

Newsletter of the American Association for Netherlandic Studies

Number 74

October 2011

www.netherlandicstudies.org**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear AANS members: October greetings! A few key news items are highlighted for you on this page.

June 7-9, 2012, 16th Biennial ICNS, Calvin College

The theme for the AANS' next biennial interdisciplinary conference on Netherlandic Studies (ICNS) has been announced — “Artistic Responses to Watershed Eras” — and the call for papers issued by Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Conference coordinators Dr. Herman De Vries and Dr. Henry Luttikhuisen welcome proposals/abstracts by Dec. 15 (see p. 2, for the announcement/CFP, more on its interesting theme, and information).

The program features two plenary speakers, from the Netherlands and Belgium respectively: historian Rudolf Dekker, Ph.D., Erasmus Universiteit (emeritus); and art historian Till-Holger Borchert, Ph.D., chief curator, Groeningemuseum, Bruges.

Dekker has authored numerous books, including *Humour in Dutch Culture of the Golden Age* (2001); *Child of the Enlightenment, Revolutionary Europe reflected in a boyhood diary* (with A. Baggerman, 2009); and *Meer verleden dan toekomst. Geschiedenis van verdwijnend Nederland* (2008). He currently heads a research group at the Huizinga Institute, Research School for Cultural History.

Borchert too has authored many publications, including *Jan van Eyck: Renaissance Realist* (2008) and he has organized renowned international exhibitions such as *The Age of Van Eyck: The Mediterranean World and Early Netherlandish Painting* (2002), *Memling's Portraits* (2005), and more recently, *Van Eyck to Dürer* (2011).

The conference begins (on June 7) with a language workshop for instructors of Dutch, led by Dr. Alice van Kalsbeek. Van Kalsbeek oversees the University of Amsterdam's ‘Dutch as Foreign Language’ program and has published on language curriculum, pedagogy, and the subject of language and culture.

A workshop on early modern Dutch handwriting and archival research for graduate students/junior faculty is also offered. It includes paleographic instruction in transcribing and research strategies for Dutch and Belgian archives and is led by Ph.D. candidate Jesse Sadler (UCLA History), with Dr. Paul Sellin (UCLA English, emeritus) and myself. Sadler's research — studying two merchant families from Antwerp during the Dutch Revolt — focuses on a multitude of letters, involving intensive 16th century handwriting.

Publication Status of ICNS 2010 Volume

Editor-in-chief Margriet Bruijn Lacy reports that the publication of select papers from the UCLA conference will be printed by early Dec. 2011 (Nodus Publikationen, Münster). In addition to the Nodus publication, select art history papers (also from the UCLA conference) appear in the July and Nov. issues of the journal *Dutch Crossing* this year. (Please see the special offer for AANS members from the *Dutch Crossing* publisher, p. 3).

Finally, our thanks go to Drs. De Vries and Luttikhuisen for their wonderful ICNS 2012 planning thus far. And, our congratulations to Jeroen Dewulf/UC Berkeley for last month's successful Dutch literature conference. (For an excerpt from the plenary address by Adriaan van Dis, please see p.3 — recommended reading!).

Sincerely, Christine Petra Sellin, Ph.D.
California Lutheran Univ., Thousand Oaks, USA

**16th Biennial International Conference on
Netherlandic Studies (ICNS 2012):
CALL FOR PAPERS**

Conference theme:

“Artistic Responses to Watershed Eras”

Conference date: **June 7-9, 2012**

at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Featuring:

- Keynote speaker, the Netherlands: **Rudolf Dekker**
- Keynote speaker, Belgium: **Till-Holger Borchert**
- Workshop for Dutch Language Instructors: **Alice van Kalsbeek**
- Early Modern Dutch Handwriting/Archival Research Workshop: **Jesse Sadler, Paul Sellin, Christine Sellin**

Conference Date & Location:

June 7-9, 2012 at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan (Prince Conference Center)

Conference Theme:

Culture critics largely agree that the death of Harry Mulisch (2010) has closed the chapter of a literary era largely dominated by the World War II generation. Taking inspiration from this notion of epochal shifts, this conference aims to explore the ways that art and history respond to such turning points of human culture. Conference participants are invited to address, in specific ways, the overarching question of how Netherlandic (or Afrikaner) visual, linguistic, and/or literary culture have responded to major moments of transition.

Topics of individual sessions might include: History: Early-Modern, 19th- & 20th-Century Literature, 16th-Century Art & Literature, Colonialism, Early-Modern Literature, 20th-Century History, Early-Modern Art History, 17th-Century Art, Afrikaans, Linguistics, 20th-Century Film, 19th- & 20th-Century Literature, and Local Dutch-American History.

You are invited to submit an abstract of a paper from your own field, as seen through the prism of the conference theme, “Artistic Responses to Watershed Eras.” Paper proposals on other topics or themes are also most welcome – an ICNS tradition. Select papers may be included in a conference publication to follow. Graduate students are especially encouraged to participate.

Please submit abstracts of 250 words, (accompanied by curriculum vitae) to seminars@calvin.edu with “ICNS Abstract” in the subject line by **Dec. 15, 2011**. Acceptance notification will be given by **Feb. 1, 2012**.

Registration

Registration begins **Feb. 1, 2012**. Logistics/hotel information is available at www.calvin.edu/scs by **Jan. 15**. **Conference registration is \$135 (general registration) and \$100 (student registration) — and current AANS membership is also required to register (\$40 for standard membership; \$25 for full-time graduate students; and \$25 emeriti/retired).**

Conference Coordinators:

Herman De Vries, Professor of Germanic Languages, Calvin College; and **Henry Luttkhuizen**, Professor of Art, Calvin College.

COLOPHON

The *AANS Newsletter* is available for download on the AANS website twice a year (spring and fall). This issue of the AANS Newsletter was edited by C. P. Sellin. Please send reviews, announcements, or any other pertinent information to: AANSNews@hotmail.com

AANS DUES

Members may visit the website to pay their dues online: <http://netherlandicstudies.com/members/>. Dues cover the calendar year — the annual rate is \$40 for regular members; \$25 for students and emeriti. Dues are payable preferably via PayPal (via website above), or by check in U.S. currency, addressing your payment to:

Dr. Brad Holtman, AANS Treasurer
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Dept. of English & Modern Languages
G05B Belknap Hall, Mansfield, PA 16933

For members paying dues in Euros, please use the existing ING account:

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**Excerpt from keynote lecture by Van Dis,
UC Berkeley Conference in Dutch Literature
(Sept. 15-17, 2011)**

The outstanding keynote lecture “*Squeezed between Rice and Potato: Personal Reflections on a Dutch Post-Colonial Youth*” by Dutch author Adriaan van Dis, was presented at the *International Conference on Colonial and Post-Colonial Connections in Dutch Literature*, on Sept. 16, 2011, at UC Berkeley). An excerpt follows:

“The great Dutch writer Harry Mulisch, son of a Jewish mother and a father who collaborated with the Nazis, was wont to say: ‘I am the Second World War.’ Well, today I echo his words: I am Post-Colonialism. But at the same time, making this claim causes me qualms. Do I have the right? Did my cradle stand in the right place? Were my parents on the right side? Am I the right post-colonial color? Questions for the experts...”

--Adriaan van Dis

For Van Dis’ lecture in its entirety, go to

<http://dutch.berkeley.edu/?p=1056>.

Or, for the video version, go directly to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8Kzmv9Fk&feature=feedlik>).

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RELATED JOURNALS

Dutch Crossing:

A Journal of Low Countries Studies

This multidisciplinary scholarly journal is devoted to all aspects of Low Countries studies; it is the journal of the *Association for Low Countries Studies* and also functions as one of the journals of the *Association for Language Learning*. It appears in two issues per year.

Special Publishers’ Offer for AANS Members:

The July issue is comprised of excellent art history papers from the ICNS 2010 at UCLA; a second issue (Nov.) will also feature art history papers from the same conference. The publishers offer AANS members the option of ordering the two issues for the discounted rate of \$26(£15) that will be sent together on publication of the second issue.

Editorial address: *Dutch Crossing*, Department of Dutch, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, United Kingdom. E-mail: Ulrich Tiedau <u.tiedau@ucl.ac.uk>

*Canadian Journal of Netherlandic Studies/Revue
Canadienne des Études Néerlandaises.*

This journal is published twice a year by the
Canadian Association for the Advancement of
Netherlandic Studies (CAANS).

Editorial address: **CJNS**, Dr. Basil D. Kingstone,
French Language & Literature, University of
Windsor. Windsor, Ontario, Canada, N9B 3P4

Fax: (519) 971-3648

e-mail: bkingst@uwindsor.ca