'ON THE EVE...': CONFERENCE CYCLE ON THE YEAR 1913 AND THE START OF A WAVE OF COMMEMORATIONS

This autumn we propose three conferences. Antoine Prost will give an introductory lecture on the commemorations of the Great War on the eve of the real 'kick-off'. Bruno Yammine will present an overview of the Flemish movement anno 1913 and Peter Scholliers will talk about food and nationalism in the Belle Epoque.

JEWS AND RESISTANCE: TEN EXPERTS WILL HAVE THE FLOOR IN KAZERNE DOSSIN

In our previous Newsletter, we announced the study day on Jews and resistance (20 November 2013). The full programme is now available. In ten original contributions experts will tackle a variety of aspects of the Jewish participation in the resistance during the Second World War.

HISTORIKERDIALOG ON WAR AND COMIC STRIPS

On 16 October 2013 the University of Liège (ULg) will organize the next Historikerdialog; a series of public debates between German and Belgian historians with regard to WWI. Prof. Susanne Brandt from Düsseldorf will talk about the war in comic strips; prof. Philippe Raxhon and dr. Christophe Bechet (both ULg) will give their comments.

IN DEFENCE OF THE RESISTANCE: THE FRÉDÉRIC EYCKHOFF ARCHIVES

It remains a remarkable feat: lawyer Frédéric Eyckhoff took on the legal defence of more than 2500 members of the resistance during WWII. Since recently, his archives are conserved and managed by Cegesoma.

NEW AND RICH DOUBLE-SIZED ISSUE OF THE JBH

The latest issue of the Journal of Belgian History is a 370 page long double-sized issue. This rich issue contains six scholarly articles, over 20 literature reviews, an overview of new PhD research and a debate section on historic museums in Belgium.
Conférence cycle on the year 2013 and the eve of commemorations

1913. The world stands on the verge of an unprecedented cataclysm. 2013. The eve of an unprecedented wave of commemorations. Both junctures in time are the threads running through our autumn conferences.

On 23 October 2013, our guest will be the renowned French historian Antoine Prost, President of the French scientific Commemoration Committee of the First World War. He will take a critical look at the imminent wave of commemorations. With the French case in mind, he will reflect on the questions: which aspects of the Great War will be commemorated, and which will not? Do the commemorations distort or obscure the historical reality?

The two other conferences concern the final years of the long 19th century. On 13 November, Bruno Yammine, who earned his doctorate degree in 2010 at Leuven University (KU Leuven) with a thesis on the Drang nach Westen. De fundamenten van de Duitse Flamenpolitik (1870-1914), will give an overview of the Flemish Movement anno 1913. Finally, on 11 December, Peter Scholliers will go into a peculiar aspect of pre-war nationalism, namely the birth of national and regional cuisines. In other words, an afternoon on the theme of culinary identity, just before the world reached its boiling point. Peter Scholliers is professor at the Free University of Brussels (VUB) and driving force behind the research group FOST (Social and Cultural Food Studies).

The three conferences will take place on a Wednesday afternoon, from 2.30 p.m. to 4.15, in the conference room of Cegesoma, Square de l’Aviation, 29, 1070 Brussels. Participation is free but registration is required via mail or 02/556.92.11.

If you are subscribed to our electronic Newsletter, you will receive a more detailed invitation shortly before the events. If you wish to subscribe to our Newsletter, you can do so here.

Karel Strobbe

26 / 9 / 2013
Jews and the Resistance: programme of the study day in Mechelen

On 20 November 2013, roughly 70 years after the attack on the 20th Convoy from Mechelen to Auschwitz in Boortmeerbeek, Kazerne Dossin and Cegesoma jointly organize a study day about Jews and the Resistance.

Below you can find the programme. Registration is required via e-mail or phone (02/556.92.11). The final registration date is 15 November 2013. The study day takes place in Kazerne Dossin (Auditorium "Natan Ramet"), Goswin de Stassartstraat 153, 2800 Mechelen.

The registration fee is 12 Euros (to be paid in cash on 20 November). This fee includes a sandwich lunch, two coffee breaks and free entry to the museum on 20 November. As the museum will be open, there will be an extended lunch break to allow conference participants to visit.

The symposium languages are Dutch and French. Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

The program

9.30 a.m.: Reception

Morning Session
Moderator: Rudi Van Doorslaer (Cegesoma)

10.00 Fabrice Maerten (Cegesoma): Les Juifs et la résistance: une approche générale
10.20 Dorien Styven (Kazerne Dossin): Het Joods Verdedigingscomité: analyse van een beladen geschiedschrijving
10.40 Gertjan Desmet (AGR) et Pascale Falek-Alhadeff (AGR): Sources pour une histoire plurielle des Juifs en Résistance, 1933-1948
11.00 Discussion
11.15 Coffee break
11.30 Jeannine Frenk (independent historian): Unzer Wort et le Poalei Zion de gauche sous l’occupation en Belgique: une éthique de dévouement et de sollicitude à l’égard de la classe ouvrière juive
11.50 Janiv Stamberger (UG): Hashomer Hatzair: zionistische pioniers tijdens de bezetting in Antwerpen
12.10 Discussion
12.30 Lunch

Afternoon Session
Moderator: Ward Adriaens (Kazerne Dossin)

2.00 Thierry Rozenblum (Dannes-Camiers): Rebelles et insoumis. La résistance juive à Liège (1942-1944)
2.20 Herman Van Goethem (Kazerne Dossin/UA): Het niet-gestructureerde, individuele Joodse verzet in België in 1940-1944
2.40 Laurence Schram (Kazerne Dossin): De l’Organisation Todt à la Caserne Dossin: quelques aspects de la résistance
3.00 Discussion
3.20 Coffee break
3.35 Marc Michiels (author of Het XXste Transport naar Auschwitz): De verzetsactie op het 20ste transport Mechelen-Auschwitz
3.55 Arnaud Bozzini (ULB): Ritualiser le présent. Mémoire de la résistance et du génocide chez les Juifs communistes à Bruxelles au lendemain de la Seconde Guerre mondiale
4.15 Discussion
4.30 Rudi Van Doorslaer (Cegesoma): Concluding comments and further research perspectives

Here you can find the official invitation (PDF).
The First World War in Cartoons. The next Historikerdialog will take place in Liège

On 16 October 2013, the next Historikerdialog will take place at the University of Liège. It is a series of public dialogues between German and Belgian historians, all of them organised by a different Belgian university. The initiative was taken at the end of 2012 by the German ambassador in Belgium and has been coordinated over the last months by Cegesoma.

This series of debates takes place in the context of the hundredth anniversary of the First World War. All lectures concern a subject related to the Great War. On 16 October, Susanne Brandt, Professor at the University of Düsseldorf, will give a lecture on the 'The First World War in Cartoons'. Professors Phillipe Raxhon and Christophe Bechet will comment Brandt's lecture on behalf of Liège University. The dialogue will be followed by a public discussion.

The Historikerdialogen aim to reach a wide public, especially students. The evening will start at 6 p.m. with a word of welcome by the German ambassador Eckart Cuntz and the rector of Liège University, Bernard Rentier. A reception will conclude the evening.

This event will take place in the 'Salle Académique' of the University of Liège (7, place du XX-aout). The lecture will be given in French. Participation is free, but registration is required before 10 October via this address. For more information, please contact Christoph Brüll.

Karel Strobbe

19 / 9 / 2013
Frédéric Eickhoff during the occupation.
(Collection Jacques Eickhoff)

Archives Frédéric Eickhoff deposited in Cegesoma

Some years ago, Jacques Eickhoff, the son of lawyer Frédéric Eickhoff, drew our attention to his father's archives. After a long process of negotiation and with the family's approval, these archives have now been deposited in Cegesoma. The Eickhoff archives are a valuable asset for the study of the German repression, military legal administration and the resistance.

Frédéric (or Freddy) Eickhoff defended some 2,500 resistance fighters who appeared before the German military courts in occupied Belgium accused of espionage, possession of arms, helping the Allied forces, listening to the BBC, etc. Although he was not high in the estimation of some German departments, he was able more than once to obtain a reduction of his sentence.

Master Eickhoff and his colleagues Delhaize and Van Hecke kept all the legal documents relating to their cases. This vast documentation is now, seventy years after the occupation, accessible for scientific research.

The agreement with the Eickhoff family stipulates that on consultation of the documents, professional confidentiality must be respected, and therefore no names may be made public. The archives are moreover in poor condition and some preservation measures need to be taken. After that they will be accessible to the public.

Dirk Martin
17 / 9 / 2013
Journal of Belgian History - 2013, no. 2-3

In October, the new double issue of the JBH was published. Six articles permit the reader to time-travel to the 19th century, the interwar and the post-war period. The subjects cover social-economic, political, cultural and colonial history.

Furthermore, the issue includes an interesting "Debate" section on the In Flanders Fields Museum and Kazerne Dossin, a survey of recent Ph.D's and a rich harvest of reviews..

An issue not to be missed!

To subscribe or order an individual issue : Willem Erauw, Cegesoma, square de l'Aviation, 29, 1070 Brussels, jbh-admin@cegesoma.be, tel. + 32 (0)2 556 92 27

For more information, visit the website of the journal.

Chantal Kesteloot

27 / 9 / 2013