

S. PEARL BRILMYER

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of English, The University of Oregon, 2014-
Postdoctoral Fellow, ICI Berlin The Institute for Cultural Inquiry, 2014-16
Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, The New School for Social Research, Spring 2013
Visiting Scholar, Department of Comparative Literature, New York University, Fall 2012

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Comparative Literature, The University of Texas at Austin, 2014
M.A., Comparative Literature, The University of Texas at Austin, 2008
B.A., *magna cum laude*, English and Philosophy, The University of Scranton, 2006

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Nineteenth-century British literature, the history of European philosophy and science; queer theory; feminist science studies; realism; new materialism; natural history; description

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Articles

- “Plasticity, Form, and the Matter of Character in *Middlemarch*.” *Representations* 130 (2015): 60-83.
Republished in the online colloquy, “The Nature of Literary Being.” *Arcade: Literature, the Humanities, and the World*. Stanford University, Nov. 2015. Web.
- “‘The Natural History of My Inward Self’: Sensing Character in George Eliot’s *Impressions of Theophrastus Such*.” *PMLA* 129.1 (2014): 35-51.

Invited Book Chapters

- “Schopenhauer and the British Literary Sphere.” *The Palgrave Schopenhauer Handbook*. Ed. Sandra L. Shapshay. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. Forthcoming.
- “Darwinian Feminism.” *Macmillan Interdisciplinary Handbook: Gender*. Vol. 6. *Matter*. Ed. Stacy Alaimo. Series Ed. Renée C. Hoogland. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. Forthcoming.

Translations

- “Philosophy through the Macroscopic.” A digital humanities project initiated by Chris Alen Sula and David Morrow that examines historical knowledge structures by visualizing the history of philosophy through Benjamin Rand’s *Bibliography of Philosophy, Psychology, and Cognate Subjects* (1905). Translation of German and French titles into English. 2013.

“Schopenhauer’s World.” A semi-permanent exhibition for visitors to the Schopenhauer Archive. Translation from German into English. Frankfurt am Main. 2011.

“Nietzsche was a DJ.” An audio piece by Avital Ronell. Transcription and translation of German and French into English. *Currents in Electronic Literacy*. Special Issue, “Writing with Sound,” April 2010.

Reviews

“The Bonds of Choice.” Review of *The Feeling of Kinship: Queer Liberalism and the Racialization of Intimacy* by David L. Eng. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 18:1 (2011): 199-202.

Flashback review of *The History of Sexuality* Vols. I-III by Michel Foucault. *E3W Review of Books* 8 (2009).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Character Density: Late Victorian Realism and the Science of Description. Book project examining the philosophical implications of the disarticulation of character from plot at the turn of the twentieth century. Focused on series of little-studied, late-career works by George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, Olive Schreiner, and Walter Pater, the project develops a theory of realism as a descriptive science that documents the circumstances, experiences, and practices through which character materializes.

The Prism I Hold in My Hand. An experimental edition of Olive Schreiner’s unfinished novel, *From Man to Man; or Perhaps Only* (1926). Design by Minna Sakaria. Under review.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Runner-up, Outstanding Dissertation Award, UT Austin, 2015

Dina Sherzer Excellence Award, UT Austin, 2013

William S. Livingston Graduate Fellowship, UT Austin, 2012-2013

Graduate Student Fellow, NEH Summer Seminar “Oscar Wilde and His Circle,” 2012

Visiting Predoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (II), 2011-2012

DAAD Research Grant (to the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science), 2011-2012

DAAD Supplemental Language Course Grant (to DID Deutsch Institute Frankfurt), 2011

Dean’s Prestigious Fellowship Supplement, UT Austin, 2011

Outstanding English Department Instructor Award, UT Austin, 2011

Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship, UT Austin (to the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), 2010

Dickens Project Fellowship, Department of English, UT Austin, 2010

Swedish Studies Scholarship, UT Austin (to Folkuniversitetet Stockholm), 2009

André Lefevre Prize for best masters thesis in Comparative Literature, UT Austin, 2008

Hubertus E. Scheibe Scholarship, DAAD Alumni Association (to IIK Düsseldorf), 2008

Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship, UT Austin (to IIK Düsseldorf), 2008

Professional Development Award, The Graduate School at UT Austin, 2013, 2011, 2009, 2007

Pre-emptive Fellowship, The Graduate School at UT Austin, 2006-2007

First prize, Phi Sigma Tau Philosophy Paper Contest, 2006

INVITED TALKS

“Theorizing the Present.” Discussant and chair of a roundtable on Nietzsche’s “On the Use and Abuse of History for Life.” V21 Symposium, Chicago, October 2015.

“Queer Resistance,” a response to Heather Love. Weak Resistance Conference. ICI Berlin, May 2015.

“Plasticity, Form, and the Matter of Character in *Middlemarch*.” The Wittgenstein Workshop, Department of Philosophy, The New School for Social Research, May 2013.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Habits of Feeling: Queer Theory and the Limits of Flexibility.” 29th Annual Conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, “After Biopolitics,” Rice University, November 2015.

“‘Necessities of Attraction and Desire’: Félix Ravaisson and the Affective History of Habit.” Affect Theory Conference, Millersville University, October 2015.

“Queer Rigidity.” ICI Berlin Summer Workshop, “Margins of Error,” The Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin, June 2015.

“The Temporality of Form in Hardy’s *The Well-Beloved*.” International Conference on the philosophy of Alfred North Whitehead, “Seizing an Alternative: Toward an Ecological Civilization,” Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA, June 2015.

“Olive Schreiner’s Relational Metaphysics: Feminist and Anti-Racist Critique in *From Man to Man, or Perhaps Only*.” Somatechnics International Conference, “Missing Links: The Somatechnics of Decolonization,” University of Linköping, Sweden, June 2013.

“Schopenhauer’s Drive: Sex, Agency, and Victorian Literary Feminism.” The Northeast Victorian Studies Association Conference, “1874,” Boston University, April 2013.

“Materializing Schopenhauer: A Feminist-Materialist History of Schopenhauer’s English Reception.” 3rd Annual New Materialism Conference, “Entanglements of New Materialism,” The Posthumanities Hub, University of Linköping, Sweden, May 2012.

“Character Density: George Eliot’s Technologies of Description.” Romanticism and Evolution Conference, The University of Western Ontario, May 2011.

“After the Human: George Eliot’s *Impressions of Theophrastus Such*.” Annual Dickens Universe Conference, Rice University, April 2011.

“The Cross Cultural Rhetoric Group at the DWRL,” Computers and Writing Online Conference, “Virtual Worlds,” May 2010.

“The Marriage of Limbs in Hardy’s *Return of the Native*.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, “Creoles, Diasporas, Cosmopolitanisms,” New Orleans, April 2010.

“Trollope and the Semblance of a Queer Politics.” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, “Family/Resemblance,” UT Austin, March 2010.

“Theoretical Nobodies Like Lou Andreas-Salomé.” Department of English graduate student conference, “New Directions in Queer Studies,” UT Austin, March 2009.

“Promiscuous Subjectivity and the Antisocial Turn in Queer Theory.” Department of English graduate student conference, “Lesbian Genres,” UT Austin, May 2009.

“The Nietzschean ‘Impulse’ in Pierre Klossowski.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, “Global Languages, Local Cultures,” Harvard University, March 2009.

“Cruel and Usual Realism.” Fourth Annual Graduate Comparative Literature Conference, “(Un)bound: the Humanities in Transition,” UT Austin, October 2007.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Oregon, Department of English

“George Eliot and the Science of Description,” Graduate Seminar, Winter 2016

“Queer Literature,” Winter 2016

“The English Novel from Scott to Hardy,” Fall 2015

“What is Nature?” Fall 2015

The Brooklyn Institute for Social Research

“From Queer Theory to Affect Theory: Reading Eve Sedgwick,” April 2015

“New Materialisms,” July 2014

“Queer Becomings: Woolf, Stein, and Modernist Experiments with Time,” November 2013

New York University, The Gallatin School of Individualized Study

“Animality and the Problem of Description,” Spring 2014

“Queer Time and Narrative,” Fall 2013

Pratt Institute, Department of Social Science & Cultural Studies

“Philosophy through Film and Literature,” Fall 2013

The University of Texas at Austin, Departments of English and Rhetoric

“Gay & Lesbian Literature and Culture,” Fall 2010, Spring 2011

“The Rhetoric of Monogamy,” Fall 2009, Spring 2010

“Rhetoric and Writing,” Fall 2008, Spring 2009

“Masterworks of British Literature,” Teaching Assistant, Fall 2007, Spring 2008

SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Conference and Event Organization

Co-organizer with Zairong Xiang and Filippo Trentin, "The Ontology of the Couple," a two-day symposium including talks by Heather Love, Annamarie Jagose, Peter Coviello, Bobby Benedicto, and others. ICI Berlin, June 2016.

Co-organizer with James Burton, "The Invention of Defect: Disability, Femininity, Technicity," a two-day symposium with keynote speakers Mara Mills and Emanuela Bianchi. ICI Berlin, June 2015.

Curator with Stephanie Rosen, "Bug in the Machine," an international art exhibition exploring the interaction between living things and the things we build. Collaborated with artists from Berlin, Chicago, and Tokyo to display digital art on large-scale and 3-D screens built for scientific visualization; learned Python to program the world's largest multi-tile display. The Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC), Austin, TX, 2011.

Co-organizer with Anthony Arroyo, "Intimacy: Technologies of Fantasy and Feeling," 7th Annual Graduate Conference in Comparative Literature with keynote speaker David Eng. UT Austin, October 2010.

Co-organizer and chair with Stephanie Rosen, "Vital Arts and Theories," seminar at the American Comparative Literature Association Conference, "World Literature/Comparative Literature," Vancouver, BC, April 2011.

Organizer, "Women on the Academic Job Market," workshop for the Feminist Solidarity Group, UT Austin, 2009.

Groups and Committees

Conference Committee Member, Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA) Conference, 2013-2014.

Volunteer, Rails Girls, Berlin, Germany, 2012
Workshop for women in the computer programming language Ruby.

Co-founder and co-director with Stephanie Rosen, Vital Arts and Theories Group, 2010-2013
An interdisciplinary research cluster (bringing together researchers in literature, history, physics, chemistry, biology, and computer science) committed to exploring the productive intersections of art and science in the project of understanding forms of life.

President, Graduate Association of Comparative Literature Students, UT Austin, 2010-2011

Graduate Student Teaching Mentor, Department of English, UT Austin, 2010-2011

Project Leader, Voices of Marlin Project, Digital Writing and Research Lab (DWRL), 2010-2011
Collaboration between UT researchers and members of Marlin ISD to develop traditional and digital teaching tools in order to address racial segregation in Marlin, TX.

New Student Mentor, Feminist Solidarity Group, UT Austin, 2009-2010

Project Leader, Cross-Cultural Rhetoric Project, Digital Writing and Research Lab, 2009-2010
Led a team of UT researchers to link rhetoric classes across the US and Europe using web-based video technology (in collaboration with Örebro University, Sweden).

Creator, "Rote Words," 2010

An experimental online writing community using blogs to provide dissertation feedback.

Chair, Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship Committee, UT Austin, 2008-2010

Evaluated research proposals from 2nd-3rd year graduate students awarding \$40,000 in grant funds annually.

Writing Consultant, Undergraduate Writing Center, UT Austin, 2008-2009

Individual meetings with students teaching the fundamentals of writing and composition.

Student Representative, Comparative Literature Course Committee, UT Austin, 2007-2010

Evaluated and approved undergraduate and graduate courses in Comparative Literature.

Art Editor, *Intersections: Women's and Gender Studies Review Across Disciplines*, 2007-2008

Cover and layout design; evaluated articles for publication.

LANGUAGES

German (fluent)

Swedish (advanced)

French (advanced)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association

American Comparative Literature Association

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association

North American Victorian Studies Association

Northeast Victorian Studies Association

V21 Collective

REFERENCES

Ann Cvetkovich, Ellen C Garwood Centennial Professor of English and Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, UT Austin (cvet@austin.utexas.edu)

Tracie Matysik, Associate Professor of History, UT Austin (matysik@austin.utexas.edu)

Samuel Baker, Associate Professor of English, UT Austin (sebaker@austin.utexas.edu)

Joseph Bristow, Professor of English, UCLA (jbristow@humnet.ucla.edu)