

## PREFACE

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The present publication represents the proceedings of the European International Symposium held at Leuven Katholieke Universiteit in Belgium, October 10-12, 1998. The symposium itself was comprised of a General Session, titled "Translation of Culture and Culture of Translation," and two subsidiary sessions: one a workshop on women's magazines; the other, a symposium on the reappraisal of the Belgian Botanist Dodoens. The present publication contains the papers delivered in the session on women's magazines, titled "Gender and Modernity: Women's Magazines." Publications of the proceedings of other panels are forthcoming.

All the participants approached the workshop having read each others' papers beforehand so that they came equipped with comments and questions that made for a most lively and sharp discussion. Participants from Japan included Harald Fuess, Ishiwata Yoshimi, Muta Kazue, Barbara Hamill Sato, Suzuki Sadami, Takeuchi Keiko, Ulrike Wöhr. The six panelists from Europe were Margaret Beetham, Joke Hermes, Barbara Holthus, Andrea Germer, Hilaria Gössmann and Fleur Wöss. Fleur Wöss was unable to submit comments for the proceedings, Usui Atsuko's incisive comments, however, are a welcome addition to the publication.

It gives me great pleasure that the participants in the session on "Gender and Modernity: Women's Magazines" in the first International Symposium in Europe have worked together to synthesize the fruits of their research to produce this most worthwhile book. The ideas and themes first raised at this session all continue to be topics of contemporary research and also point the way for future scholarship. The book is a welcome contribution to our field.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to Professor Willy Van de Walle and other professors and members of the Leuven Katholieke Universiteit, where the conference was held, as well as to those involved from the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto.