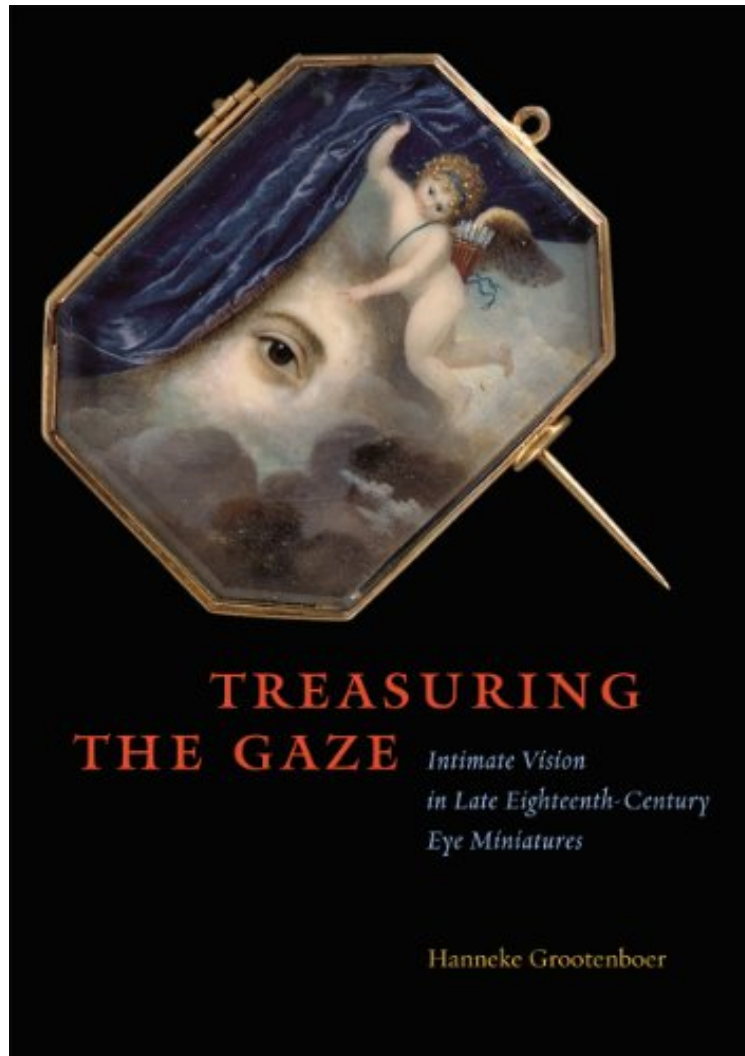


# Treasuring the Gaze: Intimate Vision in Late Eighteenth-Century Eye Miniatures

Hanneke Grootenboer

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The end of the eighteenth century saw the start of a new craze in Europe: tiny portraits of single eyes that were exchanged by lovers or family members. Worn as brooches or pendants, these minuscule eyes served the same emotional need as more conventional mementoes, such as locket containing a coil of a loved one's hair. The fashion lasted only a few decades, and by the early 1800s eye miniatures had faded into oblivion. Unearthing these portraits in *Treasuring the Gaze*, Hanneke Grootenboer proposes that the rage for eye miniatures and their abrupt disappearance reveals a knot in the unfolding of the history of vision.

The selection of illustrations, including a set of fine color plates, is most enlightening. . . . Recommended.