



## 2022 Women's History Month

# “Abolitionist Feminism: Margaret Fuller’s Critique of Spinoza on Gender.”

Presented by Ted Stolze  
March 1, 2022  
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

ZOOM



The nineteenth-century U.S. writer Margaret Fuller was a key member of the so-called “Transcendentalist” movement. In her 1844 journal she described the seventeenth-century philosopher Baruch de Spinoza as “truly great” and confessed that she “admired” his central work the Ethics. However, in an appendix to her important feminist book *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*, published the next year, Fuller sharply criticized Spinoza’s position in his unfinished *Political Treatise* that women are unequal to men and so undeserving of equal political rights, a position that she regarded as “false to history.” The panel consists of a presentation by Ted Stolze on Fuller’s critique of Spinoza and responses by Riese Chacon and Ryan Buckley.

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