Re-Membering Marie Antoinette

Marie Catoinette
accepts her fate
How do you get at history?

- What constitutes the historical truth of a moment?
- How do you understand both a period and a person? How do they shape each other?
1. Letters
2. Biographies

- Stephen Zweig’s *Marie Antoinette: Portrait of an Average Woman*
- Antonia Fraser’s *Marie Antoinette: The Journey*
3. Films

- *Marie Antoinette*, 1938, directed by W.S. van Dyke, starring Norma Shearer

- *Marie Antoinette*, 2006, directed by Sophia Coppola, starring Kirsten Dunst
Norma Shearer
Kirsten Dunst
4. Contemporary Representations

- portraits
- pamphlets
- pornography
Portraits- Vigee LeBrun
Pamphlets and Pornography
Queen of Fashion, by Caroline Weber
Conclusion?
Reenacting the Past

**Cast or participants: 19 characters in all**

1. Marie-Antoinette, the accused
2. Count Axel von Fersen, a Swedish nobleman
3. Jacques René Hébert, a journalist and representative
4. Olympe de Gouges, a playwright and pamphleteer
5. Louis-Antoine Saint-Just, a representative and member of the Committee of National Security
6. Antoine Quetin Fouquier-Tinville, the public prosecutor
7. Antoine Simon, the jailor of the dauphin
8. A fishwife
9. A sans-culotte
10. Armand-Martial Herman, the president of the Assemblée and the judge
11. A lawyer
12. A National Guardsman and later a juror
13. Jean-Silvain Bailly, a political prisoner and ci-devant mayor of Paris
14. A journeyman printer and later a juror
15. A wine merchant and later a juror
16. A playwright and later a juror
17. A tutor and later a juror
18. Camille Desmoulins, a representative, journalist and celebrity
19. Germaine de Staël, a writer and political hostess
Reenacting the Past

1. The Salon, concluding with the Arrest

2. The Trial
   a. Interrogatoire
   b. Consultation with Lawyer and Acte d’Accusation
   c. Trial
   d. Jury Deliberations
   e. Sentence