


2022

The Lady's Museum Project: A Digital Critical Edition in Phase 1 of Its Development, Now Available for Teachers and Students to Learn Collaboratively through Charlotte Lennox's Lady's Museum (1761-62)

Kelly Plante
Wayne State University, kellyjplante@wayne.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/abo>

 Part of the [Dramatic Literature, Criticism and Theory Commons](#), [Educational Methods Commons](#), [Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), and the [Literature in English, British Isles Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Plante, Kelly (2022) "The Lady's Museum Project: A Digital Critical Edition in Phase 1 of Its Development, Now Available for Teachers and Students to Learn Collaboratively through Charlotte Lennox's Lady's Museum (1761-62)," *ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830*: Vol.12: Iss.1, Article 9. <http://doi.org/10.5038/2157-7129.12.1.1312>
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/abo/vol12/iss1/9>

This Digital Humanities is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact scholarcommons@usf.edu.

The Lady's Museum Project: A Digital Critical Edition in Phase 1 of Its Development, Now Available for Teachers and Students to Learn Collaboratively through Charlotte Lennox's Lady's Museum (1761-62)

Abstract

This announcement informs readers on how they can use, and participate in, the Lady's Museum Project (ladysmuseum.com). It discusses the work completed and the forthcoming updates planned for teachers', scholars', and students' use of this first critical edition of Charlotte Lennox's the *Lady's Museum*, as of spring 2022.

Keywords

pedagogy, periodicals, digital humanities, women's writing, history of education, history of the press

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)

Cover Page Footnote

I would like to thank my co-editor Karenza Sutton-Bennett for her dedication to Lennox and periodical scholarship and our project; Karenza and Susan Carlile for their innovative course curriculum on the site (which is detailed in their article in this issue); Victoria E. Burke, Jenny Factor, Lisa Maruca, and their students for welcoming us into their classrooms and helping test our site; CSECS for the award of the D.W. Smith Research Fellowship in 2021; and the editors of ABO, without whose Summer 2020 #writewithaphra Writing Program and continuation thereof by Kirsten Saxton and Bethany Qualls, this collaborative site would not have happened.

The fascinating and intricately illustrated eighteenth-century literary magazine edited by Charlotte Lennox, the *Lady's Museum* (1761-62), has received much less scholarly attention than it should; no modern edition has been created for teaching and studying the magazine, and, through it, the culture and politics of its time—until now. *The Lady's Museum Project*, a digital critical edition and learning community, restores Lennox's radical-at-that-time philosophy of a global, women-inclusive educational curriculum. The project site, ladysmuseum.com, houses the [course reader](#) with [one- to four-day curriculum options](#) created by Karenza Sutton-Bennett and Susan Carlile (as detailed in this issue of ABO). In Phase 1 of its three-phase developmental schedule, the website is now ready for teachers of a range of subjects—such as the eighteenth century, the history of journalism, education, imperialism, women's writing, life writing, and more—to start using.

Through the support of the Canadian Society for Eighteenth Century Studies (CSECS) D.W. Smith Eighteenth-Century Research fellowship, the website is funded for fifteen years of domain and hosting fees. During Phase 1, the site was user-tested by undergraduate and graduate students in college and university classrooms in the United States and Canada, at Brandeis University, Wayne State University, and the University of Ottawa. The website's co-editors, PhD Candidates Karenza Sutton-Bennett (University of Ottawa) and Kelly Plante (Wayne State University), recommended readings from the [Lady's Geography](#), the [History of Harriot and Sophia](#), and the [Trifler](#) magazine sections. We then guest lectured on the *Lady's Museum* and the *Lady's Museum Project*, and collaborated with students on the [glossing activity](#) to annotate the text for potential publication to the website.

Because the *Lady's Museum* was not revised after its initial two-volume edition, and because copies of the original issues are (unfortunately) not available for public nor scholarly perusal, for the base text of this edition we used the text held at the British Library, digitised on Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) and transcribed by the Oxford University Text Creation Partnership (TCP) (volumes 1 and 2). (See our [About this Project](#) page for more on editorial protocols.) We have categorised and tagged the articles by [series](#), [genre](#), volume ([1](#) or [2](#)), and issue (issue [1](#) through [11](#)) to enable multiple pathways for exploring the magazine non-linearly (or linearly in the order [initially published](#)).

During Phase 2, we will be updating the teaching edition with student-authored glosses from Phase 1 and continuing testing of the edition in classrooms. We will launch the “Lady's Librivox” project thanks to Brandeis University-funded intern, PhD Candidate Jenny Factor, and volunteer undergraduate students from the University of Ottawa. “Lady's Librivox” will enable teachers to assign students professionalisation activities of recording and editing audio files for hosting the *Lady's Museum* on the free public-domain audiobook site, LibriVox.org. During Phase 3, once the (modernised)

teaching edition is completed, we will start work on the (unmodernised) scholarly edition. Please reach out to us if you are interested in teaching or volunteering with the project, especially through students participating in our editorial glossing and “Lady’s Librivox” assignments [or writing critical introductions](#). Collaborate with us on Twitter ([@LadysMuseumProj](#)), on [ladysmuseum.com](#), and at [the.ladys.museum@gmail.com](#) as we navigate Phases 2 and 3 of this community endeavour.