Characterized by comically grotesque figures performing lewd and vulgar actions, bawdy humor provided a poignant vehicle to target a variety of political and social issues in eighteenth-century Britain. Bawdy Bodies: Satires of Unruly Women explores the deployment of this humorous but derisive strategy towards the regulation of female behavior. The exhibition presents satirical images of women from a range of subject categories, including the royal family, aging members of fashionable society, disparaged mothers, political activists, gamblers, medical wonders, artists, performers, and intellectuals.

Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/news/2015/07/exhibition-bawdy-bodies-satires-unruly-women