Margaret Cavendish’s prolific and wide-ranging contributions to seventeenth-century intellectual culture are impossible to contain within the discrete confines of modern academic disciplines. Paying attention to the innovative uses of genre through which she enhanced and complicated her writings both within literature and beyond, this collection addresses her oeuvre and offers the most comprehensive and multidisciplinary resource on Cavendish’s works to date. The astonishing breadth of her varied intellectual achievements is reflected through elegantly arranged sections on History of Science, Philosophy, Literature, Politics, and New Directions, together with an Afterword by award-winning novelist Siri Hustvedt. The first book to cover nearly all of Cavendish’s major works in a single volume, this collection brings together a variety of expert perspectives to illuminate the remarkable ideas and achievements of one of the most fascinating and prolific figures of the early modern period.

Lisa Walters is Senior Lecturer at the University of Queensland. She is author of *Margaret Cavendish: Gender, Science and Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2014). She coedit the Restoration section of the *Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Early Modern Women Writers* and has published articles on Cavendish, Shakespeare, Milton, and early modern women.

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MARGARET CAVENDISH

An Interdisciplinary Perspective

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## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of Illustrations</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes on Contributors</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction: The Intellectual Span of Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of New Castle</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandie R. Siegfried and Lisa Walters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Part I History of Science

1. Margaret Cavendish: Natural Philosopher and Feminist
   Carolyn Merchant
   19

2. Margaret Cavendish Thinks about Sex
   Lisa T. Sarasohn
   33

   Stephen Clucas
   51

4. Margaret Cavendish and the Nature of Infinity
   Sara Mendelson
   69

### Part II Philosophy

5. Cavendish’s Philosophy of the Passions: Theory and Practice
   Jacqueline Broad and Maks Sipowicz
   83

6. Cavendish, *Philosophical Letters*, and the Plenum
   David Cunning
   98
Contents

7 Cavendish’s Philosophical Genres in Philosophical and Physical Opinions and the Question of Hierarchy 112
   Karen Detlefsen

PART III LITERATURE

8 Of Webs and Wonder: The Atomic Vitalism of Margaret Cavendish’s Poems and Fancies 129
   Brandie R. Siegfried

9 The Blazing World: Literary History, Genre, and the Inner World 144
   Mary Baine Campbell

10 Margaret Cavendish’s Prudence; or, Preservation and Transformation in Plays (1662) and Plays, Never Before Printed (1668) 158
   Lara Dodds

11 Lady Newcastle’s “Unsoiled Petticoats” and the Literary Reputation of Margaret Cavendish, 1652–1985 173
   James Fitzmaurice

PART IV POLITICS

12 The Politics of the English Civil Wars in Natures Pictures 189
   Mihoko Suzuki

13 Cavendish: The Nexus among Orations, Power, and Women Intellectuals 205
   Hilda L. Smith

14 Margaret Cavendish’s Sociable Letter #16: Women’s Political Obligation and Independence 219
   Joanne H. Wright

PART V NEW DIRECTIONS

15 Close Reading (and) Textual Bibliography: How Many Parts Does Margaret Cavendish’s Blazing World Have? 233
   Liza Blake
Contents  

16 Companions, Competitors, Contexts: Margaret Cavendish in Women Writers Online  
Sarah Connell  
248

17 Cavendish Studies and the Digital Turn  
Jacob Tootalian and Shawn Moore  
261

Afterword: Margaret Cavendish: A Grandmother for Twenty-First Century Philosophy of Science  
Siri Hustvedt  
274

Chronology of Works by Margaret Cavendish  
289
Select Bibliography  
291
Index  
294
Illustrations


2.2 Robert Hooke. *Micrographia: or some physiological descriptions of minute bodies made by magnifying glasses. With observations and Inquiries thereupon.* 1665. Engraving is Schem.XXIV. (Described on facing page p. 175): Observation XXXIX, Of the eyes and head of a grey drone fly. Courtesy of Wellcome Collection. Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)

2.3 Andreas Vesalius. “Male genitalia.” *De humani corporis fabrica.* 1543. Courtesy of U.S. National Library of Medicine

2.4 Andreas Vesalius. “Female genitalia.” *De humani corporis fabrica.* 1543. Courtesy of U.S. National Library of Medicine

3.1 Robert Hooke. *Micrographia: or some physiological descriptions of minute bodies made by magnifying glasses. With observations and inquiries thereupon.* 1665. Observation L, Of the wandering Mite. (Described on pp. 205–6.) Courtesy of Wellcome Collection. Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)

3.2 Robert Hooke. *Micrographia: or some physiological descriptions of minute bodies made by magnifying glasses. With observations and inquiries thereupon.* 1665. The image is located in “The Preface” and depicts a microscope (no pagination). Courtesy of Wellcome Collection. Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)
List of Illustrations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustration</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>Peeter Clouwet, engraver. Frontispiece, Margaret Cavendish, <em>Natures Pictures drawn by Fancies Pencil to the life</em>. 1656. Courtesy of British Library Board, shelfmark G.11599</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>Pieter Louis van Schuppen, after Abraham van Diepenbeeck, engraver. Frontispiece, Margaret Cavendish, <em>Natures Pictures drawn by Fancies Pencil to the Life</em>. 1671. Courtesy of British Library Board, shelfmark 8407.h.12</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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xii  Notes on Contributors

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Notes on Contributors

Reinventing Eden (Routledge, 2003); The Columbia Guide to American Environmental History (Columbia University Press, 2002); Autonomous Nature (Routledge, 2015); Spare the Birds! (Yale University Press, 2016); Science and Nature (Routledge, 2017); and The Anthropocene and the Humanities (Yale University Press, 2020), along with three edited books and more than 100 single-authored research articles. A Festschrift, After the Death of Nature (Routledge, 2018), and a symposium honoring her work appeared in 2018.

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In Memoriam
Brandie R. Siegfried

Before this volume went to press, Brandie R. Siegfried passed away after her fight with cancer. Her wide-ranging intellect, generosity, brilliance, kindness and vitality were an inspiration for many scholars, including myself. She published widely on Margaret Cavendish, becoming a formative influence upon the field and helping to establish Cavendish’s significance for literature, Western philosophy, science, and political thought. I am honored to have worked as coeditor with Professor Siegfried on this volume, which is her concluding contribution to scholarship. She was a bright, blazing light.

Lisa Walters
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I would also like to thank Brandie R. Siegfried’s husband, Mitch Harris. My deepest condolences for his loss.