

CEGESOMA NEWSLETTER

NO 3 - DECEMBER 2013

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THE NEW CEGESOMA BULLETIN IS AVAILABLE

Our annual bulletin contains all the information on our recent activities in the sections of public history, documentation and research. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=1843)

11 DECEMBER 2013: CONFERENCE WITH PETER SCHOLLIERS

Our last conference of this year combines the topics of food and nationalism on the eve of World War One. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=2437)

SOON IN YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER SHOP: WAR PRESS 1914-1918

On 23 December, every Flemish newspaper shop will sell newspapers from the period 1914-1918. With contextualizing articles and unique historic documents, they will immerse the reader in the specific atmosphere of that era. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=2458)

CEGESOMA PREPARES AN EXHIBITION ON A ROYAL COUPLE

Since recently the Public History section is working on an exhibition on King Albert I and Queen Elisabeth through the lens of historical footage. [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=2460)

AN IGNORED COLLECTION? OUR WORLD WAR ONE PHOTO COLLECTION

The photo collection of Cegesoma does not solely consist of photos from the period 1939-1945. Thanks to our acquisition efforts we now possess a fascinating collection of pictures from World War One from private collections. Come and discover! [\[MORE INFO\]](http://www.cegesoma.be/cms/index_en.php?article=2459)

CegeSoma Info: the Bulletin's Second Life

To better meet the readers' expectations and needs, this year we decided to transform the traditional *Bulletin* into *CegeSoma Info* ([available here](#)). Our yearly publication is henceforward a 12-pages long newspaper containing around 50 short and richly illustrated articles about our activities. But there's more....



An important new feature of the *CegeSoma Info* is the intention to better convey our activities into the topics treated in the journal. In this sense, it is divided into sections about the Cold War (and more specifically the assassination of Julien Lahaut), the Great War, WWII, international cooperation, digitization and, last but not least, the departments/the research. The last article describes the successful petition launched to save CegeSoma and the list of the upcoming events.

This new communication channel will certainly surprise you. Please tell us what you think. Have a nice reading!

Fabrice Maerten
Editor-in-chief

23 / 10 / 2015

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Conference with Peter Scholliers

Food and nationalism on the eve of the First World War

On **Wednesday 11 December 2013** historian **Peter Scholliers** (VUB) will give a conference on a quite special aspect of nationalism on the eve of the First World War: food!

Can an everyday subject like the kitchen suscite national feelings? Many authors who carry out research on nationalism cannot see the importance of regarding culinary culture as possible binding material for such feelings. Yet, a great many social psychologists and historians claim that culinary culture can suscite all kinds of regional sentiments, originating in a town or region. So why could this not be the case for national identity? Peter Scholliers will give a brief outline of the theoretical approach and will then look for traces of regional sentiments between 1880 and 1935 in several sources. He will conclude with an attempt to launch his own theory: small countries such as Belgium initially did not feel the need to use food as binding material for national feelings. However, at some point they will use culinary culture to distinguish themselves from other countries.

Professor Peter Scholliers teaches history at the VUB. His spheres of interest are the history of the standard of living, work, wages and prices and last but not least the history of food. In 2003 he founded the research group FOST (Social and Cultural Food Studies) at the VUB. As Belgian expert par excellence, he is a member of the editorial board of *Food & History*, *Food and Foodways* and *Food, Culture & Society*.

The conference will take place in the conference room of Cegesoma, square de l'Aviation 29, 1070 Brussels, at 2.30 p.m. Participation is free but registration is required via 02/556.92.11 or cegesoma@cegesoma.be.



*Caricature of a German soldier during WWI holding the food with which he was mockingly associated: a sausage!
(KBR, Cabinet des estampes)*

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CEGESOMA prepares Exhibition on Royal Couple Albert and Elisabeth

The department Public History is preparing an exhibition which will open its doors next summer. The visitor will discover an original side of King Albert and Queen Elisabeth through the lens of archive film footage.

The early stages of film making took place at the end of the 19th century. The future King Albert, then a young prince, was an enthusiast and intelligent cinephile. So it comes as no surprise that the royal couple featured in the medium on numerous occasions during his reign. Albert and Elisabeth liked to cultivate a public and 'glamorous' image. They are in fact the filmmaker's dream come true. Albert was quick to recognise the visibility that cinema can offer. The first images date from his swearing-in ceremony of 1909. Of his tragic death in 1934, new and lasting film images were made. On the radio, a full scale broadcast (6 reporters among whom the famous Théo Fleischman and 16 ambient microphones) made a lasting impression.

The exhibition will address a large public, in Belgium and abroad. For the visitor not familiar with the functioning of the monarchy in its private and public aspects, a brief overview will be provided. For those more familiar with the subject, the novelty will lie essentially in the relation between the monarchy and the modern media.

The exhibition will explore different (intimate) aspects of the King's private life, but also his role as head of State, head of the Army, in the exercise of his Royal prerogatives, as promoter of scientific research in Belgium and finally with respect to his social and ceremonial role.

[Chantal Kesteloot](#)

03/12/2013



King Albert and Queen Elisabeth walking in the gardens of the Royal Palace in Laeken. (Photo Cegesoma, n°36989)

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Photographs of the period 1914-1918 at Cegesoma. A rich heritage

The year 2014 will mark the hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Numerous commemorative events, historical retrospectives and projects aimed at promoting the tourist sites of the remnants of war are already planned. Whether you are a journalist, a researcher or just have a keen interest in history, you may be looking for iconographical documents on this subject. We would therefore like to present you with an overview of our First World War photo collection.

The greater part of our collection comes from private photo albums. These have been collected over a long period through an active acquisition policy by Cegesoma. All the documents have been digitised but only part of them are kept in their original form. The emotional aspect of the images and their close link with private life often go hand in hand with a strong sense of attachment which makes it difficult to part with them.

The majority of the documents we have collected concern military aspects of the war. The main fund "First World War" includes for example images of the air force, the Belgian artillery, the French cavalry and the different battlefields. The collection De Bremaecker and the fund Blondeel complement this wide spectrum with behind the front images: Oostkerke, Ramskapelle, Veurne, Lampernisse, etc. We also received photographs concerning the day to day life of the soldiers. Particularly interesting are the albums of the families Ponchau, the collection Louis Chantrenne as well as the funds Greindl, Timmermans, Loxhay and Willemaers. Finally, the granddaughter of Gustave Duchesne has donated more than 300 photos taken by her grandfather during the voyage of the autocanons from Brest to Zbarraz and Gladki Zborow.

Certain collections, though less voluminous, allow us to contemplate other aspects of the period 1914-1918, such as those concerning the political, social and economic life. Thus, the 475 photographs of Janine Binon bear witness to the life of the nurses in the hospital de l'Océan in De Panne as well as in the school of Queen Marie-José in Wulveringhem. The collection of André Drouart illustrates life in captivity in the camp of Alten-Grabow.

Besides photographs, Cegesoma also keeps a large collection of postcards of the First World War (collections Jacques De Vrient-Mores Roza, Pascalie Van Dinter, Thiebault, Dochain and Léon Schillings) as well as some posters.



Belgian soldiers in Roesbrugge, May 1917. (Collections Cegesoma, fund Blondeel, N°173928)



Bandage room in the school of Queen Marie-José in Wulveringhem, 1916. (Collections Cegesoma, fund Binon, N°93973)

The complete list of funds is available via the [Pallas catalogue](#) by introducing "Première Guerre, Eerste Wereldoorlog, First World War" in the search engine and by choosing "All (combined) + Photo Library".

For more information on the reproduction and lending conditions, or if you possess photographs of the First World War, please contact [Florence Gillet](#) who is in charge of the Audiovisual department.

Florence Gillet

02/12/2013



The ruins of Leuven after the German bombings. (Collections Cegesoma, fund Dochain, N°564580)

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