Abstract

Ballads in the early modern Low Countries

In this talk I will first reflect on the available and accessibility of collections of Dutch ballads. Furthermore, I will elaborate on the different (and changing) functions of Dutch ballads (entertainment, news, moral instructions, socio-political propaganda etc.). I will also discuss some aspects of the production, suppression and dissemination of (printed and oral) songs. Finally I will discuss one or two case studies.

Biography

(j.salman@uu.nl) is a senior researcher at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands. His main research interests include early modern book history, popular culture, and the history of science. In 2014 he published a monograph about the itinerant book trade entitled *Pedlars and the popular press. Itinerant distribution networks in England and the Netherlands (1600-1850)* (2014). He has been a visiting professor at the University of Milan and held fellowships from the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies and the John Ryland Research Institute in Manchester. From 2016-2018 he led the project ‘The European dimensions of popular print culture’ (EDPOP) that aimed to facilitate and stimulate innovative research on European popular print culture. He recently co-edited the book *Crossing Borders, Crossing Cultures. Popular Print in Europe (1450–1900*) (2019). Dr Salman is an affiliated member of the Utrecht Centre for Digital Humanities, a member of the ‘Descartes Centre’ and co-editor of a Dutch historical book series (BGNB).