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| **About you** | **[Salutation]** | Christina | [Middle name] | van Houten |
| [Enter your biography] | | | |
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| **Your article** |
| Barney, Natalie Clifford (1876–1972) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| Natalie Barney was an expatriate American writer who lived in Paris. In her home at 20 rue Jacob, Barney established a salon that for over sixty years brought together intellectuals and artists. In 1927, in response to the exclusively male French Academy, she formed the *Académie des Femmes* to organize and promote women writers. Throughout her career, Barney supported feminist issues and worked to revise the prevailing image of lesbianism constructed around notions of illness, perversion, or inversion.  Barney was the daughter of Albert Clifford Barney and Alice Pike Barney. Her father inherited a railroad car company; her mother was the heir to a whiskey fortune in addition to being an accomplished portrait painter. Her family’s wealth provided her freedom from social stricture in both her daily life and her literary works. Her inherited fortune also allowed Barney to live openly in lesbian relationships with notable women, including Renée Vivien and Romaine Brooks, and to financially support the arts as she desired.  In 1900, Barney published her first book, *Quelques Portraits-Sonnets de Femmes* [*Some Portraits and Sonnets of Women*], a collection of poems in which she addresses women, praising their beauty and their shared love. |
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| Further reading:  (Benstock)  (Jay)  (Wickes) |