Guidelines for Book and Multimedia Reviews:
A good review will carefully and succinctly summarize the main points of the book, exhibit, film, performance, website, or other scholarly platform and also endeavor to be impartial but sympathetic, honest yet fair critical judgment, applied to an assessment of the work’s strengths and weaknesses. Situate the item to be reviewed in current scholarship and indicate directions for future research.

Please remember that you are addressing an interdisciplinary audience, so indicate not only what the author or artist has accomplished in her or his own discipline, but also what is useful for other disciplines—literature, European history, world history, women's studies, art, music, religious studies, history of rhetoric, history of science, etc.

Book and Multimedia Reviews on Scholastica:
You will need to login to the Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal portal at Scholastica in order to access the instructions specific to the item which you will be reviewing (book, exhibit, film, performance, website, or other) and to submit your completed review. Upon acceptance, you will be directed to a “Manuscript” page, which will include the title of the work, instructions, and—if applicable—a cluster of models specific to the item to be reviewed (exhibit, film, performance, website, other multimedia work, etc.). Please follow the instructions attached to your invitation and the relevant models accordingly.

To submit your completed review, please login to Scholastica, click on the “Manuscript” affiliated with your invitation, and then click on the “Discussion” tab to initiate an exchange with the Book Review Editor. A text box will open into which you may paste a copy of your review from an MSWord document. Please note that you will not be using the online review form, which is reserved exclusively for the assessment of essay submissions. Book and multimedia reviews should be submitted via the “Discussion” tab within the appropriate “Manuscript” within Scholastica.

More information about creating or accessing an account in Scholastica is available in the EMWJ Scholastica Instructional Guide. For login or other account access issues, please contact Scholastica’s technical support.

General Format for Book and Multimedia Reviews:
Begin the review with a headnote that contains all pertinent information, for example:


Please keep your review to 1000–1500 words.

End the review with your name and institution or the designation “independent scholar.”

Please include a contributor’s note at the end of the file.

Reviews should not include footnotes, but can use parenthetical citations for other works, if necessary. Cite the page number only within parentheses: (25) rather than (p. 25).

Please follow United States, not European, punctuation rules. Reviews will be edited for spelling, punctuation, formatting, and unclear or awkward language. Reviewers may be asked to clarify, shorten, or expand their review. See the EMWJ Style Guide for details.