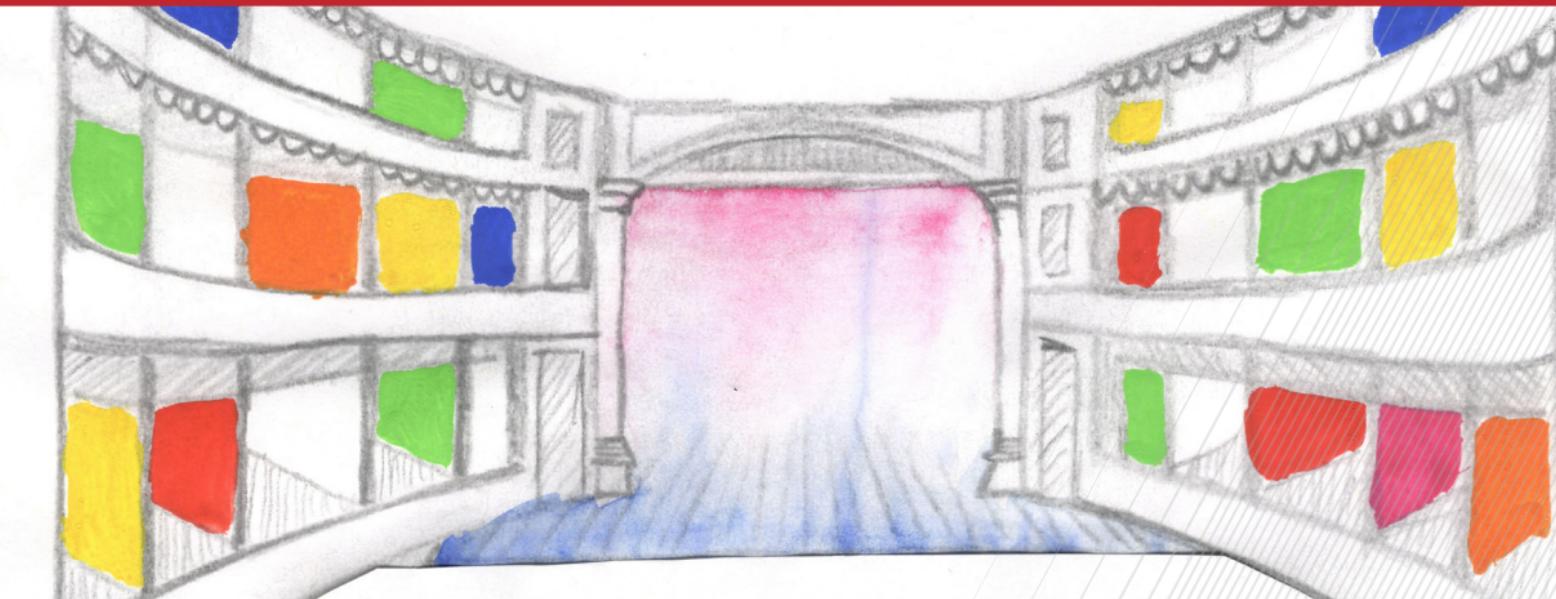


# The Politics and Polemics of Gender in Early American Theater

Kunstquartier / Atelier / Bergstraße 12a, 1. OG



EINE KOOPERATION VON

# THE POLITICS AND POLEMICS OF GENDER IN EARLY AMERICAN THEATER

---

**TAGUNG** / 29.-30. SEPTEMBER 2016 / KUNSTQUARTIER, BERGSTRASSE 12A / 1. OG  
IM RAHMEN DES PROJEKTS “GENDER AND COMEDY IN THE AGE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION”

## Sep 29, 2016 (Thursday)

09.00-09.30 Registration and Coffee

### Opening Remarks

10.00-11.00 **Keynote**, Trish Loughran (University of Illinois): “Staging Gender at History’s End: Early and Late Liberal Frameworks”

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

### Panel 1: Theater and Nation

Zoe Detsi (Aristotle University): “Theatrical Nationalism and Gender Identity: Judith S. Murray’s *The Medium; or, Virtue Triumphant* (1795)”

Sämi Ludwig (Université de Haute-Alsace): “From Pocahontas to the Woman in Pants: Noah’s *She Would Be a Soldier*”

Juliane Braun (University of Bonn): “Victor Séjour and the Performance of Transnational Abolitionism”

13.00-15.00 Lunch

### Panel 2: Piracy and Captivity Theater

Alexandra Ganser (University of Vienna): “Gender and National Identity in Antebellum Pirate Melodrama”

Nassim W. Balestrini (University of Graz): “Reading Susanna Haswell Rowson’s *Slaves in Algiers, or A Struggle for Freedom* (1793): Play or Opera?”

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

### Panel 3: Gender and Sexuality I

Verena Holztrattner (University of Salzburg): “Sowing ‘the

	Seeds of Virtue': Susanna Haswell Rowson's Transgeneric Work on Female Conduct"	11.00-11.30	Coffee Break
	Astrid M. Fellner (Saarland University): "The Theatricality of Sexual Difference in Late-Eighteenth-Century America"	11.30-13.00	<b>Panel 5: Stage Practices, Genre Questions</b>
19.30	Dinner		Sara Lampert (University of South Dakota): "Bankrupt Fathers, Dis/Obedient Daughters, Devoted Wives: Gender and Family in the Early U.S. Theater Business"
			Vivian Bruce Conger (Ithaca College): "Deborah Read Franklin and Sally Franklin Bache: Intergenerational Cultural Performances of Politics"
Sept 30, 2016 (Friday)			Christof Diem (University of Innsbruck): "The First British Invasion: British Theater Troupes and the Transformation of an 'English' Repertoire"
9.30-11.00	<b>Panel 4: Gender and Sexuality II</b>		<b>Closing Remarks</b>
	Christopher F. Laferl (University of Salzburg): "Intentional Subversion or Overinterpretation: Queerness in Sor Juana's 'The House of Trials' ('Los empeños de una casa')?"	13.00	
	Ralph J. Poole (University of Salzburg): "Scandalous Bodies: Transgender Polemics in Colonial America"		
	Michael Streif (University of Salzburg): "The Male Stage: Masculinities and College Drama in the Age of the American Revolution"		

The conference “The Politics and Polemics of Gender in Early American Theater” seeks to explore the role of gender in the formation of an American theatrical culture in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. Questions concerning authorship and representation will take center stage, as will the manifold social, cultural, and political functions of theater in the early American Republic. The primary aims of the conference are to challenge prevailing reservations regarding early American drama, to reassess the status of women in early American theatrical contexts, to inspire interest in oftentimes forgotten plays and playwrights, and to showcase the polemic qualities of the dramatic voices of the early American Republic.

Diese Tagung wird im Rahmen des Projektes „Gender and Comedy in the Age of the American Revolution“ durchgeführt und unterstützt von



U.S. Embassy Vienna



**ORGANISATION, KONZEPTION:** Verena Holztrattner, Leopold Lippert, Ralph Poole, Michael Streif (FB Anglistik und Amerikanistik)  
**BILDQUELLE:** Verena Holztrattner **INFORMATION:** Silvia Amberger ([silvia.amberger@sbg.ac.at](mailto:silvia.amberger@sbg.ac.at)), Tel. +43-662-8044-2377 / [www.w-k.sbg.ac.at](http://www.w-k.sbg.ac.at)