

PRODUCING WOMEN'S POETRY, 1600-1730

Producing Women's Poetry is the first specialist study to consider English-language poetry by women across the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Gillian Wright explores not only the forms and topics favoured by women, but also how their verse was enabled and shaped by their textual and biographical circumstances. She combines traditional literary and bibliographical approaches to address women's complex use of manuscript and print and their relationships with the male-generated genres of the traditional literary canon, as well as the role of agents such as scribes, publishers and editors in helping to determine how women's poetry was preserved, circulated and remembered. Wright focuses on key figures in the emerging canon of early modern women's writing, Anne Bradstreet, Katherine Philips and Anne Finch, alongside the work of lesser-known poets Anne Southwell and Mary Monck, to create a new and compelling account of early modern women's literary history.

GILLIAN WRIGHT is a senior lecturer in English Literature at the University of Birmingham. She has published extensively on early modern women's writing and reading, and is especially interested in women's reception of classical literature and the print—manuscript nexus in female writing. She has worked with the Perdita Project on manuscript compilations by sixteenth- and seventeenth-century women, and her anthology, *Early Modern Women's Manuscript Poetry* (2005), co-edited with Jill Seal Millman, won the Josephine Roberts Prize for the Best Edition of 2005, awarded by the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women. Together with Hugh Adlington and Tom Lockwood, she is co-editor of the forthcoming *Chaplains in Early Modern England: Patronage, Literature and Religion.* She has also published on Samuel Daniel's *The Civil Wars*, editorial theory, and the cultural influence of Stoic thinking in the early modern period.





Frontispiece: Portrait of Elizabeth Burnett by Sir Godfrey Kneller, Bt, 1707. © National Portrait Gallery, London.



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Text and Paratext, Manuscript and Print

GILLIAN WRIGHT

University of Birmingham





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Producing Women's Poetry is dedicated to my parents, and to Kathleen.



Textual conventions

Quotations from early modern texts follow original spelling and punctuation. I have regularised the use of i/j and u/v, expanded contractions and lowered superscripts. Italic and block capitals have been regularised to roman and initial capitals in quotations from early modern printed texts.

Early printed texts were published in London unless otherwise stated. Early modern manuscripts are generally cited by name of their modern collection or repository (notwithstanding the anachronism that sometimes results). Quotations from manuscript follow the final version of the text, ignoring corrections, unless these are relevant to the argument. All ellipses are my own unless otherwise stated.

Line references in poetic quotations are cited by number alone. All quotations from online sources were correct as of June 2012.



Abbreviations

ESTC English Short Title Catalogue estc.bl.uk

HMC Historical Manuscripts Commission, Report on Manuscripts Var. Coll. in Various Collections, vol. VIII (London: His Majesty's

Stationery Office, 1913)

IELM Index of English Literary Manuscripts

Klene Southwell, Anne, The Southwell-Sibthorpe Commonplace

Book: Folger MS V.b.198, ed. by Jean Klene (Tempe, AZ:

Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies, 1997)

McGovern Finch, Anne, *The Anne Finch Wellesley Manuscript Poems*, and ed. by Barbara McGovern and Charles H. Hinnant

Hinnant (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1998)

NRO Northamptonshire Record Office

ODNB Oxford Dictionary of National Biography www.oxforddnb.

com

OED Oxford English Dictionary www.oed.com

POSO Pope, Alexander, ed., Poems on Several Occasions (1717)

Reynolds Finch, Anne, The Poems of Anne Countess of Winchilsea,

ed. by Myra Reynolds (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago

Press, 1903)

Thomas I Philips, Katherine, The Collected Works of Katherine

Philips, the Matchless Orinda, vol. 1, ed. by Patrick Thomas

(Stump Cross Books, 1990)

Thomas II Philips, Katherine, The Collected Works of Katherine

Philips, the Matchless Orinda, vol. 11, ed. by Patrick Thomas

(Stump Cross Books, 1993)