



## Marie de Gournay literary historian

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Abstract: Marie de Gournay is known today above all for her contributions to the dissemination of Montaigne's *Essais* or for her writing on sexual equality. This article looks at the role she played in evaluating and defending late sixteenth-century literature in the face of Malherbe's reforms. Her attachment to translation and her awareness of the ways in which literature evolved across the ages make her one of the little-known bridges between humanism and classicism, many features of which she outlined.

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