



CALL FOR PAPERS

Women in print

production, distribution, consumption

A TWO DAY CONFERENCE
13-14 September 2018

ORGANISED BY

**The Centre for Printing
History and Culture**

TO BE HELD AT

Winterbourne House & Garden

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM, UK

In conjunction with Winterbourne House and Garden, the Centre for Printing History and Culture (Birmingham City University / University of Birmingham) is organising a two-day international conference, which aims to review and reassess the contribution made by women to printing and print culture from its origins to the present day.

Women have always played a pivotal role in the production, distribution and consumption of print. In 1998 Leslie Howsam observed: '... women can be identified at every node of the [book production] cycle and at all periods in history, from the printers' widows operating independently in the craft guilds of early modern Europe to the avid readership of romance novels, not to mention a strong tradition of women's writing.' Women worked in printing houses, in the book trades, and they designed and consumed print in a male-dominated world.

However, the social and economic conditions under which their activity took place requires further investigation. Women have used print to question their role and status, challenge male privilege and subvert representations of women that were used to justify the political, social and economic *status quo*.

This conference coincides with the centenary of the passing of the Representation of the People Act, which granted the right to vote to British women over the age of thirty. Central to the campaign for female suffrage was printed material: pamphlets, posters, plays, fiction, poetry, flyers, banners and newspapers were all utilised in support of the suffragettes' cause. This use of printing technology is indicative of the wider engagement of women with print culture throughout world history.

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to recover the lives, work and impact of women who have been active in all aspects of printing and print culture, and to assess those contributions that may have been neglected or undervalued.

We welcome proposals from academics, students, independent researchers and practitioners who are engaged in any research or practice in this area.

POSSIBLE THEMES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO

- Women in the printing and book trades
- Women as printers and publishers
- Printing and education
- Printing applications and innovations
- The printing industry and processes
- Print and politics
- Print and feminism
- Type and typographic design
- Book and jobbing design

PROPOSALS

Please send 200 word abstracts for 20-minute papers and brief biographical details to womeninprint2018@gmail.com by **12-noon GMT, 15 November 2017**.

All papers will be considered for publication in *Printing History and Culture* a new CPHC book series published by Peter Lang Ltd.

ABOUT CPHC

The Centre for Printing History and Culture is a joint initiative between Birmingham City University and the University of Birmingham and consists of researchers, heritage professionals and librarians. It seeks to encourage research into all aspects and periods of printing history and culture, as well as education and training into the art and practice of printing. For more information visit www.cphc.org.uk.

CPHC STEERING GROUP

Prof Caroline Archer-Parre, Sahar Afshar, Dr Kate Croft, Dr Matthew Day, Dr Malcolm Dick, Jenni Dixon, Jessica Glaser, Lee Hale, Dr Chris Hill, Dr John Hinks, Rebecca Howson, Martin Killeen, Darryl Lim, Dr Lucie Ryzova, Dr Vaibhav Singh, Dr Connie Wan.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS
15 November 2017