

STRONG VOICES, WEAK HISTORY



Early Women Writers and Canons
in England, France, and Italy



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Editors

Strong Voices Weak History

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Strong Voices Weak History:

Strong Voices, Weak History Pamela Joseph Benson, Victoria Kirkham, 2005 From a March 2000 conference at the University of Pennsylvania 16 essays explore such aspects as women's dialogue writing in 16th century France Maria Domitilla Galluzzi and the Rule of St Clare of Assisi courtly origins of new literary canons the earliest anthology of English women's texts and the reinvention of Anne Askew One of the contri

Texts from the Querelle, 1616-1640 Pamela J. Benson, 2017-03-02 Misogyny and its opposite philogyny have been perennial topics in Western literature from its earliest days to the present day but only at certain historic periods have pro woman authors challenged fundamental negative assumptions about women by engaging in formal debate with misogynists and juxtaposing these two attitudes toward women in pairs or series of texts devoted exclusively to discussing womankind This dialectic of attack on and defence of the female sex known as the querelle des femmes debate about women was especially popular among authors and readers during the sixteenth and earlier seventeenth centuries in England At least 36 texts exclusively devoted to attacking and or defending women were published in the hundred years between 1540 and 1640 The works included in these two volumes exemplify the content and the methods of debate in England during those two centuries Volume two includes texts from 1616 through to 1640

Vittoria Colonna and the Spiritual Poetics of the Italian Reformation Abigail Brundin, 2016-02-11 Vittoria Colonna was one of the best known and most highly celebrated female poets of the Italian Renaissance Her work went through many editions during her lifetime and she was widely considered by her contemporaries to be highly skilled in the art of constructing tightly controlled and beautifully modulated Petrarchan sonnets In addition to her literary contacts Colonna was also deeply involved with groups of reformers in Italy before the Council of Trent an involvement which was to have a profound effect on her literary production In this study Abigail Brundin examines the manner in which Colonna's poetry came to fulfil in a groundbreaking and unprecedented way a reformed spiritual imperative disseminating an evangelical message to a wide audience reading vernacular literature and providing a model of spiritual verse which was to be adopted by later poets across the peninsula She shows how through careful management of an appropriate literary persona Colonna's poetry was able to harness the power of print culture to extend its appeal to a much broader audience In so doing this book manages to provide the vital link between the two central facets of Vittoria Colonna's production her poetic evangelism and her careful construction of a gendered identity within the literary culture of her age The first full length study of Vittoria Colonna in English for a century this book will be essential reading for scholars interested in issues of gender literature religious reform or the dynamics of cultural transmission in sixteenth century Italy It also provides an excellent background and contextualisation to anyone wishing to read Colonna's writings or to know more about her role as a mediator between the worlds of courtly Petrarchism and religious reform

Early Modern Women and Transnational Communities of Letters Julie D. Campbell, Anne R. Larsen, 2016-12-05 An important contribution to growing scholarship on

women's participation in literary cultures this essay collection concentrates on cross national communities of letters to offer a comparative and international approach to early modern women's writing The essays gathered here focus on multiple literatures from several countries ranging from Italy and France to the Low Countries and England Individual essays investigate women in diverse social classes and life stages ranging from siblings and mothers to nuns to celebrated writers the collection overall is invested in crossing geographic linguistic political and religious borders and exploring familial political and religious communities Taken together these essays offer fresh ways of reading early modern women's writing that consider such issues as the changing cultural geographies of the early modern world women's bilingualism and multilingualism and women's sense of identity mediated by local regional national and transnational affiliations and conflicts

Selected Writings Marguerite de Navarre, 2008-11-15 Marguerite de Navarre 1492-1549 was the sister and wife to kings and a pivotal influence in sixteenth century France An astute politician and diligent humanist she was a champion of gender equality and the evangelical reform movement which recognized that the clergy was more concerned with maintaining the church's power than ministering to the faithful As the years passed and the glitter of life at court waned however Marguerite came to realize her true vocation writing *Selected Writings* brings together a representative sampling of Marguerite's varied writings most of it never before translated into English enabling Anglophone readers to enjoy the full breadth of her work for the first time From verse letters and fables to mythological pastoral tales from spiritual songs to a selection of novellas from the *Heptameron* the wide range of works included here will reveal Marguerite de Navarre to be one of the most important writers male or female of sixteenth century France

Writing Fashion in Early Modern Italy Eugenia Paulicelli, 2016-02-17 The first comprehensive study on the role of Italian fashion and Italian literature this book analyzes clothing and fashion as described and represented in literary texts and costume books in the Italy of the 16th and 17th centuries *Writing Fashion in Early Modern Italy* emphasizes the centrality of Italian literature and culture for understanding modern theories of fashion and gauging its impact in the shaping of codes of civility and taste in Europe and the West Using literature to uncover what has been called the animatedness of clothing author Eugenia Paulicelli explores the political meanings that clothing produces in public space At the core of the book is the idea that the texts examined here act as maps that first pinpoint the establishment of fashion as a social institution of modernity and second gauge the meaning of clothing at a personal and a political level As well as Castiglione's *The Book of the Courtier* and Cesare Vecellio's *The Clothing of the Renaissance World* the author looks at works by Italian writers whose books are not yet available in English translation such as those by Giacomo Franco Arcangela Tarabotti and Agostino Lampugnani Paying particular attention to literature and the relevance of clothing in the shaping of codes of civility and style this volume complements the existing and important works on Italian fashion and material culture in the Renaissance It makes the case for the centrality of Italian literature and the interconnectedness of texts from a variety of genres for an understanding of the history of Italian style and serves to

contextualize the debate on dress in other European literatures **Memoirs** Marie Mancini, Hortense Mancini, 2009-05-15
The memoirs of Hortense 1646 1699 and of Marie 1639 1715 Mancini nieces of the powerful Cardinal Mazarin and members of the court of Louis XIV represent the earliest examples in France of memoirs published by women under their own names during their lifetimes Both unhappily married Marie had also fled the aftermath of her failed affair with the king the sisters chose to leave their husbands for life on the road a life quite rare for women of their day Through their writings the Mancinis sought to rehabilitate their reputations and reclaim the right to define their public images themselves rather than leave the stories of their lives to the intrigues of the court and to their disgruntled ex husbands First translated in 1676 and 1678 and credited largely to male redactors the two memoirs reemerge here in an accessible English translation that chronicles the beginnings of women s rights to personal independence within the confines of an otherwise circumscribed early modern aristocratic society *Selected Poetry and Prose* Chiara Matraini, 2009-05-15 Chiara Matraini 1515 1604 was a member of the great flowering of poetic imitators and innovators in the Italian literary heritage begun by Petrarch cultivated later by the lyric poet Pietro Bembo and supplanted by the epic poet Torquato Tasso Though without formal training Matraini excelled in a number of literary genres popular at the time poetry religious meditation discourse and dialogue In her midlife she published a collection of erotic love poetry but later in life her work shifted toward a search for spiritual salvation Near the end of her life she published a new poetry retrospective Mostly available in only a handful of rare book collections her writings are now adeptly translated here for an English speaking audience and situated historically in an introduction by noted Matraini expert Giovanna Rabitti *Selected Poetry and Prose* allows the poet to finally take her place as one of the seminal authors of the Renaissance next to her contemporaries Vittoria Colonna and Laura Battiferra also published in the Other Voice series *Heroines, Harpies, and Housewives* Martha Moffitt Peacock, 2020-11-16 Co Honorable Mention for the 2021 Book Award by the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender SSEMWG In *Heroines Harpies and Housewives* Martha Moffitt Peacock provides a novel interpretive approach to the artistic practice of Imaging Women of Consequence in the Dutch Golden Age From the beginnings of the new Republic visual celebrations of famous heroines who crossed gender boundaries by fighting in the Revolt against Spain or by distinguishing themselves in arts and letters became an essential and significant cultural tradition that reverberated throughout the long seventeenth century This collective memory of consequential heroines who equaled or outshone men is frequently reflected in empowering representations of other female archetypes authoritative harpies and noble housewives Such enabling imagery helped in the structuring of gender norms that positively advanced a powerful female identity in Dutch society *Who Is Mary?* Vittoria Colonna, Chiara Matraini, Lucrezia Marinella, 2010-07-15 For women of the Italian Renaissance the Virgin Mary was one of the most important role models *Who Is Mary* presents devotional works written by three women better known for their secular writings Vittoria Colonna famed for her Petrarchan lyric verse Chiara Matraini one of the most original poets of her generation and the wide

ranging intellectually ambitious polemicist Lucrezia Marinella At a time when the cult of the Virgin was undergoing a substantial process of redefinition these texts cast fascinating light on the beliefs of Catholic women in the Renaissance and also in the cases of Matraini and Marinella on contemporaneous women s social behavior prescribed for them by male writers in books on female decorum Who Is Mary testifies to the emotional and spiritual relationships that women had with the figure of Mary whom they were required to emulate as the epitome of femininity Now available for the first time in English language translation these writings suggest new possibilities for women in both religious and civil culture and provide a window to women s spirituality concerning the most important icon set before them as wives mothers and Christians

Fuel your quest for knowledge with is thought-provoking masterpiece, Dive into the World of **Strong Voices Weak History** . This educational ebook, conveniently sized in PDF (*), is a gateway to personal growth and intellectual stimulation. Immerse yourself in the enriching content curated to cater to every eager mind. Download now and embark on a learning journey that promises to expand your horizons. .

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