



The *Fausse Prude* affair, birth of a black legend about Madame de Maintenon

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [Revue d'histoire littéraire de la France](#)
4 - 2020, 120e année, n° 4. varia

Author: Grande (Nathalie)

Abstract: Madame de Maintenon has endured in literary history as the person who allegedly caused the expulsion of the Comédiens Italiens in 1697 because of a play, *La Fausse Prude*, where she supposedly recognized herself. The analysis of the first historical sources on this subject, the *Lettres historiques et galantes* by Madame Du Noyer, the correspondence of Madame Palatine, and the *Mémoires* of Saint-Simon, shows how a black legend was constructed, one for which we struggle to find the slightest historical foundation.

Pages: 941 to 951

Journal: [Journal of French Literary History](#)

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782406110668

ISBN: 978-2-406-11066-8

ISSN: 2105-2689

DOI: 10.15122/isbn.978-2-406-11066-8.p.0173

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 11-02-2020

Periodicity: Quarterly

Language: French

Keyword: Mme de Maintenon, Madame Du Noyer, Élisabeth-Charlotte, duchesse d'Orléans, Madame Palatine, Saint-Simon, Comédie-Italienne, 1697, Michel Baron, reception, history of the theater

[Display online](#)