

BRETT ASHLEY KAPLAN

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, Program in Comparative and World Literature and Program in Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2014-present

Director, Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies, Fall 2016-present

Director, Program in Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois, Spring 2015-Summer 2018

Associate Professor, Program in Comparative and World Literature and Program in Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2008-2014

Assistant Professor, Program in Comparative and World Literature and Program in Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2002-2007

Zero-time affiliate appointments in the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, The European Union Center, French, German, Center for Global Studies, and Art History

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, Rhetoric, May 2002. Dissertation: "The Aesthetics of the Worst: Remembering and Forgetting in French, Yiddish, and Architectural Holocaust Representations" (Miryam Sas and David Cohen, co-directors, Daniel Boyarin and Ann Smock, committee members)

MA, University of California, Berkeley, Rhetoric, May 2000

MA, University of Sussex, English Literature-Critical Theory, January 1992. Master's Thesis: "Spellbound without Exception: The de Man and Heidegger Scandals" (Geoffrey Bennington and Nancy Wood, co-directors)

BA, University of California, Santa Cruz, June 1990, Honors in Literature and Porter College

BOOKS (OUT AND FORTHCOMING)

Rare Stuff (a novel, Spuyten Duyvil, 2022)

Critical Memory Studies: New Approaches (invited editor), Bloomsbury (May 2023)

Jewish Anxiety and the Novels of Philip Roth (Continuum/Bloomsbury, 2015)

Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory (Routledge, 2011)

Unwanted Beauty: Aesthetic Pleasure in Holocaust Representation (University of Illinois Press, 2007)

BOOKS (IN PROCESS)

Vandervelde Downs (novel, complete, under review)

And Beautiful: Contemporary Black Jewish Voices (co-edited with Sara Feldman and Anthony Russell, under review)

Seneca (novel, just beginning)

RARE STUFF EVENTS

Book club presentation to the Austin Women's Book Club in Los Angeles, June 2022

LA Women's Book Club presentation, June 2022

Book Launch organized by Program in Jewish Culture & Society, University of Illinois, Illini Union Bookstore, 27 October 2022. Video [here](#).

Featured Author, Texas Book Festival, Panel with Julie Berwald and Ray Naylor, "Yiddish-Speaking Whales, Genius Octopi: Novels of Animal Intelligence, 6 November 2022

[In conversation with Deke Weaver, The Literary, Champaign, 3 December 2022](#)

"Roth Inspired Fiction," Roth@90 conference at The Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ, March 16, 2022

In conversation with Dan Beachy-Quick, Old Firehouse Books, Fort Collins, CO, 8 April 2023

In Conversation with Jamie Jones and Deke Weaver, UIUC campus, 14 April 2023

MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States conference, on a panel with Jai Chakrabarty and Sara Lippmann, 21-23 April 2023

ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS (PLEASE CLICK ON TITLES TO READ)

["Converged Aesthetics: Blewishness in the work of Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell,"](#) *Arts* special issue: "New Articulations of Identity in Contemporary Aesthetics" edited by Derek Murray and Stacy Schwartz, University of California, Santa Cruz (August 2023)

["Uncovering Rare Stuff with Brett Ashely Kaplan,"](#) interview with Jessica Hammie, *Smile Politely*, 13 July 2022

"Philip Roth Abroad" (*Bloomsbury Handbook to Philip Roth*, eds. Aimee Pozorski and Maren Scheurer), 2024: 303-315.

[Interview with Deke Weaver](#) (*Edge Effects*) 21 October 2021

Interview with Nicole Krauss, *Contemporary Literature* (61:3) and *Ninth Letter*

"JewKkKlansman," *AJS Perspectives* special issue on Hate, Spring 2020.

"Too Painful to Forget, Too Painful to Remember: Marguerite Duras and Alain Resnais's *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959) and Duras's *La douleur* (1985)" (*Memory Studies*, January 2021)

"Philip Roth, un Américain avec ses complexes." *Mémoires en jeu* No. 8 (2018-2019 Hiver-Printemps) : 142-143.

"'Grotesquery to the Surface:' The Leo Frank Case and Philip Roth's *Plot Against America* Revisited in Trump's Alt-Right America." Special Issue of *Studies in American Jewish Literature* on Trump and the Jewish Question (Spring 2020: Vol. 39: 1, pp. 44-72)

"Roth and Race," (Co-written with Naomi Taub), *Roth in Context*, ed. Maggie McKinley (Cambridge University Press, 2021)

"Memory as Fluid Process: James Friedman's '12 Nazi Concentration Camps' and Gunter Demnig's *Stolpersteine*" *Shofar* 37.1 (2019): 41-71 (invited)

"How Many Feminists Does It Take to Screw in a Lightbulb?" Special Memorial Issue of *Philip Roth Studies* (Spring 2019): 68-78 (invited)

Philip Roth entry in *Dictionary of Literary Biography* 382

"Charlotte Delbo's Visualities of Memory," *Women in French Studies* 2016, Volume 6: 39-42,

"Interview with Jacqueline Pery d'Alincourt" (transcribed by Hapsatou Wane), *Contemporary French Civilization* (2013, Volume 38.3: 323-343)

"Um wen trauern wir? Zum Werk von Christian Boltanski," Translation of part of Chapter Four of *Unwanted Beauty*, "Aesthetic Mourning: Christian Boltanski." *Holocaust Fiktion*, ed. Iris Roebing-Grau and Dirk Rupnow, München, Germany: Wilhelm Fink (2015): 163-181

"Double-Consciousness and the Jewish Heart of Darkness: *The Counterlife* and *Operation Shylock*," *Roth and Celebrity: An Edited Collection*. Aimee Pozorski, ed. Lexington Books, 2012: 133-153

"Holocaust Postmemory: W.G. Sebald and Gerhard Richter" (co-written with Fernando Herrero-Matoses), *Bloomsbury Companion to Holocaust Literature*, Jenni Adams, ed. Continuum, 2014: 139-157

"Just Folks Homesteading: Roth's Doubled Plots Against America," *Philip Roth: American*

Pastoral, The Human Stain, The Plot Against America, Debra Shostak, ed. Continuum Press, 2011: 115-129

"Exposing Violence, Amnesia, and the Fascist Forest through Susan Silas and Collier Schorr's Holocaust Art" (*Images: A Journal of Jewish Art and Culture* Vol 2 (2008): 110-128

"On Helmbrechts Walk," *Camera Austria* (Summer 2007): 2-13

"Masking Nazi Violence in the Beautiful Landscape of the Obersalzberg" *Comparative Literature* (Summer 2007): 241-268

"Contested, Constructed Home(lands): Diaspora, Postcolonial Studies, and Zionism," *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, Vol 6, No 1 (March 2007): 85-100

"Susan Silas's *Helmbrecht's Walk*," exhibition brochure for Silas's show at the Koffler Centre of the Arts, Toronto, November 3-December 18, 2005

"Anatole Broyard's Human Stain: Performing Postracial Consciousness" *Philip Roth Studies* 1: 2 (Fall 2005): 125-144

“Reading Race and the Conundrums of Reconciliation in Philip Roth’s *The Human Stain*,” *Turning up the Flame: The Later Works of Philip Roth*, Jay Halio and Ben Siegel, eds. (Newark: University of Delaware Press, 2005): 172-193

“‘The Bitter Residue of Death’: Jorge Semprun and the Aesthetics of Holocaust Memory” *Comparative Literature* 55: 4 (Fall 2003): 320-337

“‘Aesthetic Pollution’: The Paradox of Remembering and Forgetting in Three Holocaust Commemorative Sites,” *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* 2: 1 (2003): 1-18 (lead article)

“Pleasure, Memory, and Time Suspension in Holocaust Literature: Celan and Delbo,” *Comparative Literature Studies* 38: 4 (Fall 2001): 310-329

“Trust,” *International Studies in Philosophy XXVI: 1* (1994): 33-44

NEWSLETTER AND OTHER ESSAYS (PLEASE CLICK TITLES TO READ)

Judith Butler entry, Encyclopedia of Jewish Women

Carolivia Herron entry, Encyclopedia of Jewish Women

“Philip Roth’s Journey from ‘Enemy of the Jews’ to Great Jewish American Novelist” (commissioned article); reprinted in Salon.com

“Convergences: The Spectacular Performances of Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2018-2019): 13-14:

“Sayed Kashua Launches New Book *Track Changes*,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2018-2019): 20-21:

“Reflections on the Stolpersteine”

“Prose Poem in the Wake of Charlottesville”

“Reflections on Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2017-2018): 21-22:

“Do We Have the Freedom to Discuss Racism, Antisemitism, and/or Zionism/anti-Zionism?” *AJS Perspectives* special issue “The Freedom Issue” (2016)

“Keep Loving, Keep Fighting: Meditations from the Days after the Trump Presidency was Declared” ASITOUGHTOBE; reprinted in *The Public I* (January 2017)

“Response to Antisemitism on Campus,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2016-2017): 10:

“Do you just Love Philip Roth?” *Studies in Jewish American Literature* 32: 2 (Fall 2013) 187-191; and *AJS Perspectives: The Magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies*

“Jewish Anxiety: Philip Roth,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2013-2014): 25-27: https://jewishculture.illinois.edu/system/files/inline-files/Newsletter_2013-14.pdf

“Woody Allen: Palimpsest, Public Persona, Filmmaker, Creep” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2014-2015): https://jewishculture.illinois.edu/system/files/inline-files/Newsletter_2014-15.pdf

“Apocalyptic Visions: Notes on Claude Lanzmann’s *The Last of the Unjust*”

“Recollection, Retribution, Reconciliation: Postmemory and Justice in a Transnational Age,” *Program in Jewish Culture and Society Newsletter* (2012-2013): 30-31:
https://jewishculture.illinois.edu/system/files/inline-files/Newsletter_2012-13.pdf

“Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory,” *Program in Jewish Culture & Society Newsletter* (2011-2012): 12-14: https://jewishculture.illinois.edu/system/files/inline-files/Newsletter_2011-12.pdf

“The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center,” *AJS Perspectives: The Magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies* (Spring 2010): 26-27

OTHER MEDIA (PLEASE CLICK TITLES TO LISTEN)

[NPR Interview with Rachel Otwell](#), “U of I’s ‘Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies’ Connects Past with Present”

WILL Interview with Niala Boodhoo, “Reconciling with Racism on Yom Kippur” 18 September 2018:

AJS Podcast “*Portnoy’s Complaint* at 50”

“What’s behind a recent wave of censorship in schools? [WILL Radio](#), 10 February 2022

“[Why I’m adding *Maus* to my Fall Syllabus](#),” *Champaign News-Gazette*, 3 February 2022 reprinted on Thisbookisbanned.com

BOOK REVIEWS (PLEASE CLICK TITLES TO READ)

[The Holocaust Across Borders: Trauma, Atrocity, and Representation in Literature and Culture](#), Hilene S. Flanzbaum, ed. *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* (1 March 2024)

The Routledge Handbook of Memory Activism, Yifat Gutman and Jenny Wüstenberg, eds. *Memory Studies* (forthcoming)

The Literary Mafia: Jews, Publishing, and Postwar American Literature by Josh Lambert, *Studies in American Jewish Literature* (Vol. 42 No. 1 (2023): 116-119)

Philip Roth: A Counterlife by Ira Nadel ([Cercles](#))

Postcards from Auschwitz by Daniel Reynolds (*Holocaust and Genocide Studies*)

Infinite Mirrors, Review of Nicole Krauss, *To Be A Man*, *Jewish Review of Books*, January 2021

Track Changes by Sayed Kashua, *Ha’aretz* (8 November 2019)

Is Theory Good for the Jews? by Bruno Chaouat. *H-France Review* (Vol. 17, December 2017, No. 233)

The Impossible Jew: Identity and the Reconstruction of Jewish American Literary History by Benjamin Schreier (*Journal of Jewish Identities*, 12:1 (January 2019): 90-92)

The Stages of Memory: Reflections on Memorial Art, Loss, and the Spaces Between by James E. Young, *American Literary History* (Online Review XIV
<https://academic.oup.com/DocumentLibrary/ALH/Online%20Review%20Series%202014/14Brett%20Ashley%20Kaplan.pdf>)

“Perpetrator Images” review of *Women Modernists and Fascism* by Annalisa Zox-Weaver and *The Nazi Perpetrator: Postwar German Art and the Politics of the Right* by Paul B. Jaskot, *Modern Philology* (May 2014, Vol. 111, No. 4)

Jewishness and Masculinity from the Modern to the Postmodern by Neil Davison, *Textual Practice* 26: 5 (2012): 978-981

“The Holocaust: An ‘Engorged’ Symbol of Evil?” Review of *Remembering the Holocaust: A Debate* by Jeffrey Alexander, *Criticism: A Quarterly for Literature and the Arts* (Fall 2011) 53:4: 633-637

American Jewish Loss After the Holocaust by Laura Levitt, *Textual Practice* 23. 4 (2009): 690-693

Visualizing the Holocaust: Documents, Aesthetics, Memory, eds. David Bathrick, Brad Prager, and Michael D. Richardson, *German Quarterly* 82.4 (Fall 2009): 535-36

Second-Generation Holocaust Literature: Legacies of Survival and Perpetration by Erin McGlothlin, *Journal of Jewish Identities* 1: 2 (July 2008): 156-158

Jean-Paul Sartre and the Jewish Question: Anti-Antisemitism and the Politics of the French Intellectual by Jonathan Judaken *Contemporary French Civilization* 32: 1 (Fall 2007): 188-191

Reading Charlotte Salomon, eds., Michael P. Steinberg and Monica Bohm-Duchen, *Biography*, 30.1 (Winter 2007): 112-114

Using and Abusing the Holocaust, by Lawrence Langer, *Shofar* 26: 1 (Fall 2007)

“Passing and other Paradoxes of Holocaust Survival,” a review of *Escape through the Balkans: The Autobiography of Irene Grünbaum and My Father’s Testament: Memoir of a Jewish Teenager, 1938-1945*, *Judaism* 200/50: 4 (Fall 2001): 483-487

REVIEWS OF MY BOOKS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)

Eric Kligerman, *Unwanted Beauty: Aesthetic Pleasure in Holocaust Representation* (Review), *Women’s Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 36, Nos. 1 & 2 (Spring/Summer 2008): 297-301;

Tim Cole, *Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory* (Review Essay), *Journal of Jewish Identities*, Vol. 4, No. 2. (July 2011): 71-75;

Idit Alphandary, *Jewish Anxiety and the Novels of Philip Roth*, *Philip Roth Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (Spring 2016): 97-102.

“A Dreamy Story with Surprising Emotional Resonance” Review of *Rare Stuff*. [Kirkus Reviews](#), 1 June 2022.

[“Save the Whales! Save Yiddish! Save the Planet! Everything is Connected and Needs our Help.”](#) Review of *Rare Stuff* by Karen Skinazi. *Jewish Journal*, 29 July 2022.

[“Visions and Revisions.”](#) Review of *Rare Stuff* by Dani Nutting, *The Collective* 16 February 2023.

MANUSCRIPT AND PEER REVIEWS

Reviewed manuscripts for Columbia University Press, Pittsburgh University Press, Routledge, Washington University Press, University of Alberta Press, University of Virginia Press, and others

Peer-reviewed articles for PMLA, ALH, Twentieth-Century Literature, Studies in American Jewish Literature, Mosaic, Shofar, Forum for Modern Language Studies, Modern Fiction Studies, and other journals; reviewed many tenure and promotion to full cases

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Poetics and Displacement through a Fictionalized Kindertransport Memoir” on panel, Feminist Collaging and the Poetics of Displacement, British and Irish Association for Jewish Studies annual conference, Bristol, UK, July 8-10, 2024

[“Fiction as History, History as Fiction: A Novel About Nazi Looted Art”](#), Nannerl O. Keohane Distinguished Lecture, University of North Carolina, 15 April 2024

[“Looted Art and the Power of Aesthetics,”](#) Nannerl O. Keohane Distinguished Lecture, University of North Carolina, February 5, 2024

[“Memory, Representation and the Power of Fiction,”](#) Nannerl O. Keohane Distinguished Lecture, November 8, 2023, Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University

Discussion Panel, “The Muse under the Microscope: Examining the Creative Writing Process,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, December 2023 (canceled due to illness)

“Memory and Ecofiction: The Case of *Rare Stuff*” Memory Studies Association Annual Conference, Newcastle, UK, July 4-7, 2023

Co-organizer BRIDGE conference on Race, Migration, Memory, University of Birmingham, UK, 30 June, 2023; November 3, University of Illinois

Keynote, [“Slow Fiction and the Deindustrialisation of Memory Studies,”](#) Mnemonics Conference, June 27-29, 2023, London

“Roth and Rare Stuff” Roth@90, Newark, NJ March, 15-17, 2023

Moderator, “Beyond Jewish Whiteness,” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, January 5-8 2023, San Francisco

Organizer and Moderator, “All the Memory Work that Isn’t Done,” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, January 5-8 2023, San Francisco

“Rare Stuff,” Panel on Creative Writing, Scholarship, and Jewish Studies, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, December 18-21, 2022

“How We’re Teaching Jewish American Literature in the 2020s” roundtable discussion, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, December 18-21, 2022

“Rare Stuff,” Women and Gender in Global Perspectives conference on Monuments, Museums, Memory, University of Illinois, November 29, 2022

Respondent, Mnemonics 2022, Sigtuna, Sweden, 16-19 August, 2022

“Philip Roth’s Other Haunts,” Greenfield-Lynch series, University of Illinois, 2 May 2022

“Reflections on the Convergences of Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell” Anshe Emet Synagogue, 28 February 2022 (Chicago, via zoom)

“Creative Writing, Scholarship, and Jewish Studies” (moderator), Association for Jewish Studies, 21 December 2021

“Rethinking American Jewish Literary Studies in the #MeToo Era” (invited) 22 November 2021 (UCLA via zoom)

“Fiction Speckled with European History” reading/discussion of novels *Rare Stuff* and *Vandervelde Downs* EU Center, University of Illinois, February 2021

“Philip Roth’s *Plot Against America*, the book, the TV Series” (invited) University of Florida, 8 September 2020 (over zoom)

“Charlottesville: Make America White Again” Memory Studies Association Annual Conference, June 2020, Charlottesville, VA (Canceled due to coronavirus)

“JewKlansman,” Panel “Racism, Jews, America” (organized by Benjamin Schreier), MLA 2020, Seattle, WA

Panel organizer and presenter, “Jewishness and Blackness in Spike Lee’s *BlacKkKlansman*” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, December 2019

Respondent, Mnemonics 2019, Utrecht, Netherlands, September 18-20, 2019

“Roth and Race,” Comparative Approaches to Blackness and Jewishness Conference (University of Birmingham, U.K. co-organizer, with Gavin Schaffer, significant grant from BRIDGE for this colloquium, July 1-2, 2020)

Response to Dean Franco, “The Object of Jewish American Literary History,” 21st Century Jewish Writing and the World, UIUC, 29 March 2019 (conference co-organizer with Gordon Hutner and Dara Goldman)

“Victim and Perpetrator Trauma in Marguerite Duras and Alain Resnais’s *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959)” (seminar co-organizer with Lilya Kaganovsky, “Postwar Cinema/Images and Nuclear Catastrophe), American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Georgetown, March 2019

“Jewblack is Blackjew: Tensions and Convergences between Jewishness and Blackness in Contemporary Performance and Visual Art” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Chicago, January 2019

Panel organizer and presenter, "Convergences: jewblack is blackjew," paper title: "Reflections on the Yiddish/African-American Convergences of Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell." Chair and Respondent, "Jewish Respectability Politics." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 17-19, 2017

"L'angoisse juive et les romans de Philip Roth," Séminaire: Écrivains et artistes juifs contemporains, Université de Lille, 22 November, 2017

"The Rotating Axes of Perpetration and Victimization in Alain Resnais and Marguerite Duras's *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959) and Duras's *La douleur* (1985)." CWL@50, University of Illinois, 13 September 2017

Respondent, "Inter- and Plurimedial Memory;" chair, "Postconflict Memory," Mnemonics 2017, Frankfurt, September 7-9, 2017

"The Anxieties of Modern Jewish Literature," Moses Montefiore Temple, Bloomington, IL February 26, 2017

Organizer and Respondent, "Sayed Kashua's Doubled Selves;" Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 18-20, 2016, San Diego, CA

Culture: Panel Discussion of James Friedman's *12 Nazi Concentration Camps*, Skirball Museum in Partnership with the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, 7 December 2016

Roundtable Discussant "The Politicization of Jewish Studies—Perspectives from Center Directors," Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, 13-15 December, Boston

"Arno Breker: The Afterlife of Fascist Aesthetics," "Night of Broken Glass: Holocaust Remembrance Week," Indiana State University (invited), 11 November, 2015

"Arno Breker: The Afterlife of Fascist Aesthetics," "Memory-Myth-Performance" workshop at University of Birmingham (invited), 27 June 2015

"Domesticated Zuckerman in Philip Roth's *The Anatomy Lesson* (1983)," Modern Language Association, Vancouver, 8-11 January, 2015

"The Familial Nazi," Trauma, Holocaust, Literature Symposium Petőfi Literary Museum, Budapest November 28-29, 2014 (invited)

"Jewish Anxiety: Philip Roth," Philip Roth: Across Cultures, Across Disciplines, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, 13-14 June, 2014

"Crossing the Disciplinary Divide: Conjunctions in German and Holocaust Studies," ("W.G. Sebald and Gerhard Richter's Nazi Postmemories") Washington University, St. Louis, 20-22 March, 2014 (invited)

"Uncanny Objects," Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, 14-17 December, 2013

Roundtable discussant, "Diasporic Memories, Comparative Methodologies," University of Illinois, November 1, 2013

"*Sabbath's Theater* and the Uncanny Objects of War," American Literature Association Symposium on "War and American Literature," New Orleans, October 10-13, 2013

"Jewish Anxiety: Philip Roth," Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Illinois, October 1, 2013

“Holocaust Anxiety in Philip Roth’s Portnoy’s Complaint,” Invited talk, Cambridge University, June 5, 2013

“Double-Consciousness and the Jewish Heart of Darkness: *The Counterlife* and *Operation Shylock*,” Roth@80, Newark, 18-19 March, 2013

“Roth’s Ghosts,” panel entitled “Ghosts: The Haunted House of Contemporary Jewish Literature,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, December 16-19, 2012

Chair, panel on “Memorialization of the Shoah and Muslim-Jewish Relations in Contemporary Europe,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, December 16-19, 2012

Co-Organizer (with Michael Rothberg and Colin Flint) and moderator, “Recollection, Retribution, Reconciliation: Postmemory and Justice in a Transnational Age,” University of Illinois, October 4-5, 2012

“Sebald’s Memory,” Memories and Wars, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures Fall Symposium, University of Illinois, September 21, 2012

Chair, panel on “Poetry, Writing, Translating, Journals—the New Landscape,” New Israeli Literature in the 21st Century, University of Illinois, 5 March, 2012

“Aesthetic Mourning: Christian Boltanski,” Invited talk, Holocaust Fiktion, 27-30 October, 2011, LMU, Munich

“Troubled Race: Philip Roth, Michael Chabon and Alternate Holocaust History,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, March 31-April 3, 2011, Vancouver

“Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory,” book talk, Program in Jewish Culture and Society, Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies, University of Illinois, February 21, 2011

“The Mushroom Cloud and the Cinematic Imaginary,” panel discussion, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, February 15, 2011

“Annette Lemieux: Gallery Conversation,” Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, November 10, 2010

“West Loop Gallery Row: Experience Art off the Beaten Path,” Gallery Tour, Chicago, October 29, 2010

“Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory,” Invited talk, University of California, Berkeley, October 21, 2010

“Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory,” Invited talk, “Aesthetics after the Holocaust,” UCLA, February 7-8, 2010

“The Future of Jewish Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz,” Invited talk, UCSC April 26, 2009

“‘Can’t you see I’m Burning?’ The Holocaust and Complicity in J.M. Coetzee’s *Diary of a Bad Year*, *Elizabeth Costello*, and *Disgrace*,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 27-30, 2008

“Lee Miller, Arrivals, Departures, Receptions,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, April 24-27 2008, Long Beach, CA

“Philip Roth’s Plot Against America,” Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 27-30, 2007

“A New Era in (post)Holocaust (post)Memory?,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, December 16-18, 2007

“Masking Nazi Violence in the Beautiful Landscape of the Obersalzberg,” American Association of Teachers of German, San Antonio, TX, November 16-18, 2007

“Lee Miller, Hitler’s Bathtub, Capturing Ruins,” Modernist Studies Association, Long Beach, CA, November 1-4 2007

“Collier Schorr and Jewish-American/German Post-Holocaust Trans-Culturalism,” the American Comparative Literature Association, Puebla, Mexico, April 19-22, 2007

“Collier Schorr, Susan Hiller, and Landscapes of Holocaust Postmemory,”

Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, December 17-19, 2006

“‘Can’t you see I’m burning?’: J.M. Coetzee’s Apartheid, Post-Apartheid, Holocaust Fiction,”

Unit for Criticism, UIUC, November 6, 2006

“Souvenir of Berchtesgaden,” German Studies Association annual conference, Pittsburgh, September 30, 2006

“Jews and Muslims in France: Love and Conflict in *La petite Jerusalem*,” Panel moderator, Illinois Program for Research on the Humanities, UIUC, October 18, 2006; Introduction to screening of *La petite Jerusalem*, October 13, 2006

Panel participant, “Spectacles of the Real,” Illinois Program for Research on the Humanities, UIUC, March 2, 2006

“Hitler’s Holiday Retreat—And Yours” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 18-20, 2005

“Violence amid Alpine Beauty: The Obersalzberg Complex,” conference: “Violence and the German Cultural Tradition 1789-1938,” UIUC, October 16, 2005

“Landscape and Memories of Perpetrators: On New Catalogue’s ‘A. Hitler and D. Eckart,’” Jewish Studies Workshop, UIUC, September 27, 2005

“Modernity and Fascism,” conference on “Modernities,” UIUC, September 16, 2005

Panel Chair, conference on “Shame and Other Affects,” Michael Bérubé and Melissa Orlie, presenters, UIUC, February 26, 2005

“Demons, Golems, and Dybbuks: Monsters of the Jewish Imagination: Tony Kushner’s *Angels in America*,” Champaign Public Library, May 10, 2005

“The Empty Landscape and Holocaust Postmemories: Sebald and Silas” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, December 19-21, 2004

“On Susan Silas’s *Helmbrechts walk*,” Art History Colloquium, UIUC, October 25, 2004

“Reading Jewishness Racially and the Conundrums of Reconciliation,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, December 21-23, 2003

“Pain Stopped us from Speaking: Reflections on an Interview with Mme Péry d’Alincourt, a French Resistance Fighter,” Holocaust Remembrance Day speech at Sinai Temple, Champaign, April 29, 2003

“Exploring Forgiveness: Cultural Memory as Literatures of Reconciliation from the Holocaust to South Africa” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, San Marcos, April 4-6, 2003

“Reading Race and the Conundrums of Reconciliation in Philip Roth’s *The Human Stain*,” Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Illinois, April 1, 2003

“Roth’s *The Human Stain*: What’s Black, White, Jewish and Read All Over?” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Los Angeles, December 15-17, 2002

“Diasporic Displacement in Glatstein and Jabès,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, San Juan, April 11-14, 2002

“Semprun’s Uses and Abuses of Proust,” Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, February 21, 2002

“The Representation of Yiddish in the Holocaust Poetry of Sutzkever and Glatstein,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington, December 16-18, 2001

“Aesthetic Pollution: Memory and Forgetting in Holocaust Memorials,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder, April 20-21, 2001

Panel Chair, “Romanticism, Realism, and History,” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Oct 19, 2000

“The Paradoxes of Architectural Representations of the Holocaust,” Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Oct 2, 2000

“The Holocaust’s Failure to Represent: Edmond Jabès,” Failure, an Interdisciplinary Conference, Harvard University, May 13, 2000

“Le Pire délicieux,” Proust 2000, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, April 14, 2000

“Memory and Time Suspension in Proust, Delbo, and Antelme,” Truth, Memory, Imagination and Fiction, Boston College, March 18, 2000

“Trust,” Philosophy and Theory, State University of New York, Binghamton, March 4, 1994

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Conrad Humanities Scholar (2011-2016)

Arnold O. Beckman Research Award (to support research into *The Aesthetic Solution*, summer 2013)

Humanities Released Time (to support completion of *Unwanted Beauty*, Fall 2003)

Jewish Studies Fellowship (to support dissertation work, Fall-Spring 2001-2002)

Normative Time Grant Award (to support dissertation work, Fall 2001)

Foreign Language Area Studies Grant (FLAS, to support Summer Yiddish Study, 2001)

Newhouse Foundation Grant (to support Summer Yiddish Study, 2001)

Humanities Research Grant (to support Summer research at the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, August-September 2001)

Rhetoric Department Block Grant (to support Spring semester work on dissertation, 2001)

Newhouse Foundation Grant (to support Fall semester qualifying exam preparation, 2000)

Jewish Studies Grant (to support Summer Yiddish study, 2000)

Tuition Scholarship to YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (Summer 2000)

Humanities Research Grant (to support research at the Center for Jewish History, 2000)

Wollenberg Grant (to support Summer Yiddish study, 2000)

Full Scholarship to the Institut Française d'Avignon (Summer 1999)

Wollenberg Grant (to support Summer French study, 1998)

LANGUAGE INSTITUTES AND RESEARCH AFFILIATES

[Nannerl O. Keohane Distinguished Visiting Professor](#), UNC and Duke, 2023-24 academic year (three lecture series)

Center for Advanced Study Associate, Spring 2024, full semester teaching release to work on *Vandervelde Downs*

LAS Study in a Second Discipline Fellowship Recipient, 2020-2021, granted a year of teaching release to take seminars in creative writing, UIUC

Member, Literary Responses to Genocide in the Post-Holocaust Era, seminar at the United States Holocaust Museum (invited, 4-15 August, 2014)

Fellow, 18th annual Holocaust Education Foundation Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization, Northwestern University, 23 June-3 July, 2013

Judith B. and Burton P. Resnick Fellow, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2009-2010

Fellow, Center for Advanced Study, 2007-2008

Fellow, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, 2006-2007

Fellow, The Sheldon and Anita Drobny Interdisciplinary Program for the Study of Jewish Culture and Society, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2001-2002)

Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris (Summer research, 2001)

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York (Summer program in Yiddish, 2000 and 2001)

Center for Jewish History, New York (Summer research, 2000)

Institut Françaises d'Avignon, France (Summer program run by Bryn Mawr, 1999)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND GRADUATE ADVISEES

Dissertation Director for: Jeffrey Okla Elliott (“Being and Suffering: Toward an Existentialist Understanding of Memory, Trauma, and Violence”; Defended February 12, 2015); Jennifer Bliss (“Picturing the Unspeakable: Trauma, Memory, and Visuality in American and French-language Comics and Graphic Novels”; Defended December, 2013); Hapsatou Wane (“Decolonizing Autobiographies: Tell Me African Diaspora;” Defended, 2016); Ethan Madarieta (“Creative Resistance and Performances of Memory: Latin America in the Times of Dictatorship and Neoliberalism;” Defended, April 2020), Naomi Taub (co-directing with Michael Rothberg, “Distant Proximities: Whiteness and Worldedness in Transnational Jewish Literature since 1945”; defended 10 August 2022), Alex van Doren (“Where foot knocks against/the unburied bones of kin’: Topographies of Memory in Mass Graves in Poland and Spain”; Defended Spring 2019)

On Comparative Literature Dissertation Committees of: Anya Hamrick-Nevinglovskaya (“Resisting Shock: A Genealogy of Trauma Discourse in Russian and European Fiction” Defended) Lizy Mostowski (“Polish-Jewish Literature After the Holocaust: Witnessing, Collective Memory, and Fictitious Remembering,”); Claire Baytas (“Dialoguing Across French and Armenian Pasts and Presents: (Re)Telling History and Memory in French-Armenian Narratives From 1945-Today”; defended December 12, 2022); Nobuto Sato (Voicing the Material: Auditory Representations in American, Japanese, and Yiddish Modernism); Ragini Chakrabarty “Sutured with a Barbed-Wire: Gender, Necropolitics, and Memory in the Context of the 1947 Partition”. From Slavic: Diana Sacilowski (« Strategies of Silence : Representations »; defended 14 October, 2021); From French: Nicolas Bernard Roger Portugal (Entre discours et fictions : Penser et écrire l'événement du « 11 septembre 2001 » en France). From Italian: Alice Balestrino (Title TBA). From Art History: Fernando Herrero-Matoses (“Antonio Saura, Spanish Art and Allegories of the Monstrous”; Defended December, 2013), Jenelle Davis (“Moving Memories: Challenging Stagnancy through Personal and Community-based Contemporary Commemorative Actions”); Andrea Lilian Ferber (“Nancy Spero: Feminism in a Continuous Present,” defended July 2, 2014); Margaret Ewing; (“A Politics of Action: Hans Haacke in Germany, 1972-2006,” defended April 1, 2015), Alyssa Bralower (prelims fall 2019, “Ellen Auerbach’s Transnational Attachments: Photography, Gender, and the Grey Zones of Modernity”). From Art Education: Susan Livingston (“The Gooney, Bloody, and Just Plain Gross: Exploring Art and Visual Culture with an Abject Visual Methodology,” defended August, 2015). From English: Andrew Merrill, “Memory and American Narrative in the Age of Reagan”; External (UC Santa Cruz, Visual Studies, Stacy Schwartz, *Unsettling Authenticity: Renegotiating Contemporary Identities and Cultural Trauma in Post-Jewish Art*)

MA Exams for Ethan Madarieta, Yeuling Ji, Peishan Li, Richard Sanders, Alex van Doren, Meagan Smith, Diana Sacilowski, Okla Elliott, Jennifer Bliss, Tatiana Efremova, Hapsatou Wane, Anya Hamrick-Nevinglovskaya, Mary Casey, Lizy Mostowski, Katie Cantwell, Ewa Kuras

ICES Scores usually between 4.3 and 5 (out of 5); consistently included on Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent

CLASSES AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Comparative Literature 581, Whaley Seminar, Fall 2023

Comparative Literature 582, Professionalization Proseminar, Spring 2023

Comparative Literature 209/Jewish Studies 209/English 222 Jewish American Literatures in Dialogue with U.S. Minority Literatures, Fall 2022

Comparative Literature 581/Jewish Studies 502, The Memory of Objects: Introduction to Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies, Fall 2022

Reading World Literature 561, Spring 2022 (4.8 ICES)

Comparative Literature 582, Professionalization Proseminar, Spring 2020 (5.0 ICES)

Comparative Literature 501/German 570 Introduction to Theory, Fall 2019 (4.8 ICES)

Comparative Literature 209/Jewish Studies 209/English 222 Jewish American Literatures in Dialogue with U.S. Minority Literatures (4.9 ICES)

Comparative Literature 581/Jewish Studies 502 Introduction to Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies, Fall 2017

Comparative Literature 501, Modern Contemporary Theory, Fall 2016

Comparative Literature 582, Professionalization Proseminar, Spring 2016

Comparative Literature 320, Literary Responses to the Holocaust, Fall 2015

Comparative Literature 242, Literature of Europe and the Americas, Spring 2015

Comparative Literature 501, Modern Contemporary Theory, Fall 2014

Comparative Literature 461/English 455 Marguerite Duras and Alain Resnais, Fall 2014

Comparative Literature 561, Aesthetics of Catastrophe, Spring 2014

Comparative Literature 501, Modern Contemporary Theory, Fall 2013

Comparative Literature 461/English 455 Woody Allen, Fall 2013

Comparative Literature 582, Professionalization Proseminar, Spring 2013

Comparative Literature 461, Philip Roth and Michael Chabon, Fall 2012

Comparative Literature 284, Modern Jewish Literature and Filmic Adaptations, Fall 2012

Comparative Literature 320, Literary Responses to the Holocaust, Fall 2011

Comparative Literature 561, Race and Alternative History, Fall 2011

Comparative Literature 561, Aesthetics of Catastrophe, Spring 2011

Comparative Literature 461, W.G. Sebald, Spring 2011

Comparative Literature 284, Modern Jewish Literature, Fall 2010

Comparative Literature 320, Literary Responses to the Holocaust, Fall 2010

Comparative Literature 581, Photography and Memory, Fall 2008
Comparative Literature 461, J.M. Coetzee, Fall 2008
Comparative Literature 284, Modern Jewish Literature, Fall 2007
Comparative Literature 461, J.M. Coetzee, Fall 2007
Comparative Literature 284, Modern Jewish Literature, Spring 2007
Comparative Literature 561, Memory and Landscape, Spring 2006
Comparative Literature 221 and Yiddish 220, Jewish Storytelling, Spring 2006
Comparative Literature 242, Masterpieces of Western Literature II, Spring 2005
Comparative Literature 221 and Yiddish 220, Jewish Storytelling, Spring 2005
Comparative Literature 199, Immigration Stories, Spring 2004
Comparative Literature 341, Coming to Terms with the Past: Literature about Memory, History, Trauma
Comparative Literature 295, Literatures of Reconciliation, Spring 2003
Comparative Literature 371A, Yiddish Literature in Translation, Fall 2002

TEACHING INTERESTS

Holocaust Art and Literature

Jewish American Literature

Trauma and Memory Studies

Major Authors courses on: Philip Roth, Woody Allen, W.G. Sebald, J.M. Coetzee, Marguerite Duras and Alain Resnais

Ecofiction

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Director of the Program in Jewish Culture & Society, 2015-2018

Director of the Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies, 2016-present

Chair, Search Committee, Director of the School of Art & Design, 2023-24

Chair, Search Committee, Yiddish and Comparative Literature, 2023-24

Member, Search Committee, Italian Literature, French and Italian, 2023-24

Director of Graduate Studies, Comparative Literature 2016-2017; 2019-2022

Conferences Organized: Mnemonics (UIUC, June 2016 (co-organized with Michael Rothberg)); 21st Century Jewish Writing and the World (UIUC 29 March, 2019 co-organized with Gordon Hutner and Dara Goldman); Comparative Approaches to Jewishness and Blackness in the U.K and U.S. (co-organized with Gavin Schaffer, University of Birmingham (U.K.) 1-2 July 2020 received significant BRIDGE funding for this

conference; Annual Graduate Student Conference in Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies (UIUC Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020 co-organized with graduate students) Chairing Promotion to Full Committee for Rob Rushing (2016); on promotion committee for Rini Mehta (Fall 2019) On Promotion to Full Committee for Lilya Kaganovsky and Laurie Johnson (2016); BRIDGE Race, Migration, Memory 2023; organized Ben Lerner visit through Greenfield-Lynch lecture series, UIUC, April 4, 2024.

SLCL Executive Committee (2014-2016, 2017-2019)

LAS Grievance Committee (2014)

Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Advisory Board (2014-2016)

Director, Review Committee, Program in Jewish Culture and Society (Spring 2014)

Executive Committee, Program in Jewish Culture and Society (2002-present)

Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Arabic Studies, University of Illinois, 2013-2014

Curriculum Committee, Comparative Literature (2012-2013)

Core member, Holocaust, Genocide, Memory Studies Initiative, 2009-present

Co-organizer of Recollection, Retribution, Reconciliation: Postmemory and Justice in a Transnational Age (October 2012)

Promotion and Tenure Committee, Comparative Literature, 2009-present

Chair, Search Committee, Israeli Studies Search, Program in Comparative and World Literature and Jewish Culture and Society, 2008-2009

Planning Committee, Program in Comparative and World Literature

Organized campus visits for David Shneer, David Cohen, and Margaret Olin; Coordinated visit of Susan Suleiman

Chair, Jewish Studies Workshop, Fall 2003-Fall 2008

Co-organizer (with Matti Bunzl) of the Jewish Studies Workshop, 2002-2008

Organizing Committee, conference on Shame, February 2005

Graduate Admissions, Program in Comparative and World Literature, 2003-2011; 2013-2014 (chair); 2018-2020

Graduate College Executive Committee, 2019-present

MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Jewish Studies

American Literature Association

Philip Roth Society

Modern Language Association (elected to serve on the Jewish-American Literature Forum)

American Comparative Literature Association