

European Connections

edited by
Peter Collier

Volume 27



PETER LANG

Oxford · Bern · Berlin · Bruxelles · Frankfurt am Main · New York · Wien

Annamaria Lamarra and
Eleonora Federici (eds)

Nations, Traditions and Cross-Cultural Identities

Women's Writing in English
in a European Context



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Bibliographic information published by Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek. Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data is available on the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>.

A catalogue record for this book is available from The British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data:

Nations, traditions and cross-cultural identities : women's writing in English in a European context / Annamaria Lamarra and Eleonora Federici.

p. cm. -- (European connections ; 27)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-3-03911-413-9 (alk. paper)

1. European literature--Women authors--History and criticism. 2. Women--Identity. 3. Citizenship in literature. 4. Translations--History and criticism. 5. Women--Europe--Intellectual life. I. Lamarra, Annamaria. II. Federici, Eleonora.

PN471.N38 2009

820.9'9287--dc22

2009033471

ISSN 1424-3792

ISBN 978-3-03911-413-9

© Peter Lang AG, International Academic Publishers, Bern 2010
Hochfeldstrasse 32, CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland
info@peterlang.com, www.peterlang.com, www.peterlang.net

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Printed in Germany

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General Editors' Preface

PATSY STONEMAN AND ANGELA LEIGHTON

This volume of essays is one of a group generated by the 'European Intertexts' project co-ordinated by Patsy Stoneman and supported by the British Academy. This project promotes collaborative study of women's writing in English in relation to the culture of other European countries, or of women's writing in continental Europe in relation to English culture, and has revealed a still unexplored richness of connection through translations, cross-cultural life-writings, the cross-cultural reception of influential works, multi-lingual writing, social and political writing, travel writing, visual art and film as well as poetry, novels and plays. The network of participants has widened from a core of senior academics from six European countries to include many younger scholars and also contributors from north America and Asia, and together they offer essays on women's writing in English in the context of Belgian, French, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Spanish, Welsh and other cultures. The first volume of essays offers a substantial framework for study in this field, including considerations of English as a world language, a definition of 'Europe', the current state of comparative and translation studies, theories of intertextuality and intermedial studies with visual art and film. Subsequent volumes offer a larger number of shorter, text- or author-based essays grouped around experiences which bring women of different cultures together – translations, love, cross-cultural identities and travels. Our aim is to challenge the isolationism of much critical work on English-language literature by exploring the interdependence of Anglophone and continental European literatures in writing by women. These essays are an important beginning in demonstrating the wealth and variety within this field.

Hull, UK
October 2003