

# Contents

Notes on the Editors VII

Notes on the Contributors VIII

List of Tables and Illustrations XII

Introduction 1

*Line Cottegnies and Sandrine Parageau*

- 1 From Genesitic Curiosity to Dangerous Gynocracy in Sixteenth-Century England 27

*Yan Brailowsky*

- 2 Curious Men and Women in the Tudor Controversy about Women 41

*Armel Dubois-Nayt*

- 3 This Is, and Is Not, Knowledge: Cressida and the Titillation of Male Curiosity in Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida* 61

*Laura Levine*

- 4 "Too Curious a Secrecy": Curiosity in Lady Mary Wroth's *Urania* 76

*Laetitia Coussement-Boillot*

- 5 Margaret Cavendish or the Curious Reader 93

*Line Cottegnies*

- 6 On the Proper Use of Curiosity: Madeleine de Scudéry's *Célinde* 107

*Marie-Gabrielle Lallemand*

- 7 Mermaids, Women and Curiosity in Seventeenth-Century England 123

*Susan Wiseman*

- 8 The Interrogative Anne Conway: Curiosity in a Philosophical Context 141

*Sarah Hutton*

- 9 Female Curiosity and Male Curiosity about Women: The Views of the Cartesian Philosophers 160

*Marie-Frédérique Pellegrin*

- 10 **Women's Curiosity and Its Double at the Dawn of the Enlightenment** 175  
*Christophe Martin*
- 11 **Between Scientific Investigation and Vanity Fair: Reflections on the Culture of Curiosity in Enlightenment France** 197  
*Adeline Gargam*
- 12 **Virtuoso or Naturalist? Margaret Cavendish Bentinck, Duchess of Portland** 216  
*Beth Fowkes Tobin*
- 13 **Curiosity, Women, and the Social Orders** 233  
*Neil Kenny*
- Index Nominum** 251