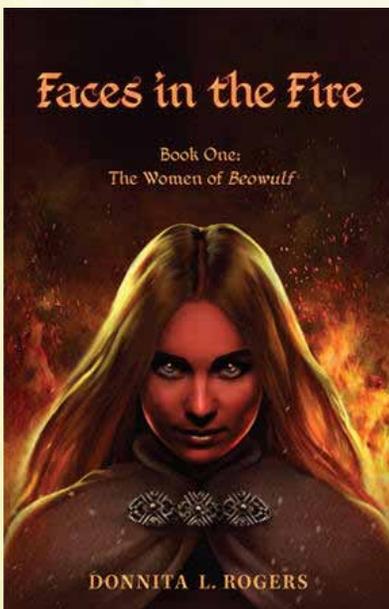


ACMRS NEWS

JULY 2013

BAGWYN BOOKS NEW RELEASE: FACES IN THE FIRE BOOK ONE OF THE WOMEN OF BEOWULF SERIES BY DONNITA ROGERS



Growing up female in a Viking world of rough men and horrifying monsters is a tall order for any girl. Freawaru, daughter of a sixth-century Danish chieftain, does not have to kill the night-walking Grendel monster herself; the powerful Beowulf takes on that challenge. Freawaru must contend with other assaults both from within and without that demand her wits and intellect.

First she must learn how to use and control her goddess-given gift: the ability to see the future. In her father's hall she is challenged by her sly and lecherous older cousin, and by the mysterious rune-master who may be a madman.

On a broader stage, she is challenged to act as peace-weaver between tribes, marrying a rival chieftain to end an ancient feud. In her husband's hall she is faced with a mother-in-law who wishes her dead — unless she can produce a son. Should she fail, and the feud break out again, she will be forced to make a new life for herself in a foreign land.

"In her book, Donnita Rogers uses an informed imagination to lead us back into a pagan world where women's voices were loud and clear, their actions essential to the weave of tribal life, and where their fears, their ambitions, their dreams seem surprisingly like our own"

— Benjamin Bagby, performer of Beowulf and other medieval epics

"The detail with which Donnita Rogers draws us into her early Scandinavian world is astonishing. She presents the Freawaru of Beowulf as a seeress with involuntary and nightmarish visions who is skilled in the use of herbs and runes (giving clear instructions for the use of each), and she also appropriates recent archaeological discoveries at Lejre in Denmark to create a tangible material setting. But above all, lively conversations erupting into action propel us through Freawaru's life story to a surprising conclusion that invites us to look forward to Rogers' next novel: Book II of "The Women of Beowulf."

— Marijane Osborn, University of California at Davis

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OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD

The Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS) announces a research award for the outstanding paper written by an ASU, NAU, or UA graduate student working in any aspect of Medieval or early Renaissance Studies. The award provides up to \$500 toward the travel expenses of the student to attend the International Congress on Medieval Studies sponsored by the Medieval Institute and held every year in May at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. *Please note that in order to receive the award you must be able to attend the next Medieval Congress. See website for details: <http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/congress/>.

Applications should consist of a 15-page paper on any subject suitable to the Kalamazoo program and the name and contact information of a faculty mentor ACMRS may consult regarding your work. For more information about the application process, contact the ACMRS Outreach & Media Coordinator (Kendra.TerBeek@acmrs.org). **Applications should be emailed to Dr. Robert Bjork, Director, Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Arizona State University, at acmrs@acmrs.org by the application due date. (Application Deadline: September 1, 2013 for the 2014 Medieval Congress*)**

For more information about this travel award, please visit:
<http://acmrs.org/academic-programs/awards-grants/graduate-travel-award>

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COMING AUGUST 26 IN TEMPE:

Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Public Programs Series

F

Fearless Females:

Audacious and Feisty Women of the
Middle Ages and Renaissance



“More than Shakespeare’s ‘Dark Lady’: The
Life and Work of Aemilia Lanyer”
Erin McCarthy, Assistant Director, ACMRS

MONDAY, AUGUST 26 AT 7:00 PM
CHANGING HANDS BOOKSTORE
6428 SOUTH MCCLINTOCK DRIVE TEMPE, AZ 85283

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Women and Gender Studies
ASU School of Social
Transformation
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

THE ARIZONA CENTER FOR
MEDIÉVAL &
RENAISSANCE
STUDIES

project
humanities
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

changing hands
BOOKSTORE

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to <http://darklady.eventbrite.com>

This program is generously
co-sponsored by:
Project Humanities and
Women & Gender Studies in the
School of Social Transformation at ASU
This program will be held at
Changing Hands Bookstore in Tempe, AZ.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP at
<http://darklady.eventbrite.com/>

Join us for another great Fearless Females event on Aemilia Bassano Lanyer (c. 1569–1645), who was born in London to Baptista Bassano, a court musician of Venetian descent, and Margaret Johnson, his “reputed wife.” As a girl, she was educated in the household Susan Bertie, Dowager Countess of Kent. She later became the mistress of the powerful Lord Chamberlain, Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon; when she became pregnant with Hunsdon’s child, she was, according to astrologer Simon Forman, “for color married to a minstrel.” Her husband, court musician Alfonso Lanyer, reportedly “delte hardly with her and spent and consumed her goods.” These early experiences inform her *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum* (1611), the first book of original English poetry by a woman to be published in the seventeenth century and one of the first books addressed specifically to a female audience. Lanyer, like most Renaissance authors, seems not to have made much money from publishing her work, and after her husband’s death, she attempted to support herself by opening a small school and securing a patent to weigh hay and grain rather than remarrying. Nevertheless, for much of the twentieth century, her accomplishments were overshadowed by dubious claims that she was the “Dark Lady” of Shakespeare’s sonnets. This talk will focus on three questions: Why was Lanyer thought to be Shakespeare’s “Dark Lady”? What are the stakes of thinking about her in this way? Most importantly, how can we best understand and appreciate Aemilia Lanyer’s own achievements? <http://acmrs.org/public-programs/public-lecture-series>

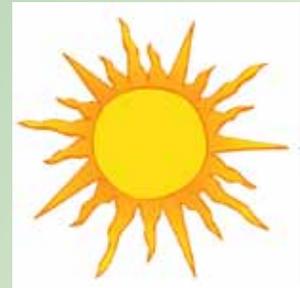
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UPCOMING ACMRS EVENTS

JUNE

June 18th
Official Bagwyn Books Release
Faces in the Fire
Book One of the *Women of Beowulf* series
By Donnita L. Rogers

JULY



AUGUST

“More than Shakespeare’s ‘Dark Lady’:
The Life and Work of Aemilia Lanyer”
Fearless Females Part XI
Monday, August 26, 2013 at 7:00 pm
Erin McCarthy, Assistant Director, ACMRS
Changing Hands Bookstore
6428 South McClintock Drive
Tempe, AZ 85283
<http://darklady.eventbrite.com/>

For more information about ACMRS news and events, visit our website at
<http://acmrs.org/news/events> or send an email to acmrs@acmrs.org.



Questions? Please feel free to contact ACMRS with any questions or suggestions you might have. Send all correspondence by email to acmrs@acmrs.org or by mail to this address. We’d love to hear from you!

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