**FRANCESCA D’ALESSANDRO BEHR**

Professor of Classics and Italian Studies

Department of Modern and Classical Languages, University of Houston

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**FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Epic, Gender Studies, Italian Renaissance, Education, Reception, Satire, Narratology, Comparative Literature.

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D  (2000)                **State University of New York at Buffalo**

Faculty of Arts and Letters

Department of Classics

Dissertation Title: “Apostrophe, Irony and Death in Lucan’s *Bellum* *Civile*.”

Dissertation Director: Martha Malamud

Special Field: Women’s Studies

M.A. (1997)                             Special field: Greek Literature

Advisor: Prof. John Peradotto

Cumulative GPA: 3.9

Undergraduate Studies **Università degli studi di Roma “La Sapienza”**

(1988-1991)                             Faculty of Letters and Philosophy

Department of Ancient History, Anthropology and History of Art

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books:**

* Book: Edition of Lucrezia Marinella’s *Rivolgimento dell’Uomo verso la divina Bellezza*, accepted by Toronto of University Press, The Other Voice
* Book: *Arms and the Woman: Classical Tradition and Women Writers in the Venetian Renaissance*, Ohio State University Press, 2018.

Reviewed at http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2019/2019-03-17.html

Reviewed at <http://www.gendersexualityitaly.com/22-francesca-dalessandro-behr-arms-and-the-woman-classical-tradition-and-women-writers-in-the-venetian-renaissance/>

* Book: *Feeling History: Lucan, Stoicism and the Aesthetics of Passion*, Ohio State University Press, 2007.

**Articles/Book Chapters (SELECTED)**

* Article in volume: “Philosophy, Religion and the Praise of Women in Lucrezia Marinella” in *Women and Ideal in the Italian Renaissance*, eds. Elena Brizio and Marco Piana, gen. editor K. Eisenbichler, Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, 2022, pp. 137-162.
* Article in volume: “Philosophy and the Aesthetics of Apostrophe in Lucan*”* in *Reading Lucan’s Civil War: A Critical Guide*, ed. Paul Roche, University of Oklahoma Press, 2021, pp. 227-46.
* Article in volume: “Female Audiences and Translations of the Classics in Early Modern Italy” in *Audience and Reception in the Early Modern Period*, ed. John Decker and Mitzi Kirkland-Ives, Routledge Studies in Cultural History, 2021, pp. 252-277.
* Article in volume: “Sage, Soldier, Politician, and Benefactor: Cato in Seneca and Lucan” in *Lucan’s Imperial World: The Bellum Civile in Its Contemporary Context*, eds. L. Zientek and M. Thorne, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2020, pp. 151-171.
* Article in volume: “Pasolini’s *Orestiade*, the Irrational and Greek Tragedy,” in *Death, Eros, and the Literary Enterprise in the Works of Pier Paolo Pasolini*, ed. Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2018, pp. 63-91.
* Journal Article “Thinking Anew about Lavinia,” *Illinois Classical Studies* 39 (2014) pp. 191-121.
* Article in volume: “Consolation, Lamentation, and Philosophy in Lucan’s *Bellum Civile* 8” in *The Philosophising Muse: the Influence of Greek Philosophy on Roman Poetry*, eds. Myrto Garani and David Konstan (general editors of the series Stratis Kyriakidis and Philip Hardie), Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014, pp. 217-44.
* Article in volume: “Lucan’s Cato, Joseph Addison’s Cato and the Poetics of Passion” in *Companion to Lucan*, ed. Paolo Asso, Brill 2011, pp. 525-49.
* Article in volume: “Archetypal Encounters: Circe and Odysseus in the Imagination of a Renaissance woman artist*,*” in ed. H. Frendo, *The European Mind: Narrative and Identity* (Vol. I & II), Malta: Malta University Press, 2010.
* Article in volume (reprint) “Open Bodies and Closed Minds? Persius’ *Saturae* in the Light of Bakhtin and Voloshinov,” *Oxford readings in Persius and Juvenal* in the series Oxford Readings in Classical Studies, edited by Maria Plaza (Göteborg University 2009), reprint of Behr 2005 in ed. R. Bracht Branham.

**RECENT PAPERS, LECTURES AND SEMINARS**

* 2024 “Ovid’s *Heroides* in Early Modern Italian Literature: Lucrezia Marinella’s Abandoned Women” paper presented at RSA (Renaissance Society of America, March 20-23, 2024.
* 2023 “Becoming Visible: Stories of Women in Science”paper presented at Symposium *Science interlocks with gender issues: STEM passion, scientific challenges and gendered innovation.* April 17th organized by he Consulate General of Italy in Houston, and the Science Office.
* 2022 “Lucrezia Marinella: Humanist and Theologian from the Italian Renaissance” Conference of Italian Researchers in the World, under auspices of Italian Embassy in Mexico - Mexico City - April 9th, 2022 (virtual and face-to-face)
* 2022 “Italian Woman’s Day,” presentation given at ICCC for Festa della donna (Woman’s Day), April 10th, 2022.
* 2022 “*Cosmos*, *Imperium*, and Women in Vergil’s *Aeneid,*” lecture, Jones Hall, University of St. Thomas, November 29th.
* 2021 “Lucrezia Marinella and Ancient Rhetoric: A Woman’s Approach to Eloquence in the Late Italian Renaissance,” paper presented at the virtual Conference of the Women Writers and Classics Network (https://womenwritersandclassics.wordpress.com/conference-2021/), University of Exeter, England, June 17-18, 2021.
* 2021 “Marinella’s Approach to Religion in her Discourse *Amorous Turning of Men towards the Divine Beauty* (1597),” paper presented at the Virtual Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, April 13-15, 2021.
* 2020 “Women, Education and the Classics in the Italian Renaissance,” Italian Cultural and Community Center, April 1, 2020.
* 2019 “Books, the Translation of the Classics, and Women in the Italian Renaissance,”

14th Conference of Italian Researchers in the World, Miami, FL, December 14.

* 2019 “Peace, War, History and the Epic Agenda in Lucrezia Marinella’s *Enrico*” paper presented at the Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, October 17-20, St. Louis, Missouri.
* 2019 “Arms and the Woman: Classical Tradition and Women Writers in the Venetian Renaissance,” presented by Prof. Federica Ciccolella (Texas A&M) and Q&A with author Francesca D. Behr, April 10, University of Houston.
* 2019 “Translation of the Classics and the Empowerment of Women in Early Modern Italy,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, March 17-19, Toronto, Canada.
* 2018 “Arms and the Woman: Classical Tradition and Women Writers in the Venetian Renaissance”: A Book and a Presentation, Texas A&M, November 13.
* 2018 “Between Philosophy, Religion and the Praise of Women: Lucrezia Marinella’s Erina,” paper presented at CSIS/AAIS Conference (Canadian Society for Italian Studies and American Association for Italian Studies), May 11-13 Ottawa, Canada.
* 2017 “The Aesthetics of Apostrophe in Lucan’s *Bellum Civile*,” Lucan in his Contemporary Context, Brigham Young University, Provo, April 14-15.
* 2017 “The Homeric Hymn to Demeter in context,” University of Houston, Lecture given in Dr. Tamber-Rosenau course “Female Divinities.” February 28.

**SCOLARSHIP AND AWARDS (MOST RECENT/SELECTED)**

* 2024 Provost Travel Grant (UH)
* 2023 Spring-Faculty Development Leave
* 2020-2021 Dean’s Research Progress Grant (UH)--“Flirting with the Enemy: Religion, Philosophy and Protestant Tendencies in the Work of Lucrezia Marinella (Venice 1571-1653).” [$4000]
* 2019 Provost Travel Grant (UH)
* 2018 Provost Travel Grant (UH)
* 2017 Book Completion Grant (UH)
* 2017 Provost Travel Grant (UH)
* 2016-17 MCL Travel Grant
* 2015 UH Grant for creation of LATN 1301-1302 Elementary Latin) online
* **2014 Knighthood: Order of the Star. Republic of Italy; honor bestowed by President of the Italian Republic Giorgio Napolitano**
* 2012 Giorgio Cini Foundation Residential Scholarship