Women writers played a central role in the literature and culture of eighteenth-century Britain. Featuring essays on female writers and genres by leading scholars in the field, this Companion introduces readers to the range, significance, and complexity of women’s writing across multiple genres in Britain between 1660 and 1789. Divided into two parts, the Companion first discusses women’s participation in print culture, featuring essays on topics such as women and popular culture, women as professional writers, women as readers and writers, and place and publication. Additionally, Part I explores the ways that women writers crossed generic boundaries. The second part contains chapters on many of the key genres in which women wrote, including poetry, drama, fiction (early and later), history, the ballad, periodicals, and travel writing. The Companion also provides an introduction surveying the state of the field, an integrated chronology, and a guide to further reading.


A complete list of books in the series is at the back of the book.
THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
WOMEN’S WRITING IN BRITAIN, 1660–1789

EDITED BY
CATHERINE INGRASSIA
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</table>
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

PAULA R. BACKSCHEIDER, Philpott-Stevens Eminent Scholar at Auburn University, is a former president of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and the author of several books, including Daniel Defoe: His Life, winner of the British Council Prize; Spectacular Politics; and Eighteenth-Century Women Poets and Their Poetry, winner of the MLA James Russell Lowell Prize. She has published articles in PMLA, Theatre Journal, ELH, and many other journals. Her most recent book is Elizabeth Singer Rowe and the Development of the English Novel.

KATHERINE BINHAMMER is a Professor in the Department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta, Canada. She has published The Seduction Narrative in Britain, 1747–1800 (Cambridge, 2009), edited Women and Literary History (2003), and written numerous articles on gender and sexuality in the eighteenth century. Recently, her research has explored the economics of loss in the late eighteenth-century novel; articles from this work appear in Studies in the Novel and Eighteenth-Century Fiction.

HARRIET GUEST is Professor Emerita from the Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies and Professor in the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York, UK. Her books include Small Change: Women, Learning, Patriotism, 1750–1810 (2000) and Empire, Barbarism, and Civilization: Captain Cook, William Hodges, and the Return to the Pacific (Cambridge, 2007).

KATHRYN R. KING is Professor Emerita of Literature at the University of Montevallo at the University of Montevallo. She is author of Jane Barker, Exile: A Literary Career (2000) and A Political Biography of Eliza Haywood (2012), and coeditor (with Alexander Pettit) of Haywood’s The Female Spectator (2002). She has published numerous articles on English women writers and continues to pursue Haywood biographical leads for a project that will focus on mortality, late careers, and literary legacies.
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

FELICITY NUSSBAUM is Professor of English at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is author of Rival Queens: Actresses, Performance, and the Eighteenth-Century British Theater (2010); The Limits of the Human: Fictions of Anomaly, Race, and Gender in the Long Eighteenth Century (Cambridge, 2003); Torrid Zones: Maternity, Sexuality and Empire in Eighteenth-Century English Narrative (1995); and The Autobiographical Subject: Gender and Ideology in Eighteenth-Century England (1989). She has been awarded numerous academic honors, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Andrew Mellon Fellowship at the Huntington Library, and an NEH Fellowship. She has also held a Marta Sutton Weeks Fellowship at the Stanford Humanities Center and has been a Rockefeller Humanist-in-Residence Fellow at the Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University.

NICOLA PARSONS is a Senior Lecturer in Eighteenth-Century Literature at the University of Sydney. Her first book, Reading Gossip in Early Eighteenth-Century England (2009), centers on the development of the novel in the early century and, focusing on texts by Delarivier Manley, Daniel Defoe, Richard Steele, and Jane Barker, argues that gossip modeled an interpretative strategy that shaped readers’ participation in both literary culture and public debates. She has published essays on Manley, Barker, Defoe, and Queen Anne’s correspondence and also coedited Reading Historical Fiction: The Revenant and Remembered Past (2013) with Kate Mitchell. Her new project, funded by the Australian Research Council, centers on connections between poetry and the novel in early eighteenth-century novels by women.

RUTH PERRY was past President of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and founding Director of the Women’s Studies program at MIT, where she is currently the Ann Fetter Friedlaender Professor of Humanities. She is the author of many books on literary subjects, including Women, Letters, and the Novel (1980); an edition of George Ballard’s 1752 Several Ladies of Great Britain (1984); The Celebrated Mary Astell (1986); and Novel Relations: The Transformation of Kinship in English Culture and Literature 1748–1818 (2004). She guest-edited a special issue of The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation on “Ballads and Songs in the Eighteenth Century” in 2006. Her current project is a biography of Anna Gordon Brown, an eighteenth-century Scotswoman who preserved some of her country’s finest ballads. Perry is herself a folksinger and teaches courses on folk music.

SARAH PRESCOTT is Professor of English Literature at the University of Aberystwyth, Wales, where she is also Director of the Centre for Women’s Writing and Literary Culture. She is the author of Women, Authorship, and Literary Culture, 1690–1740 (2003); Eighteenth-Century Writing from Wales: Bards and Britons (2008); and editor, with Stewart Mottram, of Writing Wales from the Renaissance to Romanticism (2012) and, with David Shuttleton, Women
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

and Poetry, 1660–1750 (2003). Prescott has received external funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council; the British Academy; and most recently the Leverhulme Trust, which awarded her a three-year, £248,395 Research Project Grant on “Women’s Poetry 1400–1800 in English, Irish, Scots, Scots Gaelic, and Welsh.”


Betty A. Schellenberg is Professor of English and Department Chair at Simon Fraser University. Her most recent book publications are Reconsidering the Bluestockings (2003, coedited with Nicole Pohl), The Professionalization of Women Writers in Eighteenth-Century Britain (Cambridge, 2005), and the forthcoming Volume 11 of The Cambridge Edition of the Correspondence of Samuel Richardson. She is writing a book on the interface of manuscript practices and print in the mid-eighteenth century, and her work on media collaboration and contention in domestic travel writing, Bluestocking networks, and other literary circles of the 1750s has appeared in Eighteenth-Century Studies, The History of British Women’s Writing, 1750–1830, and Bookish Histories.

David E. Shuttleton is Reader in Literature and Medical Culture in the School of Critical Studies (English Literature) at the University of Glasgow where he is codirector of the Medical Humanities Research Centre. He has published widely on Restoration and eighteenth-century literature, including essays on the poetic careers of Anne Killigrew and Mary Chandler. He also addresses women’s poetry in his monograph Smallpox and the Literary Imagination, 1660–1820 (Cambridge, 2007). With Sarah Prescott, he coedited the groundbreaking essay volume Women and Poetry, 1660–1750 (2003) and, with John Dussinger, he recently edited Volume 2 of The Cambridge Edition of the Correspondence of Samuel Richardson: Correspondence with George Cheyne and Thomas Edwards (Cambridge, 2014).

Subjects”), and she is coediting with John Richetti Daniel Defoe’s The Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe. Currently, she serves on the executive committees of the Defoe Society and the MLA Scottish Literature Discussion Group, and as the delegate for the executive committee of the MLA Restoration and Early Eighteenth-Century Division.

Mark Towsey is a Lecturer in History at the University of Liverpool, having previously held visiting fellowships at the Universities of London, Harvard, and Yale, as well as the Huntington Library. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and has published extensively on the history of reading and the cultural history of libraries, including Reading the Scottish Enlightenment: Books and Their Readers in Provincial Scotland 1750–1820 (2010).

Mary A. Waters, Associate Professor of English at Wichita State University, is the author of British Women Writers and the Profession of Literary Criticism, 1789–1832 (2004). She is also the editor of British Women Writers of the Romantic Period: An Anthology of Their Literary Criticism (2009). Her work has appeared in Eighteenth-Century Studies, Women Writers, and Nineteenth-Century Prose. She is currently working on a digital archive of literary criticism by Romantic-era British women writers.
This chronology is a representative list of relevant events, publications, and birth and death dates between 1660 and 1800. Dates are given new style. Here, and throughout the volume, dates of birth (or in some cases baptism) and death correspond with those in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography and use the same dating format. To that end, if a birth date is uncertain, a question mark appears; if a birth date cannot be dated to a single year, “/” marks alternative years; “x” indicates a range of years; c. (circa or about) signifies a date that is approximate; fl. (floruit or flourished) represents the dates a person was active when neither date of birth or death is known. The listing of works published is not, of course, exhaustive and not every text published by the authors in the volume is included here; rather, the chronology primarily marks texts discussed within or relevant to the essays of this Companion.

Authors, Events, and Texts

1658  Mary of Modena (1658–1718) born
1660  Restoration of the monarchy with the return of Charles II
       Anne Killigrew (1660–85) born
       Daniel Defoe (1660–1731) born
1661  Anne Finch, Countess of Winchilsea (1661–1720) born
1663  Katherine Philips, Pompey produced in Dublin
1664  Katherine Philips (b. 1632) dies
1665  Mary Evelyn (1665–85) born
       Queen Anne (1665–1714) born
       Great Plague of London begins
1666  Mary Astell (1666–1731) born
       Mary Pix (c. 1666–1709) born
       John Dryden (1631–1700) made Poet Laureate
       Great Fire of London (September 2)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event/Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1667</td>
<td>Jonathan Swift (1667–1745) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1669</td>
<td>Susanna Centlivre (1669–1723) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>France Boothby (fl. 1669–70), Marcelia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1670</td>
<td>Delarivier Manley (c. 1670–1724) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sarah Frye Egerton (1670–1723) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Forced Marriage</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1671</td>
<td>Sarah Dixon (1671/72–1765) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Bracegirdle (1671–1748) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Amorous Prince</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1672</td>
<td>Joseph Addison (1672–1719) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1673</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Dutch Lover</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Margaret Cavendish, the Duchess of Newcastle (1623?–73) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1674</td>
<td>Mary Davys (1674–1732) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Singer Rowe (1674–1737) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Catharine Trotter Cockburn (1674?–1749) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Milton (b. 1608) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1675</td>
<td>Elizabeth Thomas (1675–1731) born</td>
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<tr>
<td>1676</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>Abdelazer and The Town-Fopp</em></td>
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<td>1677</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Rover</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary (Molesworth) Monck (1677?–1715) born</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Stuart marries William of Orange</td>
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<td>1678</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>Sir Patient Fancy</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1679</td>
<td>Penelope Aubin (1679?–1738) born</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Feign’d Curtizans</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1681</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The Second Part of The Rover</em></td>
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<td>1682</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>The City Heiress</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1683</td>
<td>Anne Oldfield (1685–1730) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1684</td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>Love-Letters between a Nobleman and His Sister; Poems Upon Several Occasions</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1685</td>
<td>Death of Charles II and accession of James II Monmouth’s Rebellion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jane Brereton (1685–1740) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Barber (c. 1685–1755) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Gay (1685–1732) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1687</td>
<td>Mary Chandler (1687–1745) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nell Gwyn (b. 1651?) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aphra Behn, <em>Emperor of the Moon</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1688</td>
<td>“Glorious Revolution”: the deposing of James II and the accession of William II and Mary</td>
</tr>
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Thomas Shadwell (c. 1640–92) replaces John Dryden as Poet Laureate
Alexander Pope (1688–1744) born
Mary Collier (1688–1762) born
Jane Barker, Poetical Recreations
Aphra Behn, Oroonoko

1689
Aphra Behn (b. 1640?) dies
Martha Fowke Sansom (1689–1736) born
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1689–1762) born
Samuel Richardson (1689–1761) born
Susanna Highmore (1689/90–1750) born
Mary Evelyn, Mundus Muliebris

1690
Edward Cave (1691–1754) born
Eliza Haywood (1693?–1756) born
Mary Astell, A Serious Proposal to the Ladies
Bank of England established

1691

1693

1694
Mary Astell, Reflections on Marriage

1696
Anne Ingram (c. 1696–1764) born
Catharine Trotter, Agnes de Castro
Delarivier Manley, The Royal Mischief and The Lost Lover
Elizabeth Singer Rowe, Poems on Several Occasions

1697
Richard Savage (1696/97–1743) born
Mehetabel Wesley Wright (1697–1750) born

1698
Catherine Trotter, Fatal Friendship

1699
Frances Seymour (née Thynne), Countess of Hertford (1699–1754) born

1700
John Dryden (b. 1631) dies
Elizabeth Mure (1700–90) born
James Thomson (1700–48) born
Margaret Davies/Marged Dafydd (c. 1700–1785?) born
Mary Astell, Reflections on Marriage

1701
Act of Settlement establishing Hanoverian succession
Anne Finch, The Spleen
Lady Mary Chudleigh, The Ladies Defence
Jane Wiseman Holt, Antiochus the Great

1702
Death of William II and accession of Queen Anne
(1665–1714)
Judith Madan (1702–81) born
Sarah Egerton, The Emulation

1703
Robert Dodsley (1704–64) born
Jean Adam (1704–65) born
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<tr>
<td>1632</td>
<td>John Locke (b. 1632) dies</td>
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<td>1704</td>
<td>Delarivier Manley, <em>The Secret History of Queen Zarah</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1705</td>
<td>constellation Grierson (1704/5–32) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1706</td>
<td>Susanna Centlivre, <em>The Gamester, The Basset Table</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1707</td>
<td>Ania Williams (1706–83) born</td>
</tr>
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<td>1708</td>
<td>Act of Union unifying Scotland and England into “Great Britain”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1709</td>
<td>Henry Fielding (1707–54) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1710</td>
<td>Mary Jones (1707–78) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1711</td>
<td>Delarivier Manley, <em>Almyna; or, The Arabian Vow</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1712</td>
<td>First Copyright Act, the Statute of Anne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1713</td>
<td>Susanna Centlivre, <em>The Busie Body</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1714</td>
<td>Delarivier Manley, <em>New Atalantis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1715</td>
<td>Samuel Johnson (1709–84) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1716</td>
<td>Teresia Constantia Phillips (1709–65) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1717</td>
<td>Laetitia Pilkington (c.1709–50) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1718</td>
<td>Mary Pix (b. 1666) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1719</td>
<td>Abigail Baldwin publishes <em>Female Tatler</em> (1709–10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1720</td>
<td>Lady Mary Chudleigh (b. 1656) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1721</td>
<td>Sarah Fielding (1710–68) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1722</td>
<td>David Hume (1711–76) born</td>
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<tr>
<td>1723</td>
<td>Laetitia Pilkington (1712–50) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1724</td>
<td>Treaty of Utrecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1725</td>
<td>Elizabeth Barry (b. 1656x58) dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1726</td>
<td>Jane Barker, <em>Love Intrigues: Or, the History of the Amours of Bosvil and Galesia</em> (unauthorized)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1727</td>
<td>Anne Finch, <em>Miscellany Poems</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1728</td>
<td>Charlotte Charke (1713–60) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1729</td>
<td>Death of Queen Anne, accession of George I (1660–1727)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1730</td>
<td>William Shenstone (1714–63) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1731</td>
<td>Delarivier Manley, <em>The Adventures of Rivella</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1732</td>
<td>Susanna Centlivre, <em>The Wonder; A Woman Keeps a Secret</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1733</td>
<td>Alexander Pope, <em>The Rape of the Lock</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1734</td>
<td>Jacobite Rebellion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1735</td>
<td>Elizabeth Vesey (1715–91) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1736</td>
<td>Jane Collier (1715–55) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1737</td>
<td>Alexander Pope publishes translation of <em>Iliad</em> (1715–20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1738</td>
<td>Jane Barker, <em>Exilus; or, The Banish’d Roman</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1739</td>
<td>Mary Monck, <em>Marinda</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1740</td>
<td>Thomas Gray (1716–71) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1741</td>
<td>Esther Lewis Clark (1716–94) born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1717 | Elizabeth Carter (1717–1806) born  
       | David Garrick (1717–79) born  
       | Jane Holt (fl. c. 1682–1717) dies |
| 1718 | Elizabeth Montagu (1718–1800) born  
       | Alexander Pope, *Eloisa to Abelard*  
       | Susanna Centlivre, *A Bold Stroke for a Wife* |
| 1719 | Eliza Haywood, *Love in Excess* (two volumes, 1719–20)  
       | Jane Barker, *Love Intrigues* (second edition with Barker’s approval)  
       | Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*  
       | Frances Boscawen (1719–1805) born  
       | South Sea Bubble  
       | Sarah Scott (1720–95) born |
| 1720 | Penelope Aubin, *The Strange Adventures of the Count de Vinevil and His Family*  
       | Catherine Talbot (1721–70) born  
       | Robert Walpole (1676–1745) becomes prime minister  
       | Mary Leapor (1722–46) born  
       | Mary Davys, *The Reform’d Coquet* |
| 1721 | Eliza Haywood, *The Arragonian Queen* and *The Tea Table*  
       | Frances Brooke (1724–89) born  
       | Frances Sheridan (1724–66) born  
       | Delarivier Manley (b. 1670) dies  
       | Eliza Haywood, *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots; Secret Histories, Novels, and Poems*  
       | Mary Davys, *The Works of Mrs. Davys* (two volumes)  
       | Jane Barker, *The Lining of the Patchwork Screen*  
       | Eliza Haywood, *City Jilt* and *The Perplexed Duchess*  
       | Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels*  
       | Death of George I; succeeded by George II (1683–1760)  
       | Hester Mulso Chapone (1727–1801) born  
       | Elizabeth Griffin (1727–93) born |
| 1728 | Eliza Haywood *The Perplex’d Duchess*  
       | Mary Ann Yates (1728–87) born  
      |
CHRONOLOGY

Oliver Goldsmith (1728–74) born
Alexander Pope, The Dunciad (1728, 1729, 1742, 1743)
Elizabeth Singer Rowe, Friendship in Death

1729
Anne Hughes Penny (1729–80/84) born
Clara Reeve (1729–1807) born
Jonathan Swift, A Modest Proposal
Elizabeth Singer Rowe, Letters Moral and Entertaining (1729–32)
Eliza Haywood, Frederick Duke of Brunswick-Lunenburgh

1730
Anne Oldfield (b. 1683) dies
Stephen Duck (1705–56), The Thresher’s Labour
Henry Fielding, The Author’s Farce

1731
Edward Cave begins publishing The Gentleman’s Magazine
Charlotte Lennox (1730/31–1804) born
Catharine Macaulay (1731–91) born
Mary Astell (b. 1666) dies
Daniel Defoe (b. 1660?) dies
Elizabeth Thomas (b. 1675) dies; Edmund Curl publishes Pylades and Corinna (vol. 1)

1732
Jane Barker (b. 1652) dies
Mary Davys (b. 1674) dies
Elizabeth Thomas, Pylades and Corinna (vol. 2), published posthumously
Jonathan Swift, The Lady’s Dressing Room

1733
Mary Chandler, Description of Bath
Excise Crisis

1734
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, The Reasons that induced Dr. S. to write a Poem called “The Lady’s Dressing Room”
Alexander Pope, Epistle to Cobham
Jonathan Swift, A Beautiful Young Nymph Going to Bed
Mary Barber, Poems on Several Occasions
Jean Adam, Miscellany Poems

1735
Alexander Pope, An Epistle to a Lady, Of the Characters of Women; Epistle to Arbuthnot

1736
Anne Ingram, Epistle to Mr. Pope
Elizabeth Singer Rowe, The History of Joseph
Eliza Haywood, Eovaai
Frances Seymour, The Story of Inkle and Yarico

1737
Stage Licensing Act
Elizabeth Moody (1737–1814) born
Elizabeth Singer Rowe, Devout Exercises of the Heart
MARY WHATELEY DARWALL (1738–1825) born
Elizabeth Carter, Poems upon Particular Occasions
1739
Elizabeth Carter, Sir Isaac Newton’s Philosophy Explain’d for the Use of the Ladies (trans. of Francesco Algarotti)
Mary Collier, The Woman’s Labour
1740
Samuel Richardson, Pamela
James Boswell (1740–95) born
Jane Brereton (b. 1685) dies
1741
Eliza Haywood, Anti-Pamela
Henry Fielding, Shamela
Hester Thrale Piozzi (1741–1821) born
Mary Alcock (1741–98) born
Lady Anna Miller (1741–81) born
1742
Prime Minister Robert Walpole resigns (February 11)
Henry Fielding, Joseph Andrews
Anna Seward (1742–1809) born
1743
Anna Letitia (Aikin) Barbauld (1743–1825) born
Hannah Cowley (1743–1809) born
1744
Death of Alexander Pope (b. 1688)
Eliza Haywood begins publishing The Female Spectator (1744–46)
Sarah Fielding, David Simple
Jane Brereton, Poems on Several Occasions, published posthumously
1745
Jacobite Rebellion
Hannah More (1745–1833) born
Jonathan Swift (b. 1667) dies
1746
Elizabeth Hands (1746–1815) born
Mary Leapor (b. 1722) dies
Battle of Culloden (April 16)
Eliza Haywood, The Parrot
1747
Anna Gordon Brown (1747–1810) born
Charlotte Lennox, Poems on Several Occasions
Susanna Blamire (1747–94) born
Samuel Richardson, Clarissa (1747/48)
1748
Mary Leapor’s Poems upon Several Occasions published posthumously
1749
Charlotte Smith (1749–1806) born
1750
Laetitia Pilkington (b. c.1709) dies
Sophia Lee (1750–1824) born
Chronology

Mary Jones, *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse*
Sarah Scott, *The History of Cornelia*
Eliza Haywood, *The History of Miss Betsy Thoughtless*
Mary Leapor, *Poems upon Several Occasions. The Second and Last Volume* published posthumously
Mary Scott (1751/2–93) born
Frances Burney (1752–1840) born
Charlotte Lennox, *The Female Quixote*
George Ballard, *Memoirs of Several Ladies of Great Britain*
Elizabeth Inchbald (1753–1821) born
Ann Yearsley (1753–1806)
Jane Collier, *An Essay on the Art of Ingeniously Tormenting*
Charlotte Lennox, *Shakespeare Illustrated* (1753–54)
Robert Shiel, *Lives of the Poets of Great Britain and Ireland*
Samuel Richardson, *Sir Charles Grandison*
Sarah Fielding and Jane Collier, *The Cry*
John Duncombe, *The Feminiad* (second edition in 1757 published as *The Feminead*)
Jane Cave Winscom (1754/5–1813) born
George Colman and Bonnell Thornton, *Poems by Eminent Ladies*
Frances Brooke begins publishing the *Old Maid* (November 15, 1755–July 24, 1756)
Samuel Johnson, *Dictionary of the English Language*
Sarah Siddons (1755–1831) born
Jane Collier (b. 1715) dies
Beginning of Seven Years’ War
Frances Brooke, *Virginia, a Tragedy*
Elizabeth Hamilton (1756?–1816) born
Mary Robinson (1756/58?–1800) born
Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire (1757–1806) born
Harriet Lee (1757/58–1831) born
Elizabeth Carter, *All the Works of Epictetus*
Charlotte Lennox, *Henrietta*
Anna Larpent (1758–1832) born
Mary Wollstonecraft (1759–97) born
Mary Hays (1759–1843) born
Robert Burns (1759–96) born
Janet Little (1759–1813) born
Sarah Fielding, *The History of the Countess of Dellwyn*
1760  Death of George II; succession of George III (1738–1820)
Charlotte Lennox serializes *The History of Harriot and Sophia* (1760–61)
Charlotte Lennox, *The Lady's Museum* (1760-61)
Frances Brooke, *Letters from Juliet Lady Catesby* (translation)

1761  Frances Sheridan, *Memoirs of Miss Sidney Bidulph*

1762  Joanna Baillie (1762–1851) born
Mary (Becky) Wells (1762–1829) born
Charlotte Lennox, *Harriot Stuart*
Sarah Scott, *Millenium Hall*

1763  Catharine Macaulay, *History of England*
Frances Sheridan, *The Discovery*
Frances Brooke, *The History of Lady Julia Mandeville*

1764  Julia Ann Hatton (1764–1838) born
Mary Whateley Darwall, *Original Poems on Several Occasions*

1765  Sarah Dixon (b. 1671/72) dies
Jean Adam (b. 1704) dies
Thomas Percy, *Reliques of Ancient English Poetry*

1768  Maria Edgeworth (1768–1849) born
Captain James Cook’s first expedition

1769  Elizabeth Montagu, *Essay on Shakespeare*
Frances Brooke, *The History of Emily Montague*
Elizabeth Griffith, *The Delicate Distress*

1770  William Wordsworth (1770–1850) born

1771  Elizabeth Griffin, *The History of Lady Barton*
Sir Walter Scott (1771–1832) born
Anne Hughes Penny, *Poems, with a Dramatic Entertainment*

1772  Sophia Briscoe, *Miss Melmoth; Or, The New Clarissa*
Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834) born

1773  Hester Chapone, *Letters on the Improvement of the Mind*
Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, *Emma; or, the Unfortunate Attachment*

1775  Anna Letitia Barbauld, *Poems*
Beginning of the American War
Jane Austen (1775–1817) born
Matthew “Monk” Lewis (1775–1818) born
Samuel Johnson, *Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland*

1777  Frances Brooke, *The Excursion*
Chronology

1778
Frances Burney, *Evelina*
Hannah More, *Percy*
Anne Hughes Penny, *Invocation to the Genius of Great Britain*
Frances Burney, *The Witlings* (written but not produced or published)

1780
Hannah Cowley, *The Belle’s Stratagem*
The Gordon Riots

1781
Frances Brooke, *The Siege of Sinope*

1782
Frances Burney, *Cecilia*
Frances Brooke, *Rosina*
Hannah More, *Sacred Dramas*

1784
Anna Seward, *Louisa, A Poetical Novel*
Charlotte Smith, *Elegiac Sonnets* (first edition)

1786
Hannah More, *The Bas Bleu, or, Conversation*

1788
Charlotte Smith, *Emmeline, the Orphan of the Castle*
Elizabeth Inchbald, *Such Things Are*
Hannah More, *Slavery, a Poem*
Ann Yearsley, *A Poem on the Inhumanity of the Slave-Trade*

1789
Start of the French Revolution
Elizabeth Hands, *The Death of Amnon*

1790
Mary Robinson, *Ainsi va le Monde*

1791
Elizabeth Inchbald, *A Simple Story*
Mary Robinson, *Impartial Reflections*
Anna Letitia Barbauld, *Epistle to William Wilberforce*

1792
Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*

1793
Charlotte Smith, *The Old Manor House, The Immigrants*
Mary Robinson, *Modern Manners*
Elizabeth Inchbald, *Every One Has His Fault*

1794
Mary Robinson, *The Widow*

1796
Elizabeth Inchbald, *Mogul Tale*
Elizabeth Inchbald, *Nature and Art*

1797
Elizabeth Inchbald, *Wives as They Were, and Maids as They Are*