

Call for Papers:
**Confirming, Challenging, and Transgressing Normative Gender Roles
and Identities in Art and Architecture**

**Panel at the Conference of the Historians of Netherlandish Art
Amsterdam, 2-5 June 2021**

Outsiders visiting the Early Modern Low Countries frequently commented that women there operated with a shocking amount of freedom, including inhabiting locations and engaging in activities which were, elsewhere, considered the domain of men. Modern historians have confirmed the very different parameters of normative gender roles in the Netherlands' public life. But just how elastic were those revised norms, and how were they registered in the domains of visual, spatial, and material culture?

This session probes the boundaries of gender norms and typologies in the Low Countries. We seek papers that address bodily redefinitions, spatial reconfigurations, material manipulations, and visual representations reflecting both re-normed and non-normative spaces, identities, and behaviors, and attitudes to them. Papers might address these issues through various genres of painting, the built environment, modes of viewing and displaying objects, items of clothing, sensory perception, and verbal discourses about art. Contrary to the Netherlands' relatively greater flexibility with regard to the division of gender roles and spaces, non-normative sexuality would seem to have been even less visible than elsewhere in Europe, and we also seek papers that explore that aspect of Netherlandish culture as it is expressed in the arts.



Jacob van Loo, *Amaryllis Crowning Myrtle* (1660).
Muiderslot, Muiden

This panel thus challenges art historians to investigate the role of art, artists, writers and collectors in asserting sexual, emotional, and social claims with regard to gender, querying the extent to which artworks, architecture, objects, biographies and criticism could confirm or negate normative gender roles and identities, inspire or reflect on the transgression of boundaries, and enforce or subvert traditional binaries.

Session chairs:

Elizabeth Honig (University of Maryland), elizahonig@yahoo.com

Thijs Weststeijn (Utrecht University), m.a.weststeijn@uu.nl

Please send proposals of max. 500 words, along with a single-paged curriculum vitae, to the session chairs. As part of 90 minute-sessions, papers should be max. 20 minutes long. Proposals should present new, rather than published research and reflect the current state of scholarship.

Deadline: 1 July 2020. Applicants will be notified by the program chairs no later than 1 August 2020.
URL: <https://hnanews.org/call-for-papers-2021-hna-conference/>