Jen Wingard

I want to welcome you to *Peitho* 19.2 Spring/Summer 2017. I feel that this issue presents an exceptional cross-section of current feminist scholarship, and demonstrates the varied scholarly foci engaging feminist rhetoricians today.

From the first essay by Charlotte Hogg “What’s (Not) in a Name” which empirically analyzes the terms used to classify feminist rhetorical work, to the last essay by Kristen Gay, “Ethical Dilemmas and Digital Subcultures,” which pushes feminist rhetoricians to rethink the silencing of pro-ana conversations within the context of feminist agency, each essay in this issue interrogates the political stakes of what it means to engage in the work of feminist rhetoric. Pamela VanHaitsma and Steph Ceraso ask us to consider horizontal mentoring as a means of insuring professional success; Amy Ferdinandt Stolley reminds us of the need to listen across difference through her analysis of Catherine McAuley’s 19th Century writings; both Megan Brewer and Melissa Nivens re-read lady’s home-centered texts as sites of rhetorical intervention into gendered discourse; and Kimberly D. Thompson explores the queer place-making possibilities in the manga *The Rose of Versailles*.

Each article in 19.2 either implicitly or explicitly forwards feminist historiography or rhetorical practice by drawing from a strong lineage of feminist scholarship to read contemporary or historical texts in new ways. That may seem like a description for what all strong scholarship *should* do: draw on existing frameworks to understand something in a novel way, and that indeed may be what good scholarship does. But good feminist scholarship doesn’t merely cite the old in order to argue the new. Instead, it brings the historical into conversation with our current political and scholarly moment, to continue to build from those who have paved the way with their insight.

Each of these articles moves feminist rhetorical studies forward by conversing with those who have written before. And it is those exchanges that make this issue so vibrant. I hope you enjoy it too.
Editor’s Welcome

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