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0521527201 - The Cambridge Companion to Aphra Behn
Edited by Derek Hughes and Janet Todd
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The Cambridge Companion to Aphra Behn

Traditionally known as the first professional woman writer in English, Aphra Behn has now emerged as one of the major figures of the Restoration. During the 1670s and 1680s, she provided more plays for the stage than any other author, and greatly influenced the development of the novel with her groundbreaking fiction, especially *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister*, and *Oroonoko*, the first English novel set in America. Behn's work straddles the genres: beside drama and fiction, she also excelled in poetry and she made several important translations from French libertine and scientific works. The chapters in this Companion discuss and introduce her writings in all these fields and provide the critical tools with which to judge their aesthetic and historical importance. The book also includes a full bibliography, a detailed chronology, and a description of the known facts of her life. The Companion will be an essential tool for the study of this increasingly important writer and thinker.

DEREK HUGHES is Professor of English Literature at the University of Aberdeen. In addition to many articles on Restoration drama and its background, he has published *Dryden's Heroic Plays* (1980), *English Drama, 1660–1700* (1996), and *The Theatre of Aphra Behn* (2001). He was the general editor of the six-volume *Eighteenth Century Women Playwrights* (2001), and has just completed an edition of early modern texts concerning slavery and America, which includes Behn's and Southerne's versions of *Oroonoko*. He is currently writing a book on representations of human sacrifice in literature and opera.

JANET TODD is the Francis Hutcheson Professor of English Literature at the University of Glasgow. She is a pioneer in the study of early women's writing; her books include *Women's Friendship in Literature* (1980), *The Sign of Angellica: Women, Writing and History* (1990) and the biographies, *The Secret Life of Aphra Behn* (1996), *Mary Wollstonecraft: A Revolutionary Life* (2000) and *Rebel Daughters: Ireland in Conflict 1798* (2003). She has edited the *Dictionary of British and American Women Writers* (1985), the complete works of Aphra Behn (1992–6) and, most recently, *The Collected letters of Mary Wollstonecraft* (2003). She is the general editor of the Cambridge edition of Jane Austen and co-editor of the journal *Women's Writing*.

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JOANNA LIPKING is editor of the Norton Critical Edition of *Oroonoko* and the author of essays treating Oroonoko's slave-trade and colonial backgrounds that appear in *Aphra Behn Studies* (1996) and *Aphra Behn (1640–1689): Identity, Alterity, Ambiguity* (2000). She teaches English at Northwestern University.

ROBERT MARKLEY is Professor of English at the University of Illinois and the editor of *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*. The author of four monographs and sixty articles in Restoration and eighteenth-century studies, cultural studies, and the cultural study of science, his books include *Two-Edg'd Weapons: Style and Ideology in the Comedies of Etherege*,

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Wycherley, and Congreve (1988) and *Fictions of Eurocentrism: The Far East and the English Imagination, 1500–1730*, forthcoming.

JESSICA MUNNS is Professor of English Literature at the University of Denver. She has written widely on Restoration drama, and edits the journal *Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Theatre Research*. Her most recent book is *Gender, Power, and Privilege in Early Modern Europe* (2003), co-edited with Penny Richards; with Susan Iwanisziw she has just completed editing a selection of plays based on Behn's *Oroonoko*.

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SUSAN J. OWEN is Reader in English Literature at the University of Sheffield. She has published articles on Behn in *Aphra Behn Studies* and the new Macmillan Casebook. Her extensive publications on Restoration drama include *Restoration Theatre and Crisis* (1996) and *Perspectives on Restoration Drama* (2002). She has edited the *Blackwell Companion to Restoration Drama* (2001) and *A Babel of Bottles: Drink, Drinkers and Drinking Places in Literature* (2000).

JACQUELINE PEARSON is Professor of English at the University of Manchester. She is the author of *The Prostituted Muse: Images of Women and Women Dramatists 1642–1737* (1988), an edition of Susanna Centlivre (Pickering 2001), and articles on Aphra Behn and other seventeenth- and eighteenth-century women writers. Her most recent monograph is *Women's Reading in Britain 1750–1835: a Dangerous Recreation* (1999).

LAURA J. ROSENTHAL is Associate Professor of English at the University of Maryland, College Park, and author of *Playwrights and Plagiarists in Early Modern England: Gender, Authorship, Literary Property* (1996). She is currently completing a manuscript entitled 'Infamous Commerce: Prostitution in Eighteenth-Century British Literature and Culture'.

SUSAN STAVES'S scholarly interests centre on English literature and history in the Restoration and eighteenth century, particularly on questions of how cultural ideologies are created and represented in various kinds of texts ranging from comedies to judicial opinions. She is the author of *Playwrights' Scepters: Fictions of Authority in the Restoration* (1979) and *Married Woman's Separate Property in England, 1660–1833* (1990), and over thirty articles. With John Brewer, she has edited and contributed to *Early Modern Conceptions of Property* (1995) and with Cynthia Ricciardi she has edited

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Elizabeth Griffith's *Delicate Distress* (1999). Her current book project is a literary history of women's writing in Britain from 1660 to 1789.

MELINDA S. ZOOK is Associate Professor of History at Purdue University. She is the author of *Radical Whigs and Conspiratorial Politics in Late Stuart England* (1999) and the co-editor of *Revolutionary Currents: Nation Building in the Transatlantic World* (2004). She is currently working on a book-manuscript on the political activism of dissenting women in Restoration England.

ABBREVIATIONS

Except where otherwise stated, all citations from texts by Aphra Behn are taken from *The Works of Aphra Behn*, ed. Janet Todd, 7 vols. (London: Pickering; Ohio: Ohio State University Press, 1992–6). In the case of plays, the volume, act, scene, and line are provided parenthetically; for prologues and epilogues, volume and line numbers; and for poetry and prose, the volume and page. Dates of plays provided in brackets within the text refer to the first known performance unless otherwise stated. All dates are given in new style.

<i>Aphra Behn Studies</i>	<i>Aphra Behn Studies</i> , ed. Janet Todd (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996).
O'Donnell	Mary Ann O'Donnell, <i>Aphra Behn: An Annotated Bibliography of Primary and Secondary Sources</i> (New York: Garland, 1986).
<i>Rereading Aphra Behn</i>	<i>Rereading Aphra Behn</i> , ed. Heidi Hutner (London and Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1993).
Todd	Janet Todd, <i>The Secret Life of Aphra Behn</i> (London: André Deutsch; New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1996).

CHRONOLOGY

Mary Ann O'Donnell

Note: all dates are given in New Style.

- 1640 Long Parliament; impeachment of Archbishop William Laud and Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford. Probable date of Behn's birth as Eaffrey or Aphra, daughter of Bartholomew Johnson, a barber, and Elizabeth Johnson (née Denham), a wetnurse, in Harbledown, Canterbury. Baptised 14 December.
- 1641 Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford, executed. William Wycherley born.
- 1642 September. Theatres closed; Civil War begins. Isaac Newton, Thomas Shadwell born.
- 1644 Battle of Marston Moor gives parliamentary forces major victory.
- 1645 Archbishop Laud executed.
- 1647 The Scots surrender Charles I to Parliament; he later escapes to the Isle of Wight. John Wilmot, 1st Earl of Rochester, born.
- 1648 Second Civil War; Charles I captured.
- 1649 30 January Charles I executed. Commonwealth proclaimed.
- 1650 Anne Bradstreet's poems, *The Tenth Muse*, published.
- 1651 After his defeat at the Battle of Worcester, Charles II escapes capture by hiding in Boscobel Oak. Hobbes's *Leviathan* published.
- 1652 Thomas Otway born.
- 1653 Oliver Cromwell named Protector. Margaret Cavendish's *Poems and Fancies* and *Philosophicall Fancies* published.

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- 1655 Lord Willoughby issues a prospectus to develop colonisation of Surinam.
- 1658 Oliver Cromwell dies; his son Richard assumes the role of Protector, 3 September.
- 1659 Protectorate dissolves.
- 1660 Charles II returns to London on his thirtieth birthday, 29 May.
 Theatres reopen. Two theatrical companies established: the King's Company, managed by Thomas Killigrew, and the Duke's, managed by William Davenant.
 Tatham's *The Rump* produced, Dorset Court, June; source of AB's *Roundheads*.
- 1661 Charles II crowned, 23 April.
 The Duke's Company moves into the Lincoln's Inn Fields theatre.
- 1662 Charles II marries Catherine of Braganza.
- 1663 King's Company moves into the Theatre Royal, Bridges Street, near Drury Lane.
 Katherine Philips' *Pompey* performed in Dublin; published.
 Delarivier Manley born.
 Abbé Paul Tallemant publishes his *Voyage de L'Isle d'Amour*.
 Probable date of AB's going to Surinam.
- 1664 Second Dutch War begins, December.
 Dryden and Sir Robert Howard's *The Indian Queen* produced Theatre Royal in Bridges Street, January; the feathers AB alleges to have brought back from Surinam were probably not used for this but rather for a revival.
 Katherine Philips' *Poems* published in unauthorized edition in January; Philips dies in June.
 Killigrew's *Collected Plays* published, including *Thomaso*.
 AB probably left Surinam by March.
 AB possibly begins the composition of *The Young King*.
- 1664–6 Possible marriage to a Mr Behn; possible death of same.
- 1665 Great Plague rages in London by June; theatres close on 5 June for sixteen months; court leaves London in July.
 La Rochefoucauld publishes the first authorized edition of his *Maximes* in Paris (unauthorized edition published in The Hague in 1664).
 Attempted murder in Antwerp of Anna Luisa van Mechelen by her sister Maria Theresa and her sister's husband

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- Francisco di Tarquini (aka Prince Tarquin), a central event in AB's *The Fair Jilt*.
- 1666 Great Plague begins to abate thanks to brutal frosts of winter 1665–6.
 Court returns to London in February.
 Mary Pix (née Griffith), Mary Astell born.
 Attempted execution of Francisco di Tarquini in Antwerp, a central event in AB's *The Fair Jilt*, probably late May.
 Joseph Williamson draws up the 'Memorialls for Mrs Affora', July 1666, for AB to use on spying mission in Low Countries.
 AB goes to Bruges, then Antwerp, and makes contact with William Scot; sends a series of letters to Killigrew, Arlington, and Halsall and others detailing what she knows and asking for money; sinks deeply into debt; borrows £150 from Edward Botteler (or Butler).
 Great Fire of London, 2–6 September.
 Balthazar de Bonnecorse's *La Montre* published in Paris; revised edition, 1671.
- 1667 AB returns to London deeply in debt, probably in May; begins efforts to recoup personal losses incurred in service of the Crown.
 Dutch burn ships in the Medway.
 Treaty of Breda ends war with Dutch; gives Surinam to the Dutch in exchange for Manhattan Island, 21 July.
 First edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*.
 Authorized edition of Katherine Philips' *Poems* and folio edition of her *Works* published.
 Margaret Cavendish publishes the *Life* of her husband, the Duke of Newcastle.
 'Widdow Behn' is referred to in a legal case related to the seizure of the ship, *Abraham's Sacrifice*.
- 1668 AB perhaps serves as copyist for Killigrew's King's Men.
 Deeply in debt, AB petitions the court to prevent her imprisonment for debt, probably in autumn; no evidence that she was ever in debtors' prison.
 William Davenant dies, April; his widow assumes charge of Duke's Company.
 Dryden named Poet Laureate; publishes his *Essay of Dramatick Poesie*.

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- Margaret Cavendish's *Playes Never Before Printed* published (adds to 1662 edition).
- 1670 Congreve born.
 Probable year of Susanna Centlivre's birth.
 Louise de K roualle, who becomes a powerful royal mistress, comes to England from France.
 Behn's *The Forc'd Marriage* produced by the Duke's Company, September. The Duke's Company were to produce all Behn's plays until the two theatre companies merged in 1682. Milton's *Paradise Regained* and *Samson Agonistes* published.
The Forc'd Marriage published; produced again, 9 January.
The Amorous Prince produced, February; published.
 Duke's Company moves to new playhouse in Dorset Garden, November.
The Rehearsal (King's Company, December) mocks *The Forc'd Marriage* among other plays.
 AB publishes dedicatory poem to Edward Howard in *The Six Days Adventure*.
- 1672 Bridges Street Theatre destroyed by fire (January). King's Company moves temporarily to Lincoln's Inn Fields, recently vacated by the Duke's Company.
 Declaration of Indulgence enacted.
 AB probably serves as editor of *Covent Garden Drolery*.
 James, Duke of York, marries Mary of Modena.
 Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of Newcastle, dies.
The Dutch Lover produced in the new Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, February; published.
- 1674 End of war with Dutch.
 King's Men move to new Theatre Royal in Drury Lane, March.
 Second edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*.
 Death of Milton.
 References by Roger Morrice suggest starting date of AB's relationship with John Hoyle as 1674–6.
- 1675 Work begins by Christopher Wren to restore St Paul's Cathedral.
 Edward Phillips notices AB in *Theatrum Poetarum*.
 La Rochefoucauld publishes the fourth edition of his *Maximes*, the edition mainly used by AB.

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- Publication in Paris of Tallemant's two 'Voyages', works used by AB.
- 1676 Artist John Greenhill dies; Behn eulogizes him in a poem. Nathaniel Bacon raises a rebellion in Virginia; later used as central event of *The Widdow Ranter*. *Abdelazer* produced, Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, 3 July. *The Town-Fopp* produced, Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, licensed 20 September 1676.
- 1677 William of Orange marries Mary, daughter of James, Duke of York, and the late Ann Hyde, Duchess of York. *The Debauchee* (attribution) produced at Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden; licensed 23 February 1677; published. *Abdelazer* published. *The Town-Fopp* published. *The Rover* produced, Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, 24 March; three issues published, the last issue with AB's name on the title page, licensed 2 July. *The Counterfeit Bridegroom* (attribution) produced, Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, September 1677; licensed 4 October 1677.
- 1678 *Sir Patient Fancy* produced 17 January; published, licensed 28 January. Popish Plot scare begins in September, with false allegations by Titus Oates about a planned Catholic coup.
- 1679 Catholic James, Duke of York, goes into exile. First Exclusion bill introduced, May, to prevent James, Duke of York, from succeeding to the throne; Parliament dissolved. Thomas Hobbes dies. 'Ephelia' praises AB in a poem addressed to 'Bhen' in *Female Poems on Several Occasions*. Charles II taken ill; James summoned from exile in Brussels. *The Feign'd Curtizans* produced, licensed 27 March; published. *The Young King* produced September.
- 1680 Second Exclusion Bill rejected by the House of Lords, November. James, Duke of York, returns to exile, in Scotland. John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, dies; his *Poems* published; *Burnet's Passages of the Life and Death of the Earl of Rochester* published.

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- Filmer's *Patriarcha* published (written between 1635 and 1642).
 La Rochefoucauld dies.
 William Howard, Viscount Stafford, executed as Catholic, 29 December; had met Behn on her spying mission.
 AB's paraphrase/translation of 'Oenone to Paris' in *Ovid's Epistles*, edited by John Dryden.
 Three of AB's poems published without attribution in Rochester's *Poems on Several Occasions*.
The Revenge (attribution) produced around June; published early July.
- 1681 Earl of Shaftesbury attempts to secure the Protestant succession by having Charles II's eldest illegitimate son, the Duke of Monmouth, declared heir to the throne; thwarted by King's dissolution of Oxford Parliament.
 Confinement of Shaftesbury to the Tower on charge of high treason but indictment dismissed by a London Grand Jury.
 Calderón de la Barca dies; his play *La Vida es sueño* (1635) is used in AB's *The Young King*.
 James, Duke of York, returns from exile.
The Second Part of The Rover produced, January; published probably in June.
The False Count produced, probably in October; licensed 21 July; published December 1681 with the date 1682 on the title page.
The Roundheads produced December.
- 1682 The Duke's and King's Companies join to form the United Company, April.
 Lady Henrietta Berkeley elopes with her brother-in-law Ford, Lord Grey September; Grey brought to trial November; this, along with Monmouth's Rebellion of 1685, forms the basis of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister*.
 Gilbert Burnet warns Anne Wharton against AB, 'so abominably vile a woman'; Radcliffe accuses AB of having her plays written by a 'Greys Inn Lawyer'; Shadwell satirizes her in *The Tory Poets*, along with Otway, her 'Pimp'.
The Ten Pleasures of Marriage (unlikely attribution) published.
The Roundheads published February 1682.

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- Like Father, Like Son* produced March 1682; only the prologue and epilogue survive; adaptation of Randolph's *The Jealous Lovers*.
A Prologue by Mrs Behn to her New Play, Called Like Father, Like Son published, April.
The City-Heiress produced Duke's Theatre, Dorset Garden, April; published.
Prologue [and Epilogue] to *Romulus and Hersilia* resulting in warrant for arrest of AB and the speaker, Lady Slingsby, August.
- 1683 Rye-House Plot to assassinate Charles II fails. The Earl of Essex, Russell, and Algernon Sidney sent to the Tower; Sidney and Russell executed; Ford, Lord Grey, escapes to the continent.
 Death of Shaftesbury and Thomas Killigrew.
 AB's dedicatory poem to Creech, 'To the Unknown Daphnis' published in the second edition of Creech's translation of Lucretius' *De Natura Rerum*.
 The anonymous *Romulus and Hersilia* published with AB's prologue toned down and epilogue unchanged.
The Young King (produced 1679) published probably November.
- 1684 Monmouth goes to Holland.
 Publication of Rochester's *Valentinian* with prologue (and probably epilogue) by AB; separate broadside publication of these, February.
 First part of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister* published.
Poems upon Several Occasions published; contains *A Voyage to the Isle of Love*.
 Possible date of composition of *The Younger Brother* (produced and published posthumously 1696).
- 1685 Charles II dies 6 February; theatres closed for ten weeks; coronation of James II 23 April.
 Earl of Argyll leads uprising in favour of Monmouth; Argyll executed.
 Monmouth's Rebellion June; put down at Sedgemoor; Monmouth executed 15 July.
 Publication of Montaigne's *Essays*, translated by AB's friend Charles Cotton; 'Of Cannibals' used in *Oroonoko*.

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- Commendatory poem to Thomas Tryon published in his *The Way to Make All People Rich*.
A Pindarick on the Death of our Late Sovereign published February, with second edition and Dublin edition in the same year.
A Poem Humbly Dedicated to the Great Patern of Piety and Virtue Catherine Queen Dowager published in April; second edition published in Dublin.
A Pindarick Poem on the Happy Coronation of His Most Sacred Majesty James II and His Illustrious Consort Queen Mary, in two editions, May.
 Second part of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister* published as *Love-Letters from a Noble-Man and his Sister*.
Miscellany . . . Together with Reflections on Morality, or Seneca Unmasked (AB's translation of La Rochefoucauld) published.
- 1686 Fontenelle's *Entretiens sur la pluralité des mondes* and *Histoire des Oracles* published in Paris.
 Anne Killigrew's *Poems* published.
The Luckey Chance produced by the United Company in Drury Lane April; licensed 23 April.
La Montre published.
- 1687 George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, Edmund Waller, Charles Cotton, and Nell Gwyn, actress and mistress to Charles II, die.
 Newton's *Principia* published.
 John Hoyle accused of sodomy; verdict of *ignoramus*.
 Langbaine notices AB's fifteen plays, identifying sources for nine, in *Momus Triumphans*.
 Commendatory poem to Sir Francis Fane published in his play *The Sacrifice*.
 Commendatory poem to Henry Higden published in his *Modern Essay on the Tenth Satire of Juvenal*.
The Emperor of the Moon produced, Dorset Garden, March; licensed 6 April, published.
The Luckey Chance published.
To the Most Illustrious Prince Christopher Duke of Albemarle on His Voyage to his Government of Jamaica published.

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- AB's translation of *Aesop's Fables* published with the 1666 Francis Barlow plates.
- Third part of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister* published as *The Amours of Philander and Silvia*.
- Writes to Edmund Waller's daughter-in-law after 21 October 1687 about her 'lame hand' and her impending death; includes poem on the death of Waller.
- 1688 *A Congratulatory Poem to Her Most Sacred Majesty on the Universal Hopes of all Loyal Persons for a Prince of Wales*, licensed 17 February; reissued in *Two Congratulatory Poems*; second edition, Edinburgh.
- AB is vilified in an 'Epistle to Julian' as a harlot plagued by 'Poverty, Poetry [and] Pox'; Prior attacks her in 'A Session of Poets'.
- Elegy for Waller published in the collection on his death February 1688.
- Declaration of Indulgence April.
- The Fair Jilt* licensed 17 April; reissued in *Three Histories*.
- A Poem to Sir Roger L'Estrange on His Third Part of the History of the Times; Relating to the Death of Sir Edmund Bury-Godfrey* licensed 22 April.
- Lycidus . . . Together with a Miscellany of New Poems* licensed 13 May 1687 and probably published early 1688.
- Second edition of *The Emperor of the Moon*.
- Agnes de Castro* licensed 24 May; reissued in *Three Histories*.
- To Poet Bavius*, published June.
- 10 June, birth of a son, James (later 'The Old Pretender') to the Catholic monarchs, James II and Mary of Modena, sets off succession crisis.
- A Congratulatory Poem to the King's Most Sacred Majesty on the Happy Birth of the Prince of Wales*, June; second edition and reissued as part of *Two Congratulatory Poems*.
- Oroonoko*; reissued in *Three Histories*.
- November, the Protestant claimant, William of Orange, lands in England and moves on London.
- December, Queen Consort Mary of Modena leaves England for France with the infant Prince. Glorious Revolution; flight of James II and supporters to France.
- The History of Oracles* published; reprinted in *Histories, Novels and Translations*, 1700.

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- A Discovery of New Worlds* published, includes 'The Translator's Preface'; reprinted in *Histories, Novels and Translations*, 1700.
- 1689 *A Congratulatory Poem to Her Most Sacred Majesty Queen Mary upon Her Arrival in England* published February.
A Pindaric Poem to the Reverend Doctor Burnet on the Honour He Did Me of Enquiring after Me and My Muse published, probably in March.
 Coronation of William of Orange and Mary, daughter of James II, 11 April.
 AB dies, 16 April; buried in the east cloister of Westminster Abbey.
 Dryden loses Poet Laureateship to Shadwell.
 Robert Gould attacks AB in 'A Satyr against the Playhouse', included in his *Poems, chiefly consisting of Satyrs and Satyrical Epistles*.
 Nathaniel Lee laments her death in an elegy, and 'A Lady of Quality' mourns her passing in a broadside.
 Translation of the sixth book of Cowley's *Sylva*, the sixth book of *Plants*, in an edition supervised by Nahum Tate.
The Lucky Mistake published.
The History of the Nun, or The Fair Vow-Breaker published.
The Widdow Ranter produced, Drury Lane, November.
 Dryden's prologue and epilogue to *The Widdow Ranter*, published separately, notes her ability to please and her portrayal of love.
- 1690 Locke's *Essay of Human Understanding* published.
 Reissue of *The Forc'd Marriage* (1671) published, 'As it is Acted at the Queens Theatre'.
The Widdow Ranter published January, with an old and unrelated Shadwell prologue and epilogue.
- 1691 Gerard Langbaine publishes his *Account of the English Dramatick Poets*.
 Several previously unpublished AB poems printed in *The History of Adolphus*.
- 1692 Shadwell dies; Nahum Tate becomes Poet Laureate.
 John Hoyle, Gerard Langbaine, Nathaniel Lee die.
The Lucky Mistake reissued in Bentley's *Modern Novels*.
 Several previously unpublished poems printed in *Miscellany Poems upon Several Occasions*.
- 1693 Mme de La Fayette dies.

CHRONOLOGY

- Second edition of *Abdelazer* published.
 Second edition of all three parts of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister*.
- 1694 Queen Mary dies; King William rules alone.
 Mary Astell's *Serious Proposal to the Ladies* published.
 Southerne's *The Fatal Marriage*, his adaptation of AB's *The History of the Nun*, produced, Drury Lane, February.
 Second edition of all three parts of *Love-Letters between a Noble-Man and his Sister* reissued.
- 1695 Henry Purcell, Dorothy Osborne die.
 Southerne's adaptation of AB's *Oroonoko* produced, Drury Lane, November or December.
 New theatre company formed by Thomas Betterton, Anne Bracegirdle, and Elizabeth Barry in Lincoln's Inn Fields.
 Catherine Trotter's dramatization *Agnes de Castro* produced, Drury Lane, December.
- 1696 *An Essay in Defense of the Female Sex* published; attributed to Judith Drake.
 Delarivier Manley's first play, *The Lost Lover*, produced at Drury Lane, probably March, and *The Royal Mischief*, Lincoln's Inn Fields, March or April.
 Mary Pix's first play, *Ibrahim*, presented at Drury Lane, probably in late April or early June.
The Younger Brother produced at Drury Lane, February; published in March with 'An Account of the Life of the Incomparable Mrs Behn'.
 Two issues of *The Histories and Novels of the Late Ingenious Mrs Behn*, which includes 'The Life and Memoirs of Mrs. Behn. Written by One of the Fair Sex'.
- 1697 *The Rover* revived by His Majesties Servants, Little-Lincolns-Inn-Fields; second edition published.
The False Count reissued.
 Possible revival of *The City-Heiress*.
 Possible revival of *The Young King*.
Poems upon Several Occasions (1684) bound with 'Lycidus' (1688) reissued.
- 1698 Jeremy Collier's *A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage* published.
 Second edition of *The Roundheads*.
 Second edition of *The City-Heiress*.
 Second edition of *The Young King*.

MARY ANN O'DONNELL

- Second edition of *The History of the Nun, or The Fair Vow-Breaker*.
- Third edition of the 1696 *Histories and Novels*, *All the Histories and Novels*, with three additional titles and the greatly expanded 'History of the Life and Memoirs of Mrs Behn . . . By one of the Fair Sex' [no evidence of a 'second' edition].
- The Unfortunate Bride*, including 'The Unfortunate Happy Lady' and 'The Dumb Virgin' printed but not published.
- The Wandring Beauty*, including 'The Unhappy Mistake' printed but not published.
- 1699 Possible revival of *The Town-Fopp* March; second edition published.
- 1700 Fourth edition of *All the Histories and Novels*.
 Dryden dies 1 May; buried in Westminster Abbey.
 Reissue of the fourth edition of *All the Histories and Novels. Histories, Novels, and Translations Written by the Most Ingenious Mrs Behn*, probably issued as a companion volume to the reissued fourth edition of *All the Histories*. Includes *The Discovery of New Worlds* (retitled) with the 'Essay of Translated Prose', *The History of Oracles*, and the works printed but not published in 1698, *The Unfortunate Bride*, 'The Unfortunate Happy Lady', 'The Dumb Virgin', *The Wandring Beauty*, 'The Unhappy Mistake'.
- 1701 James II dies in exile.
- 1702 Publication of sixteen of AB's collected plays (omits *The Younger Brother* and the attributed plays).
- 1707 Two previously unpublished and several other poems in variant states printed in *The Muses Mercury*.
- 1717 *The Land of Love*, a revision and rearrangement of the *Voyage to the Isle of Love*.
- 1718 Letters allegedly written by AB to Mrs Price, to 'Philander', and to Hoyle, along with several poems in variant issues, published in *Familiar Letters of Love, Gallantry, and Several Occasions*.