

EDITORIAL

Lectori salutem

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We would like to begin this issue by thanking our readers, authors and reviewers for the very positive feedback that we had on the new format of *Dutch Crossing*. It confirms the progress our journal has made and encourages us to go ahead along this path. The transition to the new publisher, Maney, went smoothly and our professional relationship with them is developing very promisingly. In close partnership, we continue to take the journal forward and will seek to strengthen not only its role as a forum for both younger as well as senior scholars, but to reach out and expand our readership beyond its traditional audiences, reflecting both the interdisciplinary and transnational direction of *Dutch Crossing* and the position of the Low Countries at the crossroads between the Anglophone, Francophone and German-speaking cultures.

Obviously, not every aspect can be covered in every issue of *Dutch Crossing*. Still, the current number reflects the diversity of interests of our readership and the richness of Low Countries studies. Hentie Louw (Newcastle) opens the issue by examining the cultural exchanges in the field of architecture between Britain and the Dutch Republic in the late 17th and early 18th century, which spanned the full range of activities, from technology transfer and trade in building materials to material culture, landscape and urban design. His article establishes the details of the often noted congruity in architectural style during the reign of William III of Orange and Mary II Stuart (1689–1701); it also sheds light on Britain's Dutch connection which stood out amongst Britain's external relations for its pervasiveness.

Covering the same period, Jasper van der Steen (Leiden), whose article won the ALCS essay prize in 2008, explores the influences of William III's Dutch background on the cultural norms of English court life and society and vice versa. Despite the king-stadholder's personal dislike of the lavish Stuart court ceremonies, he pragmatically and purposefully adopted many of the rituals associated with the monarchy.

Jacquelyn Coutré (New York) focuses on the painter Jan Lievens (1607–1674), a colleague and competitor of Rembrandt whose work has recently received much attention, not least as a result of the recent exhibition in Washington, Milwaukee and Amsterdam. The article maps the critical fortunes of the artist, whose adoption of a variety of styles throughout his career to meet the demands of his various patrons has complicated his positioning in seventeenth century Netherlandic art history. The image of Lievens that emerges suggests that he has been in the shadow of Rembrandt for too long.

Reinier Salverda (Leeuwarden), who explores the legal legacy of four centuries of colonial contact between the Dutch and the East Indies, produces new readings of colonial writers such as Multatuli, Daum and Van der Hoogte; he also a new post-colonial analysis of the so-called 'hate'-articles in Dutch law and their use in both colonial society and today's multicultural Netherlands.

The contents of the first volume of *Dutch Crossing* in a new form give an indication of the diversity we are aiming to achieve with the journal. We are planning to launch special theme issues in future years, when the journal's publication frequency of *Dutch Crossing* will be raised to three issues per year. Apart from history, art history, literature and language we are interested in such topics as philosophy, visual arts, socio-linguistics, and popular culture. Proposals for themed issues may be sent to the editors: dutchcrossing@ucl.ac.uk. Contributors from all disciplines are invited to submit via the journal's submissions tracking system, to be considered for publication in future issues: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dutch/crossing/>.¹

Dutch Crossing is now indexed and abstracted by a series of international indexing and abstracting services, including the *British Humanities Index* (ProQuest), the *Modern Language Association* (MLA), the *Periodicals Index Online* (PIO), *Current Abstracts* and *TOC Premier* (both published by Ebsco). Together with Maney we are continuing to work to extend this list, with a view to further increasing the recognition and interconnectedness of *Dutch Crossing* in global academia.

¹ *Dutch Crossing*, submission tracking system <<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dutch/crossing/>>.