

## Introduction

*Knjiženstvo, Journal for Studies in Literature, Gender and Culture*, was initiated within the research project *Knjiženstvo – Theory and History of Women's Writing in Serbian until 1915*, which is financed by The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Serbia. <http://www.mpn.gov.rs/sajt/index.php?page=1>. The aim of this project is to highlight the history of women's writing in Serbian literature, and to theorize its specificities by transforming the existing, predominantly Western, concepts and models.

The word *knjiženstvo*, used both for the title of the project and the title of the journal, is an old word for literature, which, by its origin, and also by its sound, poetically amalgamates the basic elements of this project – literature and creativity of women's writing in one particular language, and its antecedent forms, as well as the initiative to find an appropriate theoretical discourse for their creative work.

*Knjiženstvo, Journal for Studies in Literature, Gender and Culture* is connected with the digital database *Knjiženstvo – Theory and History of Women's Writing in Serbian until 1915*. While the purpose of the database is to offer basic biographical and bibliographical information about the works of Serbian women writers from the Middle Ages to 1915, the journal has been designed as a space where the emerging map of women's literature is being shaped into a narrative coming to life through a line of dialogues, commentaries, re-examinations, and theories, in order to be connected with various approaches and disciplines. The journal is shaped as an electronic periodical, since that is the only medium which can provide a direct link to the database and to other similar contents. At the same time, the electronic form of the journal makes it easily accessible.

We are very grateful to everyone who contributed to creating the first edition of this journal. We sincerely hope that its readership will grow quickly, together with the number of associates. In other words, we hope that it will be long-lived!

Editorial board of the journal *Knjiženstvo*