

Stefanie Markovits

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Employment

July 2011: Professor, Yale Department of English
July 2009-July 2011: Associate Professor on term, Yale Department of English
Jan. 2002-June 2009: Assistant Professor, Yale Department of English
F 2001: Lecturer, Yale Department of English

Education

Yale University, Ph.D., Dec. 2001.
University of Oxford, Somerville College (1995-96), Christ Church College
(1994-95) (transferred to accept scholarship).
M. Phil., English Romantic Studies, 1996.
Yale University, B.A. 1994, *summa cum laude*. Double major in
English and Philosophy.

Areas of Interest

Victorian Novel, Victorian Poetry, Romantic Poetry and Prose, Narrative Poetry, Jane Austen,
German Classical Literature (Goethe and Schiller), Aesthetic Theory, Literature and War, Genre
Theory.

Books

The Victorian Verse-Novel: Aspiring to Life. Oxford University Press, September 2017.

The book offers an in-depth account of the form, focusing on how the split allegiances of its
component genres allow for the unleashing of radical energies.

The Crimean War in the British Imagination, Cambridge University Press, September 2009.

The Crimean War in the British Imagination considers the British literary and cultural response to the Crimean War (1854-56). Before Britain entered into full-fledged war for the first time in forty years, the nation had, in the words of Matthew Arnold, been “wandering between two worlds, one dead, / The other powerless to be born.” The Crimean War served as a midwife to the age. I consider how mid-Victorian writers and artists reacted to an unpopular war: one in which home-front response was conditioned by an unprecedented barrage of information arriving from the East in letters and images from private and public “war correspondents.” This history had formal consequences. How (for example) does patriotic poetry translate the blunders of the Crimea into verse? How does the shape of literary heroism adjust to a war that produced not heroes but a heroine, Florence Nightingale? How does the predominant mode of journalism affect artistic representations of “the real”? I show how the war created and crystallized trends in cultural development even as contemporary reactions to the war were guided by expectations shaped by literature and art.

The Crisis of Action in Nineteenth-Century English Literature. The Ohio State University Press, 2006.

The Crisis of Action, my first book, examines the relationship between Aristotelian categories of action and character in nineteenth-century English poetry and prose. The age was obsessed with its lack of what Matthew Arnold calls “great human actions.” In looking at writings from the period, I explore some of the historical reasons for this obsession, such as the failure of the French Revolution, crises of faith brought on by scientific discoveries, laissez-faire government, and the increased role of women in the literary sphere. By emphasizing the importance of inaction—that is, both frustrated action and internalized action—in nineteenth-century literature, I demonstrate a connection between Romantic poetry and the Victorian novel of consciousness. The book was awarded the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Prize.

Articles

“Jane Austen, by *Half*.” Under submission.

“Byron’s Numerals.” Forthcoming, *European Romantic Review* 29.5 (October 2018).

“Adulterated Form: Violet Fane and the Victorian Verse-Novel.” *ELH* 81.2 (Summer 2014): 633-59.

“Form Things: Looking at Genre Through Victorian Diamonds,” *Victorian Studies* 52.4 (Summer 2010): 591-619.

“Giving Voice to the Crimean War: Tennyson’s ‘Charge’ and Maud’s Battle-song.” *Victorian Poetry* 47.3 (2009): 481-503. Broadview Press posts this article as an example of good scholarly writing on the website adjunct to *The Broadview Guide to Writing*.

“Rushing Into Print: ‘Participatory Journalism’ During the Crimean War.” *Victorian Studies* 50.4 (2008): 559-86.

“Jane Austen and the Happy Fall.” *Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900 (SEL)* 47 (2007): 779-97. Reprinted in Cengage Learning, *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, vol. 222.

“*North and South*, East and West: Gaskell, The Crimean War, and the Condition of England.” *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 59 (2005): 463-93. Reprinted in *Nineteenth-Century Literary Criticism*, Vol. 214 (Gale Learning, 2009).

“George Eliot’s Problem With Action.” *Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900 (SEL)* 41 (2001): 785-803.

“Arthur Hugh Clough, *Amours de Voyage*, and the Victorian Crisis of Action.” *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 55 (2001): 445-78.

Chapters and Reference Work Entries

“The Verse Novel,” entry for the Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature*, ed. Dino Felluga, Pamela Gilbert, and Linda Hughes (London: Blackwell, 2015). 3,500-word commissioned article, subject to peer review.

“Moral Fables: *Scenes of Clerical Life* and *Silas Marner*.” *Blackwell Companion to George Eliot*, ed. Amanda Anderson and Harry Shaw (London: Blackwell, 2013), 93-104.

“The Impact of Lyric, Drama, and Verse Narrative on Novel Form.” In *The Cambridge History of the English Novel*. Ed. Robert L. Caserio and Clement C. Hawes (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2012), 549-64.

“The Crimean War and the Charge of the Light Brigade,” entry for *BRANCH: Britain, Representation, and Nineteenth-Century History* (online). Commissioned article, subject to peer review. Published 19 March 2012.

Reviews

Review of Catherine Addison, *A Genealogy of the Verse Novel*. *Modern Language Review*, forthcoming.

Review of Caroline Levine, *Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network*. *Comparative Literature*, forthcoming.

Review of Hilary Schor, *Curious Subjects: Women and the Trials of Realism*, *Victorian Studies* 57.1 (Autumn 2014): 168-69.

Review of *Time and the Moment in Victorian Literature and Society* by Sue Zemka. *Victorian Review* 39.1 (Spring 2013): 213-15.

Review of John Rignall, *George Eliot, European Novelist*. *Comparative Literature Studies* 50.4 (on-line edition), e-25-e27.

“Michael Field as Poet.” Review of *Michael Field: The Poet. Published and Manuscript Materials*, ed. Marion Thain and Ana Parejo Vadillo, *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920* 55.1 (2012): 106-8.

Review of John Morton, *Tennyson Among the Novelists*. *Victoriographies* 1.2.

“Regarding War and Marriage: Romanticism and Everyday Experience.” Review of Mary A. Favret, *War at a Distance: Romanticism and the Making of Modern Wartime*, and Eric C. Walker, *Marriage, Writing and Romanticism: Wordsworth and Austen After War*, *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies* 6.1 (Spring 2010), <http://ncgsjournal.com>.

Review of Erik Gray, *Milton and the Victorians*. *New Books Online-19*, www.nbol-19.org.
Posted 1 September 2009.

“Another New Book on ‘Michael Field.’” Review of ‘*Michael Field*’: *Poetry, Aestheticism and the Fin de Siècle*, Marion Thain, *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920* 52 (2009): 236-39.

“The Michael Fields.” Review of *Michael Field and Their World*, ed. Margaret D. Stetz and Cheryl A. Wilson, *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920* 51 (2008): 228-31.

“Women Poets, Urban Aestheticism & Modernity.” Review of Ana Pareja Vadillo, *Women Poets and Urban Aestheticism*, *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920* 49 (2006): 468-71.

“Bharat Tandon, *Jane Austen and the Morality of Conversation*, D. A. Miller, *Jane Austen, or The Secret of Style*.” Book review. *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 59 (2004): 123-26.

Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

“Looking Outward in the Victorian Novel: Counting Heads in *A Tale of Two Cities*,” to be presented at NAVSA 2018, St. Petersburg, FL, 14 October 2018.

“Jane Austen, By Half.” British Women Writers Conference, Austin, 13 April 2018.

“Erik Gray’s *The Art of Love Poetry*, by the Numbers,” New Book Panel, Heyman Center, Columbia University, 8 March 2018.

“The Student’s Perspective,” DS@70 Conference, Yale University, 31 March 2017.

“Epistolary Address: Travelling the World in the Victorian Novel in Verse,” NAVSA, Phoenix, AZ, 2-6 Nov. 2016.

Recorded Interview with Dr. Sue Asbee for the Open University module on the poetry of Arthur Hugh Clough. New Haven, 16 June 2015.

“Jane Austen and the Happy Fall.” Yale Reunion Faculty Lecture. Yale University, 24 May 2014.

“Peas and Poetry, or, The Limits of Literary Language,” Anglophone Histories Departmental Colloquium, Yale University Department of English, 18 April 2014.

- “The Crimean War and the Art of Failure,” dinner presentation to the Grand Strategy Program at Yale, 3 March 2014.
- “‘I praise these poets: they leave margin-space’: Robert Browning’s *The Inn Album* and the Evidence of Generic Violence.” NAVSA, Pasadena, 25 October 2013.
- “*Faithful For Ever?: Coventry Patmore, Marriage, and the Victorian Verse-Novel.*” Works in Nineteenth-Century Studies Group, University of Toronto, 24 September 2013.
- “‘And love that grows’: Coventry Patmore, Marriage, and the Victorian Verse-Novel.” British Modernities Working Group, SUNY Binghamton, 2 May 2013.
- “Representing Marriage in the Victorian Verse-Novel,” MLA, Boston, 7 January 2013.
Cancelled appearance due to flu, but paper was distributed.
- “The Victorian Verse-Novel and the Forms of Marriage,” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 10 October 2012.
- “*The Woman Who Dared: The Verse-Novel and the Gendered Performance of Genre,*” NAVSA, Nashville, 5 November 2011.
- “Adulterated Form: Violet Fane and the Verse Novel,” Yale English Department’s Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, Yale, 23 September 2011.
- Respondent, “Poetic Form” panel, The Politics of Form, Columbia University, 22 April 2011.
- “Adulterated Forms: Violet Fane, the Verse-Novel, and the Scales of Love,” special seminar, NAVSA, Montreal, 11 November 2010.
- “Family Resemblance: Jewels and Genre in Victorian Fiction,” INCS, University of Texas at Austin, 27 March 2010.
- “Are you sure they are all horrid?”: Finding Gothic in Jane Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*,” Yale Center for British Art, Art-in-Context Lecture, 20 October 2009.
- “Remediating History: John Everett Millais’s *Peace Concluded, 1856* and the Crimean War BAVS/NAVSA, Cambridge, 14 July 2009.
- “Blundering Verse: Tennyson’s Crimean War Ballads,” North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA) Conference at Yale University, 16 November 2008.
- “The Charge of the Light Brigade,” invited talk for a semi-plenary panel on “The Experience of Defeat,” North American Conference on British Studies (NACBS), Cincinnati, OH, 4 October 2008.
- “‘The People’s War’: Participatory Journalism in the Crimean War,” presented at “Evidence of Reading, Reading the Evidence,” conference at the Institute of English Studies, London, 21-23 July 2008.

“‘The People’s War’ or ‘The Times’ War’?: Letters and the Press During the Crimean War,”
British Studies Colloquium, Yale University, 26 October 2007.

“Rushing Into Print: ‘Participatory Journalism’ in the Crimean War,” INCS: Interdisciplinary
19th-Century Studies Conference, Univ. of Missouri, KC, 21 April 2007.

“Plutarch in the Nineteenth Century,” response paper to Elizabeth Samet, “O Be Sick, Great
Greatness; At War with Plutarch,” presented at the Yale English Department’s
Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium on War and Literature, 12 April 2007.

“Bewilderment and ‘Blunder’: Alexander Smith and Sydney Dobell’s Crimean War Poetry,”
INCS, Rutgers, 31 March 2006.

“The Novels of the Crimean War,” presented at the Yale English Department’s Eighteenth- and
Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, Yale, December 2003.

“Two Mid-Victorian Versions of War: Epipolie and Thermopylae Transposed,” The Victorian
Institutes Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, 5 October 2002.

“Arthur Hugh Clough’s *Amours de Voyage* as Travel Literature,” NEMLA, Hartford, March 29-
31, 2001.

Revised for the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United
States (VISAWUS), at UCLA, 26 October 2001.

“George Eliot and Domestic Action,” Central New York Conference on Language and Literature,
Cortland College, New York, October 29-31, 2000.

“Jane Barker’s *Love Intrigues* and Novel Language,” at EC/ASECS: East-Central American
Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, Norfolk, Virginia, October 5-8,
2000.

“‘Laissez-Faire, Laissez-aller,—such is the watchword’: Mapping Inaction in the Work of Arthur
Hugh Clough,” INCS, Yale Center for British Art, April 6-8, 2000.

Presented again at the British Studies Colloquium, Yale, December 2000.

“‘That girl has some drama in her’: George Eliot’s Problem With Action,” at the Eighteenth
and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, Yale, October 1999.

Fellowships and Awards

- Whitney Humanities Center Fellowship, Yale University. (2012-14)
- Associate Leave Research Fellowship, Yale University. (2009-2010)
- Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Publication by Yale junior
faculty in the humanities, for *The Crisis of Action*. (2008)
- Hilles Fund Publication Grant for *The Crisis of Action*. (2006)
- Morse Research Fellowship, Yale University. (2006)
- Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, Yale University. (2000-2001)

- Paul Mellon Center Summer Research Fellowship, to research manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Yale University. (2000)
- William K. Wimsatt Fellowship, Yale University. (1996-98)
- Janet Watson Scholarship to Study at Somerville College, Oxford. (1995)
- Overseas Research Student Award, University of Oxford. (1994, 1995)
- Graduated from Yale, Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude, and with distinction in both majors. (1994)

Teaching

Undergraduate Teaching:

- “Nineteenth-Century Historical Narrative (co-taught junior seminar, with History)
- “The Victorian Political Novel” (senior seminar, junior seminar)
- “Directed Studies: Literature,” fall semester (freshman seminar/lecture)
- “The Victorian Novel” (lecture course)
- “Jane Austen” (both as a junior seminar and as a freshman seminar)
- “The English Romantic Novel” (junior seminar)
- “Major British Poets: Chaucer, Spenser, Donne” (freshman and sophomore seminar)
- “The European Literary Tradition: Epic” (freshman and sophomore seminar)
- “Introduction to Literary Study”: taught, course-directed, and helped to re-vamp course, for which I teach a seminar on “Literature and War” (in its earlier incarnation, I taught an entirely distinct seminar on “Literature and Memory”)

Graduate Teaching:

- “Nineteenth-Century Long Narrative Poetry”
- “The Graduate Teaching Practicum”
- “Charles Dickens and George Eliot”

At Oxford, I taught a tutorial course on “Wordsworth’s Poetry and Prose.”

Academic Service

Yale English Department:

- Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2015/16, F 2012
- Writing Program Steering Committee, 2012/13
- Honors and Prizes Committee (since 2001; Chair, 2011/12; Sp 2014; Chair, 2014/15; Chair, Sp 2017; Chair, 2017/18)
- Lectures and Social Arrangements/ Colloquia Committee (2001/2, 2003/4, 2011/12)
- Undergraduate Studies (2008/9) (2014/15 [Chair])
- Senior Essay Committee (2002/3, 2003/4 [Chair], 2007/8 [Chair], 2008/9)
- Graduate Admissions (2006/7, 2008/9, 2014, 2015, 2017)
- Junior Appointments (2007/8 [EEO Coordinator]), 2014/15, 2015/16
- Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, Organizer (since 2001)
- Aims and Procedures (2008/9, 2011/12)
- Course Director, 115 (2002-8), 117 (Sp 2008)
- 129b/130b (Sp 2009/2011/2012/2013/2014)
- 130b (Sp 2017, Sp. 2018)
- Dissertation Advisor: Justin Sider, Angus Ledingham, Andrew Willson

University:

Acting Chair, Humanities (F 2018)
Writing Center Advisory Committee, Chair (2018-19)
Coordinator, Directed Studies Literature track (F 2017)
Humanities Executive Committee (2014-17)
Whitney Humanities Center Executive Committee (2013-16)
Teaching, Learning, and Advising Committee (2014)
Beinecke Fellowship Selection Committee (2013, 2017)
Library Oversight Committee (2012/13)
Executive Committee (2011/12)
Marshall, Mitchell, Rhodes Committee (F 2002, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2014, 2015)
Henry Fellowship Committee (2017)
European Studies Council (since 2007)
British Studies Organizing Committee (since 2007)
Mellon Workshop planning committee (2009/10)
Mellon Bouchet Fellowship Mentor (2011/12)
Exploratory Committee, CBA Blake-Runge Exhibition (2011)
Sawyer Seminar Selection Committee (2018)
Yale UCL Collaborative Student Exchange Programme advisor (2018)

Pierson College:

English Department Faculty Advisor (most years from 2007)
Committee to Select the New Dean (Sp 2005)
Freshman advising (2001-2008, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2014/15)
Committee to Select the New Master (2012)

NAVSA 2008 at Yale, Organizing Committee

Referee: *Studies in the Novel*, *Victorian Studies*, *Victorian Poetry*, *Victorian Literature and Culture*, *BRANCH*, *Review of English Studies*, *Victorian Review*, *Victoriographies*

Reader: Taylor Francis, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press

Editorial Board: *Review 19: An Online Review of Current Books on Nineteenth-Century Literature (NBOL-19)*, a review forum launched Sept. 2009 under the direction of James Heffernan and Thomas Luxon. At www.nbol-19.org.

Editorial Board: *Victoriographies: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century Writing, 1790-1914*, a journal published by Edinburgh University Press and distributed and marketed in the US by Columbia University Press, launched in 2011 under the direction of Julian Wolfreys.

External Dissertation Committee Member, Kenneth Crowell, Purdue University

Languages

German (certified by Yale University 9/19/96). I am bilingual.

Spanish (certified by Yale University 10/15/97). Reading proficiency.

French (certified by Yale University 3/24/98). Reading proficiency.