

Mrs. Barry in the character of Rosalind in 'As you like it.' London: for J. Smith and R. Sayer, 1772. Folger ART File C899 no.3 (size XS)

Ann Barry (1733-1801), began her acting career in York, England, in the 1750s. Her career took her to Newcastle, Dublin, and eventually London, where she became one of the most popular actresses of the late eighteenth century. Ann performed a wide variety of Shakespearean roles, including Cordelia (*The Tragedy of King Lear*), Jessica (*The Merchant of Venice*), Ophelia (*Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*), Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*), Desdemona (*Othello*), and Rosalind (*As You Like It*, shown here). This card, only 2 3/4 x 2 inches, would have been a collectable from the height of Ann's popularity as an actress in London.