




Introduction

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This part of the special issues, *Spanish Exile and Italian Immigration in Argentina: Gender, Politics and Culture* focuses on the life trajectories of Spanish and Italian women who entered Argentina as newcomers between 1930 and 1976. The present set of articles relates to more recent cultural productions (1995 to date) that underpin the intergenerational and transcultural interest of contemporary creators in recovering, remembering and reassessing the Italian and Spanish migratory flows. Monica Jansen (U. Utrecht) and Maria Bonaria Urban (U. van Amsterdam) explore *Anni Ribelli* (1994), a film by Italian Argentine director Rosalía Polizzi that focuses on the coming of age of an Argentinean woman of Italian descent in Buenos Aires, whose rebellion against authority—both paternal and political—takes place in 1955, when Perón is overthrown in a coup d'état. Luisa García-Manso (U. Utrecht) and Raquel García Pascual (U. Nacional de Educación a Distancia UNED, Madrid) explore the representation of Spanish exile in contemporary theatre. Luisa García-Manso (U. Utrecht) foregrounds the play by Argentinean author Elena Boledi (2017) that rewrites Carmen Antón's memoirs (2002) and stages some of the most emblematic artists and archetypes of the Second Republic and the Spanish War. Raquel García Pascual draws attention to the recreation of the lives of Spanish women exiles in contemporary theatre. She shows how recent Spanish theatre productions vindicate the memory of the Argentinean exile while reflecting on the transnational character of the exile experience. Emilia Perassi (U. degli Studi di Milano) offers a panoramic analysis of the interplay between nation and gender and the representation of maternity in Italian and Argentinean migration novels by women writers of the last 30 years.

The first part of these special issues goes beyond the original 20th-century time frame, thereby emphasizing the contemporary relevance of the topic. Initially, as organizers of the comparative conference at Utrecht University, we intended to focus on the period between 1930 and 1976. However, several articles examine current cultural productions that deal with the legacy of 20th-century exiles and migrants. Hence, the transnational process, initiated by the migration flows of the 20th century, culminates in contemporary Spanish, Italian and Argentine cultural productions.

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