



A CULTURAL HISTORY OF BREAST CANCER

JOANNA BOURKE

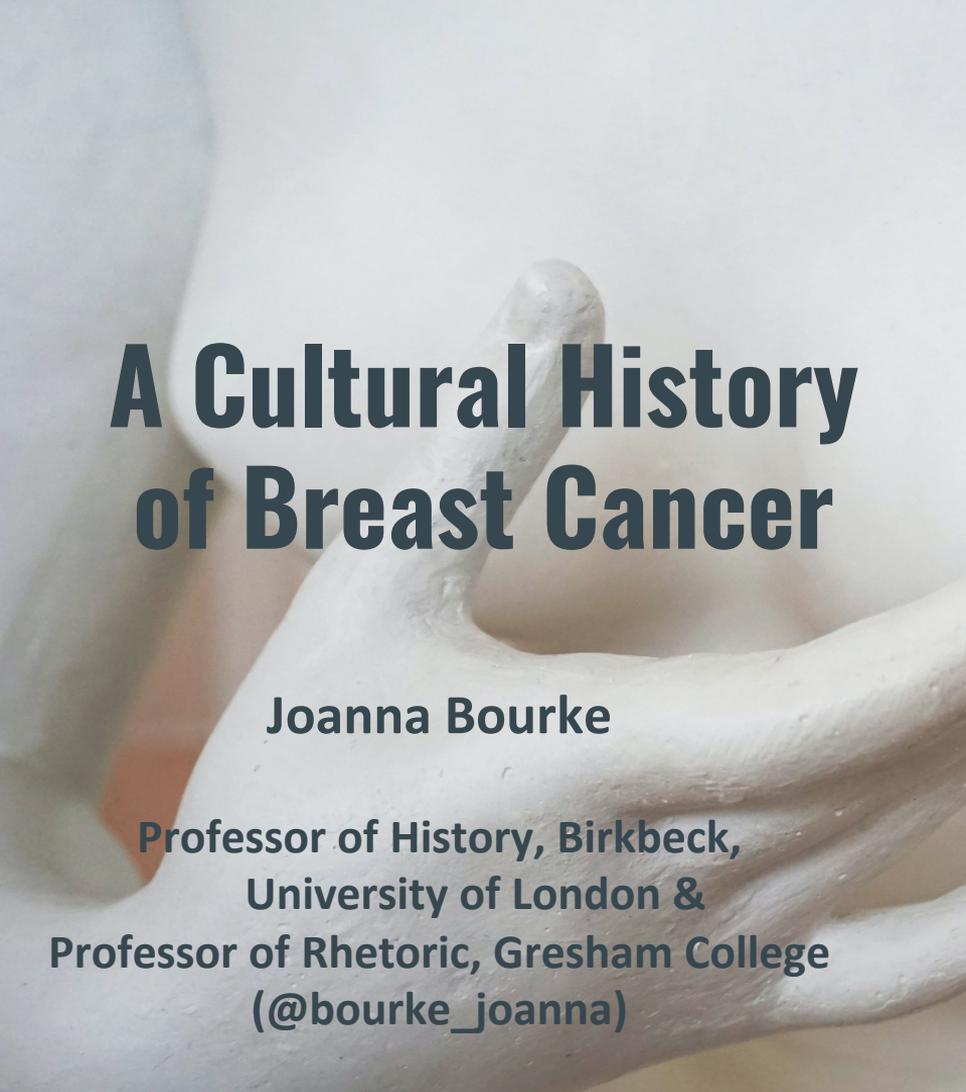
• **LECTURE 3 OF 6**

ERONY

I WAS A CANCER COWARD

By Era Bell Thompson





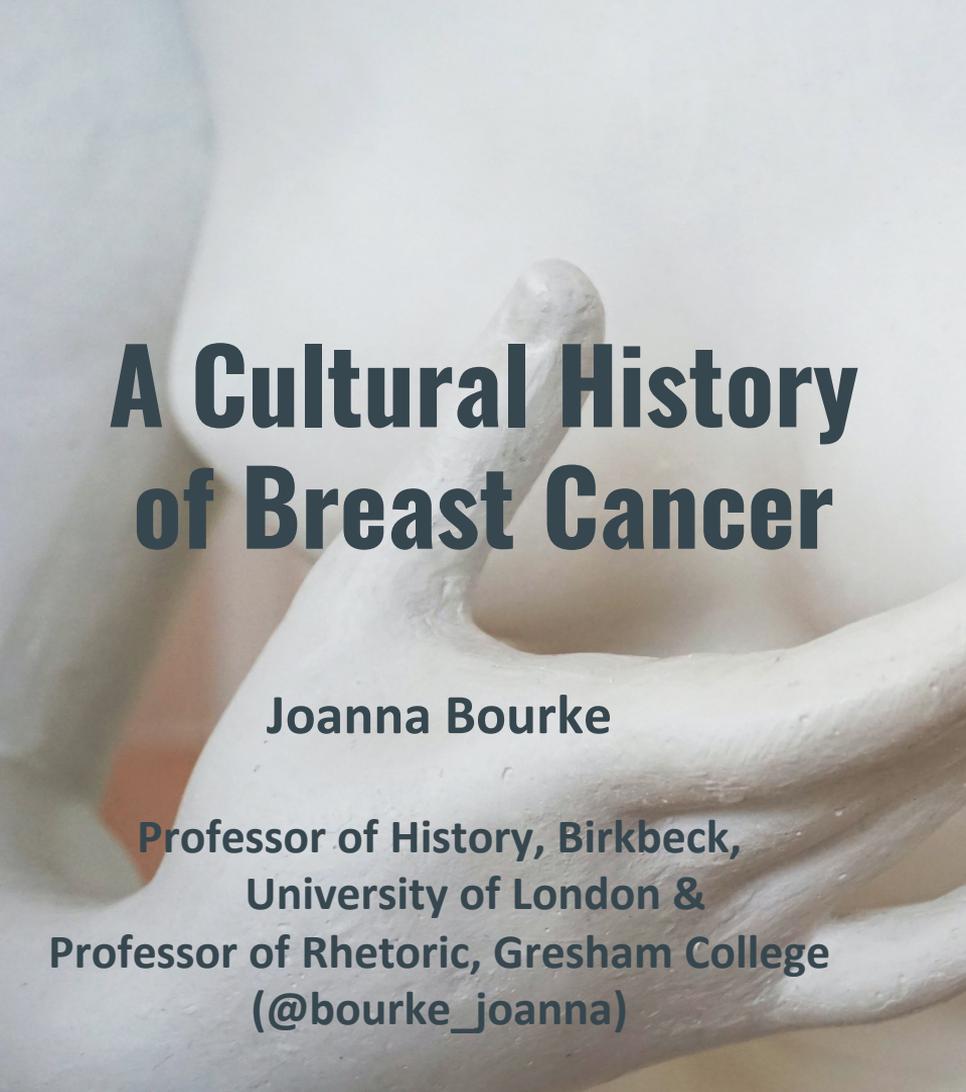
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Minnie Riperton



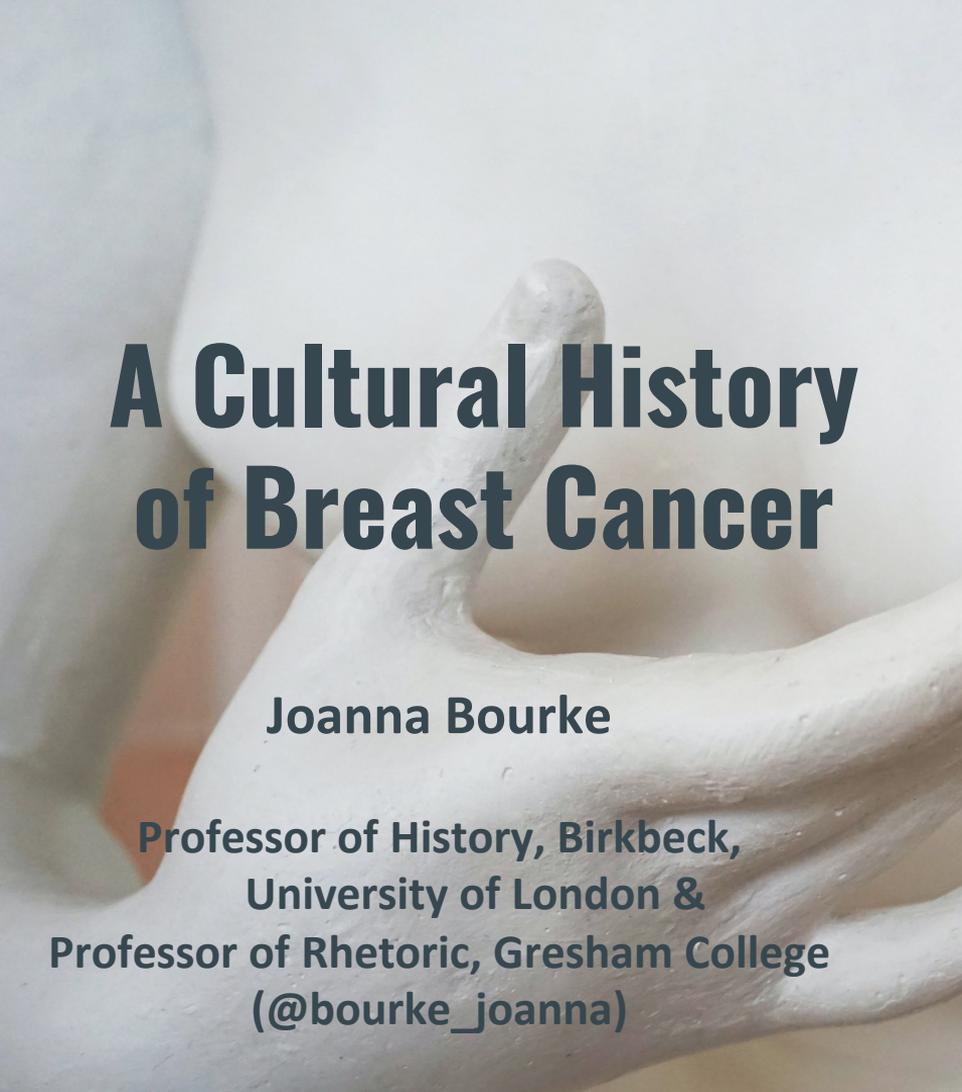


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**Why should we be interested in
the cultural history of
breast cancer?**

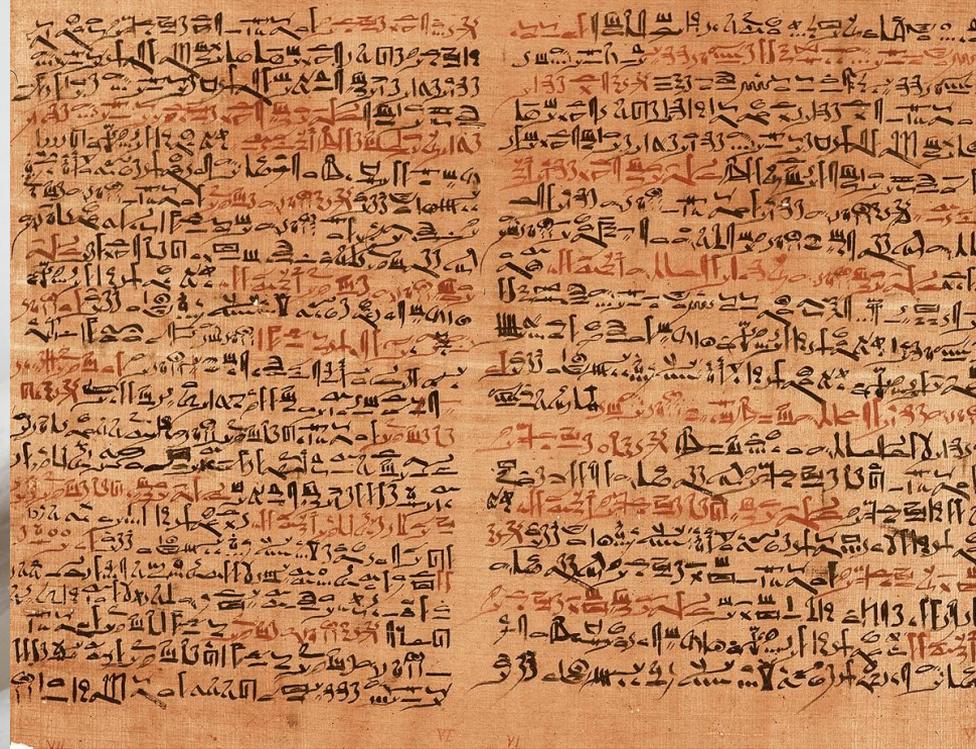


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COURS
D'OPERATIONS
DE
CHIRURGIE,
DÉMONTRÉES
AU JARDIN ROYAL,
PAR M. DIONIS, Premier Chirurgien
de feues Mesdames les Dauphines,
& Chirurgien Juré à Paris.

SIXIEME EDITION.

Revue, augmentée de Remarques importantes, & enrichie de Figures en Tailles-douces, qui représentent les Instrumens nouveaux les plus en usage.

PAR M. GEORGE DE LA FAYE, Professeur & Démonstrateur Royal en Chirurgie, ancien Chirurgien des Camps & Armées du Roi, ancien Directeur de l'Académie Royale de Chirurgie, Associé de l'Académie de Madrid & de celle de Rouen.



A PARIS,

Chez la Veuve d'Houury, Imprimeur-Libraire, de M^r. le Duc d'Orleans, rue S. Severin, près la rue S. Jacques.

M. DCC. LXV.

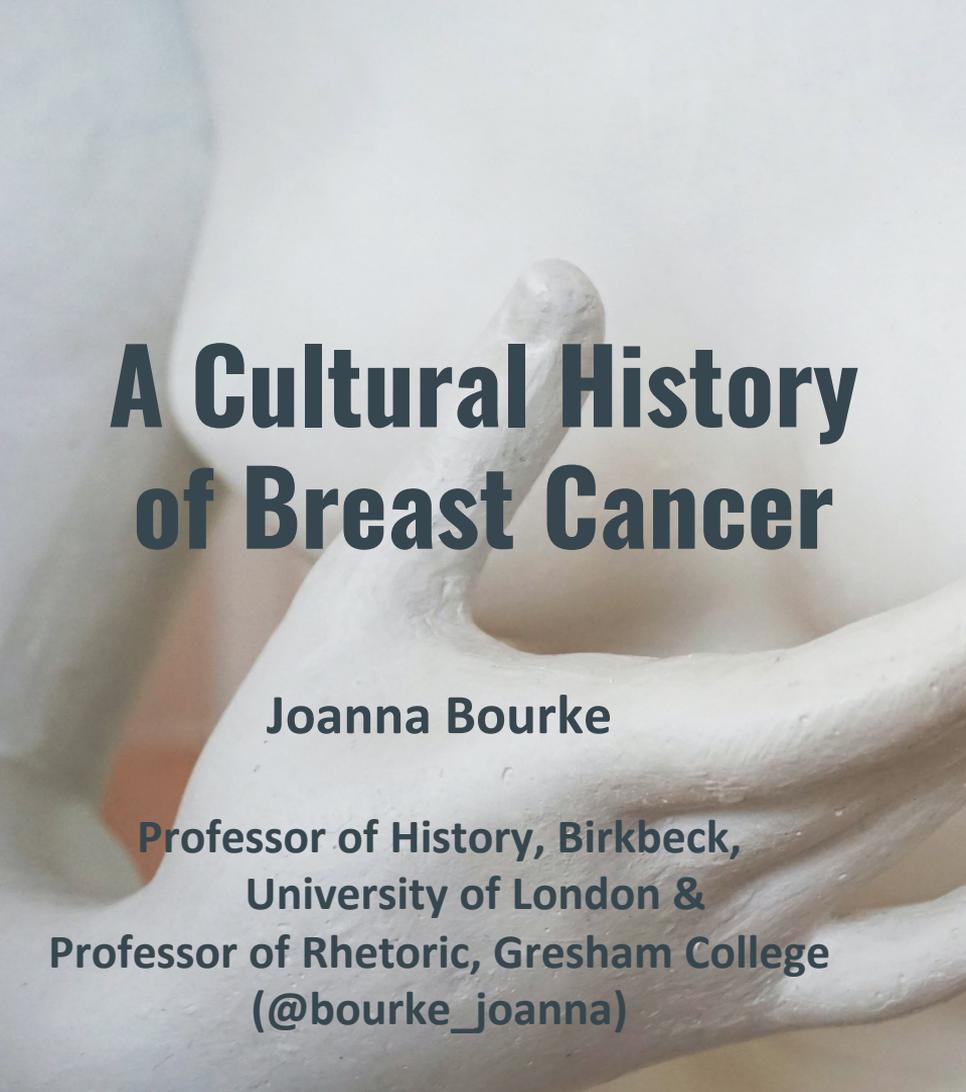
Avec approbations & Privilège du Roi.

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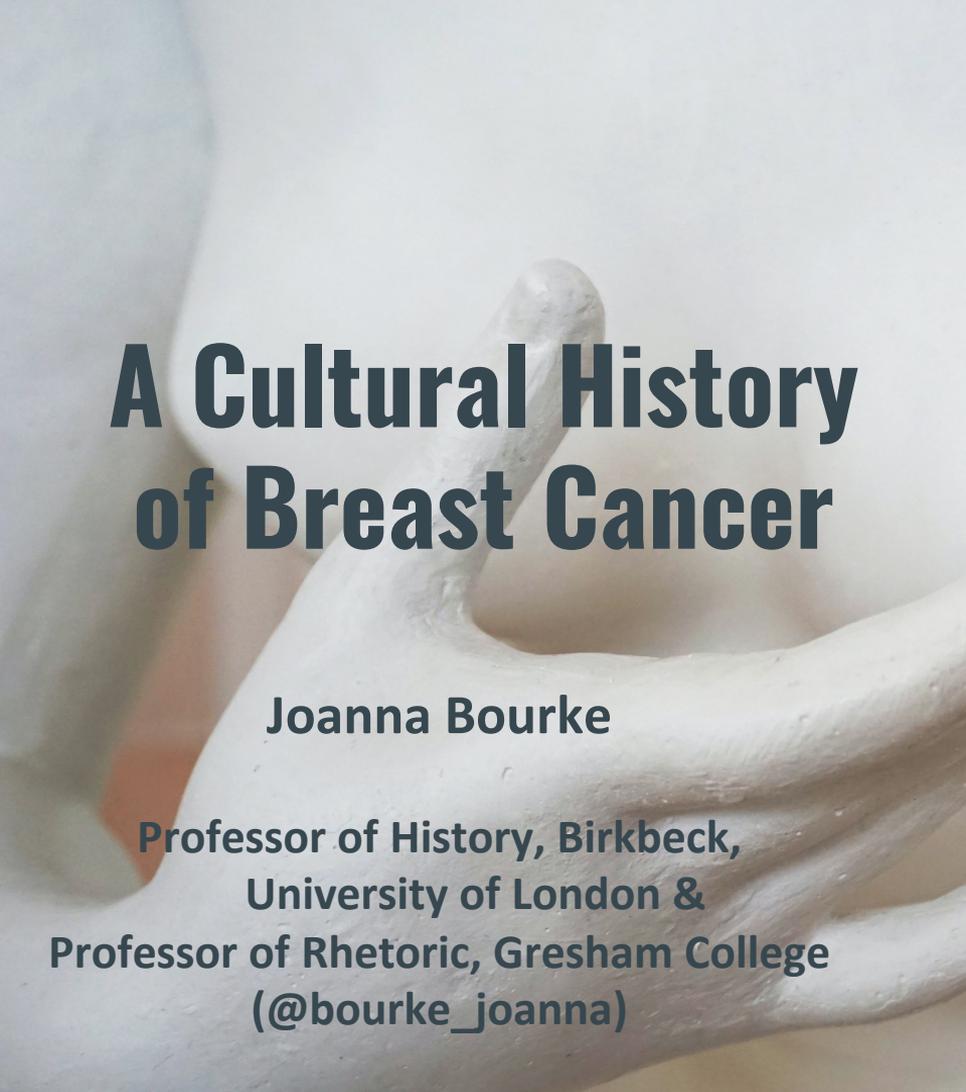
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*The Compleat Midwife's
Practice (1698):*

“The Canker proceeds from a
feculent and gross humour....
which when Nature cannot
void, it most commonly in
Women empties it self upon
the Breasts, by reason of their
cavernous and spongy
nature....”



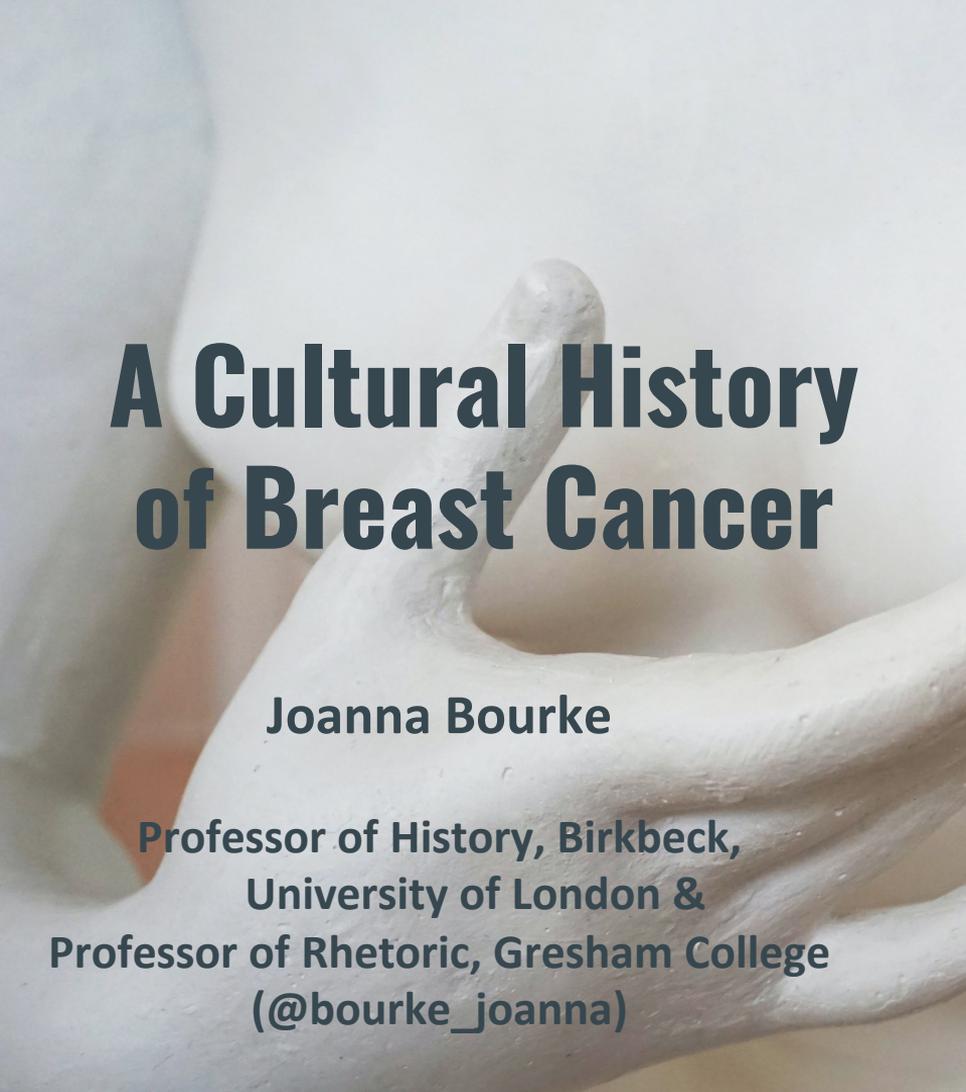
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Hippocrates's warning:

**“Cancers are not to be touch'd,
for in touching them... you
aggravate the Evil, and hastened
the Death of the Patient”.**



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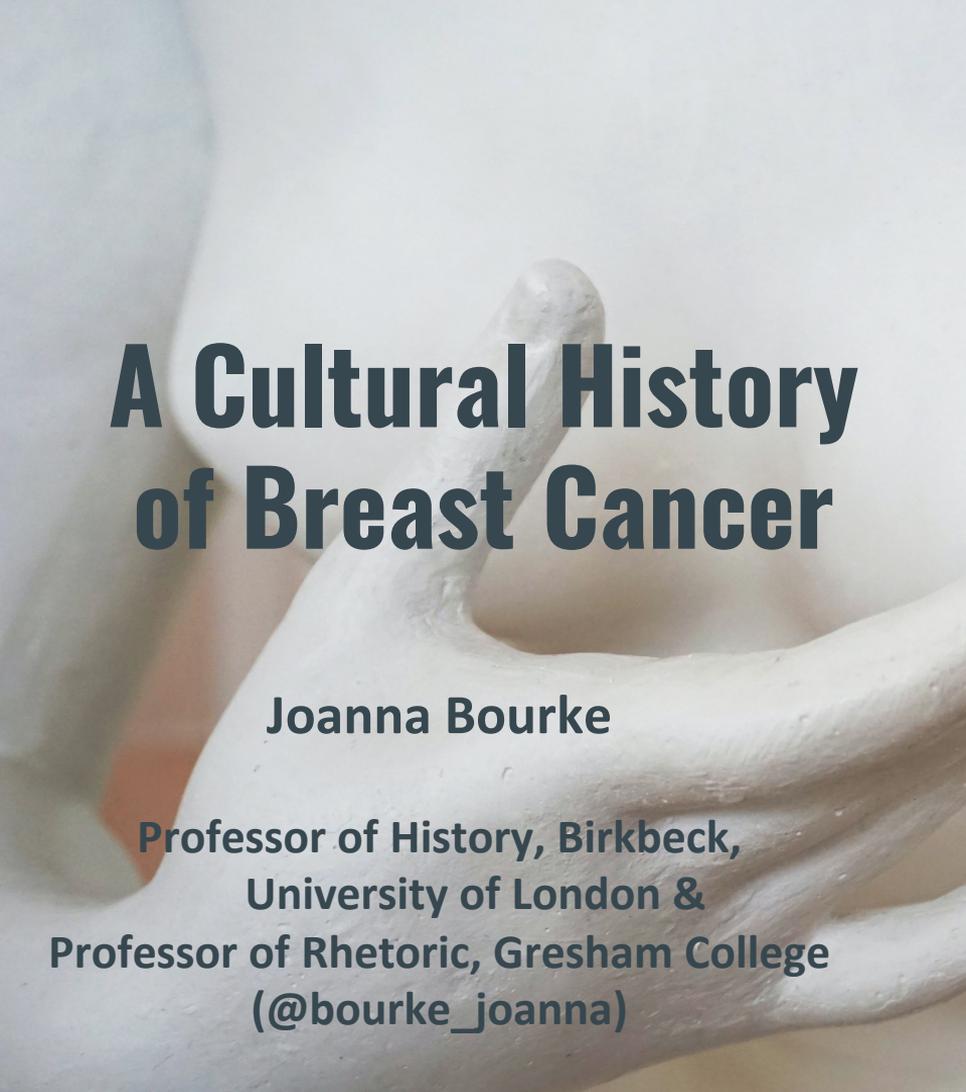
Purging

Bloodletting

Avoiding strong or salty foods

No wine

Shunning “hot” foods



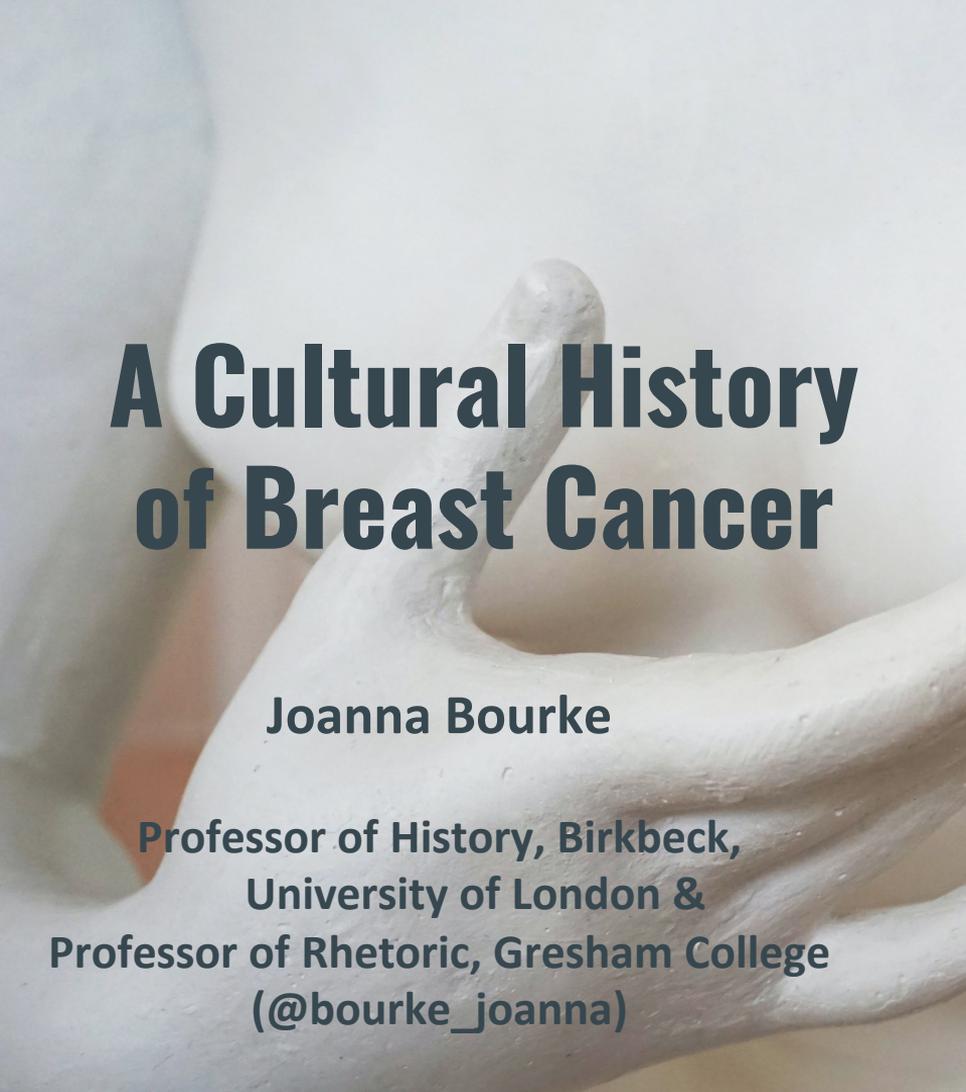
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Dionis's *Course of Chirurgical Operations*:

**“Some believe, that the ulcerated
Cancer is nothing else but a
prodigious Multitude of small
Worms, which by little and little
devour all the Flesh of the Part:
What made room for this
Opinion, is, that with the
Microscope we have sometimes
discerned some of those Insects
in Cancers.”**



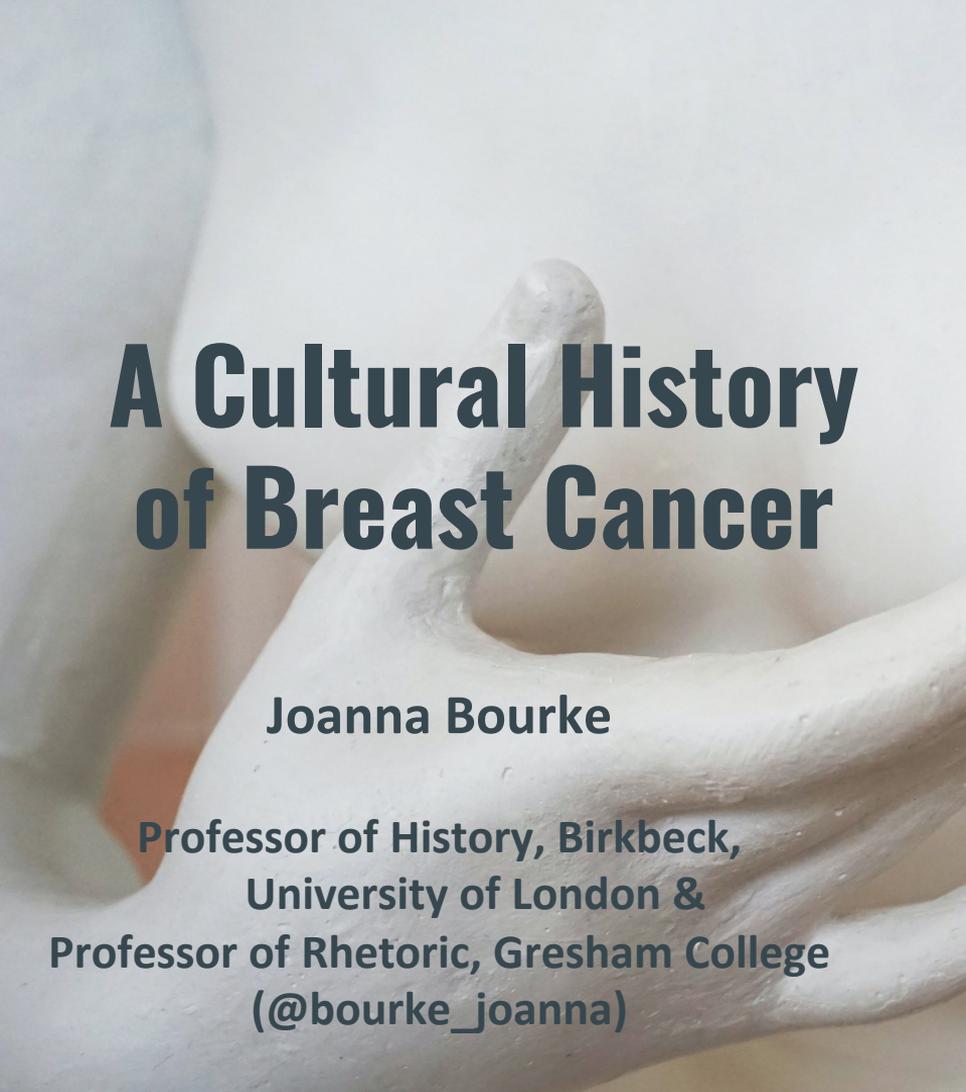
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Dionis:

**“Putting a bit of Veal on the
Ulcer” will result in the patient
feeling “less Pain; because, say
they, these Worms then feeding
on the Veal, leave the Patient at
Rest for sometime”.**



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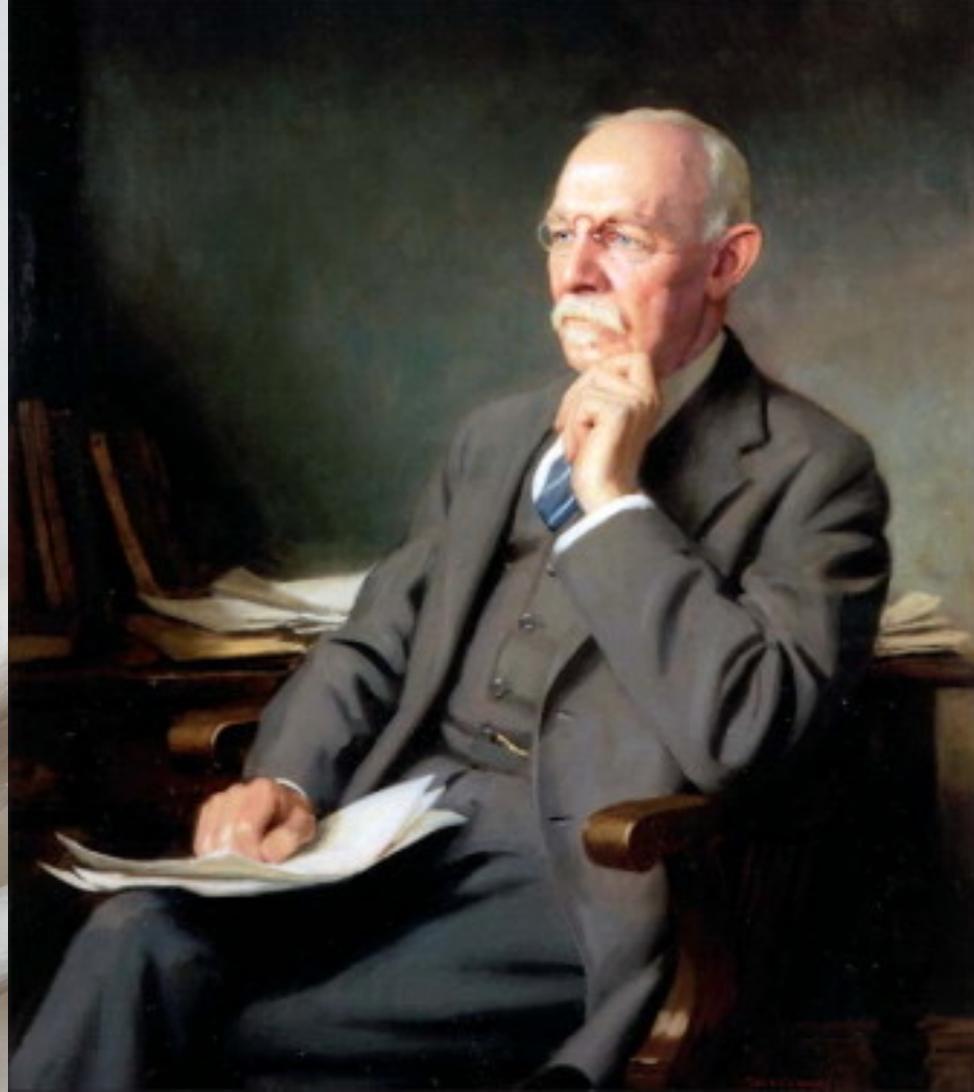
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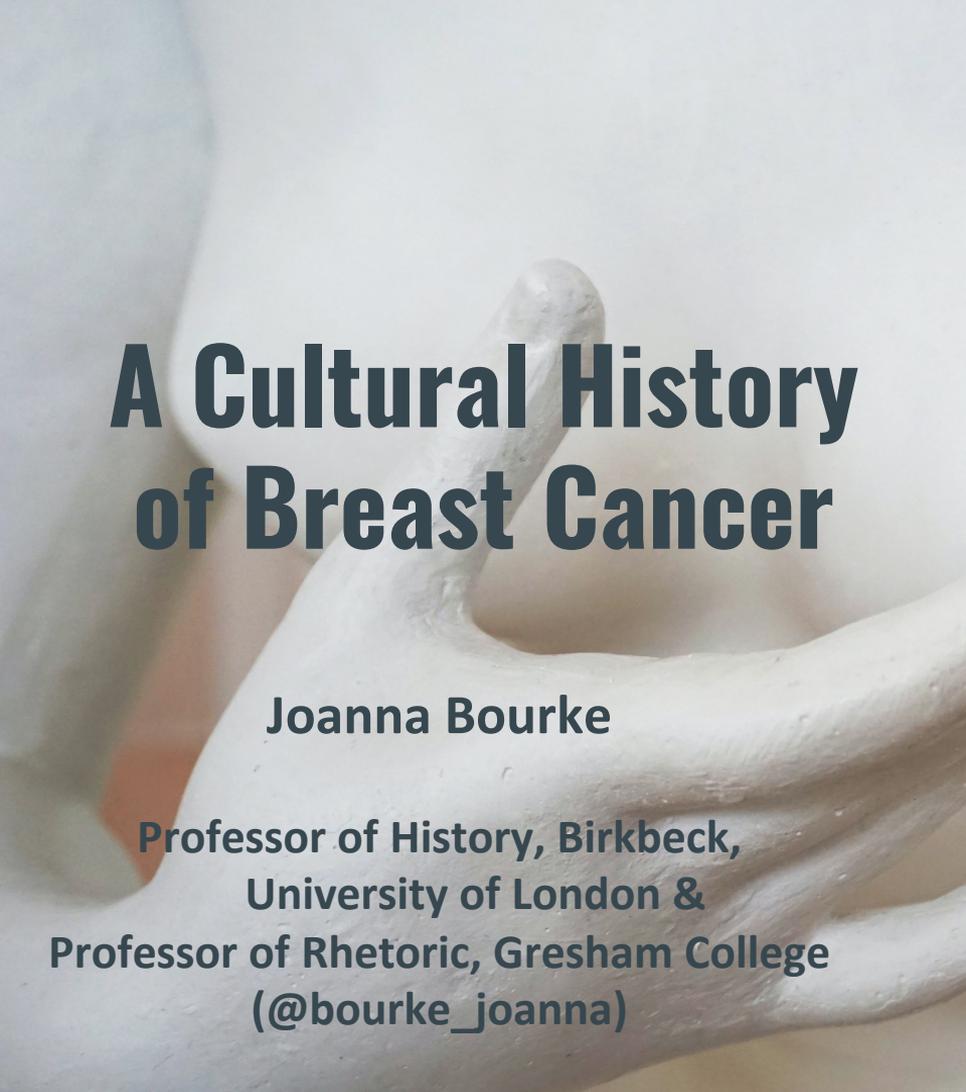
**Constitutional explanations
for cancer gave way to
more localized ones.**

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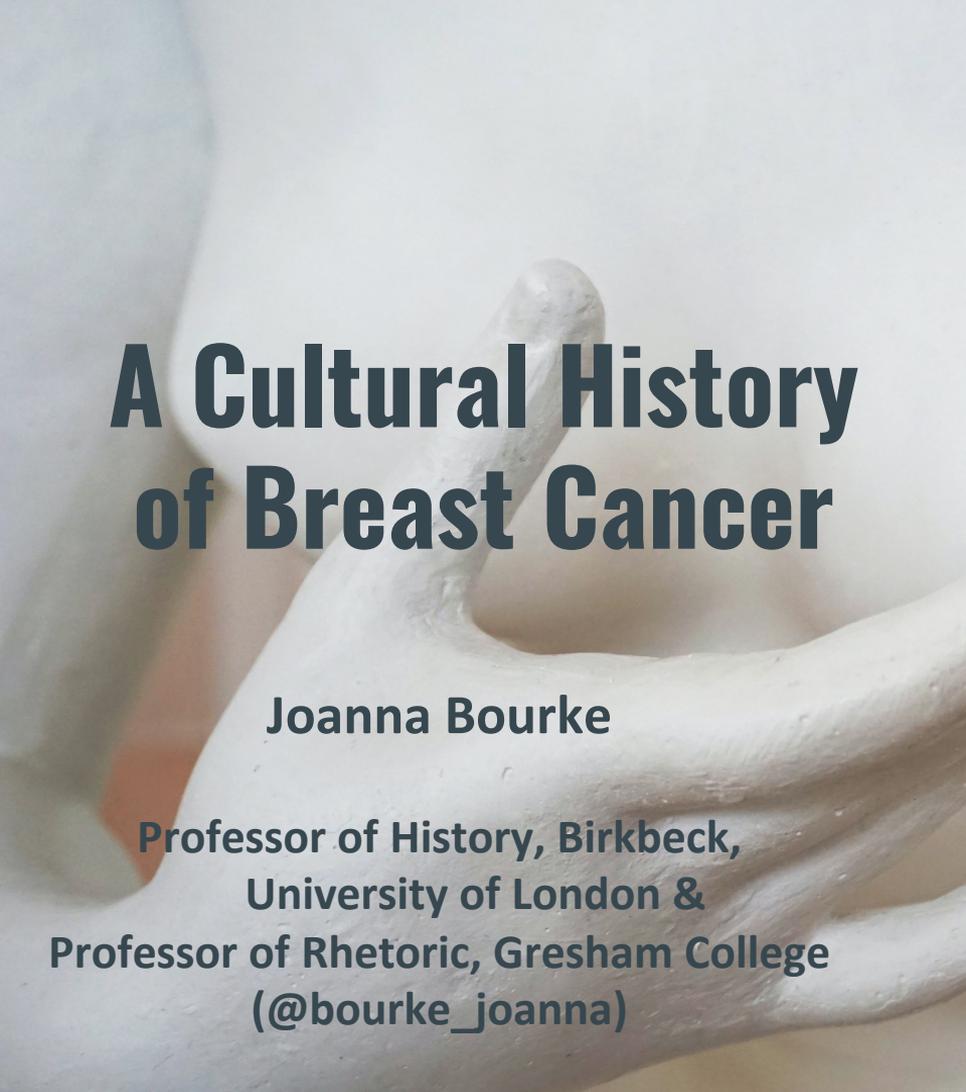


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**William Halsted's radical
mastectomy and
“one-step” procedures
were dominant for eighty years,
even into the early 1980s.**



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The Patients' Association (1963)

**The injustices of racial
inequalities**

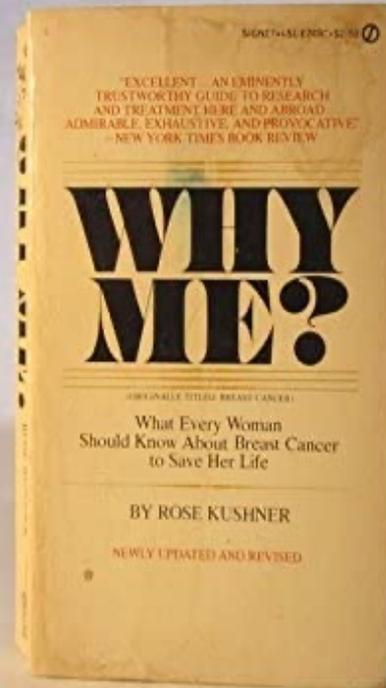
**The need for women to be
liberated from paternalistic
healthcare practice**

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Rose Kushner

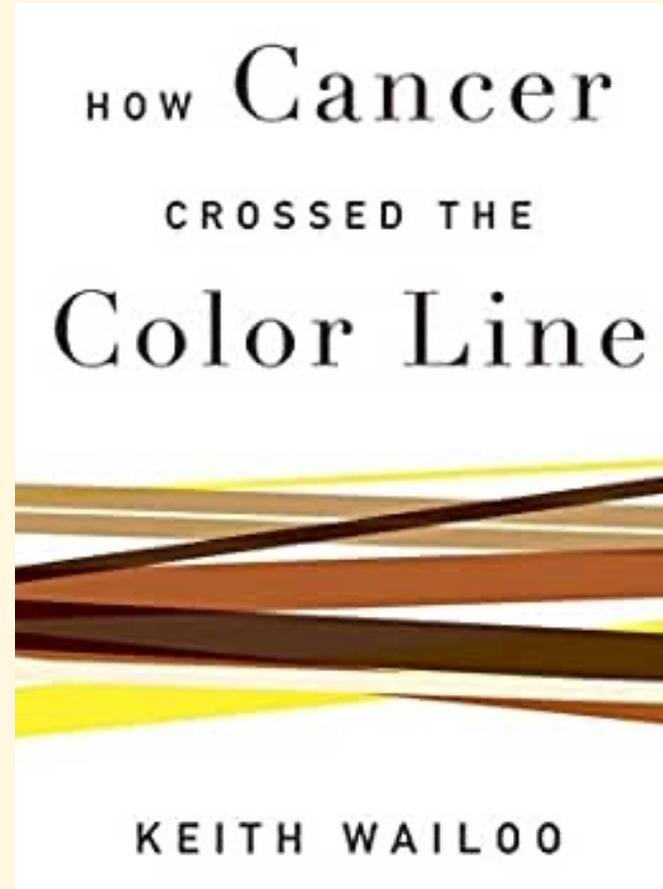




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Combahee River Collective

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Kimberlé Crenshaw and Intersectionality



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Audre Lorde



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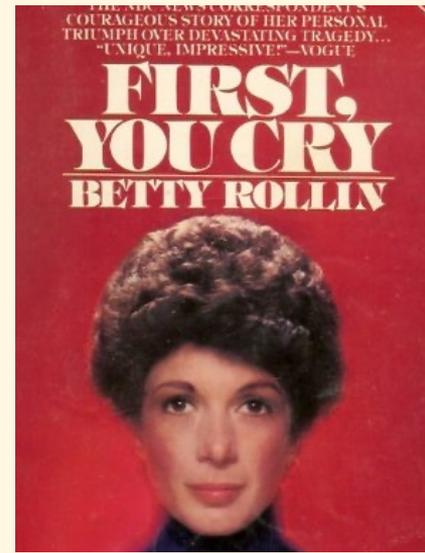
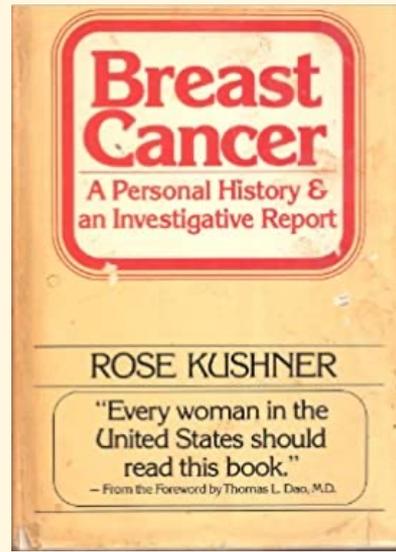
**“Either I would love my body one-breasted
now, or remain forever alien to myself”**



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R E P O R T

WELCOME TO CANCERLAND

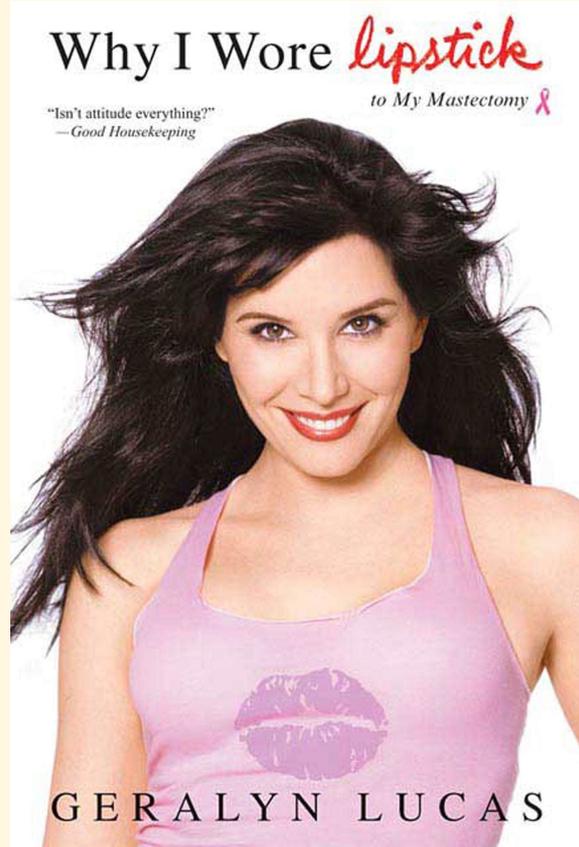
A mammogram leads to a cult of pink kitsch
By Barbara Ehrenreich

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Depoliticization



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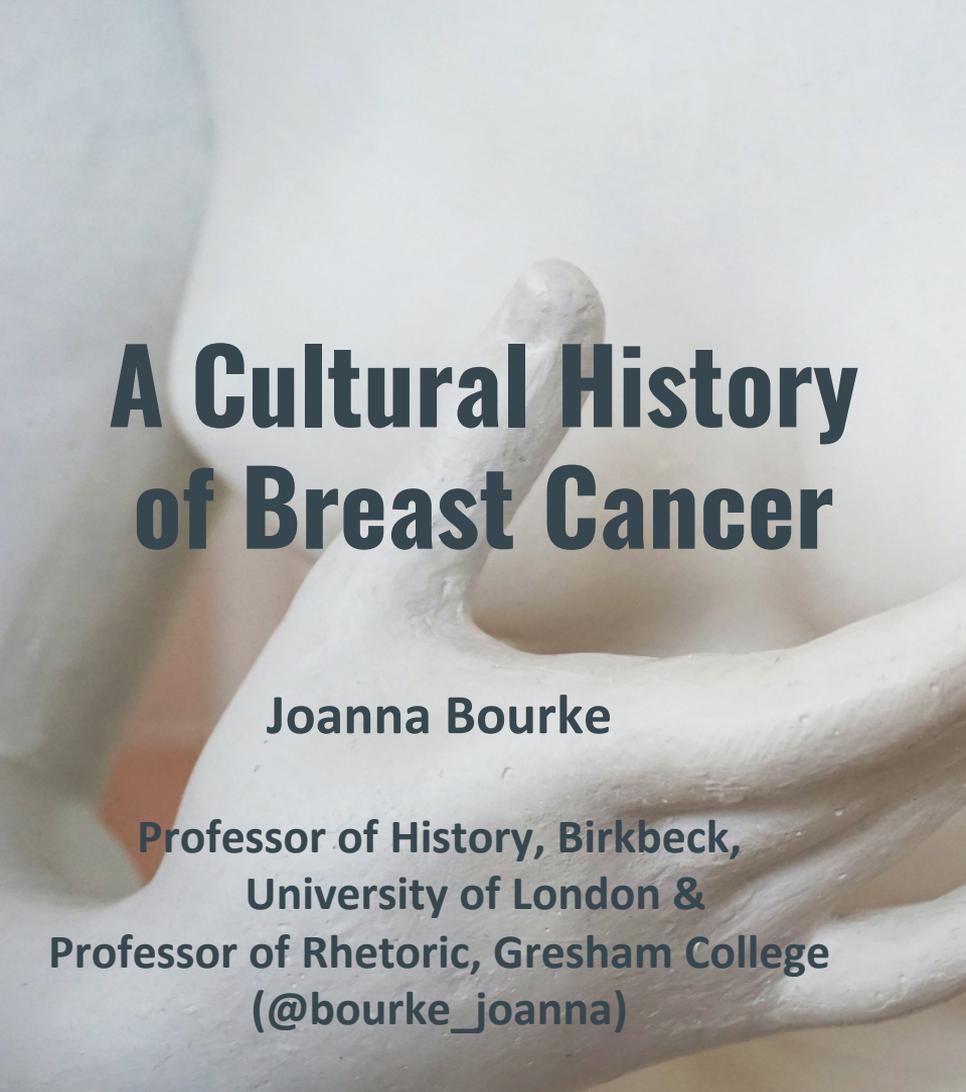
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USE...but don't ABUSE your arm...





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“I rarely discuss pain”

*“I am not one of those
hypochondriacs”*

“No one likes a complainer”

CAM's Breast Examination

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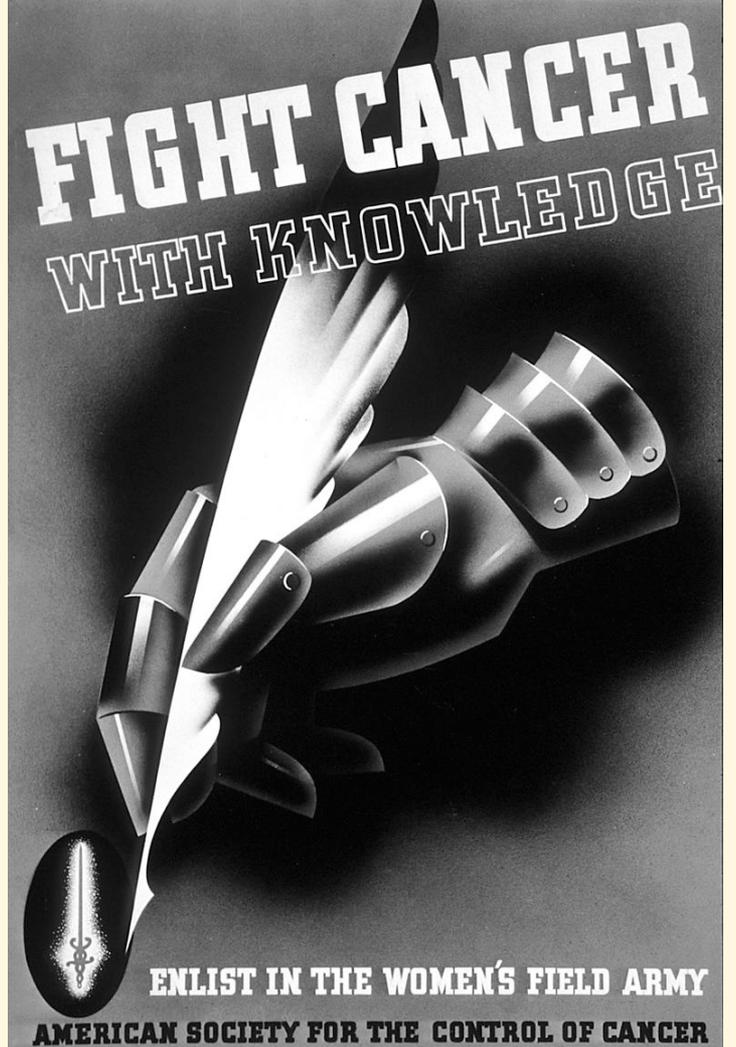
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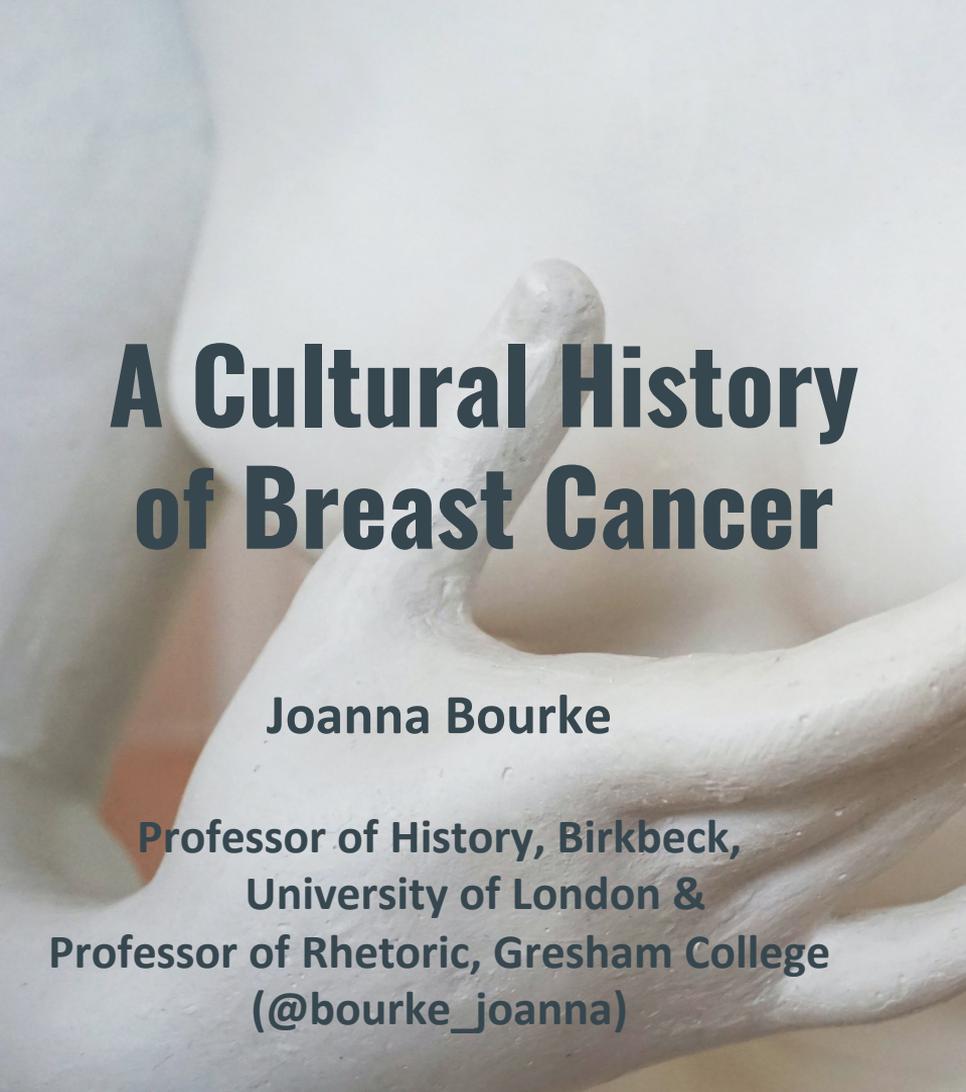
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Educating public (US)

Educating physicians (UK)

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”Green” v ”Pink” activism



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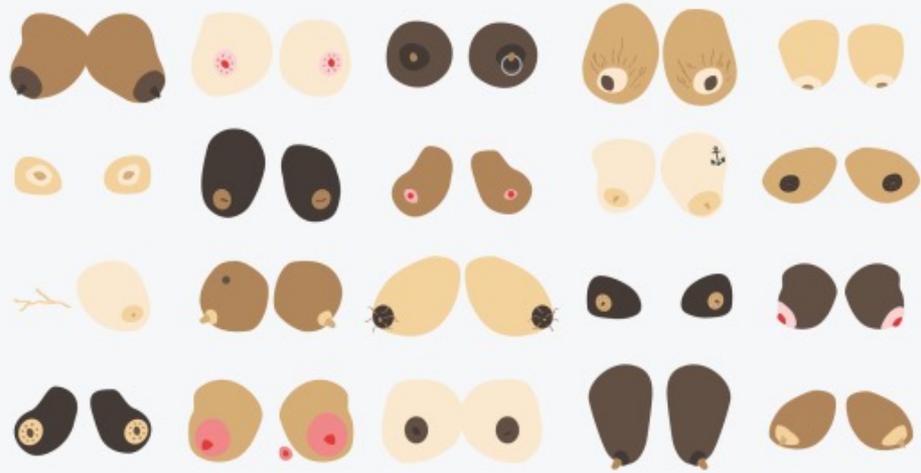
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• **LECTURE 3 OF 6**