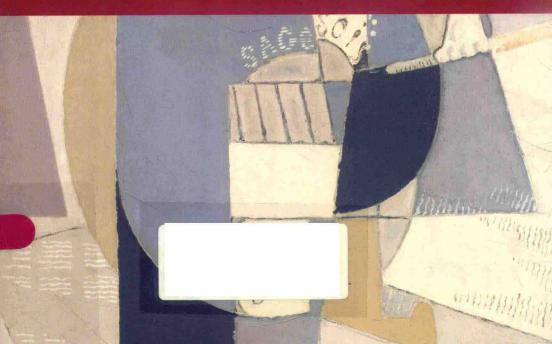


# SPANISH WOMEN'S STUDIES

Edited by Xon de Ros and Geraldine Hazbun



## A COMPANION TO SPANISH WOMEN'S STUDIES

Edited by

Xon de Ros

Geraldine Hazbun

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First published 2011 by Tamesis, Woodbridge

ISBN 978 1 85566 224 7

Tamesis is an imprint of Boydell & Brewer Ltd PO Box 9, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 3DF, UK and of Boydell & Brewer Inc. 668 Mt Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620, USA website: www.boydellandbrewer.com

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A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

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Printed in Great Britain by CPI Antony Rowe, Chippenham and Eastbourne

#### Colección Támesis

SERIE A: MONOGRAFÍAS, 294

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### This book is dedicated to the memory of Professor Alan Deyermond

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The editors are grateful to the John Fell Fund for its assistance with publication costs.

They would also like to acknowledge financial contributions towards the cost of the illustrations from Birkbeck College, Queen's University Belfast, the State University of New York at Stony Brook and Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.

The editors would also like to thank Maria García Liñeira for help with the index, and Elspeth Ferguson, Vanda Andrews and the editorial team at Boydell & Brewer for their excellent work.

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADE Asociación de Directores de Escena de España
AHLM Asociación Hispánica de Literatura Medieval

AIH Asociación Internacional de Hispanistas

ALEC Anales de la Literatura Española Contemporánea

Alexandre Libro de Alexandre

ANME Asociación Nacional de Mujeres de España

AUP Associated University Presses
BAE Biblioteca de Autores Españoles

BCom Bulletin of the Comediantes

BFI British Film Institute

CEDA Confederación Española de Derechas Autónomas

CL Conde Lucanor

CLAMS Centre for Late Antique and Medieval Studies
CSIC Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

CT Colección Támesis

CUP Cambridge University Press

EHT Exeter Hispanic Texts

GRIF Groupe de Recherche et d'Information Féministes (Brussels)

HR Hispanic Review

HSMS Hispanic Seminary of Medieval Studies

IIFV Institut Interuniversitari de Filologia Valenciana

JHP Journal of Hispanic Philology

LH Letras Hispánicas

MLN Modern Language Notes

MS(S) manuscript(s)

NC Nuevo corpus de la antigua lírica popular hispánica (siglos XV

a XVII)

NCSRLL North Carolina Studies in the Romances Languages and

Literatures

NRFH Nueva Revista de Filología Hispánica

OUP Oxford University Press PFG Poema de Fernán González

PMHRS Papers of the Medieval Hispanic Research Seminar

PMLA Publications of the Modern Language Association of America

PPU Promociones y Publicaciones Universitarias

PSOE Partido Socialista Obrero Español
QMUL Queen Mary University of London
QMW Queen Mary and Westfield College

RAE Real Academia Española SUNY State University of New York

Talavera Arçipreste de Talavera / Archpriest of Talavera
UNAM Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

UP University Press

V&A Victoria and Albert Museum

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#### INTRODUCTION

In 1978 Beth Miller, editor of the pioneering volume *Women in Hispanic Literature: Icons and Fallen Idols*, complained about the apparent lack of interest in women's studies among hispanists, claiming that 'it was impossible in 1976 to find substantial articles in print applying new feminist perspectives in our field' ([1978] 1983: 25), and hoping that her publication would act as a stimulus for more work in the field. Her call was not unheeded. Three decades later there is an extensive body of scholarship devoted to women's experiences, their historical contexts and their creative works. The substantial bibliography at the end of this Companion is illustrative, if by no means exhaustive. It encompasses work done in a broad variety of disciplines drawing on a range of critical and theoretical models from a feminist perspective, and attests to the fact that women's studies has become a distinct area of studies within hispanism and part of the academic curriculum in many graduate and postgraduate programmes.

Women's studies originated in the humanities as an initiative of the Modern Language Association in 1970 and its development as an academic subject has been informed by the debates in feminist theory. It set out to offer a new form of criticism that draws from other disciplines and whose primary analytical category is gender, understood as a social and cultural construction that reflects and determines differences in power and opportunity, while also considering other determining influences such as class, nationality, religion, sexuality, ethnicity and race that inflect women's experiences and practices.

Critical attention was first directed to images of women in literature and culture, exposing the ideology of patriarchy, with its attendant subordination of women, behind textual versions of the feminine. Alongside the critical revision of the literary canon, research was applied to the rediscovery of a lost tradition, or counter-tradition, of women's writing, seeking for patterns of continuity in themes and preoccupations, and focusing on women's responses to patriarchy – a practice that was termed gynocriticism by Elaine Showalter. Although women's studies first emerged as a discipline in Anglo-American academia, French feminist theory, in the work of Julia Kristeva, Hélène Cixous, and Luce Irigaray, has since the 1980s played a crucial part in offering feminist critics a new conceptualization of the rela-