

Writing the Woman Artist, 1600-1900 (CAA, NYC 2003)

Cons of Art and Architect Hist

CALL FOR PAPERS

"Writing the Woman Artist, 1600-1900"

[recently added ATSAH (Assoc. for Textual Scholarship in Art History) session, College Art Association conference in NYC, Feb. 2003]

Male art-writers of the early modern period faced a most perplexing dilemma when it came to writing about female artists: how could one account for the talent and intelligence evidenced in the artworks of women at a time when such qualities were believed to be physiologically impossible in the female sex

Could the creations of these "marvels of nature" be assessed with the same critical terminology and standards as were applied to the works of male artists,

or were different values assigned

And to what extent did perceptions about the

artist's personal appearance or character infiltrate the analysis of their work

This session takes its inspiration from Fredrika Jacobs' *Defining the Renaissance Virtuosa: Women Artists and the Language of Art History and Criticism* (1997), and seeks to further consider the impact of gender on early modern writing (i.e., accounts written between 1600-1900 approximately)

concerning female visual artists. The critical vocabulary of various types of literature or historical writing might be considered, whether biographical sources, poetry, eulogies, salon reviews, letters, etc. Furthermore, it is hoped that the intersections as well as contradictions between these writings and the visual images they purport to characterize will be examined.

Please send a 1-2 pg proposal and c.v. to Julia Dabbs (address below) by JUNE 15, 2002.

Thank you,

Julia K. Dabbs, Ph.D.
Asst. Professor, Art History
104 Humanities Bldg.
University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, MN 56267-2134
(320)589-6230 (work)

Reference:

CFP: Writing the Woman Artist, 1600-1900 (CAA, NYC 2003). In: ArtHist.net, May 16, 2002 (accessed Jan 23, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/25011>>.