



## Newsletter

Dear all,

With this newsletter we wish to inform you about relevant events, fellowships/vacancies, calls for papers and new releases.

We wish you a very relaxing Christmas break and an inspiring New Year!

The NOG-team,  
Prof. dr. Rosemarie Buikema, Trude Oorschot and Vibeke Otter

## Conferences / Courses / Lectures / Events

### **One-Year PhD Training in Gender Studies (Utrecht University, NL)**

The Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG, Utrecht University) offers a one-year interdisciplinary programme (10 months) for graduated MA students and PhD students from abroad. The training package consists of NOG courses and research seminars. All courses are taught in English from multicultural, (Western) European perspectives. A certificate is issued after completion of each individual course. Please note that this training doesn't officially constitute a MA or PhD degree, although an ECTS system is in place. The Dutch academic year runs from September to the end of June. The one-year PhD Training starts yearly in September.

Pre-requisite for admission: A Master's degree or the equivalent of a M.A. in gender or gender-related areas. The NOG Board will make a profound evaluation about the global value of your foreign higher education.

**Deadline** for registration is February 1 (early bird), and April 1 (last call), 2015.

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### **Presentatie van het 34e Jaarboek voor Vrouwengeschiedenis (Amsterdam, NL)**

Het Jaarboek voor Vrouwengeschiedenis presenteert de 34e editie van het Jaarboek. Thema van dit nieuwe Jaarboek voor Vrouwengeschiedenis (Yearbook of Women's History) is Gender & Oorlog (Under Fire: Women and World War II). De presentatie zal plaatsvinden op donderdag 18 december

2014, van 16.00-18.00 uur in het NIOD in Amsterdam (NL). Het programma bestaat uit:

- Opening en introductie door gastredacteuren Ralf Futselaar en Eveline Buchheim;
- Aanbieden van het eerste exemplaar aan Marjan Schwegman, directeur NIOD;
- Inleiding op filmcompilatie Vrouwen & WW II door Rene Kok, NIOD;
- Filmcompilatie Vrouwen en WW II;
- Introductie op Jaarboek 35 door Mieke Aerts;

Afsluitend is er een borrel waarbij er uiteraard gelegenheid is tot aanschaf van het nieuwe Jaarboek voor Vrouwengeschiedenis (€ 19 – Uitgeverij Verloren). Toegang is gratis.

**Aanmelden** [via email](#) is verplicht o.v.v. Presentatie JB.

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### Conference “Does It Matter? Composite Bodies and Posthuman Prototypes in Contemporary Performing Arts” (Ghent University, BE)

Following contemporary philosophers such as Agamben, Braidotti, Haraway, Latour or Stiegler, we have entered the posthuman era. The anthropocentric age is over. As humans, we need to think of ourselves as a geophysical force that is part of a larger constellation. Instead of trusting our so-called common sense, a capacity that supposedly distinguishes us from animals and objects, we need to cultivate our desire to connect, with other beings as well as with the so-called non-human.

In this international conference, which will be held from March 17-19, 2015, in Ghent (BE), we take as a point of departure a posthumanist perspective on the performing arts. We adopt the notion of a posthuman community as an entangling mesh of interdependent objects, technologies and beings (Latour) as the basic constellation of a performance context. The encounters at stake in a performance are hence not only encounters between the people involved (performers as well as spectators); they are considered as encounters between composite bodies, consisting of so-called human as well as non-human composites. We therefore propose to expand the Spinozist notion of composite bodies as ever-shifting constellations of bodies acting upon one another to non-human and technological composites.

The contemporary stage renders interesting configurations of composite bodies and posthuman prototypes. This international conference invites performance scholars and philosophers to reflect on the different ways in which posthuman performance practices matter with regard to aesthetics, ethics and knowledge transmission. Do only bodies matter (Butler) on the stage, or does ‘it’ matter as well? This international conference seeks to unfold the many features of posthuman performance practices along the notions of co-creation, response-ability and knowledge transmission. Confirmed keynote speakers are Mylène Benoit; Maaïke Bleeker; Matthew Causey; Peter Eckersall; André Lepecki; Jean Paul Van Bendegem; Kris Verdonck  
**Deadline** for [registration](#) is March 2, 2015.

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## Fellowships / Vacancies

### Postdoc in judicial independence and human rights in new democracies (Utrecht University, NL)

A postdoctoral position in the study of the relationship between judicial independence and human rights in new democracies is available at the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance (Utrecht University, NL) working with Prof. Javier Couso. The aim of the postdoctoral researcher is:

- to assist the Prince Claus chair as his academic assistant, including reaching out to disciplines beyond law in Utrecht University’s strategic theme ‘Institutions’;
  - to assist the Prince Claus chair in an ongoing multi-disciplinary research program, as well as co-authoring academic work;
  - to assist in developing cooperation between Utrecht University and Universidad Diego Portales (in Santiago, Chile);
  - to coordinate and undertake research activities on the area of comparative constitutional law, legal history and judicial studies, with a focus on the determinants of judicial independence in new democracies, particularly in Latin America.
- We are looking for a highly motivated individual with experience in working in multidisciplinary environments and in possession of a doctoral degree. Prof. Javier Couso encourages candidates

interested in socio-legal approaches to the study of constitutional institutions and the rule of law. You will be offered a postdoctoral position for one year. To apply, you are required to use the electronic submission system of Utrecht University for this vacancy, on the website below (the position can be found by looking under academic positions and by selecting the Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance).

**Deadline** for application is January 4, 2015.

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### **Call for Applications Five College Women's Studies Research Center (Mount Holyoke College, USA)**

The Five College Women's Studies Research Center announces a call for applications and nominations for three categories of Associateships in 2015-2016.

Located in an area with one of the largest concentration of scholars dedicated to feminist scholarship and teaching in the world, the Center encourages engaged, critical feminist scholarship from diverse perspectives. During the period of appointment, all Associates are expected to be in residence in the Five College area, to attend weekly seminars, lead one public colloquium, and to collaborate with colleagues based at one or more of the Five College institutions. While at the Center, Associates are provided with an office at the Center and have access to Five College archival and other library resources. This is a non-stipendiary residency. Travel, housing and living expenses are the responsibility of the Associate. We welcome applications from colleagues worldwide for 2015-2016 Associateships in one of three categories:

- Research Associateship: Colleagues with faculty status at institutions of higher learning are invited to apply.

- Graduate Associateship in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Graduate students at the dissertation stage of their PhD are invited to apply.

- Alumnae Associateship: In the spirit of long-term collaboration between Research Associates and Five College Faculty, this Associateship is awarded to alumnae of the FCWSRC who propose 1) a joint research or teaching project with one or more colleagues located in the Five Colleges to be initiated in 2015-2016 or 2) the continuation of an established research or teaching project in 2015-2016 with one or more colleagues located in the Five Colleges.

Note: the application requires a project proposal, curriculum vitae, and contact information for two professional references.

**Deadline** for application is March 1, 2015.

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### **Four PhD Fellowships at NICA (NL)**

The Netherlands Institute for Cultural Analysis (NICA) is inviting applications for four fully-funded PhD-fellowships, starting September 1, 2015. The positions cover four years in total, culminating in the dissertation defense. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2015. Candidates should apply on the basis of an independent research proposal — a proposal that is truly their own. Eligible proposals should fit the field and methods of Cultural Studies, with a focus on the detailed, critical analysis and interpretation of variegated cultural objects. The four PhD stipends are facilitated by the Graduate Programme Grant of NWO, the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research.

Based in the Netherlands, NICA is dedicated to Cultural Studies or Cultural Analysis, the academic study of contemporary culture from an interdisciplinary, theoretical, and critical perspective. The Universities of Amsterdam (both University of Amsterdam and Free University Amsterdam), Utrecht, Nijmegen, Groningen, Maastricht and Rotterdam all participate in the school. NICA offers graduate courses for research master and PhD students. For more on our profile and our activities, please see [the website](#).

The selected PhD candidates will be appointed full-time (38 hours per week) for a period of four years at one of the participating Universities. The initial appointment is for a period of eight months; contingent on satisfactory performance, the fellowship can be extended for the full four years, leading to the completion of a PhD thesis.

**Deadline** for application is April 1, 2015.

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**Calls for Papers**

### **Workshop *The Problematisation of Family Migration* (University of Amsterdam, NL)**

Call for papers for the workshop *The Problematisation of Family Migration*, which will be held from June 4-5, 2015, at the University of Amsterdam (NL). We invite scholars who investigate the problematisation of family migration to submit an abstract for a paper to be discussed in an international workshop. This workshop aims to take stock of what we know and formulate new research questions about the problematisation of family migration in Europe. The emerging research field of family migration policy is still dominated by single case studies of elite policy making. We wish to bring the study of family migration further by developing an analytical approach in which family migration policy is studied as the product of the interaction between policy makers, policy implementers and migrant families. This workshop will focus on three interrelated clusters of research questions:

- the problematisation of family migration;
- the multilevel governance of family migration;
- the migrant family as actor in migration policy making.

**Deadline** for submission of abstracts is December 19, 2014.

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### **Call for Participation: short stories on identity, research and activism (University of Leuven, BE)**

Call for participation for the workshop and lectures *Academia and Identity - when research meets activism*, which will be held on March 16, 2015, in Leuven (BE).

For the afternoon sessions, we cordially invite you to share your own experiences as a researcher, activist and individual. You are encouraged to send us a page in which you briefly introduce your own background concerning academia/political/activist commitment, together with an idea you would like to present. Based on this, the submission will be divided into two thematic sessions. Within these sessions, each presenter will have ten minutes to present an idea. These are some questions you could (but are not obliged to) consider for your short story:

- Which experiences did you have in which academia and political commitment seemed to intertwine? How did you try to solve it?
- Are there any good practices could you advise?
- What theoretical, conceptual or empirical reflections do you have on academia and identity?
- How do you include your political or activist commitment within your research?
- What can activism and research learn from each other?
- Work in progress: stumbling blocks and benefits

Everyone is warmly encouraged to share their thoughts and reflections, no matter how many years of experience you have, or what disciplinary background. There are no limitations concerning the format of your idea: textual, visual and audio- proposals are accepted. Creative presentations, personal experiences, methodological input and creative output are warmly welcome.

**Deadline** for submission of ideas is January 15, 2015.

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### **Workshop *Colonial Ruin: (In)Visible Sites of Postcolonial Memory* (University of Amsterdam, NL)**

Call for papers for the workshop *Colonial Ruin: (In)Visible Sites of Postcolonial Memory*, which will be held at June 25 and 26, 2015 in Amsterdam (NL). In this small-scale, interdisciplinary workshop, international scholars from different fields in the humanities and beyond will analyze sites of imperial debris, i.e. places marked by ruin or rubble that are physically and/or mnemonically connected to the European colonial past. In recent discussions, humanities scholars have framed ruins as the leftovers of modernity (Hell and Schönle 2010) and have developed the concept of 'ruination' as an active and ongoing process of imperialism (Stoler 2013). However, we still know little about the ways in which actual sites of imperial debris are made visible or remain imperceptible as colonial ruins. These sites can either be visible and explicitly presented as colonial ruins ('ruinized', such as the fortified trading posts along the coast of Ghana that have been listed as world heritage by UNESCO), or remain unrecognized in hegemonic discourse (such as the Italian colonial concentration camps in Libya).

The workshop aims to bring together scholars working on Asian, African, American and European ruin sites in an interdisciplinary setting ranging across different fields such as memory studies, cultural anthropology, archaeology, literary studies and history. The time frame that will be examined runs from nineteenth century processes of (de-)colonization until the present day. This two-day workshop will provide a platform for both work-in-progress and more advanced projects. Possible

topics include, but are not limited to:

- sites of continuous ruination (e.g. the sugar cane factory Marienburg in Suriname)
- musealization of European colonial rubble at sites of memory (e.g. Dutch fortresses in Indonesia)
- contested sites of debris (e.g. destroyed Palestinian villages)
- competing and multidirectional sites of colonial rubble (e.g. living quarters for colonial soldiers at former Nazi transit camps in the Netherlands)

**Deadline** for submission of proposals is February 1, 2015.

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### **Signs Special Issue: Pleasure and Danger: Sexual Freedom and Feminism in the Twenty-First Century**

*Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* invites submissions for a special issue titled "Pleasure and Danger: Sexual Freedom and Feminism in the Twenty-First Century", slated for publication in the Autumn 2016 issue.

At the heart of the feminist project is a persistent concern with thinking through the "powers of desire" (Snitow, Stansell, and Thompson 1983) and expanding the potential for sexual and gender freedom and self-determination at the same time that we combat sadly persistent forms of sexual danger and violence. The paradoxical joining that is "pleasure and danger" remains poignantly relevant.

For this special issue, we invite transdisciplinary and transnational submissions that address questions and debates provoked by the "pleasure and danger" couplet. Submissions may engage with the historical; the representational; the structural; and/or the intersectional. We particularly encourage analyses from all regions of the globe that address pressing concerns and that do so in a way that is accessible and, well, passionate! We encourage bold and big thinking that seeks to reckon with the conundrum still signaled by the pleasure/danger frame. We especially seek submissions that attend to the couplet itself, to the centrality of pleasure/danger within the project of making feminism matter and resonate in ways both intimate and structural, deeply sensual and liberatory, simultaneously championing multiplicities of pleasures and a lasting freedom from violence and abuse.

**Deadline** for submission is April 1, 2015.

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## **New Releases**

### **Generational Feminism: New Materialist Introduction to a Generative Approach by Iris van der Tuin (Lexington Books, 2014)**

Iris van der Tuin redirects the notion of generational logic in feminism away from its simplistic conception as conflict. Generational logic is said to problematize feminist theory and gender research as it follows a logic of divide and conquer between the old and the young and participates in patriarchal structures and phallogocentrism. Examining the continental philosophies of Bergson and Deleuze and French feminisms of sexual difference, van der Tuin paves the way for a more complex notion of generationality. This new conception of the term views generational cohorts as static measurements that happen in the flow of being. Prioritizing this generative flow gives what is measured its proper place as an effect.

*Generational Feminism: New Materialist Introduction to a Generative Approach* experiments with a previously disregarded methodology's implications as an impetus for a new materialism and advances feminist politics for the twenty-first century.

Iris van der Tuin is associate professor of gender studies and philosophy of science at Utrecht University.

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### **Launch: The Historical Uncanny by Susanne C. Knittel (Fordham UP, 2014)**

*The Historical Uncanny* explores the ways in which cultural memories that pose uncomfortable challenges to the self-understanding of the remembering public are often systematically disregarded. The "historical uncanny" is that which resists reification precisely because it is uncomfortable or unassimilable to the dominant discourses of commemoration. The book focuses on two marginalized aspects of the memory of the Holocaust: the Nazi "euthanasia" program directed against the mentally ill and disabled, and the Fascist persecution of Slovenes, Croats, and Jews in and around Trieste. The two memorials under consideration, Grafeneck, a former Nazi

euthanasia killing center in Germany, and the Risiera di San Sabba concentration camp memorial in Trieste, bookend the Holocaust, revealing a trajectory from the eugenicist elimination of socially undesirable people, such as the mentally ill and disabled, to the full-scale racial purification of the Final Solution. The analysis of these memorials is coupled with an examination of the literary and artistic representations of the traumatic events in question. This comparative and interdisciplinary study brings together perspectives from literary studies, memory studies, disability studies, and postcolonial studies that contribute to a broader and more differentiated understanding of the Holocaust and its place in contemporary European memory culture. Susanne Knittel is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at Utrecht University. She holds a PhD in Italian and Comparative Literature from Columbia University, New York (2011). Susanne Knittel will [present her book](#) during the *Transnational Memory Seminar* (supported by the Utrecht University Focus Area Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights) on January 22, 2015, from 16.00-18.00 in Utrecht. Following the presentation there will be a response by Ann Rigney.

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***Dancing Tango* by Kathy Davis (NYU Press, 2015)**

Argentinean tango is a global phenomenon. Since its origin among immigrants from the slums of Buenos Aires and Montevideo, it has crossed and re-crossed many borders. In the wake of its latest revival, tango has become both a cultural symbol of Argentinean national identity and a transnational cultural space in which a modest, yet growing number of dancers from different parts of the globe meet on the dance floor.

Through interviews and ethnographical research in Amsterdam and Buenos Aires, Kathy Davis shows why a dance from another era and another place appeals to men and women from different parts of the world and what happens to them as they become caught up in the tango salon culture. She shows how they negotiate the ambivalences, contradictions, and hierarchies of gender, sexuality, and global relations of power between North and South in which Argentinean tango is—and has always been—embroiled. Davis also explores her uneasiness about her own passion for a dance which—when seen through the lens of contemporary critical feminist and postcolonial theories—seems, at best, odd, and, at worst, disreputable and even a bit shameful. She uses the disjuncture between the incorrect pleasures and complicated politics of dancing tango as a resource for exploring the workings of passion as experience, as performance, and as cultural discourse. She concludes that dancing tango should be viewed less as a love/hate embrace with colonial overtones than a passionate encounter across many different borders between dancers who share a desire for difference and a taste of the 'elsewhere'. *Dancing Tango* is a vivid, intriguing account of an important global cultural phenomenon. Kathy Davis is Senior Research Fellow in the Sociology Department of the VU University in Amsterdam in the Netherlands. She is the author of numerous books, including *The Making of Our Bodies, Ourselves: How Feminism Travels Across Borders*.

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***Grammatical Gender in Interaction* by Angeliki Alvanoudi (Brill, 2014)**

In *Grammatical Gender in Interaction: Cultural and Cognitive Aspects* Angeliki Alvanoudi explores the relation between grammatical gender in person reference, culture and cognition in Modern Greek conversation. The author investigates the cultural and cognitive aspects of grammatical gender, by drawing on feminist sociolinguistic and non-linguistic approaches, cognitive linguistics, research on linguistic relativity, studies on person reference in interaction and conversation analysis. The study presented in this book shows that the use of grammatical gender contributes to the routine achievement of sociocultural gender in interaction and that grammatical gender guides speakers' thinking of referents as female or male at the time of speaking.

Angeliki Alvanoudi, Ph.D. (NOISE Alumna), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Cairns Institute, James Cook University. She has published articles on language and gender, and issues of interdisciplinarity in Women's/Gender Studies.

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