



Considering Female Emotions in Early Modern Theatre

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Abstract: This article investigates the connections established between emotion and gender in the discourse on theatre in the 16th and 17th centuries, considering not only heroines and actresses, but also female spectators. Although these connections are ambivalent, they reveal the moral significance and the social dimension of theatrical emotions, bring to light their evolutions and variations and challenge the status of dramatic fiction and the gendered division of roles.

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