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Edited by James B. Fitzmaurice, Naomi J. Miller, and Sara Jayne Steen

## Authorizing Early Modern European Women

*From Biography to Biofiction*

The essays in this volume analyze strategies adopted by contemporary novelists, playwrights, screenwriters, and biographers interested in bringing the stories of early modern women to modern audiences. It also pays attention to the historical women creators themselves, who, be they saints or midwives, visual artists or poets and playwrights, stand out for their roles as active practitioners of their own arts and for their accomplishments as creators. Whether they delivered infants or governed as monarchs, or produced embroideries, letters, paintings or poems, their visions, the authors argue, have endured across the centuries. As the title of the volume suggests, the essays gathered here participate in a wider conversation about the relation between biography, historical fiction, and the growing field of biofiction (that is, contemporary fictionalizations of historical figures), and explore the complicated interconnections between celebrating early modern women and perpetuating popular stereotypes about them.

### BIOGRAPHY

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures

Acknowledgments

### 1. James Fitzmaurice, Naomi J. Miller, and Sara Jayne Steen: "Introduction: Biography, Biofiction, and Gender in the Modern Age"

#### Section I: Fictionalizing Biography

2. Bárbara Mujica: "*Sister Teresa: Fictionalizing a Saint*" [Teresa of Ávila (1515–1582); practitioner: nun; author]
3. Catherine Padmore: "Portrait of an Unknown Woman: Fictional Representations of Levina Teerlinc, Tudor Paintrix" [Levina Teerlinc (1510/20–1576); visual artist]
4. Frima Fox Hofrichter: "An Interview with Dominic Smith, Author of *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos: Capturing the Seventeenth Century*" [Judith Leyster (1609–1660) and Sara van Baalbergen (fl. 1631–1634); visual artists]
5. Susanne Woods: "Lanyer: The Dark Lady and the Shades of Fiction" [Aemilia Lanyer (1569–1645); author]
6. Marina Leslie: "Archival Bodies, Novel Interpretations, and the Burden of Margaret Cavendish" [Margaret Cavendish (1623–1673); author]

#### Section II: Materializing Authorship

7. Susan Frye: "Bess of Hardwick: Materializing Autobiography" [Elizabeth Talbot (1527?–1608); creator of textiles]
8. Sarah Gristwood: "The Queen as Artist: Elizabeth Tudor and Mary Stuart" [Mary Queen of Scots (1542–1587) and Elizabeth I (1533–1603); practitioners: queens; embroiderer; authors]
9. Marion Wynne-Davies: "'Very Secret Kept': Facts and Re-Creation in Margaret Hannay's Biographies of Mary Sidney Herbert and Mary Wroth" [Mary Sidney Herbert (1561–1621) and Mary Wroth (1586–1652); authors]
10. Naomi J. Miller: "Imagining Shakespeare's Sisters: Fictionalizing Mary Sidney Herbert and Mary Sidney Wroth" [Mary Sidney Herbert (1561–1621) and Mary Wroth (1586–1652); authors]
11. Linda Phyllis Austern: "Anne Boleyn, Musician: A Romance Across Centuries and Media" [Anne Boleyn (c. 1500–1536); musician]

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### Section III: Performing Gender

12. Sheila T. Cavanagh: "Reclaiming Her Time: Artemisia Gentileschi Speaks to the Twenty-First Century" [Artemisia Gentileschi (1593–1656); visual artist]
13. Hailey Bachrach: "Beyond the Record: *Emilia* and Feminist Historical Recovery" [Aemilia Lanyer (1569–1645); author]
14. James Fitzmaurice: "Writing, Acting, and the Notion of Truth in Biofiction About Early Modern Women Authors" [Aphra Behn (1640–1689) and Margaret Cavendish (1623–1673); authors]
15. Emilie L. Bergmann: "Jesusa Rodríguez's Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: Reflections on an Opaque Body" [Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (1648–1695); practitioner: nun; author]

### Section IV: Authoring Identity

16. Margaret F. Rosenthal: "From Hollywood Film to Musical Theater: Veronica Franco in American Popular Culture" [Veronica Franco (1546–1591); author]
17. Julia Dabbs: "The Role of Art in Recent Biofiction on Sofonisba Anguissola" [Sofonisba Anguissola (1532–1625); visual artist]
18. Stephanie Russo: "'I Am Artemisia': Art and Trauma in Joy McCullough's *Blood Water Paint*" [Artemisia Gentileschi (1593–1656); visual artist]
19. Sara Jayne Steen: "The Lady Arbella Stuart, a 'Rare *Phoenix*': Her Re-Creation in Biography and Biofiction" [Arbella Stuart (1575–1615); letter writer]
20. Sara Read: "*The Gossips' Choice*: Extending the Possibilities for Biofiction with Creative Uses of Sources" [Jane Sharp (active 1671) and Sarah Stone (active 1701–1737); practitioners: midwives]

### 21. Michael Lackey: Afterword

### Index

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