

Cita: An Open-Access Feminist Digital Library and Print-On-Demand Publisher

In March 2018 citapress.org was launched marking the culmination of a two years long research, and the start of a crowdsourced, free and collaborative feminist project. Cita is an open-access feminist digital library and print-on-demand publisher that promotes and distributes the writings of female authors whose works are open-licensed or in the public domain. It started as the MFA in Design thesis from Juliana Castro, a Colombian graphic designer based in the United States. Responding to the lack of well designed, affordable public-domain reprints, Cita's network of scholars and designers works to make and distribute free, highquality editions that readers can view online using any device, or download, print, and—following simple instructions—bind for personal, library, museum, or school use.

Most of the nineteenth century's feminist literature is now in the public domain, but many of these writings are not being republished by commercial publishers. When publishers do reprint public-domain texts, they rarely do so in open-access book formats. Because commercial publishers invest in curating and marketing well-designed collections of reprints, they frequently commission original annotations or introductions from scholars, which in turn enables them to copyright and profit from their new editions. In contrast, Internet-based archives make an enormous corpus of public-domain books available for free online but do so as scans or in poorly designed digital formats. Moreover, internet archives usually do not make their collections particularly navigable or appealing to non-scholarly audiences, nor do they make it properly designed and easy to print.

Cita is an open-access digital library of books written by women. By creating this resource, we aim to celebrate and make accessible the work of female writers and inspire people to explore open publishing formats. We plan to extend Cita's reach as an active open-source editing and translating platform that is committed to intersectionality and that welcomes diverse voices and backgrounds. The door is open; please join us in celebrating art, literature, open-access and feminism!