

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine (2012)

MFA in Creative Writing, University of California, Irvine (2006)

B.A. in English, Yale University, Cum Laude (1996)

## CURRENT POSITION

Whittier College

Associate Dean & Director

Whittier Scholars Program

Associate Professor

Department of English Language & Literature

## RESEARCH

### Book Project

*Behave! The science of influence and economics in American popular culture*, working title. A counter-history of the impact of behavioral economics on contemporary American political discourse. Under advance contract with the *Currencies* series, edited by Martijn Konings, at Stanford University Press.

### Articles

- The Real Productivity: Creative Refusal and Cultish Tendencies in Online Print Journal Communities. A chapter in *New Directions in Print Studies: Archives, Materiality, and the Modern American Culture*, from Bloomsbury Press. Edited by Daniel Worden and Jesse Schwarz. July 2022.
- Radical Flexibility: Driving for Lyft and the Future of Work in the Platform Economy. *Distinktion, Journal of Social Theory*. Nov 2021.  
Based on participation in the workshop, Generational and Temporal Imaginaries of the Asset Economy at the University of Sydney.
- Neoliberal Gaslighting, Quality Journalism, and Podcasting. *Post45.org: Contemporaries* in a cluster entitled "The Seven Neoliberal Genres." Aug 31, 2020.
- The Rise of Behavioral Economic Masculinity. *American Literary History*. Spring 2020 (77–110.)
- Extreme Hoards: Race, Reality Television & Real Estate Value During the 2008 Financial Crisis. *Postmodern Culture* 27.3 (2017).
- "The Promise of One Such House": Ramona, Real Estate, and the Romance of Speculation. *Studies in American Fiction* 41.2 (2014): 225-249.

### Critical volume

- Co-editor of *The Routledge Companion to Literature & Economics*, a 38-essay volume covering the subfield, published in 2018. The introduction was co-written with Matthew Seybold, Director of the Mark Twain Center at Elmira College.
- Chapter: Behavioral Economics & Genre, *The Routledge Companion to Literature and Economics*. Routledge, 2018. (392-403)

### Invited and forthcoming

- Making Ends Meet in the Gig Economy. A chapter in *Money and American Literature*, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming 2023). Edited by Paul Crosthwaite, University of Edinburgh.

- o Know Your Customer: The Culture of Compliance. Edited by Alexia Yates, Manchester University. *History Workshop Online*. (forthcoming)
- o Men. *Finance & Aesthetics*. Edited by Mikkel Frantz, Goldsmiths Press. (forthcoming)
- o Looking for Los Angeles: Reportage and Essayism, in *Los Angeles, A Literary History*. Cambridge University Press (forthcoming)

## TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

### Invited talks

- o Post45 workshop participant. (upcoming, October 2022)
- o “Know Your Customer: The Culture of Compliance.” Invited participant at Intimacy & Economic Life, a working group at Manchester University. (May 2022)
- o “The Rise of Behavioral Economic Masculinity” at #FutureFix series at the University of Sydney. Invited speaker and podcast guest. (August 2019)
- o “Behaving for the Gig Economy: The Fleet, The Property and The Human Capital” at the University of Sydney Generational and Temporal Imaginaries of the Asset Economy working group. (August 2019)
- o Panel Chair, “Economic Humanities & The Aesthetics of Finance” at the Finance and Society Network event, City University of London, “Intersections of Finance & Society.” (Upcoming: December 2019).
- o “Behavior and Natural Law.” Invited speaker at Cal Arts, presented with the University of Copenhagen, for “Finance Fiction.” (Jan 2020)
- o “Public Writing,” invited workshop leader, at Florida International University. (Jan 2020)

### Selected presentations

- o Invited participant in a special session, “The Work of Feeling in the Age of Deindustrialization” at the Modern Language Association annual meeting (MLA) (Jan 2021).
- o “Strat Comm, Violence, and Global Finance,” panelist on Representations of Transnational Capital and Labor, at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association (ASA) (Nov 2019).
- o “CompStat, *Reply All*, and teaching evaluations,” for the “Getting Off On Good Behavior: Data, Surveillance and Gender” roundtable at The Association for The Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP) annual meeting (October 2019).
- o “‘Soft’ power and contemporary genres: “Strategic communications,” reality television, and the *Invisibilia* podcast, for the seminar *Mapping The Contemporary* at the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual meeting 2019.
- o “Unleash The Creatives: A Crash Course in Creativity Crash Courses,” for *The Labor Abstraction: Valuing Cultural Work After Financialization* at the Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP) annual meeting 2018.
- o “TED Talks and Ideas Like Currency,” for the panel, *Cultural Forms and the Language of Finance*. ASAP 2017.
- o “The Aesthetics of Not Speaking Race: *Serial* and Audio Justice,” for the *Equality Before The Law* panel at the Law & Humanities Conference (LHC) 2017. Invited participant.
- o “Entrepreneurial Heroines: The Start Up Podcast and Gendered Stress Aesthetics,” for the seminar *Revisiting the Archive: Finance and Contemporary Literature*. ACLA 2016.
- o “Mansplaining The Objective: *Planet Money’s* New Economic Authority,” for the seminar *Literary Finance: Why Now?*. ACLA 2015. Participant and co-organizer.
- o “Real World, Real Property: Reality Television, Hoarding and the Culture of the Foreclosure Crisis,” for *Making Movie\$*, The Film and History Journal (FHJ) annual meeting in 2013.
- o “Personal and Family Identity” panelist at *Mixed Race Families in the West: What is lost and what is gained?* at the USC-Huntington Institute on California and the West, 2013.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

- o Modern Languages Association, Executive Committee GS Nonfiction Prose (Chair).
- o Member of NEH Review Panel, for grant proposals from Minority Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges for the 2015 Humanities Initiative.

- Organized and lead regular trips to Alliance San Diego, the border rights organization at the U.S./ Mexico border with ChicanX Literature course at Whittier.
- Helped student groups organize petition to designate Whittier a Sanctuary Campus.
- Co-lead meeting in the Wardman Library with over 120 students and other faculty after the 2016 election.
- Helped to rewrite policies for faculty phased retirement and outside work on Faculty Affairs Committee.
- Recruited and organized participation for a creative writing panel at the regional undergraduate conference at Whittier, SCCUR 2014.

### **SELECTED COURSES TAUGHT**

New Media & Narrative (Spring 2018)

Contemporary American Literature & Culture; Contemporary African American Literature (Spring 2014 and 2016)

Asian American Literature (Spring 2019)

Digital Creative Writing and Creative Writing (Whittier College, 2013-2019)

Critical Procedures: Senior methods class in literary theory (2018, 2019)

Bubbles, Plots and Panics: Financial Crises and American Literature & Culture. (Fall 2014)

### **EDITORIAL**

#### **Section Editor**

Economics & Finance Section Editor, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*.

- Assign, edit and publish articles with a rotating roster of contributors, from prize-winning academics to new freelance writers. (2016-present)

#### **Selected nonfiction publications**

- “Where I Am From,” a nonfiction essay about Joan Didion and land in California, published in the volume *Slouching Towards Los Angeles: Living and writing in Joan Didion’s light*, Winter 2020 from Rare Bird Press. Editor: Steffie Nelson. Also published online at *LitHub: The Best of the Literary Internet*.

As a contributor at *The Los Angeles Review of Books*:

- “Neighbors,” an essay about my family’s experience with the Japanese internment camps (November 2016)
- “What We Talk About When We Talk About Finance: On *Realizing Capital: Financial and Psychic Economies in Victorian Form* by Anna Kornbluh and *Scandals & Abstraction: Financial Fiction of the Long 1980s* by Leigh Claire La Berge.” An essay about the humanities’ archive in criticism and economics (September 2015)
- “Kingmakers” about cable TV, gender and the HBO series *True Detective* (June 2015)
- “Being Theon Greyjoy: Or Why This Dick In A Box Matters,” about masculinity and punishment in the HBO series *Game of Thrones* (October 2013)
- “Trust Me: A visit from Bob Woodward.” In *Politics/Letters*. (April 2021).
- “How Dutch Dollhouse Mania Explains the US Housing Bust,” at the *Bloomberg* “Echoes” blog of economic history (May 2012)
- “Reading Katy Perry,” anthologized in *The California Prose Directory 2014: New Writing From the Golden State* published by *Outpost 19*.
- Book reviews and other features in: *Mother Jones*, *n+1*.

#### **Selected fiction**

“Choose,” *The Los Angeles Review of Books – Literature* (Spring 2017)

“The Bride Stripped Bare By Her Bachelors Even,” *Santa Monica Review* (Spring 2012)

Honored in *The Best American NonRequired Reading* 2014 “Notable” list.

“Female Lead, or A Pitch for a Character-Drive One-Hour Procedural Television Show,” *The Santa Monica Review* (Spring 2013)

“Counting,” *Green Mountains Review: 20th Anniversary Edition Literature of the Apocalypse* (Fall 2007).

"The Wind in our Valley," *Glimmer Train*, Finalist for Very Short Fiction contest 2007.  
Translation, with Tony Barnstone, of Zhoug Qinrong's poem "History of China in Numbers," *New Poetry in China*, ed. Ming Di. (2018).

### Readings & Appearances

*American Vandal* podcast from the Center for Mark Twain Studies:

- "Are We All Porn Workers Now?": Gigwork & Radical Flexibility. With Heather Berg. February 7, 2022.
- The Shush (and The Chair) with Kyla Wazana Tompkins. September 1, 2021.
- Robinhood, R/WallStreetBets, Who's Yellen Now, & The Gamestop-ification of Finance. With Anna Kornbluh and Leigh Claire LaBerge. February 11, 2021.

*California State of Mind* on NPR CapRadio Sacramento. October 2020.

*AirTalk* with Larry Mantle on KPCC for "Recommended Reading," a show about fiction and nonfiction books that I recommended listeners read after the election. February 16, 2017.

LitLit panelist, July 2022.

Lit Fest Pasadena, Spring 2017.

Lit Crawl Los Angeles, author reading, October 2016.

### GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in English at Whittier College (2013-2015)

The National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute participant, "The Meanings of Property" (Summer 2014)

Dorothy and Donald Strauss Dissertation Year Fellowship at UC Irvine (2012-2013)

Schaeffer Fellowship in Creative Nonfiction at UC Irvine (2009-2010)

### JOURNALISM

#### ○ Board member

The Online Journalism Project, 2006-present.

A hyper-local journalistic laboratory which includes *The New Haven Independent*, *The Valley Independent Sentinel*, *La Voz Hispana* and WNHH.

#### ○ Assistant Editor.

*MotherJones.com*, Mar. 2003-Sept. 2003

Pitched, contributed, assigned and edited feature articles and daily columns.

Supervised interns. Edited daily "news brief" columns.

#### ○ Senior Writer

*Alternet*, Nov. 2001-Oct. 2002

Pitched, contributed, assigned and edited articles for Web magazine.

Edited and produced the EnronGate page. Contributed to the book *After 9/11, Solutions for a Safer World*.

#### ○ Freelancer and stringer

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2000-2001

Freelance articles for: *The Houston Chronicle*, *The Boston Globe*, *Nerve.com* and *Hermenaut*, a zine of pop philosophy.

Wrote weekly *Girl Friday* column for Fox.com's Ally McBeal website.

#### ○ Staff Writer, Features

*The Boston Phoenix*, 1998-2000

Reported and wrote feature articles on ideas, events, sub-cultures and trends. Covered technology, tech culture, youth, gender issues, Boston universities.

#### ○ Staff Writer

*The New Haven Advocate*, 1997-1998

Investigative reporter and features writer. Launched and developed online community site.

#### ○ Editor, TriTeca

Tripod, Inc., 1996-1997

Wrote and edited articles about the Internet and new media. Selected and managed over 40 freelance writers

### **OTHER EXPERIENCE**

- Screenwriter for the Writers on the Verge fellowship at NBC Universal. Scriptapalooza competition finalist. Management at Brillstein. (2009, 2012)
- Reality TV Casting Director for *I'm From Rolling Stone* and *Thirty Days*. Gained useful experience of contemporary American televisual cultural production at MTV/Viacom, Actual Reality Pictures and High Noon Productions (2006-2007).
- Certified mindfulness instructor through MNDFL, a program run by Rev Angel Kyodo Williams and David Perrin. (March 2022)

In 2000, I quit my job, sold everything I owned, and moved to the Copacabana neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to train in capoeira, a martial art and dance form created by enslaved peoples on Brazilian sugar plantations; I trained in the Rocinha favela with the Abadá school for a year. I then traveled in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador for three months.

Academic and journalistic references available upon request.

References also available from my two daughters, Harper and Iris, aged 14 and 9.