

Table of Contents

Introduction	9
Chapter 1. <i>The Republic, Its Stage, and Its East India Company</i>	25
Introduction	25
The Dutch East India Company	30
The Dutch East India Company: The Merchant and Manufacturer of Information	33
The Amsterdamsche Schouwburg	50
Dutch Drama and the Orient	54
Chapter 2. <i>When Vondel Looked Eastwards: Joost Van Den Vondel's Zungchin (1667)</i>	61
Introduction	61
"One's Company, Two's a Crowd": Representation in Zungchin	64
Historicity in Vondel's Zungchin	67
Two Playwrights, One Tale	70
The Benefits of Extensive Reading: Vondel and the Sources for Zungchin	72
Batavian Holidays and Information Packages: Martino Martini and the VOC	74
News Channel Formosa	79
Discourses, Dispositions, Despotisms: Imagining the Middle Kingdom	85
Discerning Oriental Dispositions: Tartar Bloodbaths and Chinese Bookishness	89
Begetting Sinister Children: Benevolent and Oriental Despotisms	95
Arms or Amiability: To Talk or Terrorize the Chinese into Trade	100
The Playwright Sorts and Sieves: Motives behind the Scripting of Zungchin	105
Conclusion	113
Chapter 3. <i>Casting Despots in Dutch Drama: The Case of Nadir Shah in Van Steenwyk's Thamas Koelikan (1745)</i>	117
The Plot (The Historical and the Literary)	118
Van Steenwyk, Dryden, and their Sophies	126
Passage to (Mughal) India: Information Transfer and Its Resultant Discourses	129
The Mughal Discourse	136
The Company Discourse of the Dutch Factory in Hoogly (Bengal)	138
The European Correspondence	146

The Politics of Representation in Van Steenwyk's <i>Thamas Koelikan</i>	148
Conclusion	155
<i>Chapter 4: Swimming against the Tide: Onno Zwier Van Haren's Agon, Sulthan Van Bantam (1769)</i>	159
Introduction	159
Bad Blood over Banten: The English and Dutch Hostilities in Print	163
Antecedents to Agon's Anti-Colonial Indictment	169
Accounts of Travel and Travelling Company Correspondence	173
Making the Other's Business One's Own: Information Gathering and Intelligence Acquisition	177
Salacious and Sordid Spectacles: Representation of Banten's Women and Sultan Abdul	181
Anxieties over Apostasy: The Company and Its Renegades	186
The Other Side of the Story: Banten's View of Batavia	193
Intentions, Influences, and the Inevitable Scholarly Tussles	201
Van Haren, Fence-sitting, and the Other Side	205
Closing in on Van Haren's Intentions	208
Conclusion	216
Conclusion	219
Acknowledgements	227
Bibliography	229
Archival Sources	229
Primary Sources	229
Secondary Sources	237
Index	255