

PROGRAM

Female Anatomists

*Gendered Perspective of
Sensory Expertise in Early Modern Europe*

Conference

11-12 December 2025

Liège, Belgium and online



Fig.2.

Engraving with hatching by A.J. Defehrt after L.-J. Goussier, "Chirurgie".
Source: Wellcome Collection.

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11 December

9.00-9.15 Welcome

9.15-9.30

Introduction, Viktoria von Hoffmann

(Senior Research Associate, Fund for Scientific Research/University of Liège)

Session Chair: Alessandro Laverda

(Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Liège)

9.30-10.30

Sharon Strocchia (Professor, Emory University), *Domesticating Anatomy:*

Women and the Art of Leeching in Late Renaissance Italy

Discussant: Sandra Cavallo (Professor, Royal Holloway University of London)

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.00

Alessandra Quaranta (Researcher, Italian-German Historical Institute of Trento), *Observing Symptoms, Overturning Corpses: Women's Sensory Experiences of the Ill and Dead Bodies in the Republic of Venice (Sixteenth-Seventeenth Centuries)*

Discussant: Sandra Cavallo (Professor, Royal Holloway University of London)

12.00-13.00

Cynthia Klestinec (Professor, Miami University),

Women and the Popular Errors Tradition

Discussant: Francesco Paolo de Ceglia

(Full professor, Università di Bari Aldo Moro)

13.00-14.30 Lunch

Session Chair: Alessandra Quaranta

(Researcher, Italian-German Historical Institute of Trento)

14.30-15.30

Alessandra Foscati (Associate Professor, UniCamillus - International University of Health and Medical Sciences, Rome), *Bloody Practices. The work of Midwives Between the Fourteenth and Sixteenth Centuries (Italian Peninsula and France)*

Discussant: Rafael Mandressi (Research Director CNRS, EHESS/Centre Koyré, Paris)

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-17.00

Alessandro Laverda (Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Liège), *Modesty, Noblewomen, and the Inquiry on Incorrupt Female Corpses in Early Modern Italy and Spain*

Discussant: Francesco Paolo de Ceglia

(Full professor, Università di Bari Aldo Moro)

*the conference is the conclusive event of the « Female Anatomists » Incentive Grant for Scientific Research (MIS Mandat d'Impulsion Scientifique) n° F.4544.23 (2023-2025), awarded by the Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.-FNRS).

12 December

9.15-9.30 Welcome

Session Chair: Erica Ciccarella
(Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre
d'Études Supérieures de la Renaissance
(CESR), University of Tours)

9.30-10.30

Michael Stolberg (Senior Professor,
University of Würzburg), *Female
Surgeons in Early Modern Germany
(1550-1750)*

Discussant: Gideon Manning
(Visiting Associate Professor, UCLA)

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.00

Catherine Baudouin (PhD Candidate,
EHESS/Centre Alexandre Koyré, Paris),
*The Surgical Skills of Midwives in Spain
and the Spanish Atlantic World
in the Sixteenth Century*

Discussant: Gideon Manning
(Visiting Associate Professor, UCLA)

12.00-13.00

Julia Martins (Public Historian),
*A Charitable Female Healer: Madame
Fouquet's Remedies and Seventeenth-
Century Medicine*

Discussant: Rafael Mandressi
(Research Director CNRS, EHESS/Centre
Koyré, Paris)

13.00-14.30 Lunch

Session Chair: Viktoria von Hoffmann
(Senior Research Associate, Fund for
Scientific Research/University of Liège)

14.30-15.30 Lucia Dacome

(Associate Professor and Pauline M.H.
Mazumdar Chair in the History of
Medicine, University of Toronto), *Surgical
Families: Women, Skill, and Mobility in
Italy's Long Eighteenth Century*

Discussant: Sandra Cavallo (Professor,
Royal Holloway University of London)

15.30-16.00 Final remarks

