Using Linked Data to track processes of canonization in early modern Dutch literature

A pilot project by:

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The Panpoëticon Batavûm

An early eighteenth-century portrait gallery of Dutch writers, initiated by the painter **Arnoud van Halen** (1673-1732) and continued by others.

Arnoud van Halen (1673-1732), by Christoffel Lubieniecki, 1725. Poesjkinmuseum, Moscow

The Panpoëticon Batavûm

A few portraits from the Panpoëticon

The Panpoëticon Batavûm

An important source to learn more about the historical canonization of Dutch writers.

ARNOUD van HALEN's

PAN POËTICON

BATAVÛM

VERHEERLIJKT DOOR

LOFDICHTEN en BIJSCHRIFTEN;

Grootendeels getrokken uit het STAMBOEK van

MICHIEL DE ROODE;

En nu eerst in 't licht gebragt door het GENOOTSCHAP, onder de Spreuk:
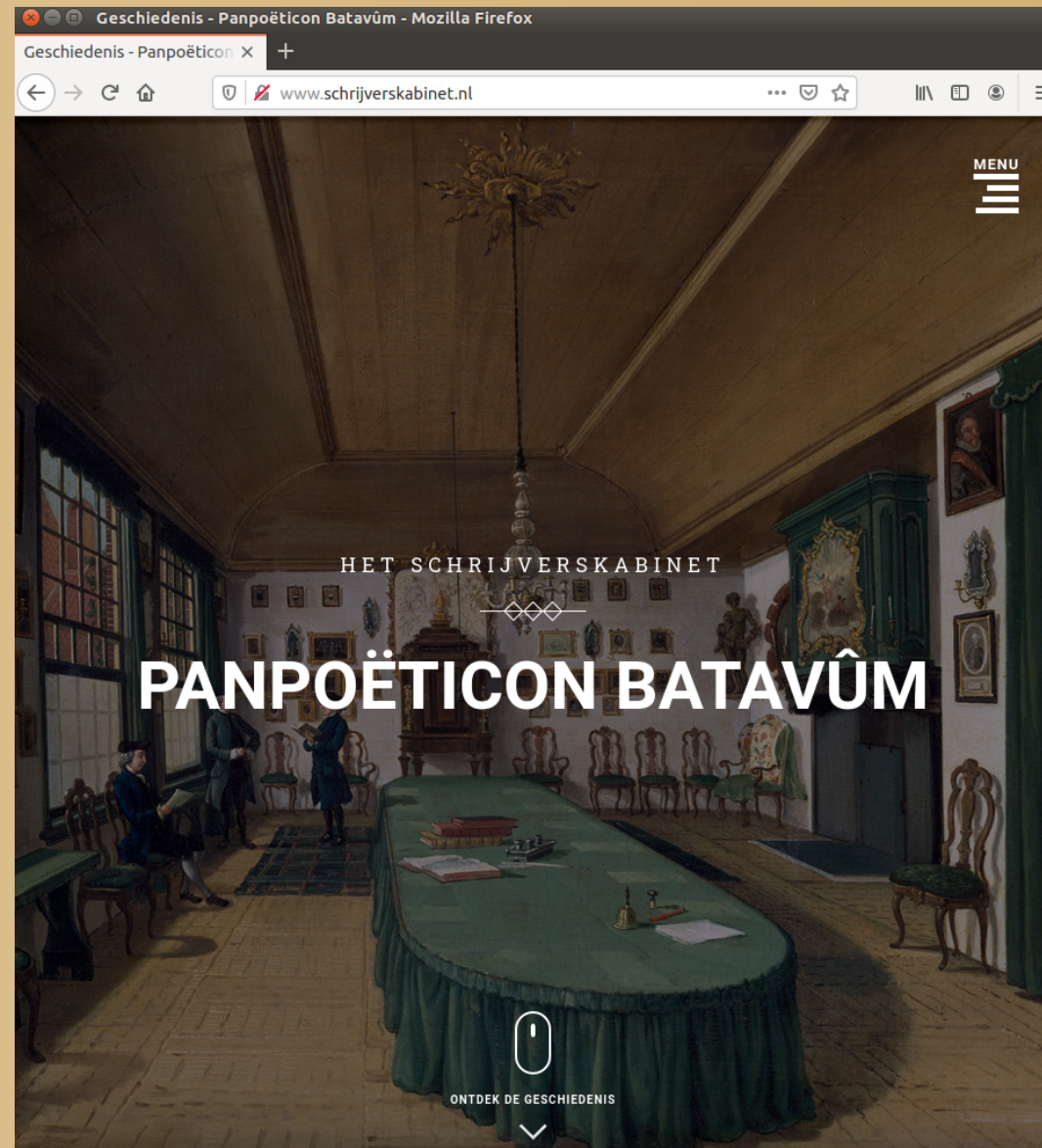
KUNST WORDT DOOR ARBEID VERKREEGEN.

TE LEYDEN,
Voor het GENOOTSCHAP.
MDCCLXXIII.

Title page of a book published on the Poëticon in 1773

The Panpoëticon Batavûm in HTML

As a collection the Panpoëticon is no longer intact, but it has been digitally reconstructed as a website, 'Het Schrijverskabinet'.

The Panpoëticon Batavûm as RDF

We used a (custom made) Python script to convert the HTML of the Schrijverskabinet website into an RDF representation of the Panpoëticon.

Website (HTML):
– Find (Who?)
– Browse

RDF representation:
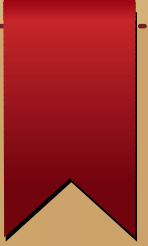– Aggregate, combine, etc.
– Link to other data

```
@prefix schema: <http://schema.org/> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .

<https://data.create.humanities.uva.nl/id/schrijverskabinet/person/zacharias-heyns>
  schema:name "Zacharias Heyns" ;
  schema:birthPlace [
    schema:name "Antwerpen" ;
    a schema:Place
  ] ;
  schema:deathDate "1638"^^xsd:gYear ;
  schema:disambiguatingDescription "Boekdrukker en dichter " ;
  schema:subjectOf
<http://www.schrijverskabinet.nl/artikel/zacharias-heyns/>,
<https://data.create.humanities.uva.nl/id/schrijverskabinet/artwork/339> ;
  schema:mainEntityOfPage
<http://www.schrijverskabinet.nl/portret/zacharias-heyns/> ;
  schema:deathPlace [
    schema:name "Zwolle" ;
    a schema:Place
  ] ;
  schema:birthDate "1566"^^xsd:gYear ;
  owl:sameAs <http://data.bibliotheken.nl/id/dbnla/heyn003> ;
  a schema:Person .
```

The Panpoëticon Batavûm and the DBNL

```
@prefix schema: <http://schema.org/> .
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  a schema:Person .
```

Golden Agents

Golden Agents is creating a Semantic Web architecture for research on the creative industries of the Dutch Golden Age.

– RDF based

Some key data sets are:

– ONSTAGE: structured data on theater performances in Amsterdam, 1637-present

– ECARTICO: structured biographical data on artists, writers, printers, etc., ca. 1475-1725.

The Panpoëticon and Golden Agents

The RDF representation of the Panpoëticon can be easily integrated into the Golden Agents infrastructre.

The DBNL identifier does the trick!

Both in Onstage, Ecartico and the Panpoëticon the representations of Jan Jansz. Starter link to:

http://data.bibliotheken.nl/id/dbnla/star001

Mapping places of birth

Using the DBNL identifiers as an intermediary we can use data from Ecartico and the Panpoëticon, to map the places of birth of the inductees of the Panpoëticon.

Playwrights in the Panpoëticon

Using the DBNL identifiers as an intermediary we can use data from Ecartico, Onstage and the Panpoëticon, to investigate whether the most popular playwrights in the Amsterdam Theater were inductees in the Panpoëticon.

The table ranks playwrights by the number of stagings of their plays in the Amsterdam Theater between 1637 and 1725 and indicates whether they were inducted in the Panpoëticon or not.

Playwright	Stagings	Inductee
Isaac Vos	723	No
Joost van den Vondel	643	Yes
Jacob Baroces	549	No
Pieter Bernagie	454	No
Jan Vos	394	Yes
Pieter de Lacroix	388	No
Thomas Asselijn	329	No
Adriaen Peys	299	No
Adriaan Bastiaansz de Leeuw	286	No
Dirk Buysero	274	Yes
Andries Pels	238	Yes
Pieter Cornelisz Hooft	230	Yes
Dirk Pietersz Heynck	230	No
Enoch Krook	218	No
Joan Dullaart	196	No
Lodewijk Meijer	190	No
Joan Pluimer	185	No
Johan van Heemskerk	183	No
Reinier de Bondt	180	No
Jillis Nooseman	178	No
Samuel Coster	176	Yes

Conclusion
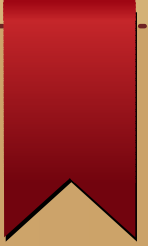
This little exercise shows that:

– The Panpoëticon can be easily integrated within the Golden Agents research infrastructure.

– Connecting the Panpoëticon to external resources will increase its research potential.

What we learned from this exercise is that:

– Linking data is partly a technical issue. Basically it is about connecting scholars and scholarship.