Contents

The Rousseau Association at 40: Colloquia and publications 1979-2019
  Report on the 2019 Colloquium
  Announcement of the 2021 Colloquium
  Publication of the volume on Silence in Rousseau
  Publication plans for a volume on Rousseau and Aesthetic Experience
  Rousseau Association Panels at ASECS 2020
  Rousseau Association Website & Facebook
  Minutes of the 2019 Business Meeting
  New executive committee, 2019-2021
  Rousseau Association Membership Dues notice
1979-2019

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1979 the Rousseau Association (originally “Society for Rousseau Studies,” then “North American Association for the Study of Jean-Jacques Rousseau”) brings together scholars from all disciplines around the study of the works of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. To this end, every other year the Association holds a bilingual and interdisciplinary colloquium devoted to a specific text or question and where all papers are given in plenary sessions. The Association also sponsors a panel at the annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies.

RousseauAssociation.org
ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION / ASSOCIATION ROUSSEAU
COLLOQUIA / COLLOQUES

1979—Les Confessions / The Confessions (Howard Cell), Glassboro, New Jersey, USA.
1983—Emile (Mary Cisar), Northfield, Minnesota, USA.
1985—Les Discours / The Discourses (Guy Lafrance), Ottawa, Canada.
1987—Du Contrat Social / The Social Contract (Hilail Gildin & Howard Cell), New York, USA.
1989—Rousseau et la Révolution / Rousseau and Revolution (Jean Roy), Montréal, Québec, Canada.
1991—La Nouvelle Héloïse / The New Heloïse (Ourida Mostefai), Boston, Massachusetts, USA.
1993—Rousseau et la Critique / Rousseau and Criticism (Jim MacAdam & Lorraine Clark), Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.
1995—Autour de la Lettre à d'Alembert / Rousseau on Arts and Politics (Melissa Butler), Wabash, Indiana, USA.
1997—Les Dialogues de Rousseau / Rousseau's Dialogues (Philip Knee & Gérald Allard), Laval, Québec, Canada.
1999—Rousseau et les Anciens / Rousseau and the Ancients (Ruth Grant & Philip Stewart), Durham, North Carolina, USA.
2001—Musique et Langage chez Rousseau / Rousseau on Music and Language (Claude Dauphin), Montréal, Québec, Canada.
2005—La nature des Réveries / The Nature of the Reveries (John C. O'Neal), Clinton, NY, USA.
2007—Rousseau & les philosophes / Rousseau & the philosophers (Michael O'Dea), Lyon, France.
2009—Fortunes de Rousseau / Rousseau's Legacies (Byron Wells), Los Angeles, California, USA.
2011—Républiques de Rousseau / Rousseau's Republics (Christopher Bertram), Bristol, UK.
2013—Revisiting Emile / Retour sur Emile (Byron Wells), Wake Forest, North Carolina, USA.
2015—Rousseau & Adam Smith (Craig Smith), Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
2017—Silence, Implicite et Non-Dit chez Rousseau / Silence, The Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau (Brigitte Weltman-Aron), Gainesville, Florida, USA.
ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION / ASSOCIATION ROUSSEAU

PUBLICATIONS


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Silence, Implicite et Non-Dit chez Rousseau / Silence, The Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau. Edited by Brigitte WELTMAN-ARON, Ourida MOSTEFAI & Peter WESTMORELAND. In press.
The 21st Biennial Conference of the Rousseau Association convened on Thursday June 6, 2019, at Kristinehovs Malmgård, Södermalm, Stockholm, a manor built in the 1790s. The organizers Jennie Nell, PhD, and Maria Gullstam, doctoral student, provided us with a welcome address before Martin Rueff held his keynote lecture “L’historien et le peintre”. Professor Rueff began his lecture by giving a few obituary remarks on the late Jean Starobinski, who died on March 4th, 2019. After the keynote, where Rousseau as a painter of nature and historian of the human heart was emphasized, the organizers informed us thoroughly about Rousseau’s music aesthetics and Swedish 18th century music, Bernt Malmros (square piano), Anna Nyhlin (song) and Martin Bagge (song) made the 18th century alive through their skillful musical illustrations. The evening concluded with a historical banquet with Swedish 18th century food, specially selected by the restaurant owners and cooks Anna and Anders Löfgren. Both the Löfgrens and Jennie and Maria succeeded in creating a very special historical Stockholm 18th century (“Gustavian”) atmosphere in this carefully restored building through appealing to all our five senses.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the lectures were held at the restaurant Piperska Muren, Kungsholmen, Stockholm, a 17th century estate once owned by the family Piper. The lectures were held in Oscarsalen, named after the late 19th and early 20th century Swedish king Oscar II. At Piperska Muren we were served lunches of excellent quality and had well-brewed coffee (the Swedish national beverage) during the intermissions between the lectures.

On Friday June 7 the theme of the day was ”The Political Power of Art”. Flora Champy, Jason Neidleman, Patrick Cox, Ourida Mostefai, Christopher Kelly, Martin McCallum, James Swenson and Rudy Le Menthéour read papers. Especially Rousseau’s ideas of moral conscience ant political imagination were in focus. The last points of the program were a general discussion with a panel chaired by Jennie Nell and a business meeting of the Rousseau Association. In the evening the participants were free to explore the city of Stockholm on their own.

On Saturday June 8 the theme was ”The Work of Art; Creation, Imitation and Reception”. Christophe Martin, Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Trip McCrossin, Jacqueline Waeger, Nathan Martin, Martin Stern and Pierre Saint-Amand read papers before lunch. Many speakers emphasized Rousseau’s aesthetic imagination and some of them concentrated on his musical work and ideas. After lunch we first had a general discussion with a panel chaired by Maria Gullstam. After the discussion we went by chartered coach to the Ulriksdal Palace Theatre “Confidencen,” a rococo theatre close to the royal palace of Ulriksdal, a theatre designed by the well-known 18th century architect Carl Fredrik Adelcrantz, but forgotten after the death of king Gustaf III in 1792. It was rediscovered and revived by the opera singer Kjerstin Dellert in the 1970s and 1980s. Fredrik Forslund (CEO of the theatre) had prepared an introduction to the theatre and Willmar Sauter, professor of theatre studies at Stockholm University, Maria Gullstam and Petra Dotlacilová made a thorough presentation of their research project “Performing Premodernity.”
In the evening we attended to a historical theatre performance: “Rousseau’s lyrical scenes.” Consisting in Rousseau’s musical fragment *Pygmalion* (text: Rousseau, music: Rousseau and Horace Coignet) performed by the singers João Luís Paixao and Laila Cathleen Neuman and directed by Mark Tatlow, followed by Rousseau’s drama *Le Devin du Village*, also under the direction of Mark Tatlow. Four dancers, another singer and a choir joined Paixao and Neuman. The performance was a coproduction between Performing Premodernity, Confidencen and The Baroque Orchestra of Drottningholm.

On Sunday June 9 the theme was ”The Nature in Art and Art in Nature”. John T. Scott, Daniel Dumouchel, Zev Trachtenberg, Ya Du, Carole Martin, Jean-Luc Guichet, Celia Abele and Diana Moore read papers. The concept of Nature in *Les Rêveries du promeneur solitaire* and Elysium as a second nature were touched upon in most lectures. The Swiss ambassador in Sweden Dr. Christian Schoenenberger joined us for lunch. After lunch a general discussion of the theme of the day led by a panel and chaired by Ourida Mostefai was held.

A wonderful chartered boat trip on Lake Mälaren in the late summer afternoon after the discussion made the isles on which the city of Stockholm is built familiar to our foreign guests. The goal of the round trip was the peninsula of Djurgården where a luxuriant conference banquet was held at the restaurant Hasselbacken, an extremely famous Stockholm restaurant having its origin in the second half of the 19th century.

The participants of the conference all showed an impressive knowledge of Rousseau, and the texts and music of the author were the focus of all the lectures and remained in the centre of the discussions. But Jennie Nell and Maria Gullstam also made the conference into something much more than a first-class academic conference, namely a memorable cultural event. We were carefully introduced into the atmosphere of late 18th-century Stockholm life through scenic adventures and specially designed excellent food. All the international guests had the opportunity of getting acquainted with the city of Stockholm in summer with its many verdant isles and parks, its historical buildings and the warm sunny days and short nights in June.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2021 COLLOQUIUM IN ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN**

We are delighted to announce that we will meet at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor for the 22nd Biennial Colloquium of the Rousseau Association in 2021. The exact dates will be confirmed soon. Nathan Martin has proposed the topic of “Rousseau’s *Essay on the Origins of Language/L’Essai sur l’origine des langues* de Rousseau.” We thank Nathan for his proposal and look forward to the colloquium!

**PUBLICATION OF THE VOLUME ON SILENCE IN ROUSSEAU**

*Silence, Implicite et Non-Dit chez Rousseau / Silence, The Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau*, edited by Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Ourida Mostefai & Peter Westmoreland is currently in press at Brill (Leiden). The projected date of publication is March 2020. The volume examines multifaceted considerations of the effects of silence, which can be praised or denounced, in Rousseau’s thought. All Rousseau members whose membership is current will receive a copy of the volume. Information on paying dues is found at the end of this Bulletin.
PUBLICATION PLANS FOR A VOLUME ON ROUSSEAU AND AESTHETIC EXPERIENCE

Information regarding a possible publication as a follow-up to the 2019 colloquium will be issued later this year by Jennie Nell and Maria Gullstam.

ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION PANELS AT THE 2020 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 St. Louis, Missouri, March 19-21, 2020. Chaired by Brigitte Weltman-Aron, this panel will be devoted to “The Strange, the Stranger, the Foreigner in Rousseau/L’étrange, l’étranger chez Rousseau,” and will feature presentations by Johanna Lenne-Cornuez, Flora Champy, Rudy Le Menthéour, and Nathan Martin.

ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION WEBSITE & Facebook

We thank Michael O’Dea for organizing and supervising the website and Facebook on behalf of the Association. He will be replaced this year by Adam Schoene (website) and by Masano Yamashita (Facebook). The migration of the website is under way, but it can currently be accessed at: https://rousseauassociation.msh-lse.fr/default.htm

MINUTES OF THE 2019 BUSINESS MEETING/REUNION DU BUREAU
Stockholm University, June 7, 2019

In attendance:

Patrick Cox  Trip McCrossin  Carole Martin
Jacqueline Weber  Martin McCallum  Jean-Luc Guichet
John T. Scott  Daniel Dumouchel  Rudy Le Menthéour
James Swenson  Celia Abele  Flora Champy
Adam Burgos  Christopher Kelly  Pierre Saint-Amand
Gemma Tidman  Pamela Gay-White  Zev Trachtenberg
Nathan Martin  Brigitte Weltman-Aron  Ourida Mostefai
Jason Neidleman

Ourida called the meeting to order at at 4:35 on June 7, 2019.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Business Meeting in Gainesville, Florida
The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. President’s Report
Ourida acknowledged and commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Association. There have been 21 colloquia of the Rousseau Association, 10 in the United States, six in Canada and five in Europe (including the UK).

In 1984, the Association began publishing proceedings of the colloquia. Sometimes we have published proceedings, and other times we have not. There have also been regular Rousseau Association panels at the ASECS conference.
We want to pay homage to Jean Starobinski in conjunction with the Société Jean-Jacques Rousseau in Geneva. Ourida will send a condolence note to the Starobinski family on behalf of the Association.

There are many associations dedicated to Rousseau, and Ourida suggests that we coordinate with them.

The Pensée Libre volumes of the Rousseau Association were digitized several years ago thanks to the work of Zev Trachtenberg and are all available online on the Association website.

3. **Treasurer’s Report (Jason Neidleman)**
   
The account balance as of June, 2019 is $7,956.67. The last major expense was the purchase and distribution to members of the Michael O’Dea, Maria Gullstam volume *Rousseau on Stage* for the sum of $5,250. Membership (generously tallied) sits at 154.

**Balance as of 3 June 2017:** $11,811.57

**Expenses:**
- Purchase & distribution of Volume: $5,250.00
- Website Domain fees: $75.98

**Income:**
- Members Dues $1,471.08

**Balance as of June 2019:** $7,956.67

4. **Report on the publication plans for the Volume on Silence, Implicite et Non-Dit chez Rousseau / Silence, the Implicit and the Unspoken in Rousseau (Brigitte Weltman-Aron)**

   The publication date will be in 2020. Brill will publish the volume. It was a challenge to find a publisher open to bilingual publications. Brigitte, Ourida, and Peter Westmoreland (the co-editors) will be in touch in the coming month.

5. **Proposal for the 2021 Colloquium (Nathan Martin)**

   Ourida solicited proposals for the 2023 and 2025.

   Nathan proposed that this would be a good time to revisit the *Essay on the Origin of Languages*. He proposed that the Association hold the next colloquium on the *Essay* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

   The following discussion ensued:
   - Zev: Will we hold the ASECS panel on the same topic?
   - Ourida: Yes, in 2021.
   - Zev: Will the music program at U Michigan be involved?
   - Nathan: I can’t promise, but we will try to organize a small performance.
   - James Swenson: The concentration on single volume is one of the great successes of the Association.
   - John Scott: An advantage of this particular text is that it will attract people across a range of disciplines.
Ourida: Conferences on one text are amazing. When we experimented with the *Dialogues*, it was no impediment to participation across a range of disciplines.

Nathan’s proposal passed unanimously.

Nathan indicated that the colloquium will most likely be held in May.

   Brigitte proposed the topic of the foreigner or stranger in Rousseau. The CFP will come out in June. Brigitte Weltman-Aron will be chairing.

7. **Discussion of Plans for website migration, domain names registration and Facebook**
   The website can be accessed via Rousseauassociation.org or Rousseauassociation.com.

Masano Yamashita will take over Facebook from Michael O’Dea and Adam Schoene will take over the website.

Jason requested that members post to Facebook news of their activities, activities of their friends and colleagues, as well as news or updates on Rousseau.

8. **Nominations and elections of Officers for 2019-2021**
   Officers are elected or re-elected every two years.

Rudy proposed the following slate:
- President: Brigitte Weltman-Aron
- Vice President: Masano Yamashita
- Secretary/Treasurer: Jason Neidleman
- Colloquium director: Nathan Martin
- Webmaster: Adam Schoene

Board Members:
- Flora Champy
- Ourida Mostefai
- John T. Scott
- James Swenson
- Zev Trachtenberg

The following discussion ensued:
- Pierre Saint-Amand: What is the difference between the board and the officers?
- Brigitte: One entity, one executive committee, but some are officers and some are not.
- Gemma: How often does the Association meet?
- Ourida: We meet every two years for sure, but we attend different professional associations. It is possible to meet at disciplinary associations. All of the main decisions are made at the business meeting.
- Rudy: What is the function of the VP? Future president?
- Ourida: To be incorporated we had to have a VP.
- Ourida: We try to balance between the different disciplines on the board and the officers. No discipline has special status.
The proposed slate of candidates was unanimously elected.

9. **Other Business**
   Ourida: There is a threat to the Jean-Jacques Rousseau Park at Ermenonville. Michael O'Dea suggested that the Association voice opposition to any threat to the Park.
   Jason thanked the outgoing officers, Ourida Mostefai and Michael O'Dea.

   The meeting was adjourned at 5:17. Submitted by Jason Neidleman.
**ROUSSEAU ASSOCIATION / ASSOCIATION ROUSSEAU**

**Executive Committee / Bureau**

(2019-2021)

**President / Presidente**
Brigitte Weltman-Aron, University of Florida, USA

**Vice-President / Vice-Presidente**
Masano Yamashita, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

**Secretary-Treasurer / Secrétaire et Tresorier**
Jason Neidleman, University of La Verne, USA

**Colloquium Director / Directeur du colloque**
Nathan Martin, University of Michigan, USA

**Webmaster / Webmestre**
Adam Schoene, Cornell University, USA

**Board Members / Membres du Bureau**
- Flora Champy, Princeton University, USA
- Ourida Mostefai, Brown University, USA
- John T. Scott, University of California, Davis, USA
- James Swenson, Rutgers University, USA
- Zev Trachtenberg, University of Oklahoma, USA
ANNUAL DUES / COTISATION ANNUELLE
2019

Regular dues / Cotisation normale  US$ 20.00
Students & Retired / Etudiants et retraités  US$ 10.00

2 PAYMENT OPTIONS / 2 MODALITÉS DE PAIEMENT

1. BY MAIL/PAR COURRIER

Send a US check or money order (made out to the Rousseau Association) to:
Jason Neidleman
Rousseau Association Treasurer
University of La Verne
1950 3rd St.
114 Founders Hall
La Verne, CA 91750
USA
jneidleman@laverne.edu

2. ELECTRONICALLY/EN LIGNE

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.

Allez sur le site de Paypal -www.paypal.com – suivez les instructions pour envoyer de l’argent (il vous faudra ouvrir un compte) et adressez votre paiement à jneidleman@laverne.edu.