

The Figure of the Female Philosopher in Early Modern Europe



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University
of Exeter

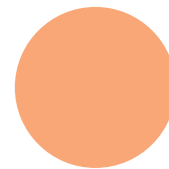
**Knightley Building
University of Exeter**



**UK Research
and Innovation**

4-5 June, 2026

Thursday 4th June



Coffee and Registration from 9

Welcome

9.20

PANEL 1: SATIRE AND PRAISE

9.30-11

Chair: Felicity Henderson

JACQUELINE BROAD

Monash University

Mary Astell on Ridicule and Honour

PHILIPPE CHOMÉTY

Université Toulouse – Jean Jaurès

Beauty, Virtue and Knowledge: Figures of Learned Women in Seventeenth-Century Poetry

SANDRA PLASTINA

Università della Calabria

Self-Representation in *Urania* by Giulia Bigolina

Coffee/Tea

11-11.30

PANEL 2: SELF-PRESENTATION AND GENRE

11.30-1

Chair: Carlotta Moro

LIEKE VAN DEINSEN & KAREN HOLLEWAND

KU Leuven & University of Groningen

Rethinking the *femme savante*: the case of Isabella de Moerloose (1661–after 1712)

ANIK WALDOW

University of Sydney

Marie de Gournay on Intellectual Courage, Female Solidarity, and Social Change

SANDRINE BERGÈS

University of York

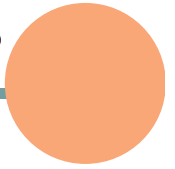
To philosophize is to act: Anne Dacier's translation of Marcus Aurelius's *Meditations*.

Lunch

1-2

ROUNDTABLE 1: SELF-PRESENTATION AND GENRE

2-3



Chair: Helena Taylor

MARGUERITE DESLAURIERS, LIEKE VAN DEINSEN AND KAREN HOLLEWAND

McGill University, KU Leuven & University of Groningen

Coffee/Tea

3-3.30

ROUNDTABLE 2: WHAT'S IN A NAME? TERMINOLOGY AND IDENTITY

3.30-5

Chair: Sarah Hutton

CATHERINE EVANS, FELICITY HENDERSON, CARLOTTA MORO, HELENA TAYLOR AND FLORIS VERHAART

University of Exeter

Friday 5th June

PANEL 3: DISCIPLINES, TRADITIONS & INSTITUTIONS

9.30-11.30

Chair: Catherine Evans

SABRINA EBBERSMEYER

University of Copenhagen

Bright, Bold, and Pious - Writing a philosophical treatise under oppressive conditions: Birgitte Thott and her treatise "On the path to a happy life" (c. 1659)

FLORIS VERHAART

University of Exeter

Between Human and Divine Knowledge: The Reception of Anna Maria van Schurman among Lutheran German Scholars

RUTH BOEKER

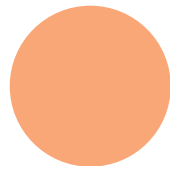
University College Dublin

Spaces for Learning outside Institutional Settings: Insights from the Cockburn-Arbuthnot Correspondence

EMILIO MARIA DE TOMMASO

Università IUUL

Same Species, Different Ideas: Why Women Are Better than Men According to Lucrezia Marinella



Coffee/Tea

11.30-12

PRIMARY SOURCES: DISCUSSION

12-1

Lunch

1-2

FUTURE PLANS & CLOSE

2-3

The conference is supported by ‘Cultures of Philosophy: Women Writing Knowledge in Early Modern Europe’, a project funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government’s Horizon Europe funding guarantee [grant number EP/Y006372/1].