

1023-01-1077 **Jeanne Peiffer*** (peiffer@damesme.cnrs.fr), Centre Alexandre Koyré, 27, rue Damesme, 75013 Paris, France. *Communicating Mathematics in the Journal des savants (1675-1737)*.

The *Journal des savants*, created in 1665 in Paris, addressed a general readership in the vernacular French (contrary to Leipzig's *Acta eruditorum* which was published in Latin). The presence of mathematics, categorized between 1675 and 1737 under the general heading “*mathematici*”, was rather limited (a bit more than 3% of all the published ‘papers’). After briefly describing the mathematics on which the journalists wrote, the style in which they chose to write, and the readership whom they pretended to address, I will discuss the role of controversies in creating new audiences for mathematics. In particular, the practice of public challenge problems delineated small elite circles, the members of which operated inside narrow disciplinary boundaries, but managed through controversial public debate to greatly publicize their activities. (Received September 25, 2006)