

NICOLE JERR

Johns Hopkins University, Humanities Center
3400 N. Charles St., Baltimore MD 21218
nicole.jerr@jhu.edu 410.961.1814

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 2014

Dissertation: "Pretenders to the Throne: Sovereignty and Modern Drama"

Advisors: Michael Fried, Hent de Vries, Martin Puchner (Harvard University)

University of Chicago, M.A. in Religion and Literature, 2006

Northwestern University, B.A. in Comparative Literary Studies, 1996

EMPLOYMENT

Richard Macksey Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University, 2015-16

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

History and Theory of Theater; Modern and Contemporary Drama; Classical and Renaissance Reception; Aesthetic and Philosophical Modernism; Political Theology

PUBLICATIONS

Editor, with Zvi Ben-Dor Benite and Stefanos Geroulanos, *The Scaffolding of Sovereignty: Global and Aesthetic Perspectives on the History of a Concept*, forthcoming from Columbia University Press, Studies in Political Thought Series.

"Scaffolding Sovereignty: Editors' Introduction," with Z. Ben-Dor Benite and S. Geroulanos, in *The Scaffolding of Sovereignty*.

"Exit the King? Modern Theater and the Revolution," in *The Scaffolding of Sovereignty*.

"Modern and Tragic? Kierkegaard's Antigone and the Aesthetics of Isolation," in *Philosophy and Literature* Vol. 38, no. 1 (April 2014): 188-203.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Jonathan Strauss, *Private Lives, Public Deaths: Antigone and the Invention of Individuality*, in *Critical Inquiry* Vol. 41, no. 2 (Winter 2015; online, June 2014).

Review of *Rethinking Tragedy* (Rita Felski, editor), in *Modern Language Notes* 124 (Dec. 2009): 1219-23.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Pretenders to the Throne: The Persistence of Sovereign Figures on the Modern Stage (book manuscript)

"Modern Antigones: The Reception of a Dramatic Model" (draft article)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Richard Macksey Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Johns Hopkins University, 2015-16.

The Remarque Institute of New York University, Kandersteg Seminar: invited participant for the seminar "Sovereignty: History and Transformation." Kandersteg, Switzerland, 2015.

Modern Language Association: travel grant to attend the annual convention in Vancouver, BC, 2015.

Principles of Cultural Dynamics Fellow: invited participant for the symposium "Performance Philosophy and the Future of Genre: Thinking Through Tragedy and Comedy." Berlin, 2014.

Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, for the course "Studies in Modern Drama: Ibsen to Ionesco," 2013.

The DramaNet Project, Freie Universität Berlin: invited participant for the conference, "Dramatic Experience: Poetics of Drama and the Public Sphere(s)," 2013.

Center for Advanced Media Studies Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, 2012-13.

Mellon School for Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University: selected participant in the second session, "Theater and Philosophy," 2012.

Shirley Passow and Ruth Rickard Humanities Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, 2011-12.

Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, for the course "Sovereignty and Modern Drama," 2011.

Mellon School for Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University: selected participant in the inaugural session, "Theater Among the Other Arts," 2011.

Summer Research Grant for language study in Italy, Johns Hopkins University Humanities Center, 2010.

Johns Hopkins University Humanities Center, Graduate Fellowship. 2007-08.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Session Chair, "Wittgenstein and Cavell," Philadelphia, PA: American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, 2014.

Conference Co-Organizer, with Zvi Ben-Dor Benite and Stefanos Geroulanos (New York University), "Sovereignty: Stages and Frontiers," International Conference on the Histories, Aesthetics, and Political Theologies of an Idea (under the aegis of NYU's Global Research Institute), 2013.

Panel Co-Organizer, with Mimmi Woisnitza (University of Chicago), "Dramaturgies of Crisis," Providence, RI: American Comparative Literature Association, Annual Meeting, 2012.

Panel Co-Organizer, with Verena Rauen (Ruhr-University Bochum/Paris IV), "Sovereign Revenge, Sovereign Pardon," Vancouver, BC: American Comparative Literature Association, Annual Meeting, 2011.

Lecture Researcher and Writer, "August Wilson's *Fences*," for Great Books at Hopkins, 2011.

Lecture and Seminar Organizer, "Shakespeare, Tragedy, and the Names of Action," Johns Hopkins University Humanities Center Annual Speaker: Sarah Beckwith (Duke University), 2011.

Conference Co-Organizer, "Directions of Realism," Johns Hopkins University Graduate Student Conference, 2011.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

"Rethinking Sovereignty and Drama." The Remarque Institute: Kandersteg Seminar on "Sovereignty: History and Transformation." Kandersteg, Switzerland, 2015.

"Six Characters in Search of a Sovereign: Pirandello's *Henry IV*." University of Chicago: "Paradoxes of Authority / The Authority of Paradox," Society of Fellows Conference, 2014.

"Forward or Backward? Avant-Garde Theater and the Aesthetics of Retreat." American Comparative Literature Association Conference: "Capitals of Avant-garde Theater" panel, 2014.

"Anachronisms and Anomalies: Sovereignty and Modern Drama." American Society for Theatre Research Conference: "Theatre Histories" working session, 2013.

"Revolution and Modern Theater." New York University: "Sovereignty: Stages and Frontiers," International Conference on the Histories, Aesthetics, and Political Theologies of an Idea, 2013.

"Beast and Sovereign in Theater of the Absurd." Johns Hopkins University: Center for Advanced Media Studies Fellowship Symposium, 2013.

"Royal Upset in the Theater: Modern Macbeths." American Comparative Literature Association Conference: "Dramaturgies of Crisis" panel, 2012.

"Antigone in Germany, Japan and South Africa: War's Aftermath and Terms of Peace." Modern Language Association Conference: "On War: Classical and Modern Perspectives" (Discussion Group on Classical Studies and Modern Literature), 2012.

"Cities of Words, Kingdoms of Adventures: Ibsen's *The Master Builder* and Antonioni's *L'avventura*." Université Paris 1, Panthéon – Sorbonne: "Philosophie des salles obscures: Cinéma et éducation morale," International Conference in honor of Stanley Cavell, 2011.

"Henrik Ibsen: Thinking through *A Doll House*." New York University: Guest lecture in the course "European Intellectual History, 1805-1914," 2011.

"Revenge or Pardon? Mad Questions in Strindberg and Pirandello." American Comparative Literature Association Conference: "Sovereign Revenge, Sovereign Pardon" panel, 2011.

"Kierkegaard's Antigone: The Limits of the Tragic and the Aesthetics of Isolation." University of Essex: "Kierkegaard, Literature, and the Philosophy of Religion," International Graduate Conference in Philosophy, 2010.

"Cavell, Euripides, and the Tragic Possibility of Language." Centre Universitaire de Recherches sur l'Action Publique et le Politique, Université de Picardie Jules Verne Conference: "Vouloir dire: la voix et la tragédie, d'Austin à Cavell," 2010.

"Deposition or Abdication? Shakespeare and the Poetics of Sovereignty." New York University: Guest lecture in the course "Political Theology: Religion and Politics from Aeschylus to Derrida," 2009.

"The Issue of Title: Complicity, Impotence, and Self-Knowledge in *King Lear* and *Richard II*." Université de Picardie Jules Verne: Conference on Moral Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology, 2008.

“Furious Pursuits: The Eumenides Today.” CUNY Department of Comparative Literature: “Underground,” an Interdisciplinary Conference, 2008.

“Skepticism and Stories in Graham Greene’s *End of the Affair*.” Stanford Humanities Center: “Approaching the Discourse of Transcendence,” graduate student conference, 2008.

“Malory’s *Le Morte D’Arthur*: Tragic Infidelity or Comic Fidelity?” Colloquium organized by the DFG Graduiertenkolleg “Lebensformen und Lebenswissen” at the Johns Hopkins University Humanities Center, 2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Antigone: All the World’s a Stage (Spring 2015)
Professional Writing and Communication (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015)
Studies in Modern Drama: Ibsen to Ionesco (Dean’s Teaching Fellowship, Fall 2013)
Sovereignty and Modern Drama (Dean’s Teaching Fellowship, Spring 2012)
Racine’s Greeks: *Andromaque*, *Iphigénie*, and *Phèdre* (Summer 2009)
Divine Love Affairs: Modern literary reception of the myth of *Cupid and Psyche* (Summer 2008)

MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART

The History of Existentialism (Spring 2009-2016)
The Problem of Evil (Fall 2012-2015)
Mythology (Fall 2011, 2012)
Classical Greek Philosophy (Fall 2010, 2011)

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, Teaching Assistant

Great Books (Fall 2010, 2011)
The Contemporary World Novel (Spring 2011)
Modern Tragedy (Spring 2010)
Shakespeare (Fall 2009)
Holocaust Testimonies (Spring 2009)
18th-Century and Romantic British Literature (Fall 2008)

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO: Graham School of General Studies, the Basic Program

Furious Pursuits: Contemporary literary reception of Aeschylus’ *Eumenides* (Summer 2008)
Divine Love Affairs: Modern literary reception of the myth of *Cupid and Psyche* (Summer 2007)
First through Fourth Year Tutorials and Seminars (Fall 2006 – Spring 2007), Texts taught:
The Bible; Aeschylus, *Oresteia*; Sophocles, *Oedipus Tyrannos*; Euripides, *Bacchae*;
Plato, *Meno*, *Phaedo*; Herodotus, *The Histories*; Aristotle, *Poetics*; Aquinas, *Treatise on Law*;
Shakespeare, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *King Lear*; Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*; Kant,
Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals; More, *Utopia*

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Faculty Liaison, Hop-In Program for first-generation students, Johns Hopkins University, 2015-16.

Faculty Discussion Leader, First-Year Experience Book Read (Ta-Nehisi Coates, *The Beautiful Struggle*), Johns Hopkins University, 2015.

Freshman High Table Dinner: selected by the freshmen class to be a faculty participant, Johns Hopkins University, 2015.

Faculty Advisor, for Molly Martell, Associate Editor in the Psychology and Social Sciences Division, *Journal of Young Investigators*, 2014-15.

Senior Thesis Advisor, for Shelsea Dodd, "Dominion," Literature, Philosophy, and Creative Writing Honors Thesis, Maryland Institute College of Art, 2012-13.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association

American Society for Aesthetics

American Society for Theatre Research

Modern Language Association

LANGUAGES

Proficient reading knowledge: French, Italian, Spanish

Basic reading knowledge: German, Ancient Greek, Latin

REFERENCES

Michael Fried (michaelmfried@gmail.com)

J.R. Herbert Boone Chair in the Humanities and History of Art, Johns Hopkins University

Hent de Vries (hentdevries@jhu.edu)

Director and Russ Family Chair in the Humanities and Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University

Martin Puchner (puchner@fas.harvard.edu)

Byron and Anita Wien Professor of Drama, English & Comparative Literature, Harvard University

Martin Harries (martin.harries@uci.edu)

Chair and Professor of English, University of California - Irvine

Glenn W. Most (glenn.most@sns.it)

Professor in the Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago

Professor of Ancient Greek, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

Bernadette A. Meyler (bmeyler@law.stanford.edu)

Professor of Law and Deane F. Johnson Faculty Scholar, Stanford University

Frances Ferguson (ferguso1@uchicago.edu)

Ann L. and Lawrence B. Battenwieser Professor of English, University of Chicago

D. Alan Orr (dorr@mica.edu)

Chair, Humanistic Studies, Maryland Institute College of Art