

**RYAN TRACY**

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Scholar and Educator in Transatlantic Literary Modernism, The Harlem Renaissance, and World Literature

**Education**

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Ph.D. 2023	English, The City University of New York, New York, NY, Certificate in Critical Theory
M.Phil. 2021	English, The City University of New York, New York, NY
M.A. 2013	Gender Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, with honors
M.M. 2002	Composition, Mannes College of Music, New York, NY
B.M. 1999	Composition and Choral Conducting, Chapman University, Orange, CA

**Research and Teaching Interest**

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Modernism, Black and African American Literary Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, Queer Theory, Literary Environmental Studies, Critical Theory, Deconstruction, Pop Culture

**Dissertation**

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"A Difference of One's Own: Race, Sex, Modernism"

Combining archival research with interdisciplinary theoretical grounding, my project argues that representations of race, and racial Blackness in particular, played a central role in the development of literary modernism's tropes of self-alienation and self-fragmentation, critically recasting the modernist era as one constitutively dependent on the fate of the "New Negro" as a powerful figure capable of deconstructing the global Color Line.

Dissertation Chair: John Brenkman

Readers: Wayne Koestenbaum, Mary Ann Caws

**Employment**

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2023-present	Visiting Assistant Professor, English, Knox College, Galesburg, IL
2019-2023	Adjunct Instructor, Great Works of World Literature, Baruch College, New York, NY
2018-2019	Adjunct Instructor, English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY
2018-2019	Writing Across the Curriculum Fellow, CUNY Law School, New York, NY
2016-2018	Graduate Teaching Fellow, Great Works of World Literature, Baruch College, New York, NY
2015-2016	Graduate Teaching Fellow, English Department, College of Staten Island, New York, NY
2014-2015	Research Assistant, English, The CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY <i>Assistant to Robert Reid-Pharr and Will Fisher</i>

**Courses**

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Knox College	English 120 The Literary Arts, 2 sections English 232 American Literature: Shaping New American Identities, 1 section English 245 Literature & Power: Short Fiction of the Harlem Renaissance, 1 section English 336 Studies in the Literatures of America: The Harlem Renaissance—Poetry, Plays and Prose, 1 section English 380 Studies in English and American Literature: Modernism and the "New Woman," 1 section
Baruch College	English 2850, Great Works of World Literature, 13 sections
John Jay College	English 101, Writing in the Disciplines, 2 section English 201, Writing In the Disciplines, 2 sections
College of Staten Island	English 111, College Composition, 3 sections

## Fellowships, Grants, Residencies

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2023	English Dissertation Program Prize
2023	International Virginia Woolf Society Annual Conference Travel Grant
2022	Modernist Studies Association Travel Grant
2020	The Jane Marcus Dissertation Year Fellowship, The CUNY Graduate Center
2020	Modern Language Association Travel Grant
2020	American Comparative Literature Association Travel Grant
2019	The International Conference on Virginia Woolf Travel Grant
2018	The Robert Adams Day Dissertation Year Fellowship, The CUNY Graduate Center
2018	Doctoral Student Research Grant, The CUNY Graduate Center
2018	Modernist Studies Association Travel Grant
2016	Doctoral Student Research Grant, The CUNY Graduate Center
2016	Modernist Studies Association Travel Grant
2015	The New Museum Seminar on "Speculation"
2014-2019	Doctoral Fellowship, The CUNY Graduate Center
2007	Writing Live Fellow, Performa
2002	Corporation of Yaddo, Residency
2002	The Edward Albee Foundation, Residency

## Scholarly Publications

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### Monographs

In process *Drag Education: RuPaul, Reading, and What's Queer About Pedagogy*. Punctum Books.

### Essays in Peer Reviewed Journals

Forthcoming "The Weather in Stein." *PMLA*.

"'Auntie'-fascism Between Gertrude Stein and Jacques Derrida." *Politica comun*, special issue.

Revise/  
resubmit "Wilde About Larsen: Literary Influence and Decadence in *Quicksand*." *Modernism/modernity*.

2022 "The Octopus and the Pelican: Queer 'Efforts of Affection' Between Marianne Moore and Elizabeth Bishop." *Feminist Modernist Studies*.

2020 "Writing in Cars with Jacques Derrida and Gertrude Stein, or, The Age of Autotheory." *Arizona Quarterly: A Journal of American Literature, Culture, and Theory*, Volume 76, Number 1, Spring 2020.

2019 "'To Work Black Magic': Richard Bruce Nugent's Queer Black Insurgency." Special issue "Nationalism: Hyper and Post," *Journal of American Studies in Italy*, Number 1, May 2019.

### Book Chapters

Forthcoming "Rain, Wind, and Fire: Climates of Exhaustion in Harlem's Streets." *The Oxford Handbook of Queer Modernisms*, edited by Hannah Freed-Thall, Octavio González, and Juno Richards. Oxford University Press.

"'His Shield': Black Fugitivity in and Marianne Moore's Haile Selassie Poems." *Marianne Moore and the Archives*, edited by Alison Fraser and Jeff Westover. Clemson University Press.

"'Inky Blackness': Race and Writing in Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*." *Virginia Woolf and Social Justice: Essays from the 29th Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf*, edited by Drew Shannon. Clemson University Press.

## Edited Volumes

2022 Co-editor with Erin Kappeler (Tulane University), "This Is What Makes Us Girls," special issue of *New American Notes Online (NANO)*, City Tech.

## Online Scholarly Forums

2014 "Double Double Miley Trouble: Notes Toward a Queer Aesthet(h)ics of Duplicity." *In Media Res* forum "Miley Cyrus: Super Queer" organized by Karin Sellberg (University of Edinburgh) and Michael O'Rourke (Independent Colleges Dublin).

## Book Reviews

Forthcoming *Remains of a Self: Solitude in the Aftermath of Psychoanalysis and Deconstruction* by Cathrine Bjørnholt Michaelsen, for *Psychoanalysis and History*.

2018 *Derrida and Queer Theory. Derrida Today* (11:1, 2018, 114-128).

## In Preparation

"Just like Swinburne!": Marianne Moore and Post-Victorian Decadent Aestheticism." *Victorian Studies*.

## Conference Activity

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### Papers Presented

2024 "Modernist Landscapes in Decline: Transnational Affinities Between Kushi Fusako and Nella Larsen." Modern Language Association (MLA), Philadelphia, PA.

"'Inky Blackness': Race and Writing in Orlando." MLA, Philadelphia, PA.

2023 Roundtable, "Queer Parties, Camp Pleasures, Decadent Modernisms." Modernist Studies Association (MSA), Brooklyn, NY.

"'Hirst's Way of Life': The Ecology of Queer Men in Virginia Woolf." 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Virginia Woolf, Fort Myers, FL.

"Wherefore 'Renaissance'?": Walter Pater, Nella Larsen, and James Weldon Johnson." Global Decadence, Race, the Futures of Decadence Studies (online).

"'You're So Gay, You Probably Think This Gay Weather Is About You; or, What Gertrude Stein Knew About Global Warming in 1936.'" MLA, San Francisco, CA.

"A 'Pretty Rotten' Novel: Paterean Corruption in Nella Larsen's Quicksand." MLA, San Francisco, CA.

2022 "The Weather in Stein." MSA, Portland, OR.

2022 "The Weather in Stein: Democracy as a Crisis for Ecology in *Everybody's Autobiography*." MLA, Washington, D.C.

2021 "'His Shield': Black Fugitivity in Marianne Moore's Haile Selassie Poems." Marianne Moore and the Archives (online).

2021 "'Auntie'-fascism Between Gertrude Stein and Jacques Derrida." American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Meeting (online).

- 2021 "The Octopus and the Pelican: Queer Efforts of Affection between Marianne Moore and Elizabeth Bishop." MLA (online).
- 2020 "Writing in Cars with Gertrude Stein and Jacques Derrida." MLA, Seattle, WA.
- 2019 "'Inky Blackness': Race, Sex, and Writing in *Orlando*." The 29<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Cleveland, OH.
- 2019 "'To Work Black Magic': Richard Bruce Nugent's Queer Black Insurgency." American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Washington, D.C. Nominated for the 2019 Horst Frenz Prize for best essay by a graduate student.
- 2018 "'To Work Black Magic': Richard Bruce Nugent's Queer Black Insurgency." MSA, Columbus, OH.
- 2018 "'His Shield': Marianne Moore's Deconstruction of the Sovereign." Derrida Today, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada.
- 2018 "Efforts of Auto-Affection: Richard Bruce Nugent's Queer Self-Feeling." Queer Modernisms II, Oxford University, Oxford, UK.
- 2018 "'Help Me Hold My Hair Back': Lady Gaga's Feminist Ethics of Regurgitation." English Student Association (ESA) Conference, The CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY.
- 2016 "Black Narcissus, White Narcissus: Narcissism and Racialized Subjectivity in Frantz Fanon." Derrida Today, Goldsmiths, University of London, London, UK.
- 2016 "Bloom 'Overdrawn', or, *Ulysses*' Bad Debt." 25<sup>th</sup> International James Joyce Symposium, University of London, London, UK.
- 2015 "Of Sexting: D.H. Lawrence and 'The Secret Rubbing of the Dirty Little Secret.'" Nakedness and Nudity: A Trans-historical Roundtable, The CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY.
- 2014 "Radical Democracy, Activism, and the Specter of Theater, or, A Theatrical Haunting of Judith Butler." Theater, Performance, Philosophy, The Sorbonne, Paris, France.
- 2014 "Walk (on Ecstasy) With Me: Art Walks and the Politics of Participation." Elastic City Talks, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY.

### **Conferences/Symposia Organized**

- 2019 Organizer, "BLACK LIVES," ESA Student Conference, The CUNY Graduate Center.
- 2019 Planning committee, "Disciplines Clash!," Critical Theory Certificate Program Conference, The CUNY Graduate Center.

### **Panels Organized**

- 2022 "Make it Hot!: Modernism and Global Warming." MSA, Portland, OR.

### **Professional Development**

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- 2016 The London Graduate School Summer Academy, University College London, London, UK.

### **Professional Memberships**

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Modern Language Association  
 Modernist Studies Association

## Professional Service

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*Feminist Modernist Studies*, Anonymous Peer Reviewer, 2023.  
*Image & Text*, Anonymous Peer Reviewer, 2016.  
*Skepsi*, Anonymous Peer Reviewer, 2012.

## Select Criticism and Literary Publication

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*Tender Bottoms* (2022; poetry monograph); poems, fiction, and essays in *PANK*, *KGB Bar Lit*, *The American Reader*, *The Gay & Lesbian Review*, *Performa Magazine*, *Mouvement* (France), *The New Engagement*, *The New York Press*, *Sydhavn Station* (Denmark), *BAMblog*, *Culturebot*.

## Languages

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English (native), Spanish (proficiency), reading knowledge of French.

## References

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John Brenkman, Distinguished Professor of English  
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