



CFP

VOICES OF PERSUASION: WOMEN WRITERS AND RHETORIC IN THE EARLY MODERN ITALY Rome, 25th-26th September 2025

The conference aims to bring together scholars to explore the forms and methods of communication of women writers in the early modern period in Italy (1500-1699). This period marks a significant moment in the history of women European literature since it represents the beginning of their canonization. Papers will address the status and role of women in the field of rhetoric and the particular approach of women writers in the use of rhetoric in their literary production.

We welcome proposals for contributions that focus on the following topics:

- the use of rhetorical modes and devices in the literary production of women writers
- women's contribution to discussion of rhetorical theory and representation of women in early modern rhetorical treatises
- the use of epistolography, sermon, and dialogue in the literary production of women

The conference will conclude with a lecture by Julia L. Hairston (Università Roma Tre).

Contributions can be presented in Italian, English, or French. This will be a hybrid event: in-person participation is preferred, but remote participation is also possible.

Proposals for contributions, accompanied by a title, an abstract (max. 800 characters) and a brief biobibliographical profile (max. 500 characters) should be sent by 10 May 2025 in a single file in *doc format and titled 'Cfp_Voices of Persuasion_Cognome' to vocidellapersuasione@gmail.com (with the subject line 'Application'). An e-mail address for contact purposes should also be indicated in the file. Notification of selection will be made within 15 days after the call for papers has closed.

Participation is free of charge. The organisation cannot offer reimbursement of expenses or accommodation, but will provide meals and refreshments for participants.

For information regarding participation and organisation of the conference, please contact Serena Mauriello and Katie Sparrow at:

serena.mauriello1992@gmail.com

katiensparrow@gmail.com

vocidellapersuasione@gmail.com

Paper proposals will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of: Chiara Cassiani (Università della Calabria); Elisa Curti (Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia); Luca Marozzi (Università Roma Tre); Serena Mauriello (Università Roma Tre); Katie Sparrow (Università Roma Tre, University of Notre Dame).

Organisers: Serena Mauriello, Katie Sparrow