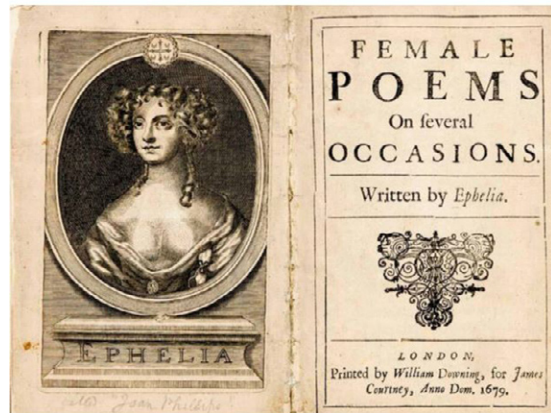


New Work on “Ephelia” Literary Enigma of 17th-Century London



One of the attributional plums of early-modern research, “Ephelia” continues to entice interest and speculation. This poet and playwright has been a legendary case in concealed authorship, and not a few baffled scholars have judged the entire subject impenetrable. In 2025, Ephelia gained a talented new advocate: a British scholar whose creative *Living History* videos are indispensable viewing (4000+ subscribers). The Florida Bibliophile Society greets Julia Martins (Hertfordshire UK) and her recent multimedia video on Ephelia. Julia explores the variety and wit of this writer, with close attention to Ephelia’s feminism, polyvocal persona, and bold forays into dangerous political crises. Julia’s video includes portraits, pedigrees, musical settings, textual readings, and clever visual effects. Though supporting Maureen Mulvihill’s argument for Ephelia as the intriguing court insider, Mary (Stuart, *née* Villiers), Duchess of Richmond (the ‘Butterfly’), Julia offers a balanced summary and urges continuing attention to the “fascination of all things difficult” (Yeats). Here’s Julia, and watch for Pancake, her feline muse:



Julia Martins (PhD, Kings College London)

Founder & Host, *Living History* (4.7K subscribers)

Unmasking Ephelia (40-minute video, with script & subtitles):

< <https://juliamartins.co.uk/ephelias-unmasking-a-seventeenth-century-feminist-voice> >

Contributed by **Maureen E. Mulvihill**, FBS Member & FBS Vice-President, 2012-2015.
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