- B.B.J. de Haan MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte) in September 2009 appointed to do 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.
- B.J. Smits MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte), in September 2005 until 2010 appointed to write the biography of Loe de Jong.
- E.M. Rovers MA, PhD researcher (0,9 fte), in September 2006 appointed to write the biography of Helene Kröller-Müller.
- Dr J.W. Stutje, post-doc (1 fte), does research on the life of Ferdinand Domela Nieuwenhuis, since September 2006.

1.2 PhD Researchers

- In the academic year the Biography Institute guided, apart from a senior researcher and a post-doc, eleven PhD's in total. Three of these PhD's are employees of the institute, the other eight are external PhD researchers.
- Boudewijn Smits was appointed in September 2005 to write 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).
 - In September 2006 Eva Rovers was appointed to write the biography of Helene Kröller-Müller.
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Prof. W.E. Krul, Prof. E.J. Etty (VU) and S.A.J. van Faassen MA (NLMD).
 - Binne de Haan is doing research on the theory of the biography;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.

External PhD Researchers

- Herman Broers is writing the biography of W.J. Kolff;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. K. van Berkel and Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Erwin Buter is writing the biography of J.F. Ankersmit;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. H. te Velde (UL).
- Jeroen Corduwener is writing the biography of G.J. van Heuven Goedhart;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Dr H.J. Langeveld, Prof. D.F.J. Bosscher and Dr J.F.M.M. Perry (UM).
- Ariëtte Dekker is writing the biography of Anton Kröller;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. P. Kooij (em. RUG).
- Jaap Gestman Geradts is writing the biography of Cornelis de Hooghe;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders.
- Vera Hoorens is writing the biography of Jan Wier;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Prof. C.G. Santing (RUG) and Prof. F. Janssen (em. UvA).
- Jan de Lang is writing the biography of F.C.H. Hirschmann;
Doctoral Guidance Committee: Prof. J.W. Renders, Prof. W. Klinkert (Koninklijke Militaire Academie & UvA) and Dr M.R. Doortmont (RUG).
- 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).

1.3 Advisory committee

The Biography Institute is assisted in its development by an internal (University of Groningen) and an external advisory committee.

Members of the internal advisory committee are: Prof. K. van Berkel, Prof. D.F.J. Bosscher, Prof. G.J. Dorleijn and Prof. H.W. Hoen.

Members of the external advisory board are: S.A.J. van Faassen MA (Dutch Literary Museum and Documentation Center), Dr K. Hilberdink (Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (KNAW), biographer of Paul Rodenko and Hans Lodeizen), Dr J.F.M.M. Perry (University of Maastricht, biographer of W.H. Vliegen and Victor de Stuers) and Prof. H. te Velde (University of Leiden). These two advisory committees are chaired by Prof. J.C.H. Blom.

In addition, a Board of Supervision was established since on 1 October 2007 for the Chair in the History and Theory of Biography. Members of this board are: Prof. G.C. Wakker (University of Groningen), Prof. M.E. Chavannes (University of Groningen) and T.P.M. Strengers (Democracy & Media Foundation).

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.

A Vidi grant was acquired from the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for the project of the biography of Domela Nieuwenhuis (five years). 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).

Other projects were financially supported by Democracy & Media Foundation, Groningen University Fund (GUF), Dutch Institute for War Documentation (NIOD), Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (KNAW) and Nicolaas Mulerius Fund.

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 areas of research the institute, as well as information on ongoing projects and conferences, both in Dutch and English. The site also 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 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. This year was no exception: more than 60% of the visitors from all the research websites in the academic year 2009-2010 visited the website of the Biography Institute. The number of visitors was more than 28,000 this year.

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.

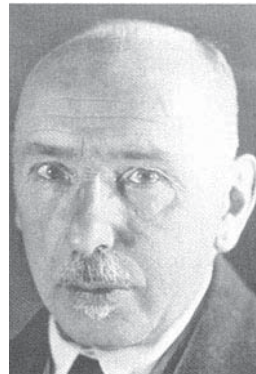
Projects

2.1 Promotion projects

In the year 2009-2010 the Biography Institute guided the following biographers: Herman Broers (W.J. Kolff), Erwin Buter (J.F. Ankersmit), Jeroen Corduwener (G.J. van Heuven Goedhart), Ariëtte Dekker (Anton Kröller), Jaap Gestman Geradts (Cornelis de Hooghe), Binne de Haan (Theory of the Biography), Vera Hoorens (Jan Wier), Jan de Lang (F.C.H. Hirschmann), Herman Langeveld (Willem Schermerhorn), Eva Rovers (Helene Kröller-Müller), Boudewijn Smits (Loe de Jong), Jan Willem Stutje (F. Domela Nieuwenhuis) en Maarten Ternerde (Han Lammers).

J.F. Ankersmit

Johan Frederik Ankersmit was born in 1871 as a son of a pharmacist in Amsterdam. While still a student, he worked for the weekly magazines *Propria Cures* and *De Kroniek*. In 1895 he was introduced to *De Telegraaf*, where he started his career as a journalist, but was fired after eight months. While he was still working for *Het Volksdagblad* he was one of the founders of the daily *Het Volk*. This was the party press for the Dutch labour party SDAP which first appeared in April 1900.



Ankersmit would work for *Het Volk* until his retirement in 1937. He became editor in chief in 1925. In the 1930's he protested vehemently in his editorials against Fascism and Nazism. During this same period, his newspaper was transformed from party press towards a daily newspaper for the whole family.

Ankersmit was not only a journalist; he was also an active member of the Dutch labour party SDAP. For many years he was member of the municipality council of Watergraafsmeer and after this town was absorbed by Amsterdam, he became member of the Provinciale Staten. As editor in chief he was member of the party's board.

Life and work of Ankersmit are tightly intermingled. Raised in a bourgeois environment he was fond of arts and culture. Whenever he could, he tried to share his knowledge of arts with his readers. He also was proud of the fact that his newspaper paved the way for some important ideological shifts of the party without alienated the SDAP from its constituency. Ankersmit died after a short illness in 1942.

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 issue of the PhD-thesis *Considering Biography. Criticism, theory and historiography in the twentieth century*. This research focuses on three fields of scientific 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 historiographic 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 academical 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 wasn't the case. Partly due to the lack of this



Michelangelo, Mozes, 1513-1516

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.

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.

Stutje has written the biographies of the Dutch communist Paul de Groot and the Flemish Marxist economist and historian, Ernest Mandel. This project has a duration of five years.



Gerrit Jan van Heuven Goedhart

Van Heuven Goedhart was born in 1901 in Bussum as the son of a book dealer who later became a cleric. After studying law at Leiden, Van Heuven Goedhart was employed by *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, both in Germany and The Netherlands. In May 1940, shortly after the German invasion, he was fired precisely for this reason. He became involved with the resistance and through it with the illegal newspaper *Het Parool*. Van Heuven Goedhart edited *Het Parool* from 1942 until the mid-1940's, when he had to flee, as the Germans were hot on his heels. Through a spectacular journey, he managed to escape to London, where, within one month, he was named Minister of Justice in the government in exile. In February 1945, he was deliberately overlooked for reappointment in what was to be the last war cabinet.

Back in the Netherlands, after its liberation, he became editor-in-chief of *Het Parool*, but at the same time pursued an international career. Van Heuven Goedhart was a member of the Dutch delegation to the United Nations. 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.



Frederik Christiaan Hendrik Hirschmann

Careers in the public service are often a sequence of contiguous functions. Moreover, these functions are thoroughly described and carry, in general, an unambiguous meaning for both the functionary and his peers. Social relations, family relationships and circles of friends all form part of Dutch conventions. In many respects, the nature of colonial officials' public careers, as well as their private lives, deviates from this model, often in

an intriguing manner. The loneliness of their existence, the motley succession of unrelated tasks and their extensive responsibilities and competencies, is striking. As a result of their ever changing postings, private situations are also far from conventional.

The life of the KNIL-officer, F.C.H. Hirschmann, has been taken as a basis from which all of the above-mentioned aspects can be explored. Among other things, he featured during the time of General Van Heutz, a period in which the expansion of Dutch supremacy in the East Indies was carried out as a feverish task. Thereafter, he was seconded from the Koninklijk Nederlands-Indisch Leger (Royal Dutch-Indies Army) (KNIL) as a military commander in Surinam. Some details about his reintegration into Dutch society were also documented. In his life, a number of different aspects were united, which present a frame of reference when creating a portrait of the ‘average’ KNIL-officer during this particular period.



Cornelis de Hooghe

Cornelis de Hooghe (The Hague 1541-The Hague 1583) was almost certainly a bastard born from an incidental relationship between emperor Charles V and a daughter of Cornelis Aerts van der Hooch, mayor of Delft. As a young man, he lived at the Duke of Brunswick’s court. Philip Galle, one of the humanist Dirck Volkertszoon Coornhert’s pupils, was his teacher in the art of engraving.

In 1565 Cornelis de Hooghe made a map of Holland and Zeeland and engraved another one for Guicciardini’s ‘Descrittione.... di tutti i paesi bassi’ in 1566. In 1567 he produced 114 big and 52 smaller plates for Margaretha of Parma’s ‘Della architectura militare’. In 1569 he completed his masterpiece, the ‘Exercitatio alphabetica’.



Te rechtstelling van Cornelis de Hooghe in het Hof van HOLLAND, den 29. Maart. 1583.

At the end of 1569 he fled to England, because of religious problems and to start a trade with South European countries with his partners in the Dutch town Veere. By evading trade duties he became a wealthy man. In 1574 he made his last map, ‘Norfolciae comitatus’, which was part of the *Elisabeth Atlas*.

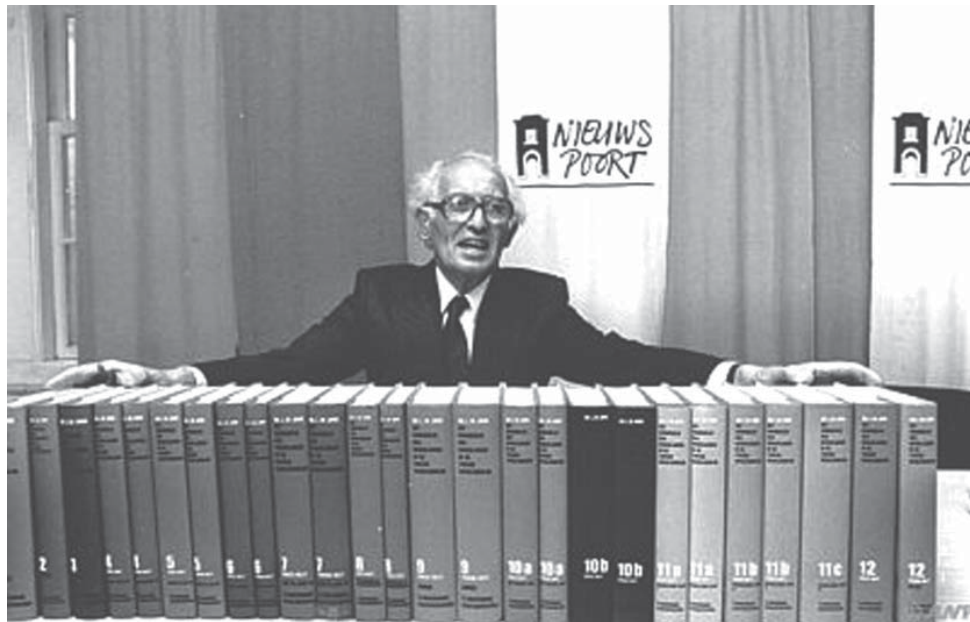
Later that year, at Hoorn, he took part in an exchange of his cousin, Lieven van Weldam, against mayor Kies of Haarlem. After another stay in Ipswich, he married the regent’s daughter, Maritje Tromper, at Rotterdam in 1576. In 1581 he received proof of his imperial descent by one of emperor Charles V’s former chamberlains. Cornelis de Hooghe also accepted a mission to start a counterrevolution in favour of Philip II. He was betrayed by the printer of his seditious booklets. After torture, which revealed the names of several accomplices, he was decapitated and quartered.

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 criticise 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 scholarly 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 conceptualisation 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.

W.J. Kolff

Willem Johan 'Pim' Kolff M.D. PhD (14 February 1911 - 12 February 2009) is one of the first medical doctors in the world who wanted to improve the fate of patients by engineering. He became an important pioneer in medical and biomedical engineering in general and the introduction of artificial organs in particular.



In 1942 Kolff invented a successful artificial kidney machine in the world in the city hospital Engelenberg Foundation in Kampen. With this machine, built out of sausage skin, a T-Ford water pump, an enamel basin from a pots and pans factory, a sowing machine motor and aluminum from a shot-down German fighter plane, Kolff saved the life of a 67-year old female renal patient.

The rotating drum artificial kidney is his most famous invention, but Kolff also started a blood bank on mainland Europe within five days, in the Zuidwal Hospital in The Hague, during the Nazi-attack on Holland in May 1940. In 1956, as research-assistant at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland (Ohio), Kolff invented also a heart-lung machine and applied it to make surgery on the heart of a young child possible. In 1957, Kolff implanted a self-made artificial heart in a living dog, an achievement which officially made Kolff the inventor of the artificial heart. The first human implantation of an artificial heart made by the Kolff-team was performed in 1982.

In the early days of his career in The Netherlands (1937-1950), Kolff stood alone in his conviction that engineering could assist doctors in the medical treatment of patients. He had to deal with huge resistance and resentment; to the liking of his Dutch colleagues at the time Kolff was much too practically orientated in his research. Hindered by their lack of understanding, Kolff left The Netherlands for America in 1950. After a difficult time of adapting to his new environment, Kolff gained global fame as the father of artificial organs. In 2003, a number of American institutes estimated that since 1943, Kolff's inventions have saved, restored or dramatically improved the quality of life of over 20 million people. When Kolff finally had to step down as an active researcher, in 2005 at the age of 94, he had received 127 international prizes and accolades and thirteen honorary doctorates.

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 a global company named 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.

This study of Anton Kröller focuses on the interaction between the notable personality of this entrepreneur and his controversial public life, with the emphasis on the rise and fall of his company, Müller & Co.

Helene Kröller-Müller

In the early decades of the twentieth century art collectors served as an important compass which helped modern art find its way into museum systems around the world. Helene Kröller-Müller is an example of this phenomenon; her methodical manner of collecting and her aim to bequeath society with a 'monument of culture' after her death contributed to both the introduction and recognition of modern art in The Netherlands.

Who was this woman who seemed hardly interested in art until the age of thirty five, and who suddenly placed her life and a considerable part of



her family's fortune in the service of a collection of modern art? And what was the influence on both the course of her life as well as her notions of art, exercised respectively by her husband Anton Kröller, her mentor Henk Bremmer and her confidant Sam van Deventer? This biography will address these questions concerning the person of Kröller-Müller. The collector Müller will be explored in order to define to which extent Müller was representative of early twentieth century Dutch (and possibly west-European) collectors of modern art.

Despite the various books on Müller that have been published over the years, a lacuna exists. The 1956 double biography of Müller and her husband by Sam van Deventer is solid and precise, though it is hardly documented and written from a personal point of view which provokes a strong sense of subjectivity. Two more recent publications, *Miljoenen, Macht en Meestwerken* by Wim Nijhof and *Helene Kröller-Müller* by Piet de Jonge (ed.), intend to be sketches, focusing only on her life's highlights and downfall. A thorough, academic account of Müller's life will bridge this lacuna.



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 analysing 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.

Jan Wier

The physician Jan Wier is known as the first serious opponent of the persecution of witches. 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. In contrast to many of his contemporaries he made a clear distinction between witches and heretics even though he considered burning, hanging or drawing and quartering unacceptable for both groups.

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*. Not surprisingly, therefore, he has known numerous admirers including Karl Marx and Sigmund Freud. Critics believe that he inadvertently stirred up the witch persecution, that he is wrongly regarded as a figure-head of psychiatry or even that he had an unfavourable influence over the discipline. In the second half of the twentieth century, for instance, the anti-psychiatrist Thomas Szasz viewed him as the founder of a health care system that confined and silenced troublesome individuals.

Who was Jan Wier and what made him develop views that were, in his time, all but popular? What is his societal and scientific legacy? Where do the remarkably contradictory views on his importance come from and why has the public at large next to forgotten him?



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 Arbeiderpers. In this project, he worked under the auspices of the Biography Institute, under supervision of Prof. G.J. Dorleijn and Prof. J.W. Renders.

The poet J.C. Bloem (1887-1966) is regarded as one of the most important poets of the twentieth century. In spite of a relatively limited body of work, the disillusionment that characterises his simple yet subtle poetry clearly speaks to many, because his Collected poems are regularly reprinted.



Alice Nahon

Dr E.J.J. (Manu) van der Aa graduated on 27 October 2008 with a thesis entitled: *'Ik heb de liefde liefgehad'*. *Het leven van Alice Nahon (I loved love itself. The life of Alice Nahon)*, Uitgeverij Lanno, Tiel 2008. Van der Aa worked under the auspices of the Biography Institute, under supervision of Prof. J.W. Renders and Prof. G.J. Dorleijn.

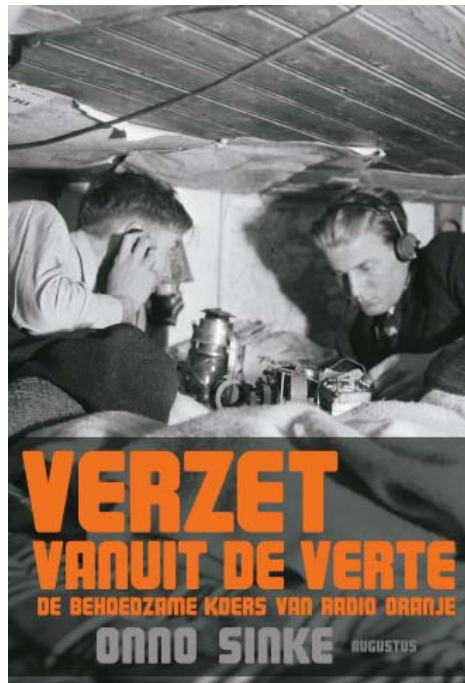
Apart from Guido Gezelle, no other Flemish poet has sold more copies than Alice Nahon (1896-1933). Her poetry was received with enthusiasm by literary critics in Flanders and the Netherlands. Yet, her work was also dismissed as sentimental, doggerel verse, or 'Gartenloubepoëzie', as Paul van Ostaijen coined it. In his biography, Manu van der Aa 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.



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. Radio was the first medium that could transport the emotions of an event to the listeners, as if they were actually witnessing the event themselves. The allies used radio during the war as a way to present the news to the people of occupied Europe, to maintain their morale and to instruct them in resisting the German invader. Many celebrities supported the allied war effort and broadcasted to their compatriots in the occupied territories. The Dutch language radio stations saw many well-known writers and journalist, like A. den Doollaard or Loe de Jong, taking up the cause and fighting the Germans through their spirited talks. Radio Oranje was predominant among these Dutch language radiostations, like the Dutch Service of the BBC and WRUL-station from Boston, Massachusetts.

The research was supervised by Prof. Hans Renders, Prof. Hans Blom and Prof. Piet de Rooij. Sinke graduated on 20 April 2009 on his thesis entitled *Verzet vanuit de verte. De behoedzame koers van Radio Oranje*. He was nominated by the University of Groningen for the Praemium Erasmianum 2008/2009.

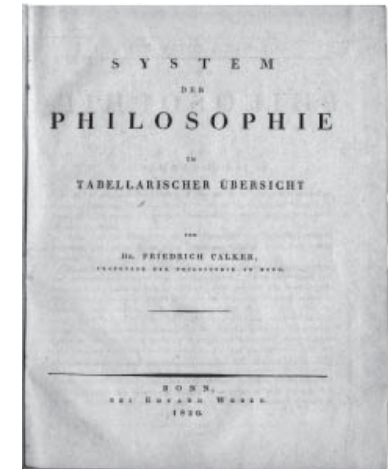


2.3 Family archive

Connoisseurs and trendsetters. Bourgeois culture in Groningen between nationalism and cosmopolitanism (1870-1970).

The envisioned research is based on the archives of the Van Calker-Clemens Schröner family, that has been made accessible by the Biography Institute in Groningen. The rich archive offers a wonderful glimpse into the lives of four successive generations of the same family in Groningen in the period from about 1830-1970. The prosperity of this family coincided with the success of the bourgeois environment to which they belonged. As connoisseurs and trendsetters or consumers and producers of all forms of culture the bourgeoisie played a leading role in this period.

The Groninger Archieven [Groningen Archives] will digitize and archive the entire collection. A part of this archive has already been digitized and is freely accessible through our website (www.biografieinstituut.nl/familiearchief).



Left: *Geschiedenis van de muziekschool te Groningen* by E. Clemens Schröner.
Right: publication van Friedrich Calker (1820).

2.4 Candidate biographers

The Biography Institute has proven and continues to prove very attractive to researchers and aspiring biographers. On average, per week two aspiring biographers apply for support. 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. Exception for requests from students and occasional advice to PhD's envisaging biographical research, the institute cannot grant requests for systematic assistance of any kind outside of the promotion process.

The selection of all aspiring biographers take place on the basis of a project. 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 within the projects Loe de Jong, Anton Kröller, Helene Kröller-Müller, Alice Nahon, and Binne de Haan's project on the exploration of the biography in international perspective are successful cases in point.

2.5 Congresses and Edited Volumes

The religious factor in the biography

From a census held in 1879, it came to light that only 2% of the Dutch population did not belong to a church. In spite of the far-reaching secularisation of the 1960's and 1970's, in 1979 about two-thirds of the Dutch population were of the opinion that religion played some, though not necessarily important, role in their lives. However, in biographies that deal with persons from the period 1880-1890, scant attention is often paid to personal faith when interpreting the public actions of writers, politicians, entrepreneurs, researchers or artists. In those cases where religion does play a significant role in a biography, it is normally with regards to figures who saw religion as a component of their public activities, such as church fathers, ministers or Christian politicians, or in biographies that are motivated by faith itself. During this conference, the focus will be on the religious factor on an individual level, in particular the part it played in the stated foundations of the public life of religious persons who made their mark outside the church.

A variety of speakers from numerous disciplines provided answers to questions such as: how does one strike a balance between an affinity to the subject's life and work, including his or her religious experience and driving forces on the one hand, and the scholarly hallmark of distance on the other? How does one take the broader context, in which certain forms of religious involvement are manifested, into account? What is the diffe-

rence between considering religion as a factor of interpretation in the life of someone who lived in 1920 compared to someone who lived in 1960? What proportion does the religious factor occupy in relation to the cultural shift, which has been manifesting itself since the 1960's in the form of secularisation and individualisation? To what extent does insight into religious action contribute to a better understanding of art, literature, politics, business or the scientific practice? What is the relation between the biographer's attention to religion as cultural setting and the exploration of the individual's religious experience? These and other questions, which are explored with regards to four periods between 1880 and 1890, formed the subject of this conference.

Edited Volume *Among Engineers. Biography & Technique*

Technology is visible everywhere and has changed society. Technology makes an indispensable contribution to the prosperity and welfare of our society. The human beings behind the engineering technology however often remain unknown. In contrast with stories about artists, writers and politicians, we rarely read about the personal motives, ideas and life stories of engineers. Undoubtedly the divide between the 'two cultures' (alpha and beta) as noticed by C.P. Snow in as early as 1959 is one of the origins of this phenomenon.

Unlike in countries like Russia or the United States, The Netherlands has seen few examples of technicians proclaimed a hero or celebrity. Which Dutch engineers would be eligible if this actually would be the case? What role does the engineer play in public space in the year 2010? Is biographical research a point of entrance for a large audience to learn more about the work of engineers? A select group of authors explores these and similar questions in this book.

Authors: Klaas van Berkel, Eric Berkens, Herman Broers, Willem van der Ham, Joep Huiskamp, Dick van Lente, Hans Renders, Hans Schippers and Auke van der Woud.



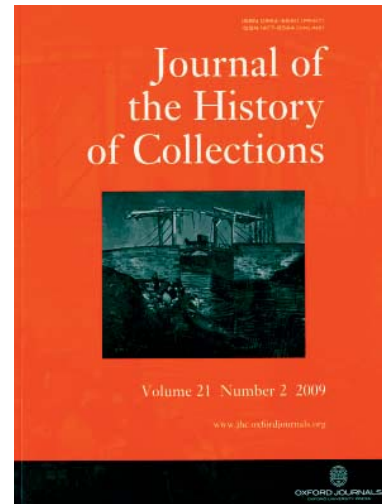
Edited Volume *The art collector: between philanthropy and self-glorification*

Whether we consider Vincent van Gogh, Jackson Pollock or the Young British Artists, in most cases private collectors have played a pivotal role in their breakthrough. Philanthropy and the love of art appear to be the driving forces behind collecting. However, perhaps less elevated motives are just as influential in the establishment of collections. Are collectors not driven by a need to display status and taste and in the process to immortalize their name? In short, are collectors not mainly driven by self-glorification?

In this collection of essays, which was published as a special issue of the Oxford Journal of the History of Collections, researchers from the United States and Europe share their thoughts on the motives of collectors and their importance to art history. Especially the fin-de-siècle is discussed, as this era was the heyday of private patronage. The contributions are a result of the two day conference 'The Art Collector: Between Philanthropy and Self-Glorification', which was organized in June 2008 by the Biography Institute in cooperation with the Groninger Museum.

Other titles from the Biographical Studies series:

- *Het Leven van een doodsbericht* [Life of an obituary]
- *Biografie en psychologie* [Biography and psychology]
- *Tropenlevens* [Lives in the tropics]
- *De ondernemersbiografie* [Entrepreneurial biography]
- *Privé in de politieke biografie* [Private matters in political biography]
- *Biografie en religie* [Biography and religion (forthcoming)].



Evening of Biography

On 8 April 2010 the Biography Institute organized the Evening of Biography in co-operation with *Historisch Nieuwsblad* and Foundation 'Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Prijs for biography & master thesis'. At this event the Erik Hazelhoff Biography Price was handed out at De Rode Hoed in Amsterdam. A report of the evening can be found furtheron in this annual report.

International Congress of Historical Sciences

At the 21st International Congress of Historical Sciences, that will be held in Amsterdam in 2010, from 22-28 August, Hans Renders and Binne de Haan will contribute to the session 'Biography and Microhistory'. The congress is initiated by the International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS) and will be organised by the Royal Netherlands Historical Society, University of Amsterdam, Royal Library and the International Institute of Social History. Renders and De Haan will address the role of individuals in history and the representivity of individuals in microhistory and biography.

Biography & Pedagogy

This year, preparations have been made for the upcoming convention Biography & Pedagogy on 18 & 19 November 2010, about the influence of background and personality of teachers and educators on social life, organized in cooperation with National Education Museum and Archive and Documentation centre for Dutch Behavioural Sciences (ADNG).



2.6 Digitization projects

In collaboration with BoekopCD and the Library of the University of Groningen a digitization project has been launched, coordinated by Ilja Hengeveld. The aim of this project is to facilitate faster and easier access to biographical research materials and to open up new opportunities for research. So far the following publications are made accessible online:

- Aa, A.J van der, *Biografisch Woordenboek der Nederlanden*, 12 vol., 1852-1878.
- Feller, F.X. de, *Geschiedkundig woordenboek* [titel ingekort], 28 vol., 1828-1848.
- Glasius, B., *Biografisch woordenboek van Nederlandsche Godgeleerden*, 1851.
- Japikse, N., *Persoonlijkheden in het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden in woord en beeld*, 1938.
- Kruseman, A.C., *Mannen van beteekenis in onze dagen*, 25 vol., 1870-1895.
- Kruseman, A.C., *Mannen en vrouwen van beteekenis in onze dagen*, 19 vol., 1895-1925.
- Molhuysen, P.C., *Nieuw Nederlandsch biografisch woordenboek*, 10 vol., 1911-1937.

In collaboration with the Library of the University of Groningen these materials are freely available for research since this year, and can be accessed via the website of the Biography Institute (<http://biografieinstituut.ub.rug.nl>). Moreover, the Biography Institute and the Library are cooperating to design an improved system for online searching possibilities of the digital resources, for the benefit of academic research.



Project book production 1940-1945

The total book production in the Netherlands and Flanders between May 1940 and May 1945 has been charted and the results are searchable online for research. This project is based on *Brinkman's catalogus van boeken en tijdschriften*.

The reason for making all the book publications from this period searchable – both the year catalogues and the 5-year catalogues of both *Brinkman's catalogus* and *Nieuwsblad voor den Boekhandel* [Newspaper for Bookshops] as well, is due to differences in the bibliographic information about the war years. The titles have been digitized and are searchable within pdf files. This is done in preparation for the special issue on book production during the Second World War, of the international journal *Quaerendo. A Quarterly Journal from the Low Countries Devoted to Manuscripts and Printed Books*, edited by Hans Renders, which will be published at the end of 2010. The size of the digitized titles is over 13,000 pages. These are available online through our website (<http://biografieinstituut.ub.rug.nl>).

REGISTER	
OP HET	
NIEUWSBLAD VOOR DEN BOEKHANDEL	
1940	
OFFICIELE MEDEDELINGEN DER VEREENIGING TER BEVORDERING VAN DE BELANGEN DES BOEKHANDELS	
Bestuur	
Aanstaande vacatures in bestuur en commissien	249-252
Algemeene mededeeling	252-257
Algemeene vergadering	337, 411, 453, 472, 603
Berekening van boezemlandse waarden	123-127, 337
Nieuwe uitgave der lijst van boekhandlaren	492-57
Omschrijving op boeken en tijdschriften	492-57
Samenstelling bestuur	492-57
Schillen van Engelse en Franse handeldlaren	492-57
Toelag op de particuliere prijzen	273
Vakmoeten	492-57
Verloof van Duitse uitgaven in Frankrijk	245
Vergaderingen	39, 41, 49, 161, 220, 350, 425, 441, 557, 626, 645, 869
Voorstellen voor de algemeene vergadering	239
Bestelhuus van den Boekhandel	
Lijst van commissien	1, 257, 249, 406, 478, 501, 514, 541, 785, 789, 825
Mededeeling	661
Tarieven en voorwaarden van het Bestelhuus	413
Wijzigingen in de tarieven en voorwaarden van het Bestelhuus van den Boekhandel	125
Centraal Boekhuus	
Omschrijving	402
Centrale Raad voor het Boek- en het Grafisch Bedrijf	
Centrale Raad voor het Boek- en het Grafisch Bedrijf	52, 197, 257, 373, 745
Commissie tot regeling van het verfallingsrecht	842, 277
Mededeeling	795
Toekenningen, verzoeken enz.	1, 13, 29, 41, 58, 74, 89, 102, 128, 146, 161, 182, 197, 214, 238, 245, 259, 277, 298, 314, 327, 340, 355, 370, 385, 402, 414, 427, 454, 466, 478, 501, 514, 529, 545, 557, 574, 593, 606, 610, 641, 660, 677, 745, 756, 789, 825, 836, 845, 861, 877
Abdullah, Adhemad and Faith Baldwin: Gift on the make	662, 749
Abner, Gerald: Cafeteria girl	646, 678
Adams, Olive F.: Sabotage	427, 454
Adams, Lettie Zoe: The mirror murder	314
Aden, General: Concentration, or primitive progress	278, 314
Alers, M. D. Ph. D., Rudolf: Self improvement	72
Anderson, Sherwood: Kit Brandon	2, 39
Andler, A. A.: There were murdered	126, 162, 274
Armstrong, Margaret: Murder in stained glass	162, 174
[Arvan, Mary A. B., Cousins von]: The princess Princes's tonight	109
Austin, Anne: Murder backstairs	106, 149, 159, 158
— Murdered but not dead	106, 149, 159, 158
— One drop of blood	106, 149, 158, 214
Austin, Hugh: The cock's tail murder	114
Ayres, Ruth M.: The moon in the water	290, 318
— One to live with	290, 318
Barnum journey	492, 149
Week-end woman	402
Ways for love	290, 318
Bagby, George: Bird walking weather	161, 198
— The corpse with the purple thighs	35, 58, 454, 479
Baker, Ann: The kissed corpse	161, 198
Baldwin, Faith: Garden gate	492, 457
— Make believe	45, 74, 479, 314
— Nation wagon set	39, 58, 454, 479
Baldwin, Leland D.: The delectable country	45, 74
Bassinger, Marjorie M.: Scandalous	214, 245, 430
Burdwell, Denver: Coyote hunter	146, 181, 157
Burns, Margaret Aylet: Years of grace	75, 149, 298, 305
Buster, George Owen: Black-male Joe	662, 749
— The red headband	662, 749
— Selva Billy	386, 414
— The three crosses	386, 414
Bush, Catherine: The coming struggle for Latin America	386, 414
Beholdt, Frederick R.: Danger on the border	208, 314
Belman, Henry: Kings Row	149, 276, 646, 678
Benn, Edmund: Democracy today and tomorrow	646, 678
Bennet, Robert Ames: The brand blotters	146, 181, 662, 749
Berry, A.: Lost gaiter	161
Berry, Raymond: A's: Diary from 182	214, 430, 662
Bunn, Arthur: The laurels are cut down	182, 214, 610
Buss, Gerald: The house of terror	824, 861
Butterings, Arni: Drama at dusk	162, 198, 678, 706
Burton, Elizabeth: Polynesian golden heron	414, 442
Buttome, Phyllis: Danger signal	542, 574
Butwinick, M. M.: Librarian paria	161, 198, 317

2.7 Encyclopaedia of the European Press

An Encyclopaedia of the written press of 20th century Europe is currently underway. Twenty-four countries are participating in this project. 'All countries have a press history, but what do we really know about its role in Europe?', says Hans Renders, who is responsible for the Dutch component of the encyclopaedia, which will appear at Bert Bakker Publishers.

Encyclopedie van de Europese pers

IN 2010 VERSCHIJNT DE ENCYCLOPEDIA VAN DE EUROPESE GESCHREVEN PERS IN DE 20STE EEUW. VIERENTWINTIG LANDEN NEMEN DEEL AAN DIT PROJECT. 'ALLE LANDEN HEBBEN EEN PERSGESCHIEDENIS MAAR WAT WETEN WE EIGENLIJK VAN WAT ZICH IN EUROPA HEEFT AFGESPEELD?', ZEGT PROFESSOR HANS RENDERS, VERANTWOORDELIJK VOOR HET NEDERLANDSE GEDEELTE. HIJ ZOEKT NOG MEDEWERKERS EN ADVISEURS.

Connie Wiering

Het idee sudderde al enkele jaren. Hans Renders en zijn Franse collega Laurent Martin voerden lange gesprekken over hoe je moet reageren op geluiden als zou het einde van de geschreven pers in zicht zijn. 'Tegenspreken of protesteren heeft weinig zin', zegt Renders, 'je kunt die suggestie beter als argument inzetten om nu eens de geschiedenis van de geschreven pers helder op papier te zetten.' Martin kwam te werken bij het gezaghebbende onderzoeksinstituut Centre d'histoire de Sciences Po in Parijs en kreeg daar de mogelijkheid om dit wetenschappelijke project op te starten. De Encyclopedie van de Geschreven Pers in de 20ste eeuw in Europa wordt gefinancierd door zowel Sciences Po als de Parijse uitgeverij Robert Laffont. Naast de Franstalige editie komt er ook een Engelstalige.

In ruim vier miljoen lettertekens brengen specialisten uit 24 landen het overzichtswerk tot stand. 'Nederland heeft een rijke perstraditie maar we weten niet wat de waarde daarvan is omdat er geen vergelijkend onderzoek bestaat. We weten bijvoorbeeld nauwelijks hoe de censuur en propaganda tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog heeft uitgedaagd in andere landen. Tijdens de bezetting bestond hier de Deutsche Zeitung in den Niederlanden. De Belgische editie heette Brüsseler Zeitung. Er waren in totaal 26 edities maar we weten niet of er een gemeenschappelijke redactie was.'

Drie invalshoeken zijn leidend voor de encyclopedie: biografisch, institutioneel en thematisch. 'Van daaruit gaan we kijken welke accenten voor een land belangrijk zijn. In het biografische deel zal het logisch zijn dat je daarin de journalist van de 20ste eeuw portretteert of de toonaangevende hoofdredacteurs. In het institutionele gedeelte zal de invloed van de vakbond aan de orde komen, de uitgeverijen, de perscombinaties. In het thematische gedeelte zullen onderwerpen zoals persvrijheid of verzulding worden besproken.' De drie invalshoeken zijn vervat in een lange gloslijst van onderwerpen waaruit Renders en zijn toekomstige team vijftig zogenoemde *entries* gaan samenstellen, waarmee Nederland wordt ontsloten in zo'n 45.000 woorden. De uitge-



breide lijst bestaat nu nog uit 136 onderwerpen. 'Moeten we het voor het Nederlandse gedeelte gaan hebben over distributie, koloniën, naoorlogse zuivering, abonnees, druktechniek, redactiestatuut? Of de regionale pers? Groot-Brittannië kent geen regionale pers, Duitsland wel. De Frankfurter Allgemeine wordt overal gelezen maar is wel de krant van Frankfurt. Dat is interessante kennis.'

'Wat er uiteindelijk in de Nederlandse editie komt te staan, wil Renders niet alleen bepalen. 'Ik wil graag een discussie op gang brengen met een club mensen die gaat vaststellen wat nu echt belangrijk is voor die vijftig hoofdstukken. Ik kan me voorstellen dat we daarvoor bijeenkomsten organiseren en publicaties initiëren.' Renders heeft nog bijna twee jaar om het Nederlandse gedeelte samen te stellen. 'Mijn planning is dat ik in de herfst adviseurs en medewerkers om me heen heb verzameld die de lijst van onderwerpen terugbrengt tot 50 *entries*.' Wie belangstelling heeft om te adviseren of (tegen betaling) bijdragen te leveren kan mailen naar j.w.renders@rug.nl.

Prof.dr. Hans Renders is directeur van het Biografie Instituut Groningen en tevens verbonden aan de Masteropleiding Journalistiek van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG). Tot 1998 was hij werkzaam bij de Academie voor Journalistiek in Tilburg. Vanaf de oprichting in 2003 is Renders buitenlandredacteur en medewerker van het in Parijs uitgegeven tijdschrift *Le temps des Médias. Revue d'histoire*.

Reclameblijf voor Het Nieuwsblad voor Nederland dat omstreeks 1900 als bijvoegsel bij deze krant verspreid werd.

2.8 Publications

Scientific publications

- Broers, Herman, 'Willem Johan Kolff, uitvinder van de kunstnier', in: Hans Renders (ed.), *Onder ingenieurs, biografie & techniek*, Boom Uitgevers, Amsterdam 2010, p. 144-164.
- Hoorens, Vera, Drace, S., Desrichard, O. & Shepperd, J.A., 'Does mood influence comparative judgments? Tracking an elusive effect', in: *British Journal of Social Psychology* 48(2009)4, p. 579-599.
- Hoorens, Vera, 'The Social Consequences of Self-Enhancement and Self-Protection', in: Mark Alicke and Constantine Sedikides (ed.), *The handbook of self-enhancement and self-protection*, Guildford Publications, New York [in press].
- Hoorens, Vera en Hans Renders, 'Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa and witchcraft: A reappraisal', in: *The Sixteenth Century Journal* [in press].
- Korf, Lindie, 'Afrikaner nasionalisten als product van het Nederlandse hoger onderwijs? Het voorbeeld van D.F. Malan', in: L.J. Dorsman en P.J. Knegtman (ed.), *Over de grens. Internationale contacten van Nederlandse studenten en stafleden sedert 1876*, Uitgeverij Verloren, Hilversum 2009, p. 121-140.
- Langeveld, Herman, 'Grotendeels buitenspel. Het Nederlandse parlement en de crisis van de jaren dertig van de twintigste eeuw', in: *In tijden van crisis. Jaarboek Parlementaire Geschiedenis 2009*, Boom, Amsterdam 2009, p. 37-46.
- Renders, Hans, 'Hoe Karl Popper vergeten werd', in: Hans Renders (ed.), *Onder ingenieurs. Biografie & Techniek*, Boom, Amsterdam, p. 7-18.
- Renders, Hans, 'De Biograaf tussen actualiteit en context', in: *Christelijk-sociaal in de jaren zestig*, Wouter Beekers (ed.), Historisch Documentatiecentrum voor het Nederlands Protestantisme (1800-heden), Vrij Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam 2010, p. 9-16.
- Renders, Hans, 'Gecensureerd door de bureu. De invloed van het nationaalsocialisme op de vrijheid van drukpers', in: Marita Mathijssen (ed.), *Censuur*, Amsterdam University Press [in press].
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BRINKMAN'S CATALOGUS VAN BOEKEN

DIE GEDURENDE 1941 TOT EN MET 1945
IN NEDERLAND EN VLAANDEREN ZIJN
UITGEGEVEN OF HERDRUKT, BENÉVENS
AANVULLINGEN OVER VOORAFGAANDE
JAREN, OPGAVEN BETREFFENDE OVER-
GEGANE FONDSARTIKELEN EN IN PRIJS
GEWIJZIGDE BOEKEN

DOOR

G. J. VAN DER LEK

EN

DIRK DE JONG



LEIDEN

A. W. SIJTHOFF'S UITGEVERSMAATSCHAPPIJ N.V.

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- Broers, Herman, 12-12-2009, Noordwijkerhout, lezing 'Dokter Kolff en de uitvinding van de kunstmatige nier', inleiding plenaire sessie 44^{ste} Woudschoten Conferentie van de Werkgroep Natuurkunde Didactiek in congrescentrum De Leeuwenhorst.
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- Haan, Binne de, 28-6-2010/2-7-2010, University of Sussex, Brighton. 'In The Academical Shade of Life Writing. How Criticism and Biography Fell Apart', lezing voor congres International Auto/Biography Association.
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- Langeveld, Herman, 10-4-2010, Amsterdam. Leiding van de studieochtend 'De biografie van de verzetsstrijder', georganiseerd door de Werkgroep Biografie van de Maatschappij der Nederlandse Letterkunde in samenwerking met het NIOD,
- Langeveld, Herman, 11-5-2010, Hoofdkantoor van de FNV, Amsterdam. Inleiding bij de presentatie van Gjalt Zondergeld, '*Ons Socialisme, uw Toekomst! Henk Woudenberg en het Nederlandse Arbeidsfront (1942-1945)*'.
- Langeveld, Herman, 18-6-2010, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam. 'Christelijk-sociaal in de jaren zestig'. Slotwoord op de gelijknamige studiebijeenkomst, georganiseerd door het Historisch Documentatiecentrum voor het Nederlands Protestantisme (1800-heden).

- Renders, Hans, 20-11-2009, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. 'Gevoelige littekens'. Lezing voor congres *De religieuze factor*.
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- Renders, Hans, 22-6-2010, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. Opponeren biografie Karel van de Woestijne van Peter Theunynck.
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2.9 Editorships and advisory committees

In the academic year 2009-2010, Herman Broers was Director of the Willem Kolff Foundation until 31 December 2009. Since 1 January 2010, he is the historical and biographical Advisor to the Willem Kolff Foundation.

In the academic year 2009-2010 Vera Hoorens was Associate Editor of *International Review of Social Psychology/Revue Internationale de Psychologie Sociale*, as well as member of the Editorial Board of the *European Psychologist* and *Self and Identity*. She was also a peer reviewer for *British Journal of Social Psychology*, *European Journal of Social Psychology*, *European Psychologist*, *Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*, *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, *Journal of Socio-Economics*, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *Psychological Reports / Perceptual and Motor Skills*, *Psychology and Health*, *Self and Identity*, *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, *Social Psychology* (formerly *Zeitschrift für Sozialpsychologie*).

Member of the scientific committees ‘Développement humain et cognition, langage et communication’ and ‘Sociétés, espace, organisations et marchés’ of the Agence Nationale de Recherche (France); Reviewed of, reported, and contributed to decisions on research applications within the Programme Blanc and the Programme Jeunes Chercheurs et Chercheuses.

Guidance of research projects for the Research Council of K.U. Leuven (Belgium) and the U.S.-Israël Binational Science Foundation.

Member of the Scientific Committee of the Congrès International de Psychologie Sociale de Langue Française, organized by the Association pour la Diffusion de la Recherche Internationale and Psychologie Sociale (ADRIPS), which was held in Nice (Fr) in August 2010.

Jury member and rapporteur of the Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches of Dr I. Milhabet on 26/11/2009, Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis.

Member of the jury in the Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches van Dr J.-F. Verlhac on 7/12/2009, Université de Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense.

In the academic year 2009-2010 Herman Langeveld was president of the Biography Workgroup of the Maatschappij der Nederlandse Letterkunde (Dutch Society of Literature).

Hans Renders was 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).

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.

At the request of Dr Hendrik Muller Vaderlandsch Fonds, Hans Renders was a member of the guidance committee for Dr M.R. Doortmont, who is writing the biography of Hendrik Muller.

Renders has been requested to be advisor by Elsevier Academische Enquête, NIAS, NWO en SDM.

Renders was a member of the founding committee ‘Biographers International Organization’ in Boston, where he was elected to the board in May 2010. As in previous years, Hans Renders was a book critic for the Dutch radio programme *OVT* (VPRO Broadcasting Corporation) about history, on Sunday.

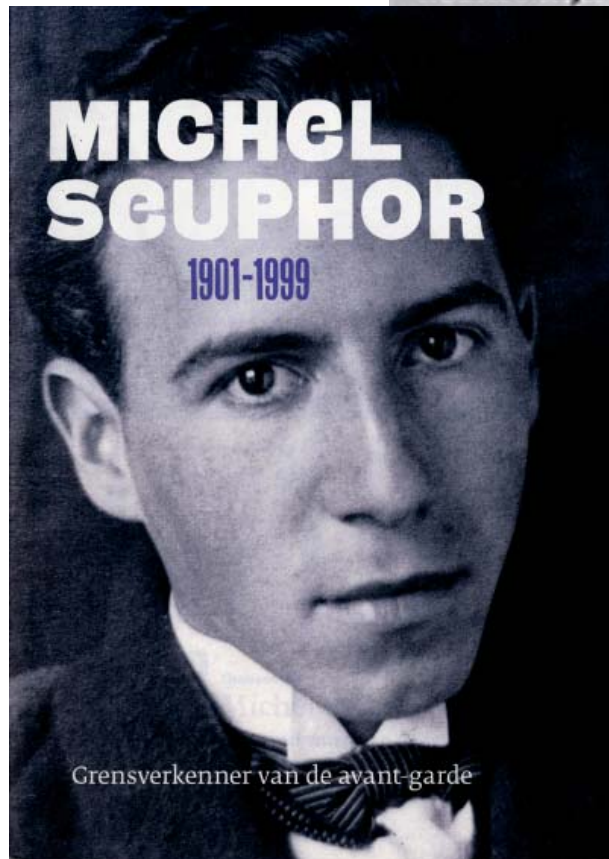
On 25 November 2009, Hans Renders was chosen as a member of the Ubbo Emmius Colleghe, which advises the Groninger Congres Bureau.

Renders is chairman of the board of Stichting Innovatie Media, founded this year, and is a member of the editorial board of the Dutch Biographical Portal.

This year, work has been done on the edited volume *Religie & Biografie*, edited by Hans Renders and others. Renders also edited the following titles:

- Manu van der Aa, Sjoerd van Faassen, Hans Renders and Johan Vanhecke (ed.), *Michel Seuphor 1901-1999. Grensverkenner van de avant-garde*, Garant Uitgevers, Antwerp 2009, 212 pages.
- Hans Renders (ed.), *Onder ingenieurs. Biografie & Techniek*, Boom, Amsterdam, 184 pages.

Eva Rovers served as a representative of PhD students on the Advisory Board of The Groningen Research Institute for the Study of Culture (ICOG) and worked on a special issue of *Simiolus*. Moreover, she was guest editor of the *Oxford Journal of the History of Collections* and she was member of the board of the PhD Council Humanities, University of Groningen.



Education and partnerships

3.1 Chair

On 1 March 2007 Hans Renders was appointed as Professor of History and Theory of Biography at the University of Groningen by the Stichting Democratie en Media [Democracy & Media Foundation]. The aim of the Chair is to enhance the study of the history and theory of biography.

3.2 Partnerships

With the Groninger Archieven [Groningen Archives] and the Library of the University of Groningen collaboration is underway on the aforementioned digitization projects.

There is collaboration with the French Institute of Political Sciences Po in Paris for a project on the history of the European written press in the 20th century. For a number of other projects, there is collaboration with the Dutch Institute for War Documentation (NIOD), Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, National Museum of Education and University of Amsterdam.

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 is designed to promote scholarly research by making biographical reference books dealing with biographical information about the inhabitants of the Netherlands, from the earliest times to the present, digitally accessible via the Internet. A starting subsidy has already been granted by the The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Prins Bernard Cultuurfonds, after a joint application. The project is being developed further for a new application, for the Investment Subsidy NWO Large.

Publicity

Historisch Nieuwsblad

Radioprogramma *De Avonden*

Ingenieursweekblad *De Ingenieur*

NRC Next

De Gezinsbode

Radioprogramma *OVT*

Omroep Gelderland (radio) 26 april 2010

Nieuwe Veluwe december 2009

Trouw 3 juli

Report Evening of Biography [Dutch only] Erik Hazelhoff Prijzen uitgereikt op succesvolle Avond van de Biografie

De Avond van de Biografie op 8 april 2010 in Amsterdam was meer dan alleen de eerste uitreiking van de nieuwe Erik Hazelhoff Biografieprijs. Hoewel de uitreiking van de prijs voor de beste Nederlandstalige biografie van de afgelopen twee jaar het hoogtepunt van de avond was, ging het volgens presentator van de Avond Philip Freriks vooral om ‘het vieren van de Nederlandse biografiecultuur’.

De Nederlandse biografen hebben het een tijdje zonder een eigen prijs moeten stellen. Van 1991 tot 2000 was er de Dordtprijs voor de biografie, maar die ging helaas om financiële redenen ter ziele. Met de Erik Hazelhoff Biografieprijs is er nu een waardige opvolger gekomen. In de geest van de Soldaat van Oranje, journalist en schrijver Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema is de prijs in het leven geroepen met het idee dat biografieën van veelbetekenende personen een voorbeeldfunctie kunnen vervullen en goedgeschreven levensverhalen de aandacht verdienen van een breed publiek. Landelijke kranten besteedden aandacht aan de prijs en in het televisieprogramma *De Wereld Draait Door* werd op diezelfde avond naar aanleiding van de uitreiking over biografieën gesproken.

Ook in *De Rode Hoed* waar de Avond plaatsvond, was de publieke belangstelling groot. De Stichting Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Prijs had in samenwerking met het Biografie Instituut van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, uitgeverij Het Spectrum, *de Volkskrant* en het *Historisch Nieuwsblad* een afwisselend programma samengesteld, dat muzikaal begeleid werd door het jazzrepertoire van Lisa Borey & Friends.

Naast de Biografieprijs werd bovendien voor het eerst de Erik Hazelhoff Aanmoedigingsprijs uitgereikt: een prijs voor de beste universitaire master-scriptie, bedoeld om jonge onderzoekers en schrijvers te stimuleren. Winnaar van de prijs werd Esther Zwinkels, met haar scriptie over het Overakker-complot, waarbij verzetsgroepen tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog op Sumatra in opstand kwamen tegen de Japanse bezetter. Zwinkels kreeg aan het eind van de Avond de Aanmoedigingsprijs van vijfduizend euro uitgereikt uit handen van Karin Hazelhoff Roelfzema, de weduwe van de naamgever van de prijs, die speciaal voor deze avond was overgekomen uit Hawai'i. Ook zal de scriptie van Zwinkels als boek worden uitgegeven bij uitgeverij Het Spectrum.

In een forumdiscussie onder leiding van *Volkskrant*-hoofdredacteur Pieter Broertjes gingen Elsbeth Etty, Willem Otterspeer, Hans Renders en Aleid



Truijens in de woorden van Broertjes ‘op zoek naar de ziel van de Nederlandse biografie’.

Voormalig Commandant der Strijdkrachten Dick Berlijn vertelde vervolgens hoe biografieën bij uitstek als inspiratiebron kunnen dienen voor jongeren om het overzicht en de grote lijn te bewaren in een onrustig tijdperk van snelle media.

Bas Kromhout van het *Historisch Nieuwsblad* en Hans Renders interviewden de vijf biografen die de shortlist van de prijs hadden gehaald – uit een totaal van 104 inzendingen. Zo kregen Anet Bleich, Sjeng Scheijen, Hans Schoots, Marja Vuijsje en Jolande Withuis de mogelijkheid hun biografie voor het voetlicht te brengen.

Voor Lisa Kuitert, hoogleraar boekwetenschap aan de Universiteit van Amsterdam, was als voorzitter van de vakjury de eer weggelegd de juryrapporten voor te lezen. Beschermvrouwe van de prijs H.K.H. Prinses Irene van Lippe-Biesterfeld mocht vervolgens de prijswinnaar van de eerste Erik Hazelhoff Biografieprijs onthullen en uiteindelijk een van blijdschap verbouwereerde Jolande Withuis als winnaar feliciteren. Withuis ontving met de prijs een bedrag van vijftienduizend euro. Zo werd de eerste Erik Hazelhoff Biografieprijs ingesteld ter nagedachtenis aan de ene Nederlandse verzetsheld, Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema, toegekend aan een uitmuntende vertelling over een andere verzetsheld uit de Tweede Wereldoorlog, Pim Boellaard.

Binne de Haan

Ingenieurs zijn mannen van weinig woorden

Kunstenaars en politici zijn geliefde onderwerpen van biografen. Vuistdikke levensverhalen van ingenieurs zijn een stuk schaarser. Een recentelijk verschenen bundel verkent het braakliggend terrein en toont aan dat de geschiedenisloop op vele manieren verteld kunnen worden.

Historici die orakelen over de toekomst. Daar past altijd enige sceptis. In zijn essay 'In de schaduwen van morgen' uit 1935 toonde Johan Huizinga zich van zijn pessimistische kant. Technische ontwikkeling wordt niet door hogere beginselen gestuurd, constateerde hij somber, maar uitsluitend door het streven naar macht en winst.

Huizinga stond beslist niet alleen in zijn wantrouwen tegenover de ingenieurskaste. Meer intellectuelen huiverden bij de gedachte van een vrijwel volledig geautomatiseerde toekomst waarin consumptie en hedonisme de boventoon voerden.

De publieke opinie was positiever. Zeker in de tijd van de wederopbouw, toen ingenieurs het gedeukte Nederland in rap tempo een nieuw en modern smool gaven, liet het volk zijn waardering blijken. In een enquête in 1958 zeiden jongeren dat ze trots waren op het koningshuis en de sociale voorzieningen van hun land, maar vooral op grote projecten als de Deltawerken, de snelwegen en het technisch kunnen in het algemeen. Het vooruitgangsgeloof zat bij de meeste mensen stevig tussen de oren.

Ongeveer een decennium later was dat veranderd. Halverwege de

jaren zestig kanteelde de tijdgeest. Het grenzeloze, bijna naïeve optimisme over wat nog komen ging paste niet bij de maatschappijkritische houding die nu in zwang was. Ingenieurs golden niet langer als toekomstovenaars, maar als 'autoritaire specialisten, asfaltboeren, milieuvuilers en landschapsverniegers'.

De Britse fysicus en schrijver C.P. Snow wees in 1959 tijdens zijn lezing 'The two cultures' in Cambridge al op de waterscheiding tussen zalf's en beta's. Die komt ook tot uiting in een verschil in waardering. Een geringe belezeneheid pleit niet voor een mens. Met een atechnische houding kan soms zelfs goede sier gemaakt worden.

Willem Kolff was meteen gaan experimenteren met mensen

Het Biografie Instituut van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen hield in mei vorig jaar een congres over de ogenschijnlijk geringe belangstelling van biografen voor de personen die met hun technisch vernuft voor een belangrijk deel verantwoordelijk zijn voor welzijn en welvaart van de moderne mens. In de onlangs verschenen bundel staan de bijdragen van toen, over Snow en zijn 'The two cultures' en over de typisch Nederlandse waterstaatingenieurs. Maar ook enkele nieuwe stukken van onder anderen de altijd lezenswaardige architectuur- en stedenbouwhistoricus Auke van der Woud. Er worden vraagtekens gezet bij de vermeende achterblijvende

interesse. In biografische woordenboeken zijn ingenieurs bijvoorbeeld heel aardig vertegenwoordigd.

Dat aan hun levens wat minder vaak een afzonderlijke, dikke pil wordt gewijd, heeft zo zijn redenen. Technici zijn dikwijls mannen van weinig woorden. En als dat al niet zo is, dan hebben ze op zijn minst dat imago. De populaire cultuur koestert het archetype van de wezensvreemde, incommunicatieve nerd. Onderzoekers die wijzen en verhoogd autisme in streken met een verhoogde ingenieursdichtheid versterken dat beeld. Ingenieurs zijn ook nog eens sterk gericht op de toekomst. Geschiedschrijving kan niet rekenen op al te veel aandacht van henzelf. Als ze al wat opschrijven, dan gaat dat in de regel niet over hun persoonlijke wederwaardigheden, maar over het verloop van hun onderzoeken. Die werden in de laatste halve eeuw meer nog dan daarvoor groepsprocessen. Geniale individuen zijn deel geworden van teams. Technologische hoogstandjes kennen tegenwoordig vele vaders.

De bundel onder redactie van Hans Renders, directeur van het Biografie Instituut, is niet per se een pleidooi voor meer 'klassieke' biografieën van ingenieurs. Het aanstekelijke *tableau de la troupe* dat Joep Huiskamp en Hans Schippers tonen in hun bijdrage 'Ingenieurs in Companytown Eindhoven' smaakt wel naar meer. Is zo'n groepsportret niet een uitstekende vorm om biograferend bezig te zijn met de wereld van de techniek? Ook het beschrijven van de jacht naar een doorbraak op verschillende plaatsen leidt tot schitterende inkijkjes en spannende leesvoer.

De introductie van de kunstenaar is zo'n verhaal. De Nederlander Willem Kolff promoveerde in 1946 op onderzoek naar die nieuwigheid. Hij bleef de concurrentie daarmee maar net voor. Ook op twee andere plaatsen in de wereld, Zweden en Canada, waren wetenschappers bezig met dialyse-experimenten, zonder dat de drie het van elkaar wisten. Kolff zou zijn kleine voor-sprong later verklaren uit de Duitse bezetting. Door de omstandigheden gedwongen was hij meteen gaan experimenteren met mensen, terwijl de anderen eerst probeerden met dieren deden.

Het zoeken naar nieuwe, afwijkende vormen is in kringen van biografen een veelbesproken onderwerp. Vaak hebben die pleidooien voor het andere levensverhaal wat krampachtigs. Geschraagd door goed bronnenmateriaal en in handen van een goed verteller hoeft met een van geboorte-tot-dood-opbouw niets mis te zijn. Technici en ingenieurs zijn niet in alle gevallen als onderwerp voor zo'n standaardpak. Juist hun biografen kunnen uitgroeien tot de ingenieurs van het biografiegenre.

Hans Renders (red.): *Onder ingenieurs. Biografie & techniek*. Boom, Amsterdam. ISBN 9789085069997; 184 blz. € 19,90



Ingenieur Cornelis Lely (tweede van rechts) bezoekt met Kamerleden zijn Zuiderzeewerken in 1923. FOTO UIT BESPROKEN BOEK

LEZERSAANBIEDING

Avond van de Biografie

Inclusief uitreiking van de Erik Hazelhoff Prijs



OP DONDERDAG 8 APRIL AANSTAANDE vindt in De Rode Hoed in Amsterdam de eerste Avond van de Biografie plaats. Prinses Irene zal de Erik Hazelhoff Prijs uitreiken aan de schrijver van de beste Nederlandstalige biografie. De winnaar ontvangt 15.000 euro.

De Erik Hazelhoff Prijs is een tweemaaljaarlijkse prijs en wordt dit jaar voor het eerst gepresenteerd door de Stichting Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema Prijs, in samenwerking met het Biografie Instituut van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.

8 APRIL AVOND VAN DE BIOGRAFIE. DE RODE HOED KEIZERSGRACHT 102, AMSTERDAM. VAN 19.30 TOT 24.00 UUR. TOEGANG € 5,00. RESERVEREN IS VERPLICHT EN KAN VANAF 18 MAART. VOOR MEER INFORMATIE, KLIJK OP ERIKHAEZELHOFFPRIJS.NL.

uitgeverij Het Spectrum, de *Volkkrant* en *Historisch Nieuwsblad*. De prijs is vernoemd naar de 'Soldaat van Oranje', Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema, die behalve oorlogsheld ook journalist en schrijver was. De lijst van genomineerde biografieën is te vinden op www.erikhazelhoffprijs.nl. Een bespreking van de boeken op de shortlist vindt u op pagina 87 van dit blad.

Naast de prijs voor de beste biografie is er een aanmoedigingsprijs voor de beste masterscriptie, geschreven aan een Nederlandse of Vlaamse universiteit. De winnaar hiervan krijgt 5000 euro en de scriptie wordt in boekvorm uitgegeven. Alle inzendingen worden beoordeeld door een vakjury onder leiding van Lisa Kuitert, hoogleraar boekwetenschap aan de Universiteit van Amsterdam. Ook voor de aanmoedigingsprijs heeft de jury een lijst van genomineerden opgesteld, die op de website kan worden bekeken.

De Avond van de Biografie zal worden opgeleverd met een forumdiscussie over de Nederlandse biografie tussen Elsbeth Ery, Willem Otterspeer, Hans Renders en Aleid Truijens, onder leiding van Pieter Broertjes, hoofdredacteur van de *Volkkrant*. Ook is er een lezing door de voormalige Commandant der Strijdkrachten, Dick Berlijn. De avond wordt gepresenteerd door Philip Frenks. ■

Bio BIOGRAPHERS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Compleat Biographer Conference 2010

May 15, 2010 8:00AM-6:30PM

Campus Center, University of Massachusetts Boston



Suetonius



Aubrey



Boswell



Plutarchus



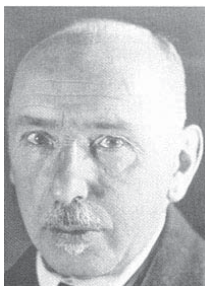
Stephen



Brantome



Vasari



J.F. Ankersmit



J.C. Bloem



Jan Campert



Jan Hanlo



F. Domela Nieuwenhuis



F. Hirschmann



G.J. van Heuven Goedhart



Loe de Jong



Pim Kolff



Anton Kröller



H. Kröller-Müller



Han Lammers



D.F. Malan



Alice Nahon



W. Schermerhorn



Jan Wier