

Fall 2017

WALT HUNTER
805 Strode Tower
Department of English
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634
(610) 220-9142
hunter1@clemson.edu

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Clemson University (2013-)

Lecturer, Department of English, National University of Ireland-Galway (faculty exchange; spring 2015)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English Language and Literature, University of Virginia (2013)

A.B. Harvard College, *summa cum laude* in English and American Literature and Language, with highest distinction (2004)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century global Anglophone poetry; global studies, world literature, postcolonial studies, and comparative literature; ethics and political philosophy; translation studies

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Tier 1 SEED Funding Grant for “The Right to Poetry,” Clemson University (2017)

Faculty Research Development Project Grant for “The Right to Poetry,” Clemson University (2017)

Faculty Member of the Year Award for Excellence in Teaching, Clemson University (2016-2017)

Artist Fellowship (Poetry), South Carolina Arts Commission (2016-2017)

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia (2013-2014; declined)

Page-Barbour Interdisciplinary Initiative Grant for “Translation and Precarious Life” Symposium, University of Virginia (2013)

Fellow, Institute for the Humanities and Global Cultures, University of Virginia (2012-2013)

Buckner W. Clay Award in the Humanities, University of Virginia (2012)

Bradley Fellowship for Excellence in Scholarship, Teaching, and Service to the English Department, University of Virginia (2012)

Faculty Senate Dissertation Fellow, 1 of 5 university-wide awards, University of Virginia (2011-2012)

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, University of Virginia (2011)

ABD Research Travel Grant, English Department, University of Virginia (2011)

Summer Research Grant, Society of Fellows, University of Virginia (2010)

Junior Fellow, Society of Fellows, University of Virginia (2009-2011)

Henry Russell Shaw Fellow, Harvard University (2004-2005)

Briggs Literary Fellow, English Department, Harvard University (2004-2005)

Lloyd McKim Garrison Medal, English Department, Harvard University (2004)

David McCord Prize, Quincy House, Harvard University (2004)

Harvard College Scholar, Harvard University (2001-2004)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Forms of a World: Contemporary Poetry and the Making of Globalization (forthcoming from Fordham University Press, fall 2018)

Forms of a World shows how the forms of contemporary poetry are forged through the transformations of globalization from 1970 to the present. I argue that poetry's role is not only to make visible thematically the violence of global dispossessions, but to renew performatively the missing conditions for intervening within these processes. Poetic acts—in this book, the rhetoric of possessing, belonging, exhorting, and prospecting—address contemporary conditions that render social life ever more precarious. *Forms of a World* turns to an eclectic group of global Anglophone poets, from Seamus Heaney and Claudia Rankine to Natasha Trethewey and Kofi Awoonor, whose poetry and whose lives are, in different but related ways, inseparable from the contemporary global situation. These poets creatively intervene in global processes by remaking their poetry's repertoire of forms, from experiments in the sonnet to contemporary inventions of the ode.

The Right to Poetry (in-progress)

The Right to Poetry addresses the following questions: What institutions shape the process of defining, performing, reading, and teaching poetry? How does the practice and teaching of poetry take on specific forms in global contexts of democratic crisis, rightlessness, migration, and expulsion? Anglophone accounts of poetry have largely ignored the site-based and situational positions from which poetry has been written, focusing instead on published, text-based poetry written in academic workshops and Masters of Fine Arts programs. As a result, there is a growing distance between the poetry being created today and the tools scholars have to understand and interpret it. Yet from Cairo to Calais to Ferguson, poetry is most visible today as an artistic tactic for social transformation, forged in public occasions of revolution, protest, and economic vulnerability. Poems are recited, discussed, and evaluated by those who are excluded from society, who lack “the right to have rights,” as Hannah Arendt famously puts it. Four planned chapters examine “the right to poetry” at the sites of the international literary festival, the prison, the public square, and the asylum.

Book Translation

Frédéric Neyrat, *Atopias: Manifesto for a Radical Existentialism* (Éditions Nous, 2014). Co-translated with Lindsay Turner. Fordham University Press, October 2017 (Lit Z series)

Articles

- “A Global ‘We’? Poetic Exhortations in a Time of Precarious Life,” *Cultural Critique* 98 (winter 2018)
- “Planetary Dejection: An Ode to Finance,” *symploke* 24 (January 2017): 225-239.
- “For a Global Poetics,” *ASAP/Journal* 1.3 (September 2016): 365-377.
- “Amassing Harmonies,” *Essays in Criticism* 66 (April 2016): 268-275.
- “The No-Prospect Poem: Lyric Finality in Prynne, Awoonor, and Trethewey,” *minnesota review* 85 (2015): 144-152.
- “Poetry and Sociality in a Global Frame,” *College Literature* 41.4 (2014): 129-135.
- “Claude McKay’s Constabulary Aesthetics: The Social Poetics of the Jamaican Dialect Poems,” *Modern Philology* 111 (2014): 566-584.
- “Lyric and its Discontents,” *minnesota review* 79 (2012): 78-90.
- “Kathy Acker and the Ethics of Frivolity,” *Studies in American Humor* 3 (2011): 83-104.

Journalism, Edited Colloquy, Commentaries, and Poetry Reviews

- Response to Dorothy Wang’s *Thinking its Presence: Form, Race, and Subjectivity in Contemporary Asian American Poetry* (Stanford UP, 2013) for *Syndicate Lit* Symposium, edited by Michael Leong (forthcoming 2018)
- “The New Intellectuals,” *The Atlantic* (May 8, 2017),
<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/05/the-new-intellectuals/525660/>
- “Five Questions for Frédéric Neyrat,” Interview for *ASAP/Journal*, <http://asapjournal.com/five-questions-for-frederic-neyrat/>
- “Poetry After Trump,” with Garry Bertholf, *Viewpoint* (February 7, 2017),
<https://viewpointmag.com/2017/02/07/poetry-after-trump/>
- “Poetry After Language,” *ARCADE* (Stanford University digital colloquy co-edited with Marijeta Bozovic, ongoing), <http://arcade.stanford.edu/colloquies/poetry-after-language>
- “Speculations: New Irish Poetry,” *Jacket2* (weekly commentaries, February-May 2015),
<https://jacket2.org/commentary/walt-hunter>
- Review of Larissa Szporluk, *Traffic with Macbeth*, in *Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing* 33.1 (2013)
- “Chiasmus,” “cross rhyme,” “monorhyme,” “tail rhyme,” *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th vol. (2012)
- Review of Brian Henry, *Lessness*, in *Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing* 32.2 (2012)
- Review of Zach Savich, *Annulments*, in *Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing* 32.1 (2012)
- Review of Donald Revell, *The Bitter Withy*, in *Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing* 31.2 (2011)

Poems

“Ecosplay,” *Oversound* (spring 2017)

“Ecologue,” *Oversound* (spring 2017)

“No Trees,” *Prelude* (fall 2016)

“Distress Tolerance Handout 5,” *Boston Review* (April 2015)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Guest speaker, “Theory and Practice of Literary Translation,” Davidson College, 3 April 2017

Plenary Speaker, “Emotion Recollected in Precarity: Lost Worlds of the Lyric,” for “Conditions of Precarity” Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 11 April, 2014

“Lyric Persistence,” “Emergent Precarities” Symposium, California State University, Los Angeles, 21 February, 2014

Invited discussant, with Anne-Lise François, “Object Emotions,” Interdisciplinary Conference, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, 4-6 October, 2013

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Poetic Futures,” American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, CA, 29 March-April 1, 2018

“The Right to Poetry: Claudia Jones in the Classroom,” American Studies Association, Chicago, IL, 9-12 November, 2017

“Conserving Poetry: The Case of the Storymoja Festival,” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, roundtable on “Poetry and Political Action in the Long Crisis,” Oakland, CA, October 26-28, 2017

“Towards a Critique of Poetic Liberalism,” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, seminar on “Situating Formalism,” Oakland, CA, 26-28 October, 2017

“From the Fairy Circle to the Ghost Estate: Repossessing Irish Poetry,” American Comparative Literature Association, Utrecht, the Netherlands, 6-9 July, 2017

“On Togetherness: Claudia Jones's Prison Ballads,” Modernist Studies Association, Pasadena, CA, 17-20 November, 2016

“Poetry and the Police,” Cultural Studies Association, Villanova, PA, 2-5 June, 2016

“Lyric Surplus, Social Death, Global Being” “Object Emotions: Polemics” Conference, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, 15-16 April, 2016

“De-lyricizing Poetry,” American Comparative Literature Association, “Making It New(er): Amidst and Beyond the New Lyric Studies,” Cambridge, MA, 17-20 March, 2016

- “The Breaking of the Day: A Reading of Claude McKay’s ‘The Tired Worker,’” Modernist Studies Association, Boston, MA, 19-22 November, 2015
- “The Brutal Size of World Literature,” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Conference, Greenville, SC, 24-27 September, 2015
- “The No-Prospect Poem: Lyric Finality in Prynne, Awoonor, and Trethewey,” American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, WA, 26-29 March, 2015
- “Yeats and the Cry of the World,” Modernist Studies Association, Pittsburgh, PA, 5-8 November, 2014
- “The Greater Contemporary Lyric,” American Comparative Literature Association, New York, NY, 20-23 March, 2014
- “Precarious Commodities: Political Economy and the Contemporary Lyric Ode,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA, 8-10 November, 2013
- “The Precarious World Lyric,” American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, ON, 4-7 April, 2013
- “Real Cities: Claude McKay’s Lonely Planet,” “Moving Modernisms” Conference, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, 21 March, 2012
- “What Kambili Knew: Postcolonial Muddlement in James and Adichie,” “Transforming Henry James” Conference, Henry James Society, Rome, 8 July, 2011
- “Claude McKay’s Jasmines,” roundtable on “Formalist Modernism,” Modernist Studies Association, Victoria, BC, 11 November, 2010
- “Kathy Acker’s Comic Terrorism,” “Humor and American Women Writers,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA, 5 November, 2010
- “Swinburne, Shelley, and the Endorsement of Reality,” “Things Matter” Conference, University of Virginia, 13-14 March, 2008

PANELS AND SEMINARS ORGANIZED

- Seminar co-organizer, with Marijeta Bozovic, “Pointed Words: Poetry and Politics in the Global Present,” American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, CA, 29 March-April 1, 2018
- Seminar co-organizer, with Dorothy Wang, “Situating Formalism,” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, 26-28 October, 2017
- Roundtable co-organizer, with Margaret Ronda, “Poetry and Political Action in the Long Crisis,” Oakland, CA, October 26-28, 2017
- Seminar co-organizer, with Shirley Wong, “Poetry After Europe: Geopolitical Poetics in the 21st Century,” American Comparative Literature Association, Utrecht, the Netherlands, 6-9 July, 2017
- Roundtable co-organizer, with Siobhan Phillips, “Global Sociality and Modernist Poetics,” Modernist Studies Association, Pasadena, CA, 17-20 November, 2016
- Roundtable organizer, “Revolutions in Poetic Lineage,” Modernist Studies Association, Boston, MA, 19-22

November, 2015

Seminar co-organizer, with Marijeta Bozovic and Kevin M.F. Platt, "Poetry after Language," American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, WA, 26-29 March, 2015

Panel organizer, "Surviving Modernism," Modernist Studies Association, Pittsburgh, PA, 5-8 November, 2014

Seminar co-organizer, with Charles Legere, "Poetry and Precarity in the 21st century," American Comparative Literature Association, New York, NY, 20-23 March, 2014

Seminar co-organizer, with Anne-Lise François, "Translating Precarity," American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, ON, 4-7 April, 2013

Invited seminar leader, with poet Manal Al-Sheikh, "Poetry and Revolution," Flash Seminar Series, University of Virginia, 30 November, 2012

TEACHING

Clemson University (2013-)

American Literature II: Whitman to Rankine
Claude McKay and His World
Critical Writing about Literature: The Literature of Transformation
Foundations of Global Literary Studies (MA seminar)
Theories of World Literature
The Classics in Translation
World Literature

NUI-Galway, Ireland (faculty exchange, spring 2015)

Yeats and After (lecture course)
Global Modernist Fiction (senior seminar)
Contemporary Irish Poetry (senior seminar)

University of Virginia (2007-2013)

Culture, Commerce, Travel (introduction to Global Development Studies major)
The Global Imagination (themed expository writing course)
Communicating with the Public
Irish Sense of Place (January term course)
History of Literature in English III (survey of twentieth-century literature)
Poetic Forms (introductory seminar for majors)
American Epic (themed expository writing course)
Shakespeare (survey of tragedies and late plays)
Advanced Academic Writing

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Contributing Editor, *ASAP/J* (2016-)
Participant, Institute for World Literature, Harvard University (2013)
Search Committee for the Director of the Writing Program, University of Virginia (2013)

Reader, Poetry Board, *Virginia Quarterly Review* (2007-2010)
Co-Founder, Poetry and Poetics Group, University of Virginia (2006-2013)

LANGUAGES

French, German (proficient); Ancient Greek, Latin (reading knowledge)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association, American Studies Association, Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, Modern Language Association, Modernist Studies Association

DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE, Clemson University

Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department (2017-2019)
Chair, Curriculum Committee, English Department (2016-2018)
First-Year Composition Committee, English Department (2016-2018)
BA Committee, English Department (2014-2017)
Modernist American Search Committee (2015-2016)
Member, Vice-Provost's International Coordination Committee (2015-2016)
Chair, College Global Initiatives Committee (2015-2016)
Member, College Global Initiatives Committee (2013-2016)
Creative Writing Search Committee (2013-2014)

THESIS COMMITTEES, Clemson University

2017-2018

Gabrielle Nugent, MA thesis (director)

Jillian Gaskins, BA thesis (director)

2016-2017

Katy Koon, BA thesis

Kelsey Turner, BA thesis

2015-2016

Lanja Karim, MA thesis

Christopher Phillips, BA thesis

Caroline Swanson, MA thesis

2014-2015

Caroline Zvakos, BA thesis (director)

Megan Brovan, BA thesis

2013-2014

Josh Martin, MA thesis

Catherine Blass, MA thesis

References on request.