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Volume 38, numéro 2, printemps 2015

URI : https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1087530ar
DOI : https://doi.org/10.33137/rr.v38i2.25641

Citer ce compte rendu
les stratégies de séduction entamées par Marot, puis les déceptions éprouvées par celui-ci devant l’espoir avorté d’une complicité partagée. Après la poésie, on se penche sur le roman manuscrit, auquel P. Mounier consacre quelques pages dans lesquelles elle rappelle le rôle joué par les Valois dans la promotion de l’écriture romanesque et la modernisation du genre.

La troisième et dernière section du volume offre quelques études qui servent de prolongements aux discussions suscitées par les contributions précédentes. I. Fabre (« Le Roi et la Rose : lectures “spirituelles” et “politiques” de l’allégorie du jardin […] ») compare trois représentations du roi d’après des ouvrages allégoriques qui offrent du roi une image nuancée. La seconde étude, proposée par T. Fourrier et F. Parot (« L'iconographie de Chambord et l’emblématique de François Ier »), renouvelle notre connaissance de ce château en révélant comment le programme iconographique (cordelière, couronne, lys, etc.) est en parfait accord avec la symbolique de son programme architectural (225).

On le voit, l’intérêt de cette collection d’articles est grand. Réunissant des études de chercheurs provenant de plusieurs disciplines, il offre l’occasion de réévaluer le livre de A.-M. Lecoq, et d’ouvrir des pistes de recherche nouvelles et fécondes, peu avant que ne s’ouvre la campagne des célébrations internationales commémorant la victoire de François Ier à Marignan en 1515, date qui coïncide avec sa montée sur le trône de France.

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Radisson, Pierre-Esprit.

Volume 2 of Radisson’s Collected Writings continues the excellent work that Germaine Warkentin achieved in her first volume of the explorer’s work. This time, however, Warkentin moves beyond the better-known Voyages to include
both Radisson’s later writings about his adventures in Hudson Bay and relevant documents by those with whom he interacted as he travelled across the Atlantic Ocean and between France and England after 1676. The documents add substantially to a fuller appreciation of the explorer, and continue to fulfill Warkentin’s ambition “to see the explorer whole,” announced in volume 1 (see her introduction, p. 6). Moreover, the scope of this collection—which ranges between relations, mémoires, petitions to would-be patrons and legal documents—will appeal to anybody interested in the “cosmopolitanisms” of the seventeenth-century Atlantic World. Radisson the explorer, sometime Mohawk, sometime merchant and occasional subject of both England and France, is here presented in all of his irreducible complexity.

While the present volume is the second in a two-part series, there is enough thematic and textual continuity to support its use as a stand-alone text. Early in the book, Warkentin announces her careful attention to a balance between accessibility and usefulness for academic research; between the demands of a text to be used in a classroom, and the requirements for scholars of book history. Differences between manuscripts of the Port Nelson Relations, for example, are underlined, while across the texts “capitalization and punctuation have been regularized or introduced” to ease their use (xiv). The result is a body of readable texts that are nonetheless presented with much additional information that will certainly be of interest to historians looking at the production and circulation of Radisson’s writings.

The assembled documents relate to Radisson’s exploits in the exploration and establishment of a commercial fur trade in Hudson’s Bay, as well as his attempts (both before and after the events at Port Nelson) to convince patrons and courts to support his claims to loyalty and his rights to the profits of the trade. The diversity and novelty of these documents are impressive. While the explorer’s Voyages has long occupied an ambiguous place in the canon of travel literature relating the discovery and settlement of New France (as Warkentin herself explores in her first volume of Radisson’s writings), it is a familiar text to scholars of the period. The majority of this edition, however, is based on new manuscript copies of Radisson’s Port Nelson Relations that were only discovered in 1996 after three centuries in the collections of the Hudson Bay Company and the library at Windsor Castle. The broader Atlantic focus of the text is considerably expanded by documents such as the “Mémoire on the Northern Seacoast of North America” that Warkentin attributes to Radisson, as well as
new transcriptions of those such as the “Letter to Claude Bernou” in which Radisson recounts the French attack on Tobago in 1677.

The Radisson one meets in these pages differs radically from the man we met in the previous volume. Gone are the ethnographic subtleties of an account written by a man who travelled between French and indigenous worlds with ease. In one instance where he is confronted by a “sauvage” (here translated refreshingly as “wild man” instead of savage), for example, the culturally sensitive mediator with whom we are familiar is replaced by somebody willing to ask “To whom do you wish me to respond? I heard a dog bark. When a man speaks, he will see that I know how to defend myself” (81). Warkentin suggests that this change in tone must be read as evidence of his efforts to sell his ability to manage aboriginal peoples now presented as customers and trading partners rather than objects of ethnographic curiosity. Nonetheless, there remains considerable detail about the day-to-day realities of the fur trade and interaction with Native Americans, amply improved by useful footnotes that suggest the identification of specific indigenous communities (particularly useful where Radisson relies on a generic “sauvage” almost continuously) as well as modern geographical locations.

For the sort of attention lavished upon indigenous cultures in the first volume, one must here look instead to Radisson’s ethnography of his French and English homes. His ease at transitioning between these positions is never more apparent than when he arrives, in the second “Relation of Events at Port Nelson,” to retake Hudson’s Bay for the English and disparages the French traders to several nonplussed groups of native peoples. Later he is forced to clarify what “us” meant in a polyglot and multi-ethnic borderland; in this case, “that is to say, they, we, and the English” (151). Radisson’s petitions to the Marquis de Seignelay and Claude Bernou, and his legal claims for pensions or recompense from the Hudson’s Bay Company, offer additional insight into the strategies that enabled Radisson’s remarkable transnational trajectories.

Collectively then, the documents assembled in this and the previous volume allow the reader a full sense of Radisson’s incredible life. This is no small feat, and Warkentin is to be applauded for producing this collection. It is sure to pay dividends as its new documents, new transcriptions, new attributions, and careful attention to the preservation of the materiality of the texts themselves allow scholars of New France and the wider Atlantic World to
tell stories that follow Radisson himself in blurring the ethnic, linguistic, and national boundaries through which we have come to understand the period.

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Saenger, Michael, ed.
*Interlinguicity, Internationality, and Shakespeare.*

*Interlinguicity, Internationality, and Shakespeare* is concerned with points of contact and moments of exchange among languages, cultures, and time periods. The collection investigates the relationship between early modern language(s) and our own, focusing on the delineation and transgression of cultural and linguistic borders. The book’s primary emphasis remains, however, on early modern culture: out of ten essays, only the final two move beyond the Renaissance to the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. The collection’s overarching question, posed by editor Michael Saenger, is: “how did linguistically marked social encounters affect the early modern international world, and how have they functioned since then in Shakespearean adaptation?” (12).

Contributors to the collection respond to this question in three sections. In the opening section, “The Meaning of Foreign Languages,” Elizabeth Pentland offers a historical analysis of Navarre’s geographical, political, and cultural situation in the sixteenth century to illuminate facets of the fictional (or pseudo-historical) Navarre of *Love’s Labour’s Lost*. Philip Schwyzer focuses on the problematic—or productive—empty spaces in Shakespeare’s *Henry IV, Part 1* where stage directions call for Welsh speeches not provided in the surviving texts; Schwyzer ultimately questions how much Welsh dialogue an “English-speaking audience [is] likely to absorb without shuffling and resentment” (56). In the section’s third essay, Gary K. Waite moves beyond early modern English drama to discuss the curious lack of demonizing language in Dutch religious polemic. Waite attributes the Dutch approach to the language of controversy to “the merchant ethic and prosperity of the Dutch society” and the cultural emphasis on Spiritualism, with its tenets of toleration and inner religiosity (71).