

CAROLINE BICKS

The University of Maine
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor and Stephen E. King Chair in Literature, The University of Maine, Orono, 2017—

Assistant to Associate Professor of English, Boston College, 2002-2017

Faculty, The Bread Loaf School of English, Ripton, VT, and Oxford, UK, 2011—

Assistant Professor of English, The Ohio State University, 1998-2002

Areas of Specialization: Gender in early modern literature and culture, Shakespeare, the history of science, girlhood studies, early modern cognition, feminist theory.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Stanford University, Department of English, June 1997

A.B., Harvard University, English and American Literature, *magna cum laude*, June 1989

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Cognition and Girlhood in Shakespeare's World: Rethinking Female Adolescence. Cambridge University Press, 2021.

Midwiving Subjects in Shakespeare's England. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2003.

The History of British Women's Writing, 1500-1610. Volume 2 of *The History of British Women's Writing.* Co-edited, and Introduction co-authored with Jennifer Summit. Hampshire: Palgrave, 2010. Paperback edition issued September, 2013.

Shakespeare, Not Stirred: Cocktails for Your Everyday Dramas. Co-authored with Michelle Ephraim. New York: Perigee Press, 2015; London: Scribe Press, 2015.

- Featured on national radio programs
- Reviewed in national print and online outlets in North America, the UK, and Australia
- Estimated international sales: 10,000 copies

ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- “Mary Ward and the Figuring of Female Networks,” in *Representing Women: Portraiture, Power and Visual Culture in the British Literary Renaissance*, ed. Yasmin Arshad and Chris Laoutaris (under contract with Arden)
- “Incited Minds: Rethinking Early Modern Girls,” *Shakespeare Studies* 44 (2016): 180-202.
- “Repeat Performances: Mary Ward’s Girls on the International Stage,” *Renaissance Drama* 44.2 (2016): 201-215.
- “‘Making the Stage my Profession’: Girlhood and Performance in Mary ‘Perdita’ Robinson’s Memoirs,” *Borrowers and Lenders: The Journal of Shakespeare and Appropriation* 9.1 (2014): 1-19.
- “Producing Girls in Mary Ward’s Convent Schools,” in *Gender and Early Modern Constructions of Childhood*, ed. Naomi Miller and Naomi Yavneh. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012. 139-156.
- “Gender and Sexuality in Middleton’s Plays,” in *Thomas Middleton in Context*, ed. Suzanne Gossett. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2011. 263-270.
- “Instructional Performances: Ophelia and the Staging of History,” in *Performance and Pedagogy on the Early Modern Stage*, ed. Kathryn McPherson and Katherine Moncrief. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2011. 205-216.
- “Staging the Jesuitess in *A Game at Chess*,” *Studies in English Literature* 49.2 (2009): 463-484.
- “Stones Like Women’s Paps: Revising Gender in Jane Sharp’s *Midwives Book*,” *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 7.2 (2007): 1-27.
- “Planned Parenthood: Minding the Quick Woman in *All’s Well*,” *Modern Philology* 103.3 (2006): 299-331.
- “Midwiving Virility in Early Modern England.” *Maternal Measures: Figuring Caregivers in the Early Modern Period*. Ed. Naomi Miller and Naomi Yavneh. Women and Gender in the Early Modern World. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2000. 49-64.
- “Backsliding at Ephesus: Shakespeare’s Diana and the Churching of Women.” *Pericles: Critical Essays*. Ed. David Skeele. New York: Garland, 2000. 205-227.

BOOK REVIEWS, ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, AND GLOSSES (selected)

- Entries for Mary Ward and Jane Sharp for *The Encyclopaedia of Early Modern Women’s Writing in English*, ed. Rosalind Smith and Patricia Pender, Palgrave, 2021.
- Review of *Travel and Travail: Early Modern Women, English Drama, and the Wider World*, ed. Akheime and Andrea. *Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England* 33 (2020): 309-314
- Annotations for Issue #12, “To Thine Own Self Be True.” In *Kill Shakespeare: The Backstage Edition*. By Anthony Del Col and Conor McCreery (IDW Publishing, 2015).
- Entries for Childbirth, Child-Rearing, Midwives, Churching and Pregnancy for *The Global Shakespeare Encyclopedia*, ed. Patricia Parker (Stanford University Press online)

CREATIVE NON-FICTION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

“Common App Essays by Shakespeare Characters.” McSweeney’s Internet Tendency. December 21, 2021.

“I am Lady Macbeth, and your Facebook post about your child’s acceptance to Harvard has enraged me.” McSweeney’s Internet Tendency (with Michelle Ephraim). December 19, 2019.

“Is the Husband Going to Be a Problem?” Modern Love column for the New York *Times*, Sunday Styles section. August 15, 2010.

“Means of Support.” Performed at the Triad Theater in New York City, August 25, 2011.

“willslit.” McSweeney’s Internet Tendency (with Michelle Ephraim). November 17, 2010.

“Sweet Dreams.” *Afterbirth: Stories You Won’t Read in a Parenting Magazine*. Ed. Dani Klein. New York: St. Martins Press, 2009.

“Letters to Santa Written by Shakespeare’s Characters.” McSweeney’s Internet Tendency (with Michelle Ephraim). December 17, 2009.

“Sweet Dreams.” Performed at the New York City Comedy Festival at Caroline’s Comedy Club, November 7, 2009; and at the American Repertory Theater’s Zero Arrow Theater, May 2, 2010 and June 14, 2009.

“Deciding to Walk the Aisle Without Dad,” commentary for “All Things Considered,” National Public Radio, February 10, 2005.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Faculty Fellowship, Boston College, Spring 2014

Ruth and Lillian Marino Chair for Excellence in Teaching, Bread Loaf School of English, 2013

Society for the Study of Early Modern Women Collaborative Research Award (with Jennifer Summit) for *The History of British Women’s Writing, 1500-1610*, Fall 2011

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend, Summer 2007

University Seed Grant, The Ohio State University, Spring 2001

Interdisciplinary Conference Grant (with David Cressy) for “Bodies of Literature/Histories of the Body,” The Ohio State University Office of International Studies, Spring 1999

Raymond MacDonald Alden Prize for the most distinguished doctoral dissertation in the Department of English, Stanford University, Spring 1998

Mellon Fellowship, 1996-97

Stanford Humanities Center, Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, 1995-96

Stanford Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Dissertation Fellowship, 1995-96

Stanford Centennial Teaching Assistant Award, Spring 1995

INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS (selected)

“Cognition and Girlhood in Shakespeare’s World,” Buenos Aires Shakespeare Festival, April 25, 2022.

“Antiochus’s Daughter: Memory, Girlhood, and the ‘True History of *Pericles*’.” Harvard Mahindra Humanities Center, March 4, 2022.

“Horror and Humanity,” virtual talk hosted by the University of Maine Alumni Association, July 9, 2020.

Pre-performance lecture on *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Collins Center for the Arts, Orono, ME, November 11, 2019.

Post-performance talk on *Hamlet*. Theater at Monmouth, Monmouth, ME, July 18, 2019

Pre-performance talk on *Richard III*. Theater at Monmouth, Monmouth, ME, July 13, 2018.

"Scholars of Wittenberg and Midwives of Israel: Or, Why Close Reading Matters." Panel: Reformation at 500, sponsored by the UMaine History Department. Orono, ME, November 1, 2017.

Pre-performance lecture on *Hamlet*. Collins Center for the Arts, Orono, ME, October 12, 2017.

“Shakespeare, Not Stirred.” Author Talk. Boston Public Library, November 17, 2016.

“‘From thirteene Yeares . . . resolved to serve God’: Accounting for Adolescence in the Life of Mary Ward.” Invited Speaker. University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, October 15, 2016.

“The Change of Fourteen Years”: Minding the Female Adolescent in Early Modern England.” Invited Speaker. University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, October 13, 2016.

“Shakespeare, Not Stirred.” Keynote speaker. Kansas City Public Library, First Folio Exhibit Opening Gala. Kansas City, MO, June 6, 2016.

“Rethinking Shakespeare’s Girls.” Invited Keynote Lecture. Ohio Wesleyan group in Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Delaware, OH, January 29, 2016.

“*The Winter’s Tale*.” Invited Speaker. Hosted by the Actors’ Shakespeare Project as part of their free and open to the public series of conversations with local scholars and artists. Brookline, MA, December 13, 2015.

“Shakespeare, Not Stirred.” Guest Speaker. Folger Shakespeare Library. Washington, DC, September 25, 2015.

“Incited Minds: Rethinking Shakespeare’s Girls.” Invited Panelist: Shakespeare and Girlhood. Conference: Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America. Vancouver, BC, April 4, 2015.

“Shakespeare’s Brainy Girls: Seeing Beyond the Hysterical.” Plenary Speaker. Janet Grayson Lecture in Literary Studies. Keene State College. Keene, NH. April 24, 2014.

“Threshold Acts: Restaging Girls in Early Modern England.” Invited speaker. Society for the Study of Renaissance Women at CUNY. New York City, November 15, 2012.

“Women of Will” (with Tina Packer). Guest Scholar on post-show panel at Central Square Theatre. Cambridge, MA, October 27, 2011.

“Shaping Babies, Making Men: The Politics of Birth in Shakespeare’s *Richard III*.” Washington College’s Sophie Kerr Lecture Series. Chestertown, MD, September 25, 2006.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

“#MarinaToo: Staging the Repressed in *Pericles*.” American Shakespeare Center Blackfriars Conference. Staunton, VA, October 25, 2019

“Spirits, Sorcery, and the Adolescent Brain in Milton’s *Comus*” Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America. Washington, DC. April 18, 2019

“Stored Up Like a Triple Eye: Incestuous Production in *All’s Well*.” Invited Participant. Panel: *Shakespeare and Kinship*. Conference: Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America. New Orleans, March 24, 2016.

“Mary Ward’s Performances.” Invited Participant. Panel: *Worldly Women: Cosmopolitanism and Transnational Performance in Early Modern Europe*. Conference: Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association. Vancouver, January 10, 2015.

“Incited Minds.” Invited Participant. Panel: *Orders of Knowledge and Being*. Conference: Radical Readings: A Workshop on Early Modern Artifacts. Boston College, May 4, 2013.

“This Is Your Brain on Puberty: Incited Minds and the Early Modern Girl-Actor.” Invited Roundtable Participant. Panel: “*A Little World Made Cunningly*”: *Generative Bodies and Early Modern Natural Philosophy*. Conference: Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association. Boston, January 4th, 2013.

“Rueful Acts: Perdita, Ophelia, and Flora the Whore.” Invited participant. Panel: *Shakespeare and the Plastic Arts*. Conference: Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America. Boston, April 6th, 2012.

“Girls on Stage in the Continental Convents.” Invited speaker. Conference: *Exile and Religious Identity in Early Modern Britain and Ireland*. The Ohio State University, May 16, 2008.

“Revising Womanhood in Jane Sharp’s *Midwives Book*.” Panel: *Women and Health in the Early Modern Period*. Conference: *The Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting*. Chicago, April 4, 2008.

“Singing Histories: A Reconsideration of Ophelia’s Madness.” Invited participant. Panel: *Gender and Instruction in Early Modern England*. Conference: *Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America*. Dallas, March 14, 2008.

PODCASTS AND RADIO INTERVIEWS FOR *SHAKESPEARE, NOT STIRRED* (links available at www.everydayshakespeare.com)

“Here and Now” (national NPR show)

“Books and Arts” (national Australian radio program)

“Radio Boston” (WGBH, Boston Public Radio)

“Shakespeare Unlimited” (Folger Shakespeare Library Podcast)

“Good Food” (NPR affiliate KCRW)

Huffington Post Live

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE, ORONO, ME, 2017—

Undergraduate Courses

Writing the Self

Sex, Gender and the Body in Early Modern English Literature

Shakespeare and his Contemporaries

The Art of Interpretation

Horror and Humanity

Horrible Imaginings (for the Honors College)

Graduate Courses

Shakespeare and his Contemporaries

Early Modern English Lyric Poetry

Early Modern Drama

BREADLOAF SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, RIPTON, VT, AND OXFORD, UK, SUMMER 2011—

Graduate Courses

Imagining Adolescence in Early Modern England

Shakespeare’s Later Plays

Sex, Gender and the Body in Early Modern England

Male, Female, Other

“Remember Me”: Making History in Shakespeare’s Plays

Advanced Writing Tutorial

BOSTON COLLEGE, ASSISTANT TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, 2002—2017

Undergraduate Courses

Advanced Colloquium in Women’s Studies

Making Sex in Early Modern England

Gender Crossings: Theories and Methods of Interpretation

Literature and Society: Writing from the Outside (Core)

First-Year Writing Seminar

Convents, Covens and Crusaders: Reading Communities of Women

Shakespeare’s Early Plays

Shakespeare’s Later Plays

Studies in Poetry

Narrative and Interpretation

Constructions of Gender in Early Modern England (Advanced Topics Seminar)

Graduate Courses

Growing Up Shakespeare

Advanced Research Colloquium (for 3rd-and 4th-year PhD students)

Gender Crossings: Theories and Representations (PhD seminar)
Feminist Inquiry: Strategies for Effective Scholarship (co-taught with Debra Kaufman and Jo Triglio for the
Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies at MIT)
Shakespeare
Sex, Gender, and the Body in Early Modern England (taught as both a PhD seminar and an M.A.-level
colloquium)

Courses for Secondary-School Teachers

Shakespeare Pedagogy Lab
Imperial Shakespeare (for the Classical Association of New England Summer Institute,
July 6 -10, 2004, Dartmouth College)

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, 1998—2002

Undergraduate Courses

Honors Seminar: Writing the Body in Early Modern England
Shakespeare and His World
Convents, Covens, and Crusaders
First-Year Writing

Graduate Courses

Introduction to Graduate Studies
Sex, Gender and the Body in Early Modern England

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (selected)

- Faculty Planning Committee and Instructor, First-Year Research Learning Experience Bridge Week, University of Maine, 2021—
- CLAS Award Committee, University of Maine, 2020—
- Honorary Degree Committee, University of Maine, 2021—
- Search Committee Chair, Theater/English joint hire, University of Maine, 2020
- Search Committee Chair, Theater fixed-length position, University of Maine, 2019
- Graduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Maine, 2017—
- Board Member and Boston College Representative, Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women and Sexuality, July 2014 — May 2017
- 18thC Job Search Committee, English Department, Boston College, September 2015—December 2015
- Undergraduate Honors Committee, English Department, Boston College, September 2014 —
- Director of the M.A. Program, English Department, Boston College, July 2009 —June 2012
- University Grievance Committee, Boston College, Sept. 2011—
- Medieval Job Search Committee, English Department, Boston College, Sept. 2010-December 2010
- Committee on Academic Integrity, Boston College, September 2009 —
- Associate Director of the M.A. Program, English Department, Boston College, January 2006–June 2008
- Mentor, Teachers for a New Era, Boston College, September 2005 —
- Women's Studies Advisory Board, Boston College, 2003 —

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Board Member

Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society

Panelist

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend Awards, 2011—

Reviewer

Ashgate Publishing, Palgrave Press, Routledge, The Ohio State University Press, *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *Shakespeare Studies*, *Literature Compass*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, *Religion and the Arts*, *Gender and History*, *Studies in Philology*