

Session at RSA (San Francisco, 19–21 Feb 26)

San Francisco, Feb 19–21, 2026

Deadline: Jul 25, 2025

Rhoda Eitel-Porter, Print Quarterly

72nd Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America (RSA), San Francisco, February 19-21, 2026.

"Women Printmakers in the Early Modern World", organized by Emanuele Lugli and Rhoda Eitel-Porter.

The history of early modern printmaking has long centered on male engravers and publishers, leaving the contributions of women largely overlooked and insufficiently theorized. Yet ongoing archival research and recent scholarship continue to recover names, works, and forms of labor that unsettle the conventional picture of how prints were made, circulated, and valued. Across Europe and beyond, women participated in the world of intaglio and woodcut not only as inheritors of family trades but also as brilliant amateurs or as anonymous contributors to the devotional image economy. Their presence complicates neat distinctions between art and craft, genius and labor, public and private spheres.

This session invites papers that center the work of early modern women printmakers (c. 1450-1700) in any geographic context. We welcome close readings of individual artists and works, as well as methodological or historiographic interventions that reflect on how and why women's labor as printmakers has remained so difficult to see. Possible questions include – but are not limited to:

- How did women access the training, tools, or networks necessary to enter the world of printmaking?
- What kinds of images were women printmakers asked to produce – or found themselves producing – and how were these works received?
- In what roles did women participate in workshop economies, and what forms of collective or domestic labor supported their production?
- What critical frameworks might allow us to better apprehend this history and the absences that define it?

The papers, in English, should be 20 minutes in length. Scholars at any stage of their career are encouraged to apply. Travel support may be available thanks to Stanford University.

Please send the following materials to Emanuele Lugli, elugli@stanford.edu, and Rhoda Eitel-

-Porter, editor@printquarterly.co.uk by July 25, 2025:

- Paper title and Abstract (400 word max). The abstract should briefly cover the main points of the paper, including its research topic, the main findings and their significance
- Full name, current affiliation, and email address
- Curriculum vitae (no more than 2 pages)

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by August 4, 2025.

For any questions, feel free to contact Emanuele Lugli or Rhoda Eitel-Porter.

APS (Association of Print Scholars) and PRINT QUARTERLY sponsored session.

Reference:

CFP: Session at RSA (San Francisco, 19-21 Feb 26). In: ArtHist.net, Jul 4, 2025 (accessed Jun 24, 2026),

<<https://arthist.net/archive/49627>>.