

The Wolfe Institute

*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute,
in cooperation with the Department of History and the Program in Women's Studies,
presents*

International Women's Day

Searching for Ernestine Potowski Rose



Bonnie S. Anderson is Professor Emerita from Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center. She was a Wolfe Fellow in 1993-94. Her first book, *A History of Their Own: Women in Europe from Prehistory to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 1988, revised edition 2000), written with Judith P. Zinsser, has become a feminist classic. Her second book, *Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement 1830-1860*, (Oxford University Press, 2001) introduced her to Ernestine Rose. She is currently writing a biography of Rose, under contract to Oxford University Press.

Anderson's talk will focus on Ernestine Potowskai Rose (1810-92), who was famous in the 19th century, as a leading speaker and organizer of the U.S. women's movement, but she is unjustly forgotten today. The only child of a Polish rabbi, she lost her faith, objected to a fiancée her father chose for her, sued for the return of her dowry, and won — all by age 17. After living in Berlin and London, where she met her husband, they moved to New York. A free thinker, feminist, and abolitionist, she pioneered these unpopular movements in the 1850s. This talk examines both her life and Anderson's attempts to research her.

Tuesday, March 8, 2011
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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