ATTENDING TO EARLY MODERN WOMEN

A Symposium
April 21-23, 1994

Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies and participating departments in The College of Arts and Humanities University of Maryland at College Park
With the aid of a grant from The National Endowment for the Humanities
ATTENDING TO EARLY MODERN WOMEN

The study of early modern women raises significant questions that transcend the research strategies of any single discipline:

† How do we understand past women’s voices, texts, and images? How do we make it possible for others to hear, read, and see them? What are the connections between ourselves and our subjects?

† What places for community existed among women or were imagined in the early modern period?

† To what extent were women marginalized by their sex and how did other affiliations—such as occupation, class, or religion—affect their marginalization?

† How can we work with our students to expand traditional conceptions of canon, sources, disciplines, genres, and periodization?

This symposium builds on Attending to Women in Early Modern England, a three-day symposium held at the University of Maryland at College Park in November, 1990. Like that earlier conference, it has been designed to encourage dialogue. Each plenary session, addressing general themes, will be followed by a constellation of related workshops. Pre-Registrants will choose workshops in advance and will receive readings that will focus discussion.

Planning Committee

Susan Dwyer Amussen, Union Institute Graduate School
Virginia W. Beauchamp, University of Maryland at College Park
Jane Donawerth, University of Maryland at College Park
Joan E. Hartman, College of Staten Island, CUNY
Susan Jenson, Associate Director, Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies
Carole Levin, State University of New York, New Paltz
Margaret Mikesell, John Jay College, CUNY
Anne Lake Prescott, Barnard College, Columbia University
Adele Seeff, Executive Director, Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies
Gabriele Strauch, University of Maryland at College Park
Betty S. Travitsky, New York Public Library
Diane Wolfthal, Manhattanville College

Front Cover Illustration: Christine de Pisan, Collected Works, Harley Ms. 4431, fol. 3. Miniature of Christine Presenting Her Book to Isabella of Bavaria. By permission of the British Library.

Brochure designed by Richard Chapman
THURSDAY, APRIL 21

10:00 am Registration opens, Colony Ballroom, Adele H. Stamp Student Union
1:00 pm Welcome
1:15 pm Plenary I: Our Subjects, Our Selves
   The Phallacies of Authorship: Reconstructing the Texts of Early Women Writers
   Josephine Roberts (E), Louisiana State University
   Weaving with Clio: A Woman’s Way of Writing History
   Mary Elizabeth Perry (H), Occidental College and UCLA Center for Medieval and
   Renaissance Studies
   The Roles of Women in Questioning the Canon of “Great Master” Art History
   Corine Schleif (AH), Arizona State University

3:15 pm Coffee
3:45 pm Workshops
   1) Authority
   Linda Austern (M), Sheila ffolliott (AH), Anne Lake Prescott (E), Betty S. Travitsky (E)
   2) Digging Out Our Sisters: Method and Theory toward the Recovery of Women’s
      Alliances in Primary Texts
      Susan Frye (E), Marian Matrician (H), Allison Smith (H)
   3) Early Modern “Lesbianisms”: History, Theory, Representation
      Harriette Andreadis (E), Katharine Park (H), Patricia Simons (AH), Valerie Traub (E)
   4) Problematic Genealogies: Early Modern Religious Writing by Women
      Bernadette Andrea (E), Teresa Feroli (E), Michelle Strah (RS)
   5) Reading Early Modern Women’s Letters
      Jane Couchman (FR & WS), Ann Crab (H)
   6) Re-gendered in Translation: Authoritative Texts and Renaissance Interpretations
      William Kennedy (CL), Janel Mueller (E), Elizabeth Patton (E)
   7) Representations of Pocahontas
      Rebecca Bach (E), Kathleen Brown (H), Karen Robertson (E), Robert Tilton (E)
   8) The Traffic in/by Women: Placing Women in Symbolic and Real Economies
      Ann Christensen (E), Barbara Sebek (E), Ulrike Strasser (H)
   9) “The Works Will Speak for Themselves”: Listening to Early Modern Women’s Voices
      Mary Burke (E), Judith Curlee (E), Jo Ann Menezes (AH), Karen Nelson (E)
   10) Writing Elizabeth I/Reinventing Elizabeth I
      Ionna Bell (E), Carole Levin (H), Lena Cowen Orlin (E)

6:30 pm Reception, Tawes Fine Arts Building
8:00 pm Entertainment

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

8:30 am Coffee and Registration, Colony Ballroom, Adele H. Stamp Student Union
9:00 am Plenary II: Women’s Places
   Women’s Community and Male Spies: Erhard Schön’s How Seven Women Complain
   about their Worthless Husbands
   Diane Wolflhal (AH), Manhattanville College
   Witchcraft, Community, and Maternity in Early Modern Germany
   Lyndal Roper (H), Royal Holloway College, University of London
   Local Audiences: Isabella Whitney and Moderata Fonte to their City Sisters
   Ann Rosalind Jones (CL), Smith College

11:00 am Coffee
11:30 am to 1:00 pm

11) Constructing a Public Discourse: Polemics, Portraits, and Politics
   Elaine Beilin (E), Alice Friedman (AH), Margaret Hannay (E)

12) Female Space, Social Crisis, and Power in All-Female Communities
   Bridgette Sheridan (H), Beth Wengler (H)

13) Gender, Prophecy, and Political Theory in the English Interregnum
   Susan Dwyer Amussen (H), Jodi Mikalachki (E)

14) Gendered Spaces in Early Modern England: Where Do Women “Belong” and Where Are They Found?
   Sylvia Bowerbank (E), Patricia M. Crawford (H), Sara Mendelson (H), Mary O’Connor (E)

15) Models for Patronage by Early Modern Women
   Mary Ellen Lamb (E), Craig Monson (M), Carolyn Valone (AH), Merry Wiesner-Hanks (H)

16) Prostitution and Class: Recognizing Differences in Sexual Commerce
   Anne Cruz (SP), Margo Hendricks (E), Deanna Shemek (IT & CL), Valerie Wayne (E)

17) Reading Women Reading: Records and Representations of Literate Women in Early Modern Europe
   Heidi A. Brayman (E), Molly Whalen (CL)

18) Women and Catholicism in Seventeenth-Century England
   Frances E. Dolan (E), Margaret W. Ferguson (E), Phyllis Mack (H)

19) Women in Dialogue with Their Lutes: Strategies for Self-Expression
   Susan Jackson (M), Line Pouchard (E)

20) Women over the Top: Hysteria, Spiritual Ecstasy, Demonic Possession, and Witchcraft
   Hans de Waardt (H), Laurinda Dixon (AH), Jane Kromm (AH), Machtedt Lowensteyn (AH)

1:00 pm

1:00 pm Lunch, Grand Ballroom
Welcome, Virginia W. Beauchamp, Special Assistant to the President on Women’s Issues, University of Maryland at College Park

2:00 pm

Plenary III: Placing Women
Yellow Ruffs and PoisonedPossets: Placing Women in Early Stuart Political Debate
   David Underdown (H), Yale University

A Space for Female Speech: Shaping Women’s Readership in Sixteenth-Century France
   Catharine Randell Coats (FR), Barnard College

Complicity and Pleasure: Female Audiences of Italian Renaissance Art
   Patricia Simons (AH), University of Michigan

4:00 pm

4:15 pm to 5:45 pm

21) Containing Women: The Interpretation of Limits
   Cristelle L. Baskins (AH), Margaret Rose Jaster (E), Lori Humphrey Newcomb (E)

22) Love Sick/Rage Sick: Women’s Emotions and Early Modern Texts
   Lucinda McCray Beier (H), Judith Kegan Gardiner (E & WS), Carol Neely (E), Linda A. Pollock (H)

23) The Other Woman: Depicting Non-Western Women in Renaissance Iconography
   Claire Farago (AH), Kim Hall (E), Georgianna Ziegler (E)

24) Placing Women Artists in Seventeenth-Century Biography
   Cynthia Capone (IT), Anthony Colantuono (AH), Julia Dabbs (AH), Elizabeth Linley Widmann (AH)

25) Reading Early Modern Books of Female Instruction and Conduct
   Kathleen Ashley (E, FR, & WS), Margaret Mikesell (E)

26) The Rhetoric and Representation of Female Testimony and Male Sexual Fantasy in Early Modern Europe
   Linda C. Huhs (AH), Elizabeth Mazzola (E), Judith Zinsser (H)

27) Silent Signifiers: Positioning Women in Renaissance Homeroetic Discourses of Italy and England
   Valeria Finucci (RS), James M. Saslow (AH), Bruce R. Smith (E), Susan Zimmerman (E)
28) Subordination, Marginalization, and Resistance in Spain, Italy, and France  
Marcella Diberti-Leigh (IT), Julia L. Hairston (IT), Alison Klairmont Lingo (H), Renée Levine Melamed (RS)

29) Women and Autonomy in the Seventeenth Century  
Esther S. Cope (H), Nancy Klein Maguire (E)

30) Women Poets in Manuscript and Print: Italy and England  
Nancy Dersofi (I), Daniel Javitch (CL), Arthur Marotti (E), Marilyn Williamson (E)

6:15 pm  
Cash Bar

7:00 pm  
Dinner, Founders/Fort McHenry Room, University of Maryland, University College Conference Center

8:30 pm  
Keynote Address, Auditorium, University College Conference Center  
Natalie Zemon Davis, Princeton University,  
Displacing and Displeasing: Writing About Women in the Early Modern Period

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

8:30 am  
Coffee and Registration, Colony Ballroom, Adele H. Stamp Student Union

9:00 am  
Plenary IV: Teaching a Gendered Renaissance

Changing Our Originary Stories: Renaissance Women on Education and Conversation as a Model for Our Classrooms  
Jane Donawerth (E), University of Maryland at College Park

Putting Women into the Picture: Gender and Art History in the Classroom  
Sheila Girdon (AH), George Mason University

The Hubris of Writing Surveys, or A Feminist Confronts the Textbook  
Merry Wiesner-Hanks (H), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

11:00 am  
Coffee

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

31) Gendering the Wonder-Cabinet: Early Modern Women and Colonization  
Crystal L. Bartolovich (E), Sidney Donnell (SP), Beth McGowan (CL)

32) Honor and Shame, Piety and Patronage: Examining Assumptions About Early Modern Women  
Jodi Bilinkoff (H), Olga L. Valbuena (E), Alison Weber (SP)

33) India, South Africa, United States: Feminist Anti-Racist Pedagogies of Shakespeare  
Barbara Bowen (E), Ania Loomba (E), Pia Mukherji (E), Susan O'Malley (E)

34) Middle-Class Women's Writing in Early Modern Europe: Teaching Pre-reflective Reading in a Distant Universe  
Martha J. Craig (E), James Farr (H), Hermina Joldersma (G)

35) Source Materials for Recovering Women—Archival, Demographic, and Literary  
Elizabeth H. Hageman (E), Barbara Ann McCahill (H), Rebecca S. More (H)

36) Teaching a Gendered Renaissance: The Material Record  
Martha C. Howell (H), Gail Kern Paster (E), R L. Widman (E)

37) Teaching a “Lesbian” Renaissance  
Kathryn King (WS), Susan S. Lanser (CL), Marian Urquilla (CL)

38) Teaching Renaissance Women Writers: Getting Scholarly, Getting Personal  
Ann Hurley (E), Erna Kelly (E)

1:00 pm  
Lunch

2:00 pm  
Society for the Study of Early Modern Women, inaugural meeting, Colony Ballroom

(AH) Art History, (CL) Comparative Literature, (E) English, (FR) French, (G) German,  
(H) History, (IT) Italian, (M) Music, (RS) Romance Studies, (SP) Spanish, (WS) Women’s Studies