

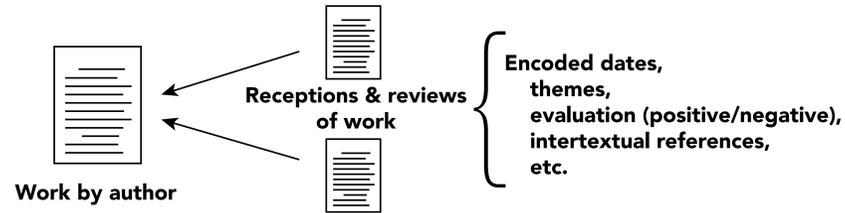
# Cultures of Reception

## WOMEN WRITERS IN REVIEW

### WHAT IS WOMEN WRITERS IN REVIEW?

**Women Writers in Review** is a collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century reviews, publication notices, literary histories, and other texts responding to works by early women writers. **Women Writers in Review** is published by the **Women Writers Project** at Northeastern University and was created as part of the **Cultures of Reception** project, which was designed to investigate the discourse of reception in connection with the changing transatlantic literary landscape from 1770 to 1830. The Cultures of Reception project was generously funded by a Collaborative Research grant from the **National Endowment for the Humanities**.

**Women Writers in Review** collects more than 600 reviews that were encoded in the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) markup language to record their structures, rhetorical features, and intertextual moves (such as quotation from other texts). The **Women Writers in Review** interface offers sorting by the reviews' sources, by the authors and works that they reference, by their genres and formats, and by tracked tags such as the topics they discuss and their evaluations of reviewed texts.



### READING THIS VISUALIZATION

In this visualization, each circle represents an author's received work or a reception document about that work (i.e., a review written about the referenced work). These circles are plotted horizontally against time and grouped vertically (alphabetically) by author. Black circles indicate the first publication of a work reviewed by others; colored circles indicate receptions of those works. Each color corresponds to different degrees of favorability in their reception of the referenced work.

- Very Negative
  - Somewhat Negative
  - Mixed
  - Somewhat Positive
  - Very Positive
  - Neutral/No Review
- When several reception documents about a single work appear in the same year, those receptions appear as concentric circles. The result is that it is possible to see how certain works make a big splash; many concentric circles indicate a single work by an author that was reviewed positively or negatively by many others all at one time.
- ◎ A work by Maria Edgeworth with both positive and negative reviews
  - ◎ A work by Lady Morgan Sydney with mainly negative and mixed reviews

Sometimes, several years may pass between a work's publication and when it is reviewed and referenced in other documents. In these situations, circles (works and reception documents) are connected by gray lines.

Finally, gold rectangles show the fluruit (years of productivity) and dotted red lines indicate the year of death of each displayed author, demonstrating that some reviews are published post-mortem.

### SEE AND LEARN MORE

To learn more about **Women Writers in Review**, visit

<http://www.wwp.northeastern.edu/review/>

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This visualization was created by **Steven Braun**, *Data Analytics and Visualization Specialist* in the Digital Scholarship Group, using D3.js and Adobe Illustrator. Steven can be contacted via email at [s.braun@northeastern.edu](mailto:s.braun@northeastern.edu).

