

## **Margo Echenberg**

# The Fame of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

Posthumous Fashioning in the Early Modern Hispanic World

The Fame of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz traces the meteoric trajectory of the Mexican Tenth Muse's renown and studies how her worldly celebrity was altered posthumously by elegists in her Fama y obras póstumas [Fame and Posthumous Works] of 1700. In this study of a polyphonic, transatlantic volume, the didactic framework of early modern fame is pushed to its limits as panegyrists inscribe the nun into an evolving world-view that could trade in the fictions of the saintly exemplar, the Tenth Muse or a New World treasure, but could not preserve a woman's renown on the grounds of authorship. Only by making her legible could she vie for the promise of posthumous fame. In flushing out the machinations of Sor Juana's role as agent of her own celebrity as well as the negotiations of her contemporaries, this book opens new lines of inquiry in the study of early modern fame and print culture and the role of writers, panegyrists and editors as cultural agents in the transatlantic literary relationship between Mexico and Spain.

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Margo Echenberg is an Academic Associate in Teaching and Learning Services at McGill University



Gendering the Late Medieval and Early Modern World April 2023 314 pages, 1 Illustrations, black & white Hardback

156.0 x 234.0 mm €141.00 / £128.00 / \$155.00

ISBN 978 94 6372 704 4 e-ISBN 978 90 485 5289 4 BISAC HIS058000 / LIT004290 / LIT024020 BIC DSBD / HBLH

#### KEYWORDS

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, fame, early modern women, posterity, posthumous works



### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

A Note on the Text Abbreviations

Illustration

Acknowledgements

Introduction: Negotiating Rumor and Fame: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's Posthumous Fama

Chapter 1: The Fama: A Posthumous Imaging and Imagining of Sor Juana

Chapter 2: Soaring Above the Rest: Sor Juana as the "Sacred Phoenix" and the Fama as Moral Exhortation

Chapter 3: Light from the New World: Posthumous Praise for an American Mind

Chapter 4: With "Quills of Ink" and "Wings of Fragile Paper": Sor Juana Responds to Her Public Image

Afterword (Or Why Think of the Fama as a Success if it Fails on Almost all Fronts?)