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Born in the Netherlands in 1985. BA in Language and Culture Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen 2009; MA in Intercultural Communication Studies, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt Oder 2011; MA in Media and Communications, European Graduate School, Saas-Fee 2011. Member of the PhD-Net “Das Wissen der Literatur” since 2012.

Dissertation Project

“Autobiographical Turns in Post-Structuralist Theory; Bodies in Crisis as Generators of Knowledge” (working title)

In my dissertation, I investigate autobiographical fragments in theoretical texts by authors such as Roland Barthes, Jacques Derrida, Jean-Luc Nancy, Avital Ronell and Hélène Cixous. I address my topic from two distinct but interrelated perspectives: in a diachronic approach, I will consider the historical development of autobiographical writing, the modes of referentiality underlying autobiographical texts, and the relations between autobiography and the modern conception of authorship (and the more recent death of the author). In a more synchronic approach, I will analyze the ways in which the authors comprising my corpus employ forms of self writing, and how this relates to their theoretical projects and epistemological commitments. By introducing autobiographical passages in theoretical texts, these authors problematize the clear-cut distinction between philosophy and literature, and autobiographical writing in their texts may function as a vehicle for the de-institutionalization of the philosophical discipline.

A striking aspect of many of the autobiographical fragments I am dealing with is their foregrounding of the author's crisis-ridden body (blind bodies, sick bodies, circumcised bodies, orgasmic bodies). This too may be seen as a subversion of the exclusion of the body by philosophy, which purports to deal with *Geist* only. I will examine the ways in which these bodies in crisis relate to the epistemological crises that pervade these texts in order to understand how the authors in question establish knowledge claims without relying on a Cartesian subject or a set of preexisting academic norms.

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Academic publications:

Drugs; Rhetoric of Fantasy, Addiction to Truth (Atropos Press 2011)

“The Limits of Performativity; A Critique of Hegemony in Gender Theory,” in: *Hypatia*, Volume 27, Number 4 (Fall 2012)