

## Meet the Author

The College Arts & Humanities Institute (CAHI) and the Renaissance Studies Program invite you to a presentation by

# Penelope Anderson

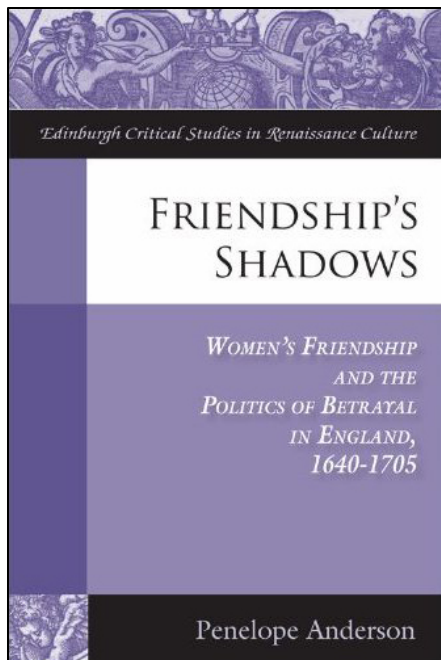
on her book

## ***Friendship's Shadows: Women's Friendship and the Politics of Betrayal in England, 1640-1705***

5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

College Arts & Humanities Institute  
1211 East Atwater Avenue



The first sustained investigation of early modern women's friendship, *Friendship's Shadows* changes our understanding both of the masculine Renaissance friendship tradition and of the private forms of women's friendship of the eighteenth century and after. It uncovers the latent threat of betrayal lurking within politicized classical and humanist friendship, showing its surprising resilience as a model for political obligation undone and remade. Incorporating authors from Cicero to Abraham Cowley and Margaret Cavendish to Mary Astell, the book focuses on two extraordinary women writers, the royalist Katherine Philips and the republican Lucy Hutchinson. Anderson also explores the ways in which they appropriate the friendship tradition in order to address problems of conflicting allegiances in the English Civil Wars and Restoration, suggesting that their writings on friendship provide a new account of women's relation to public life, organized through textual exchange rather than bodily reproduction.

Anderson focuses on early modern British literature, especially that of the English Civil Wars, with particular interest in the ways in which individuals and communities respond to the pressures of incommensurable ethical obligations, and the literary strategies that turn those conflicts into resources.

**Anderson is an Assistant Professor in English**

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