



BULLETIN

Rousseau

ROUSSEAU BULLETIN • BULLETIN OF THE ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION
BULLETIN ROUSSEAU • BULLETIN DE L'ASSOCIATION ROUSSEAU

ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

2017

CONTENTS

A Special Offer to our members
Report on the 2017 Colloquium
Announcement of the 2019 Colloquium
Publication plans for the volume on Silence in Rousseau
Rousseau Association Panel at ASECS 2018
Call for submissions to our website
Minutes of the 2017 Business Meetings
Election of the new executive committee
Rousseau Association Membership
Dues notice

A SPECIAL OFFER TO OUR MEMBERS

We are delighted to announce that all Rousseau members will receive a copy of the newly published *Rousseau on stage: playwright, musician, spectator*, edited by Maria Gullstam and Michael O’Dea (Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment, 2017). Information on paying dues is found at the end of this Bulletin).

[Rousseau on stage: playwright, musician, spectator](#). Ed. Maria Gullstam and Michael O’Dea. September 2017, [Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment](#). ISBN 978-0-7294-1199-8, xxx+310 pages, 40 ills.

Here is a brief description, and a table of contents:

Following his opposition to the establishment of a theatre in Geneva, Jean-Jacques Rousseau is often considered an enemy of the stage. Yet he was fascinated by drama: he was a keen theatre-goer, his earliest writings were operas and comedies, his admiration for Italian lyric theatre ran through his career, he wrote one of the most successful operas of the day, *Le Devin du village*, and with his *Pygmalion*, he invented a new theatrical genre, the *Scène lyrique* (‘melodrama’). Through multi-faceted analyses of Rousseau’s theatrical and musical works, authors re-evaluate his practical and theoretical involvement with and influence on the dramatic arts, as well as his presence in modern theatre histories.

List of illustrations

Jean-Jacques Rousseau: a theatre and music chronology

Maria Gullstam and Michael O’Dea, Introduction: ‘La vérité est que Racine me charme’

Part I. Rousseau as theorist of theatre and opera

1. The anthropological foresight of the *Lettre sur les spectacles*, Felicity Baker
2. The dramaturgy of Rousseau’s *Lettre à d’Alembert* and its importance for modern theatre, Patrick Primavesi
3. The voice of nature in Rousseau’s theatre: reconstructing a dramaturgy, Jørgen Langdalen
4. Rousseau’s *Pygmalion* and the limits of (operatic) expression, Jacqueline Waeber

Part II. Rousseau as playwright

5. *Pygmalion*’s power struggles: Rousseau, Rameau and Galathée, Maria Gullstam
6. Rousseau and his early comedies: the concept of the comic, Marie-Emmanuelle Plagnol-Diéval
7. Rousseau’s *Pygmalion* and the theatre of autobiography, David Marshall

Part III. Rousseau’s operatic and theatrical posterity

8. The melodic language of *Le Devin du village* and the evolution of *opéra-comique*, David Charlton
9. Rousseau’s ghost: *Le Devin du village* at the Paris Opera, 1770-1779, Michael O’Dea
10. A theatrophobic dramatist: J.-J. Rousseau’s position in theatre historiography and on today’s stage, Willmar Sauter
11. The judgement of Rousseau: *Paride ed Elena* by Gluck and Calzabigi (Vienna, 1770), Magnus Tessing Schneider

Summaries

Bibliography

Index

REPORT ON THE XXTH BIENNIAL COLLOQUIUM OF THE ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION

Silences, Implicites et Non-dits chez Rousseau

Silence, The Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida (1er-3 juin/June 1-3, 2017)

A report by Patrick Cox (Georgia State University)

The 20th Biennial Colloquium of the Rousseau Association convened on the 1st of June in Ustler Hall on the University of Florida's charming Gainesville campus. Margaret U. Fields, the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, provided us with opening remarks before Michael O'Dea's keynote address. Entitled "Another Rousseau, Re-imagining a Writer using his Silences," the address situated us for an engaging weekend of presentations, reflection, and discourse on an author who is subtly sensitive to silence yet unabashedly seasoned in the realm of sensationalist statements. Pleasantly surprising and satiating Mediterranean fare followed the insightful keynote address at the evening reception. Post-salmon, the Colloquium reconvened moments later at The Swamp to indulge in more immediate waters, sampling gator bites garnished with conversation and libations.

For Rousseau, a thinker who is explicitly wary of unnecessary learning and amusement, the concept of silence can prove germane to many areas of his thought. As has come to be expected of the Association's Colloquia, the disciplinary diversity of this year's Colloquium allowed for panels from across an academic range. We explored silence as an authority, silence in the Observations, the politics of silence, pantomime in the Pygmalion, the role of gestures in Rousseau's theory of language, and the possibility of silence in the expression of the general will.

Friday morning began with two far-from-silent sessions on Rousseau's quiescence. Before returning to the ethereal realm with catered Cuban cuisine that so aptly reminds of our geographical location and of the multicultural influence here, the University of Florida Library transported us deeper into the eighteenth century with an enchanting collection of manuscripts that were available to Rousseau's contemporaries. In the Rare Books Collection's gorgeous Judaica Reading Room, itself a testament to the silence imposed upon and the persecution of the Jewish people, we leafed through copies of the *Emile* and *The Social Contract* that may very well have reached the Parisian and Genevan authorities who silenced them.

After two more stimulating panels, the evening concluded with another exceptional dining selection in Leonardo's for the banquet, providing delicious eclectic fare. The Colloquium returned on Saturday morning with the business meeting, at which the Association decided on Stockholm University and the topic of "Rousseau and Aesthetic Experience: Art, Nature, Politics" for the 21st Biennial Colloquium, to be organized for 2019 by Maria Gullstam and Jennie Nell.

The first few panels of the day further explored silence in Rousseau's political writings. American fare was catered for lunch before closing the conference with a handful of delightful presentations on silence in Rousseau's philosophy of music and of art.

Amidst a weekend of outstanding presentations and discussions, only a few key points can be covered in this brief review. Masano Yamashita discussed the laconic nature of Rousseau's writing in *The Social Contract*, a self-contained work that was yet intended to be part of a much greater volume, as we learn

from his metatextual accounts. Her paper connected Rousseau's minimalist textual economy in *The Social Contract* to his silence on the emotions throughout the text, arguing that an interpretation of the passage on civil religion must be attentive to such laconism to recognize the civil religion not as a matter of thoughtless acceptance but as a product of reason.

Peter Westmoreland seemed to respond in Saturday's first presentation, reorienting us with emphasis on the laws of the heart in *The Social Contract* and grounding us in a more literal interpretation of Rousseau's words. Rather than directing us to a facility in detaching meaning from their words in Rousseau's works, he suggests that Rousseau speaks both from the heart and to the hearts of his compatriots.

Adam Burgos' paper concordantly gave preponderance to the laws of the heart for Rousseau and, moreover, established silence as an authoritative tool of the Legislator, who preserves society's mores by remaining silent on pernicious truths. The Legislator, the tutor in *Emile*, and the individual moral agent must be contextually sensitive when imparting truths that might belie the ideals of the social contract, of natural education, and of morality, respectively.

Reflecting on a full and fulfilling conference on Rousseau that eschewed silence in practice, I am happy to have spent the weekend enriching my understanding of Rousseau in the company of fellow Rousseauists and am tremendously grateful to the hosts — Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Peter Westmoreland, and Ourida Mostefai — for preparing a phenomenal meeting.

The full program of the colloquium can be found here:

<http://rousseauassociation.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/conferences/Rousseau%20program.pdf>

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2019 COLLOQUIUM IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

We are delighted to announce that we will meet in Stockholm, Sweden for the 21st Biennial Colloquium of the Rousseau Association in 2019 (exact dates to be confirmed soon!). Maria Gullstam & Jennie Nell have proposed the topic of "Rousseau and Aesthetic Experience: Art, Nature, Politics." Among activities planned are performances of Rousseau's *Pygmalion* and *Le Devin du Village*, a boat ride to Ulriksdal Palace, a botanical stroll and an eighteenth-century Swedish dinner. We thank Maria and Jennie for their proposal and look forward to the colloquium!

ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION PANELS AT THE 2018 ASECS CONFERENCE

The Association will be hosting a panel at the next meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) to be held in Orlando, Florida, March 22-25, 2019. Chaired by Ourida Mostefai this panel will be devoted to "Current Research on Rousseau" and will feature the following presentations: "Jean-Jacques at the Tuileries: the Place of the Walker in Rousseau's *Dialogues*" (Carole Martin), "Rousseau and Pain Management" (Masano Yamashita) and "Editer les *Affaires de Corse*" (Jimmy Swenson).

PLANS FOR VOLUME OF ESSAYS ON ROUSSEAU AND SILENCE

As a follow-up to the 2017 colloquium, a volume of essays on the topic of the conference, “Silence, The Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau/ Silences, Implicites et Non-dits chez Rousseau” will be edited by Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Ourida Mostefai, and Peter Westmoreland. More information to come.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE WEBSITE

Michael O’Dea, our webmaster, welcomes contributions from members: please send your news to michael.odea@univ-lyon2.fr for posting on the page devoted to members’ publications (books and articles on Rousseau). In addition to news of interest to Rousseauists the site includes all the *Pensée libre* volumes (the proceedings of RA colloquia up to 2001).

Visit the website at: <http://rousseauassociation.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/>

ROUSSEAU ON FACEBOOK

Michael O’Dea is also the moderator of the facebook page for the Association: join the Rousseau Association [Facebook group](#) and invite your friends: it is open to everyone.

MINUTES OF THE 2017 BUSINESS MEETINGS

Business Meeting of the Rousseau Association, 20th Biennial Colloquium of the Rousseau Association, University of Florida, 3 June 2017

Attendees:

Ourida Mostefai	Nathan Martin
Brigitte Weltman-Aron	Masano Yamashita
Hans-Ludwig Buchholz	Pamela Gay-White
Aude Jehan-Robert	Trip McCrossin
Wilson Paiva	Johanna Lenne-Cornuez
Francesco Bocolari	Adam Burgos
Peter Westmoreland	Flora Champy
Maria Gullstam	Jason Neidleman
Zev Trachtenberg	John Scott
Michael O’Dea	

I. Call to Order

Ourida Mostefai, President of the Association, called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 2013 and 2015 Business Meetings

The minutes of the 2013 and 2015 meeting were approved.

III. Treasurer's Report (Jason Neidleman)

The checking account has \$8864.36, and the Paypal account has \$2947.21, totaling \$11,811.57. We have 148 members, although many have not renewed their membership in some time. Jason will send include the conference attendees on the Association's next solicitation of membership.

IV. Proposal to Purchase Copies of Michael O'Dea and Maria Gullstam eds., *Rousseau on stage*

Ourida explained that it was previously the practice of the RA to publish proceedings or to sponsor a volume based on, but not limited to, the presentations given at the colloquium.

Should the Association approve purchase of the volume, an email will be sent to the current membership encouraging them to join in order to be eligible to receive the volume.

Based on the purchase of a previous volume, Jason estimated that the cost to the Association would be approximately \$5000.

A unanimous decision was taken to purchase the volume.

John pointed out that we have collected membership dues in the past on the assumption that a volume would be produced. We have not consistently held up our end of that bargain. Consequently, the decision was taken at the last business meeting to move to a more modest membership fee structure (\$20 for faculty and \$10 for students).

John identified two purposes to the publication of volumes: (1) the dissemination of research and (2) offering members an incentive to join and renew their membership in the association.

John emphasized the urgency of recruiting more active members.

Brigitte: Will the Rousseau Association assist with the cost of submitting the proposed volume based on the 2017 colloquium?

Ourida: This is something that the sponsoring Universities have handled in the past.

V. Webmaster's Report

Michael: The RA website is formatted in with software that is out of date and not compatible with the most recent Apple and Windows operating systems.

Michael's recommendation is that we change the software we use for the website and also consider changing the design of the website itself.

VI. Proposal for 2019 Colloquium: "Rousseau and Aesthetic Experience: Art, Nature, Politics," Stockholm, Sweden, May 29-June 1, 2019 (Maria Gullstam & Jennie Nell)

Brigitte: The topic is excellent.

Michael: I have attended two conferences organized by Maria, and they were well run.

Ourida: I attended a conference run by Jennie and it was well run.

A unanimous decision was taken to approve this proposal.

VII. Report on *Adam Smith and Rousseau: Ethics, Politics, Economics*, eds. Maria Pia Paganelli, Dennis C. Rasmussen, & Craig Smith, forthcoming Edinburgh University Press

John: We may be able to negotiate to bring down the price per volume if we choose to distribute copies to our members or to offer it to them at a reduced price.

Ourida: We are still waiting to hear from the Smith Society regarding price and distribution.

John offered to contact IASS (International Adam Smith Society) and EUP to inquire about the volume.

Brigitte: Will there be an opportunity to purchase an e-book?

Ourida: Yes.

Michael: We have recently reduced our membership fee. This fee could be increased if needed to cover the cost of a volume.

Zev: We should evaluate our existing reserves, our revenues and the cost of purchasing a volume before we make any decisions about increasing membership rates.

Jason: Our renewals will increase if we are consistently offering something valuable in return.

Nathan: Student fees ought to be kept low even if regular fees increase.

Zev: We should consider investing money in the website. A redesign may require hiring a consultant.

VIII. Report on the Publication Plans for the Gainesville Colloquium Volume (Brigitte)

Brigitte will send participants a date for submission, and she will also solicit submissions from outside scholars.

Ourida: The contributions should be of similar length.

IX. Affiliate Society Business: Rousseau Association Session at 2018 ASECS Meeting (Ourida)

The RA has a standing panel at ASECS called “Current Research on Rousseau.” Ourida encourages members to organize RA panels at other conferences.

X. Nominations and Elections of Officers for 2017-2019

Elections were held. John nominated the following slate of candidates, seconded by Zev.

President: Ourida Mostefai

Vice President: Brigitte Weltman-Aron

Secretary/Treasurer: Jason Neidleman

Webmaster: Michael O’Dea

2019 Program Chairs: Maria Gullstam & Jennie Nell

The slate was approved unanimously.

The Association also unanimously elected five additional board members: Dennis Rasmussen, Robin Douglass, Nathan Martin, Masano Yamashita, and Zev Trachtenberg.

XI. Other Business

Zev: The RA should elevate its web presence. The Wordpress platform is desirable for price, ease of use, and visibility. It also opens up a blog function. However, maintaining a blog would require commitments from members to post regularly.

Peter: Someone would need to be assigned to manage a blog.

Ourida: The job of webmaster and the job of managing a blog would require two different people. They are two separate jobs.

Zev: The Facebook page has more than 200 members and is good for posting news but not so much for blogging.

Jason: Members are encouraged to join the Facebook group and to post any Rousseau related news to the group.

Michael: For purposes of Google searches, we need to have Jean-Jacques in the name of anything we put on the web. Otherwise, we get too many references to other Rousseaus.

Ourida: There may be an opportunity to collaborate with the Société Jean-Jacques Rousseau in 2018.

Michael: Martin Rueff has been in contact and expressed interest in developing activities with us.

Ourida: An example of collaboration would be the 2012 conference we co-sponsored with Eve Grace at Colorado College.

Trip McCrossin: Perhaps RA funds could be used to subsidize travel for graduate students.

Jason: This could be an effective way to grow the membership and bring in younger members.

Maria: Even a small amount could be helpful.

Ourida: We could revive the Jim McAdam Prize. Sometimes we have funds from conference fees to support this.

XII. Adjournment

Ourida adjourned the meeting

Submitted by Jason Neidleman

**ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2017-2019**

President / Présidente

Ourida Mostefai, Department of French Studies & Department of Comparative Literature, Brown University, USA

ourida_mostefai@brown.edu

Vice-President / Vice-Présidente

Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Florida, USA

bweltman@ufl.edu

Secretary-Treasurer / Secrétaire et Trésorier

Jason Neidleman, Department of History and Political Science, University of La Verne, USA

jneidleman@laverne.edu

Webmaster / Webmestre

Michael O'Dea, UMR LIRE, Institut des Sciences Humaines, France

michael.odea@univ-lyon2.fr

Colloquium Directors / Directrices du colloque

Maria Gullstam, Theater and Performance Studies, University of Stockholm, Sweden

maria.gullstam@teater.su.se

Jennie Nell, Comparative Literature, University of Stockholm, Sweden

jennie.nell@littvet.su.se

Board Members / Membres du Bureau

Robin Douglass, Department of Political Economy, King's College London, UK

robin.douglass@kcl.ac.uk

Nathan Martin, School of Music, Theatre and Dance, University of Michigan, USA

natha@umich.edu

Dennis Rasmussen, Department of Political Science, Tufts University, USA

Dennis.Rasmussen@tufts.edu

Zev Trachtenberg, Department of Philosophy, University of Oklahoma, USA

ztrachtenberg@ou.edu

Masano Yamashita, Department of French and Italian, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Masano.Yamashita@Colorado.edu

We extend a warm welcome to the new members on our Board and thank all the officers for all their work on behalf of the Association!

JOIN THE ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION

The Rousseau Association/Association Rousseau, formerly known as the North American Association for the Study of Rousseau, is a bilingual society devoted to the study of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Our membership is multinational and interdisciplinary. The Association includes Rousseau scholars from the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Europe, and Japan. We count among our numbers specialists in history, languages, literature, philosophy, political science, as well as other fields. We welcome members from all disciplines. Members receive an annual newsletter and are eligible to participate in Rousseau Association colloquia, and in panels it sponsors at other professional meetings (e.g. the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies).

The Association sponsors a colloquium every two years, at locations in the United States, Canada, and Europe. The meeting is usually devoted to a specific text or question, and all papers are given in plenary sessions.

ADHÉREZ À L'ASSOCIATION ROUSSEAU

L'Association Rousseau/Rousseau Association, ancienne Société nord-américaine pour l'étude de Jean-Jacques Rousseau, est une association bilingue. Nos adhérents sont de multiples nationalités et viennent d'horizons disciplinaires divers. Parmi les pays représentés : les Etats-Unis, le Canada, le Mexique, le Brésil, les pays européens et le Japon. Et parmi les disciplines représentées on compte l'histoire, les langues, les études littéraires, la philosophie, les sciences politiques. Les spécialistes de toutes les disciplines trouveront bon accueil dans l'association. Les adhérents reçoivent un bulletin annuel ; ils ont le droit de participer aux colloques bisannuels de l'Association Rousseau ainsi qu'aux séances qu'elle organise dans le cadre d'autres réunions professionnelles, (telle la Société américaine d'étude du dix-huitième siècle, ASECS).

L'Association organise un colloque tous les deux ans, aux Etats-Unis, au Canada, en Europe. Chaque colloque est consacré à un texte de Rousseau ou à un sujet spécifique ; toutes les communications sont présentées en séance plénière.

DUES NOTICE 2017

ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION DUES

SPECIAL OFFER:

Dues-paying members will receive a copy of *Rousseau on stage: playwright, musician, spectator*, eds. Maria Gullstam and Michael O’Dea (Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment, 2017).

Please be sure to include your address for the mailing of the volume.

Regular dues / Cotisation annuelle normale: US \$20.00.

Dues for students and retired members / Cotisation étudiants et retraités: US \$10.00.

We now have two payment options: by mail or electronically.

Payment by mail:

Send a check or money order (made out to the Rousseau Association) to:

Jason Neidleman, Rousseau Association Treasurer

114 Founders Hall

University of La Verne

1950 3rd St.

La Verne, CA 91750

USA

jneidleman@laverne.edu

Electronic payment:

Go to www.paypal.com, click on “Send Money,” and follow instructions (you will be required to open an account); payment should be directed to the following email address: jneidleman@laverne.edu.

Paiement en Euros et autres devises:

L’utilisation de Paypal est conseillée. Il suffit d’aller sur le site www.paypal.fr ou un autre site national de Paypal et de cliquer sur “Envoyez de l’argent” en indiquant comme bénéficiaire l’adresse électronique ci-dessus. La somme doit être indiquée en dollars US; le site vous précisera le montant en Euros ou toute autre devise.

