

Valérie Chansigaud, *Women and Men in the Protection of Birds: a Comparative Analysis*
In many Western countries organizations dedicated to the protection of birds appeared during the second half of the nineteenth century. Just prior World War I, tens of thousands of people are members of such organizations in English and German speaking countries. These organizations share several characteristics particularly the existence of a majority of women and a discourse denouncing the cruelty and selfishness which prevailed in the destruction of birds. In addition, scholarly ornithological organizations gradually opened to women. Under the dual influence of women activists and women scientists, the practice of ornithology evolved, gradually abandoning hunting in favor of the observation of live birds in their natural environment.

Rémi Luglia, *The Women's Place in the Protection of Nature in France (1850's-1940's)*
The aim of this survey is to explain the women's place in the emergence of the naturalistic movement of the conservation of nature in France. The study is about French learned societies (Société d'acclimatation, Ligue pour la protection des oiseaux), for 1850's to WWII. If women are initially absent of the naturalistic movement of the conservation, they appear in speeches against feather hat fashion which lock them inside a traditional "feminine nature". Progressively, from 1920's, more women act in the naturalistic movement of conservation. Then this movement becomes more militant, more ethical, and more efficient.

Valeria Deplano, *Italy as a Mother, Africa as a Concubine. The Feminization of the Lands within the Colonial Discourse of Fascism*
The article analyzes the discourse spread out by colonial journals from the 1920's until the late 1930's, in order to investigate the role played by a representation used in Fascist propaganda: the depiction of Italy like a mother and Africa as sexually available woman. The gendered representation of lands is borrowed from the European colonial culture and it goes along with the description of the Italian male colonizer as the only subject of the colonial process. The article analyzes how this discursive construction changes during the "Ventennio" and how it justifies both the African land use by colonizers and the reproduction of a conservative and unequal society within the colonial territories. At last the article read the gendered representation as a part of the wider Mussolini's project of building a new, fascist society.

Daniela Melfa, *Women on the Border of the Empire. Feminine Spaces in the Agricultural Colonisation of Tunisia*
The essay foregrounds the experience of Jeanne Ballet (née Trouillet), a settler's wife in colonial

Tunisia after WWI. A socially engaged Catholic, Jeanne Ballet contributed regularly to the review «Ibla» with articles on rural environment and native habits. Driven by a modernising mindset, Jeanne Ballet shared the taste for order and discipline of her contemporaries, as well as the paternalism then in vogue. Particularly sensitive to women's issues, she emphasised the potential of both European and Tunisian women, thus moulding a substantial role for them as pioneers of change.

Bruno Ziglioli, *Seveso 1976. The Dioxin on Women's Body*

The Seveso accident of July 10, 1976 condensed in an inseparable knot problems which were to be discussed in the following decades: environmental protection, civil rights, ethical issues about life and gender. The disaster set off a battle on the female body and showed how women – as holders of the biological mechanism of generational reproduction which could be seriously affected by toxic substances and environmental imbalance – were the most involved, more delicate and less protected subjects in cases of chemical contamination.