

## ESTHER INGLIS in contexts and culture



Guest speakers: Dr Georgianna Ziegler (Folger Shakespeare Library); Dr Jamie Reid Baxter (University of Glasgow)

Esther Inglis (c.1570-1624) is a uniquely important scribe, writer and artist. Escaping religious persecution in France, she and her family moved briefly to England before settling in Edinburgh during her early childhood; here she acquired the skills in calligraphy, drawing, and embroidery that combined to create the extraordinary manuscript books for which she is still famed. Inglis was highly praised as a scribe in her own day, sometimes called the 'mistress of the golden pen', and the regard in which her skills were held allowed her books to play a role in the pursuit of personal, religious and political interests. Inglis's work is not unfamiliar to both academic and wider audiences today, and she continues to inspire contemporary writers and artists. But much remains to be done to understand the multiple forces and contexts which shaped her activity and her singular place within the culture of her time – from her relationship with Scottish politics, to her experience as a Huguenot refugee.

In the quatercentenary of her death, the University of Edinburgh, with the support of the University of Leiden, is hosting a colloquium on the **19th and 20th October 2024**, to bring together researchers working on any aspect of Esther Inglis's life and work, and on any of the crafts, media and cultural contexts in which she worked. We welcome proposals for 20 minute papers in any of the following areas of early modern study relevant to Inglis:

> Scribal culture and manuscript production in an age of print The practice of book making Art and the making and giving of gifts Craft skills and cultural production Religious and/or cultural politics in early modern Scotland, France, and England Women's writing and women's authorship Translation and transmediation Transnationality and the culture and politics of refuge

Proposals (max 200 words) should be sent to <u>Inglis400@ed.ac.uk</u> by 31st May 2024



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