Women Printing for Institutions in Early Modern Europe

Conference of the *Working Group for the History of Libraries, Books and Media* (Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel) and the ERC-funded project *WidowsPrint – Widows in the Growing Print Industry, 1550-1700*

4-6 November 2026
Organization: Saskia Limbach
Seminar room at the Meißnerhaus, Herzog August Bibliothek

Wednesday, 4 November 2026
14:00 Welcome
14:15 Opening Remarks
14:30 Panel 1 Central and Eastern Europe I

Claudia Resch (Austrian Academy of Sciences) / Felix Granadia (University of Vienna), *Temporary Administrators or Entrepreneurs in Their Own Right? A Quantitative Reassessment of Women Printers in the Sixteenth-Century German-Speaking World*

Jessica Farrell-Jobst (Independent Scholar), *This Woman's Work: Widow Printers and Their Work for Institutions in Early Modern Nuremberg*

15:30 Q&A
16:00 Break
16:15 Panel 2 Central and Eastern Europe II

Magdalena Komorowska (Jagiellonian University Kraków), *Printers' Widows in Early Modern Kraków: Privileges and the Survival of Printing Houses*

Helena Žáčková (Czech Academy of Sciences) / Vojtěch Šícha (Czech Academy of Sciences), *A Woman at a Printing Press*

Valentyna Bochkovska (Museum of Book and Printing of Ukraine), *The First Women in Ukrainian Printing*

17:45 Q&A

18:15 Reception

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Thursday, 5 November 2026
10:00 Panel 3 Western Europe

Evi Dijcks (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven), *'With Privilege of the Regents'. The Role of the Amsterdam Theatre in the Work of Poet and Printer Katharina Lescailje (1649-1711)*

Demi Van Breukelen (University of St Andrews), *Alida and Maria Matthysz: Printers to the Dutch West and East India Companies (1684-1723)*

Elise Watson (University of Edinburgh), *'Ordinarie Printresse[s] to the High and Mighty Lords': Women and Government Print Contracts in Scotland and the Dutch Republic, 1622-1700*

11:30 Q&A
12:00 Lunch (Meißnerhaus)

14:00 Panel 4 Western Europe & Southern Europe I

Martine van Elk (California State University), *Women Stationers and Theatrical Book Production in Seventeenth-Century Paris and Elsewhere*

Maria João Durães Albuquerque (Nova University Lisbon), *Women Printing for Institutions in Early Modern Portugal: Widowhood, Family Ties, and Business Continuity*

15:00 Q&A
15:30 Presentation of material on women in the early book trade (reading room)
17:00 Meeting *Working Group for the History of Libraries, Books and Media* (Arbeitskreis Bibliotheks-, Buch- und Mediengeschichte: Geschäftsausschuss-Sitzung)
19:00 Dinner

Friday, 6 November 2026
10:00 Panel 5 Western Europe & Southern Europe II

Flavia Bruni (University of Chieti-Pescara/ Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries), *'Domina Hieronyma de Cartularijs imprimebat Romae in vico Peregrini': A Woman Printing for Institutions in Sixteenth-Century Italy*

Michele Baracchi (University of Padua), *Keeping the Shop Afloat: Margherita and the Marescotti Press' Relation with the Florentine Government*

Irina Rabinovich (Holon Institute of Technology), *Widows of the Hebrew Press: Jewish Female Printers in Early Modern Europe*

11:30 Q&A
12:00 Closing Remarks
12:30 End of Conference

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