

BROWN BAG BIOGRAPHY FALL 2022

PEEKING BEHIND THE CURTAINS AT CATHERINE THE GREAT: CELEBRITY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Moderated by Lurana Donnels O'Malley, PhD
Professor of Theatre and Director of Graduate Studies in Theatre, UHM

Cosponsored by Hamilton Library, the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, the School of Communication & Information, the Academy for Creative Media, the Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, the Departments of History, Political Science, Ethnic Studies, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies



How, in the 21st century, to peek behind the curtains of the woman who overthrew her husband and became Russia's 18th-century tsar and an international celebrity outside her empire's borders?

The first steps required in-person visits and corresponding adventures to locate artifacts of Catherine's reception among ordinary people, including the least skilled prints of her, the full range of newspaper accounts, and many now obscure biographies.

Eventually, the pieces came together into the argument that Catherine was the first modern, international, female celebrity.

Ruth Dawson, Professor Emerita from the UHM Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, has just returned from another stint as an honorary fellow at the Institute of Modern Languages Research of the University of London. She earned her Ph.D. in Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. Her work on Catherine the Great began as part of her study of German women writers in the eighteenth century.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
BIOMED B-104 & ZOOM / 12 NOON TO 1:15PM
MEETING ID: 981 6019 5964
PASSWORD:651017

