The purpose of this conference is to explore the representations women give of themselves, and to consider the significance they attribute to their knowledge and expertise. We shall attempt to evaluate the degree to which women defined their identity according to their knowledge and to the developments that characterized the epistemological models of the period. Though women’s access to learning was extremely limited, we shall consider to which degree they nevertheless appeared as generators of knowledge and innovation in the eyes of their contemporaries as well as in our own.

This conference has been organized by Béatrice Mousli Bennett (USC) & Caroline Trotot (UPEM) and is part of a series of events taking place in Paris, at the University of Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée (UPEM), the Institut National de l’Histoire de l’Art (INHA) and the Musée du Louvre. The full program can be found at http://lisaa.u-pem.fr/programmes/.

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Portraits and Fictions of the Self:
Representations of Women’s Knowledge in the 16th–18th Centuries

February 27th, 2014
Intellectual Commons
Doheny Memorial Library
Morning

8:45 – Accueil / Welcome

9:15 – Introduction: Caroline Trotot, Maître de conférences, Vice-Présidente adjointe Recherche, Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée

9:45 – 11:00 – Religion, Société, Identité / Religion, Society, Identity

   Michael Soubbotnik
   Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée
   “Lucy Hutchinson, portrait de femme en latiniste absente.”

   Thomas Carr
   University of Nebraska-Lincoln
   “Learning, Gender, and Self-representation among 18th-century Jansenist Women.”

11:15 – 12:30 – Identité et Représentation / Identity and Representation

   Caroline Trotot
   Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée
   “Les mémoires de Marguerite de Valois, experience des saviors, saviors de l’expérience.”

   Natania Meeker & Antonia Szabari
   University of Southern California
   “Madeleine Basseporte and the plants of the Jardin du Roi.”

12:45 – 2:00pm – Déjeuner / Lunch Reception

Afternoon

2:00 – 3:45 – Corps, Identité, Écriture / Body, Identity, Writing

   Cathy Yandell,
   Carleton College, Minnesota
   “The Dialogic Body in the Self-Portraiture of Catherine des Roches.”

   Hélène Bah-Ostowiecki,
   Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée
   “Elisabeth dans ses lettres à Descartes : un corps pour la philosophie.”

   Olga De Souza Soubbotnik,
   Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Brasil
   “L’autoportrait parmi les écritures de soi de la perspective psychanalytique.”

4:00 – 5:15 – Vues de l’extérieur / Views from the outside

   Anneliese Pollock
   University of California, Santa Barbara
   “Woman Transformed: Images of Women in French Vernacular Translation at the Dawn of the Renaissance.”

   Kristen Besinque
   University of Southern California
   “Hélène Cixous and the Autobiographical Gesture”

The Conference will be held in French & in English.

For any further information, please contact Béatrice Bennett at bbennett@usc.edu or frc@usc.edu or Caroline Trotot at caroline.trotot@u-pem.fr.

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