

Cambridge Elements

Elements on Women in the History of Philosophy
edited by
Jacqueline Broad
Monash University

OLYMPE DE GOUGES

Sandrine Bergès
Bilkent University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-01052-8 — Olympe de Gouges
Sandrine Bergès
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009010528
DOI: 10.1017/9781009023702

© Sandrine Bergès 2022

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2022

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-009-01052-8 Paperback
ISSN 2634-4645 (online)
ISSN 2634-4637 (print)

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Olympe de Gouges

Elements on Women in the History of Philosophy

DOI: 10.1017/9781009023702
First published online: July 2022

Sandrine Bergès
Bilkent University

Author for correspondence: Sandrine Bergès, sandrineberges@gmail.com

Abstract: Olympe de Gouges, though a well-known historical figure, has not been investigated as a philosopher until quite recently. Yet many of her writings have philosophical import, whether they are written in the genre of the philosophical treatise, drama, or political pamphlets. In the three main sections, the author gives an overview of some of Gouges's arguments, showing their originality and their relevance to debates contemporary to her and to us. In the Introduction, the author addresses the question of genre and argues that Gouges should be read as a philosopher, as well as a playwright and political writer. In the final section, the author draws out the relevance of her work for contemporary philosophers.

Keywords: Gouges, revolution, women's rights, slavery, republicanism

© Sandrine Bergès 2022

ISBNs: 9781009010528 (PB), 9781009023702 (OC)
ISSNs: 2634-4645 (online), 2634-4637 (print)

Contents

1 Introduction	1
2 Education, Progress, and Social Reform	10
3 Liberty	27
4 Equality	44
5 Death, Reputation, and Legacy	53
References	62