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978-0-521-88098-5 - Women's Writing in the British Atlantic World: Memory, Place and History, 1550-1700

Kate Chedgzoy

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WOMEN'S WRITING IN THE BRITISH ATLANTIC WORLD

Kate Chedgzoy explores the ways in which women writers of the early modern British Atlantic world imagined, visited, created and haunted textual sites of memory. Asking how women's writing from all parts of the British Isles and Britain's Atlantic colonies employed the resources of memory to make sense of the changes that were refashioning that world, the book suggests that memory is itself the textual site where the domestic echoes of national crisis can most insistently be heard. Offering readings of the work of poets who contributed to the oral traditions of Wales, Scotland and Ireland, alongside analyses of poetry, fiction and life-writings by well-known and less familiar writers such as Hester Pulter, Lucy Hutchinson, Mary Rowlandson and Aphra Behn, the book explores how women's writing of memory gave expression to the everyday, intimate consequences of the major geopolitical changes that took place in the British Atlantic world in the seventeenth century. Telling a story about women's textual production which is geographically and linguistically expansive and inclusive, it offers an unprecedentedly capacious and diverse history of early modern British women's writing as it began to take its place in a new Atlantic world.

KATE CHEDGZOY is Professor of Renaissance Literature at the University of Newcastle. She is the author of *Shakespeare's Queer Children: Sexual Politics and Contemporary Culture* (1996), and co-editor with Susanne Greenhalgh of a special issue of the journal *Shakespeare* on Shakespeare's incorporation into the cultures of childhood (2006). She is also co-editor of the volume *Shakespeare and Childhood*, with Susanne Greenhalgh and Robert Shaughnessy (Cambridge University Press, 2007).

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[More information](#)*Contents*

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page vii</i>
Introduction: 'A place on the map is also a place in history'	I
1 'The rich Store-house of her memory': The metaphors and practices of memory work	16
2 'Writing things down has made you forget': Memory, orality and cultural production	48
3 Recollecting women from early modern Ireland, Scotland and Wales	80
4 'Shedding teares for England's loss': Women's writing and the memory of war	125
5 Atlantic removes, memory's travels	168
Conclusion	198
<i>Notes</i>	200
<i>Bibliography</i>	235
<i>Index</i>	255

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[More information](#)

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