

## Dédicace d'Astraea

**Auteur : Willan, Leonard**

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## Les folios

En passant la souris sur une vignette, le titre de l'image apparaît.

4 Fichier(s)

## Mots clés

[lien à un personnage](#), [lien au sujet](#)

## Informations éditoriales

Titre complet de la pièce *Astraea, or, True love's Mirror, a Pastoral*

Auteur de la pièce Willan, Leonard

Date 1651

Lieu d'édition Londres, Royaume-Uni

Éditeur

- Cripps, Henry
- Lloyd, Lodowick
- White, R[obert]

Langue Anglais

Source [Internet Archive](#)

## Analyse

Type de paratexte Dédicace

Genre de la pièce

- Pièce non représentée
- Tragi-comédie

## Les relations du document

Ce document n'a pas de relation indiquée avec un autre document du projet.

# Informations sur la notice

Edition numérique Véronique Lochert (Projet Spectatrix, UHA et IUF) ; EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle)

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Willan, Leonard Dédicace d'*Astraea* 1651.

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Consulté le 13/02/2026 sur la plate-forme EMAN :

<https://eman-archives.org/Spectatrix/items/show/1859>

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Notice créée par [Adelina Borfotina](#) Notice créée le 01/07/2024 Dernière modification le 03/12/2025

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TO  
*The Illustrious Princess,*  
M A R Y  
*Duchess of Richmond and Lennox.*

*Madam,*

**H**is figurative Star presented  
to your view (no sooner  
formed generally distin-  
guishable to our *Horison*)  
becoming suddenly obscured by the  
*Eclipses* of those greater Lights, from  
whom essentially it should have had  
both Influence and Lustre, hath mov'd  
concealed many years; till now by the  
Reflection of your affinitive eminence

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

in Vertue and Beauty ; It hath presumed to assume a Being more communicable. Reject not, *Madam*, the Access hereof, because transacted to your hand by so despicable an Introducer. It only is your Property, not only by the advantage of Worth ( in civil rights of Honour and Respeet ) your Present : but by the advantage of Similitude ( in rule of Dialect ) your proper Attribute. The pretended perfection of *Astrea's* Vertue and Beauty intitled her to a celestial Figure : the essential Graces whereof in you , shall really translate you to so transcendent a Glory, that those resplendent Lights are thereof but imperfect Shadows. Those Objects of true Love figured in her so happily to encounter as perfect a subject, to receive their Impressions, and mutually communicate the like effects to the forming of one mysterious Union : are visibly express in the admired, ravishing, and harmonious agreement  
of

## The Epistle Dedicatory.

of your *Hymeneal* Amitie. *Astraea* is figured to descend from noble *Progeny*, who to avoid the Military Fury of debording Multitudes (which passing frequently through *Gaule*, descended like an irresistible Torrent on the *Roman* Empire) were constrained to betake them to the humble Sanctuary of a *Pastorical* condition : This Circumstance will meet no trivial *Analogie* in the Eminence of your Extraction, and Consequence of your present Rural Retreat : So that (with permission) may evidently be concluded, that in reference to your Natural perfections, Civil Transactions, or Accidental Occurrence, *Astraea* may (in equity) presume to be either your *Type*, *Parallel*, or *Character*. Disdain not, *Madam*, her Resemblance, in respect of the Humility figured in *her* condition ; since 'tis the perfect'st, and most proper Note of *her* Nobility : which (where divided) shew the Original of such ostentive

## *The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Attributes (with what glorious Titles soever illustrated) had but a reproachful Acquisition. And although your vertues need no other Monument but their own perfection to constitute their Memory eternal : yet since Fortune is the chiefest Agitator in humane Occurrences, whose Power is still exercis'd in opposition of such eminent Faculties, your Counterfeit (in *Astraea*) may happily outlast your marble Epitaph or Figure : If so, It soyl is the Crown and Glory of his Enterprise, whose vanity can aspire to no higher Honour, then to survive the Malice of his Fate in his unworthy Ministry to your Fame, under the Title of

*Your Graces*

*Humble Servant*

LEO: WILLAN.