

## LANGDON HAMMER

Department of English  
Yale University  
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### EDUCATION

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Ph.D., English Language and Literature, Yale University  
B.A., English Major, *summa cum laude*, Yale University

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

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Niel Gray, Jr., Professor of English and American Studies, Yale University

Appointments in the English Department at Yale: Lecturer Convertible, 1987; Assistant Professor, 1989; Associate Professor with tenure, 1996; Professor, 2001; Department Chair, 2005-fall 2008, Acting Department Chair, fall 2011 and fall 2013, Department Chair, 2014-17 and 2017-19

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### Books

In progress:

*Elizabeth Bishop: Life & Works, A Critical Biography* (under contract to Farrar Straus Giroux)

*The Oxford History of Poetry in English* (Oxford UP), 18 volumes, Patrick Cheney general editor; LH coordinating editor for Volumes 10-12 on American Poetry, and editor for Volume 12 *The Oxford History of American Poetry Since 1939*

*The Selected Letters of James Merrill*, edited by LH, J. D. McClatchy, and Stephen Yenser (under contract to Alfred A. Knopf)

Published:

*James Merrill: Poems*, Everyman's Library Pocket Poets, selected and edited with a foreword by LH (Penguin RandomHouse, 2017), 256 pp

*James Merrill: Life and Art* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2015), 944 pp, 32 pp images, and [jamesmerrillweb.com](http://jamesmerrillweb.com), a website companion with more images, bibliography, documents, linked reviews, and blog Winner, Lambda Literary Award for Gay Memoir/Biography, 2016. [Finalist for the Poetry](#)

Foundation's Pegasus Award for Poetry Criticism, 2015. Named a *Times Literary Supplement* "Book of the Year, 2015" (two nominations, November 25). *New York Times*, "Top Books of 2015" (December 11). Selected reviews: *New Yorker* (April 13); *New York Times* (April 15); *Biographile* (April 15); *Commonweal* online (April 16); *The Economist* (April 18); *Wall Street Journal* (May 2-3); *New York Times Book Review* (May 17); *Boston Edge* (May 18); *Barnes & Noble Review* (May 22); *Los Angeles Review of Books* (May 23); *Twentieth-Century Literature* (June 15); *Nation* (November 17); *Yale Review* (January 2016); *Modernism/Modernity* (January 2016); *Times Literary Supplement* (February 3, 2016); *Australian Book Review* (February 2016); *London Review of Books* (March 31, 2016); *Raritan* (Spring 2016); *Wallace Stevens Journal* (Spring 2016); *New York Review of Books* (December 22, 2016); *New Yorker* (February 2, 2017)

*The Collected Poems of May Swenson*, edited by LH (Library of America, 2013), 755 pp  
Selected reviews: *Poetry Magazine* (December 2013); *Yale Review* 102 (January 2014) 1: 161-82

*Hart Crane: Complete Poetry and Selected Letters*, edited by LH (Library of America, 2006), 854 pp  
Selected reviews: *New Yorker* (October 9, 2006): 82-86; *Booksforum* (December/January 2007): 33-37; *Wall Street Journal* (October 14-15, 2006): 10; *Nation* (January 1, 2007): 28-30; *New York Times Book Review* (January 28, 2007): 18-19 and letters by LH and four others (February 11, 25, 2007); *Commonweal* (April 6, 2007): 24-26; *New York Review of Books* (April 17, 2008): 36-40

*O My Land, My Friends: The Selected Letters of Hart Crane*, edited by LH and Brom Weber; text preparation, introduction, selection, commentary, and annotation by LH (Four Walls Eight Windows, 1997), 562 pp  
Selected reviews: *Nation* (July 21, 1997): 33-36; *Boston Globe* (July 29, 1997): E3; *Boston Phoenix* (August 1997): 3; *Times Literary Supplement* (September 19, 1997): 27; *New York Review of Books* 46 (October 23, 1997) 16: 32-34; *New Republic* (January 5 and 12, 1998): 36-41; *London Review of Books* (September 30, 1999): 45-46

*Hart Crane and Allen Tate: Janus-Faced Modernism* (Princeton UP, 1993), 277 pp  
Selected reviews: *Times Literary Supplement* (September 24, 1993) 4271: 9; *Sewanee Review* 102 (1994) 1: viii-xi; *Lesbian and Gay Studies Newsletter* 21 (July 1994) 2: 32-33; *JEGP* (October 1994): 601-03; *Modernism/Modernity* [review-essay] 2 (April 1995) 2: 81-84; named a "Breakthrough Book" in modernist studies by *Lingua Franca* 10 (2000) 2: 14

## Articles and review-essays

- "James Merrill, Off the Gold Standard," in *Evaluations: U.S. Poetry Since 1950*, ed. Robert von Hallberg (U of New Mexico P, 2018) [7,500 words]
- "Fantastic Forms: A Response to Caroline Levine's *Forms: Whole, Rhythm, Hierarchy, Network*," *PMLA* (December 2017) [3,500 words]
- "Seeing Through the Eye: Hart Crane's *The Bridge*, Modern Art, and the Idea of Abstract Form," introduction for a letterpress limited edition of *The Bridge* printed on a scroll with woodblock

- prints by Joel Shapiro and photographs by Michael Kenna (San Francisco, the Arion Press, 2017) [7,300 words]; revised and reprinted as “Hart Crane’s View from the Bridge” online in *New York Review of Books Daily* (November 24, 2017) [4,300 words]
- “Inside and Underneath Words [on Susan Howe’s *Debths*],” *New York Review of Books* 64 (September 28, 2017) 14: 31-33 [4,700 words]
- “Voice and Erasure in Srikanth Reddy’s *Voyager*” in *The Fate of Difficulty in the Poetry of Our Time*, eds. Charles Altieri and Nicholas Nace (Northwestern UP, 2017), 29-45
- “Stevens and Modernism” in *Wallace Stevens in Context*, ed. Glen McLeod (Cambridge UP, 2017): 99-109
- “The Biographical Container,” *Yale Review* 104 (Summer 2016) 3: 19-36
- “James Merrill’s Water Street (1957-1962),” *Parnassus: Poetry in Review* 32 (2011) 1-2: 336-86
- “Poetry in Review” [review-essay on Kay Ryan, *The Best of It: New and Selected Poems*], *Yale Review* 99 (Winter 2011) 1: 176-89
- “Lost at Sea: Jasper Johns with Hart Crane,” *Yale Review* 97 (Fall 2009) 4: 34-53
- “Recognizing Hart Crane,” *Hiram Poetry Review* (Spring 2008) 69: 76-83
- “Plath at War” in *Eye Rhymes: Sylvia Plath’s Art of the Visual*, ed. Kathleen Connors and Sally Bayley (Oxford UP, 2007): 145-58
- “James Merrill’s Double Life: ‘The Thousand and Second Night,’” *Poetica* [University of Tokyo] 64 (2006): 69-85
- “Hall of Voices: Richard Howard,” *Parnassus: Poetry in Review* 29 (2006) 1-2: 97-117
- “Life into Art: James Merrill’s ‘16.ix.65,’” *Literary Imagination* 7 (2005) 3: 278-85
- “Merrill and Stevens,” *The Wallace Stevens Journal* 28 (2004) 2: 295-302
- Masks of the Poet: James Merrill and Kimon Friar*, American College of Greece, Library Series 17, Athens, 2003, 47 pp [6,000-word essay and exhibition catalogue]
- “The American Poetry of Thom Gunn and Geoffrey Hill,” *Contemporary Literature* 43 (2002) 4: 644-66; repr. in *Something We Have That They Don’t: Anglo-American Poetic Relations*, eds. Steve Clark and Mark Ford (Iowa UP, 2004)
- “Frank Bidart and the Tone of Contemporary Poetry,” *Southwest Review* 87 (2002) 1: 75-89; rept. in *Fastening the Voice to the Page: On the Poetry of Frank Bidart*, eds. Liam Rector and Tree Swenson (U of Michigan P, 2007)
- “Plath’s Lives,” *Representations* (2001) 75: 61-88
- “Thom Gunn: The Cool Queer Tales of Cupid,” *Raritan* 20 (2000) 2: 114-25
- “The Letters of Hart Crane,” *Raritan* 17 (1997) 1: 100-20
- “Useless Concentration: Life and Work in Elizabeth Bishop’s Letters and Poems,” *American Literary History* 8 (1996) 2: 162-80
- “Poetry in Review” [on Allen Grossman and Robert Pinsky], *Yale Review* 84 (1996) 3: 168-78
- “Art and AIDS; or, How Will Culture Cure You?” *Raritan* 14 (1995) 3: 103-18
- “Poetry in Review” [review-essay on May Swenson, Mary Jo Salter, Heather McHugh, and formalist poetry by women poets], *Yale Review* 83 (1995) 1: 121-41
- “The New Elizabeth Bishop,” *Yale Review* 82 (1994) 1: 135-49
- “Who Was Randall Jarrell?” *Yale Review* 79 (1990) 3: 389-405
- “Robert Lowell’s Breakdown,” *Yale Review* 79 (1990) 2: 172-87
- “Modernism in Reverse: Hart Crane, Eliot, and Joyce,” *Western Humanities Review* 43 (1989) 3: 167-87

## Reviews

- Elizabeth Bishop: A Miracle for Breakfast* by Megan Marshall, *New York Times Book Review* (March 1, 2017)
- Invasions* [poems] and *The Modern Element: Essays on Contemporary Poetry* by Adam Kirsch, *New York Times Book Review* (August 31, 2008): 15
- Notes from the Air: Selected Later Poems* by John Ashbery, *New York Times Book Review* (April 20, 2008): 21
- In the Blood* [memoir] by Andrew Motion, *New York Times Book Review* (February 3, 2008): 7
- Horse Latitudes* [poems] and *The End of the Poem: Oxford Lectures* by Paul Muldoon, *New York Times Book Review* (February 25, 2007): 24
- Hart Crane: After His Lights* by Brian M. Reed, *MLQ* 68 (Winter 2007)1: 126-28
- God's Silence* [poems] by Franz Wright, *New York Times Book Review* (May 14, 2006): 38
- Invisible Listeners: Lyric Intimacy in Herbert, Whitman, and Ashbery* by Helen Vendler, *New York Times Book Review* (October 16, 2005): 8
- Star Dust* [poems] by Frank Bidart, *New York Times Book Review* (July 24, 2005): 11
- Digressions on Some Poems by Frank O'Hara* [memoir] by Joe LeSueur, *New York Times Book Review* (April 13, 2003): 16
- A Short History of the Shadow* [poems] by Charles Wright, *Los Angeles Times Book Review* (August 18, 2002): 6
- James Merrill's Apocalypse* by Timothy Materer, *Modernism/Modernity* 8 (2001) 3: 515-17
- Electric Light* by Seamus Heaney, *New York Times Book Review* (April 8, 2001): 16
- The Boys at Twilight: Poems 1990-1995* and *Time's Fool: A Tale in Verse* by Glyn Maxwell, *New York Times Book Review* (November 5, 2000): 26
- Trappings* [poems] by Richard Howard, *New York Times Book Review* (January 23, 2000): 24
- Cleanth Brooks and Allen Tate: Collected Letters, 1933-1976*, ed. Alphonse Vinh, and *Cleanth Brooks and Robert Penn Warren: A Literary Correspondence*, ed. James Grimshaw, Jr., *Modernism/Modernity* 7 (2000) 1: 165-68
- The Broken Tower: A Life of Hart Crane* by Paul Mariani, *New York Times Book Review* (July 18, 1999): 9
- The Triumph of Love* [poem] by Geoffrey Hill, *New York Times Book Review* (January 17, 1999): 9-10
- Politics and Form in Postmodern American Poetry: O'Hara, Bishop, Ashbery, and Merrill* by Mutlu Konuk Blasing, *Modern Philology* 96 (1998) 1: 137-42
- From Outlaw to Classic: Canons in American Poetry* by Alan Golding, *Modern Philology* 95 (1998) 3: 433-37
- Desire* [poems] by Frank Bidart, *Nation* 265 (November 24, 1997) 17: 32-33

## Poetry and comment in *The American Scholar*

- Nausheen Eusuf, 86.4 (2017)
- Andrew Motion, 86.3 (2017)
- Mary Jo Salter, 86.2 (2017)
- Stephen Burt, 86.1 (2017)
- David Barber, 85.4 (2016) [*Best American Poetry 2016*, ed. Edward Hirsch]
- Jason Koo, 85.3 (2016)

Rowan Ricardo Phillips, 85.2 (2016) [*Best American Poetry 2016*, ed. Edward Hirsch]  
 Maureen N. McLane, 85.1 (2016)  
 Sandra Gilbert, 84.4 (2015)  
 Robert Pinsky and Ange Mlinko, 84:3 (2015)  
 Alan Williamson, 84:2 (2015)  
 Adam Fitzgerald, 84:1 (2015)  
 Ansel Elkins, 83:4 (2014)  
 Jill Bialoski, 83:3 (2014)  
 David Lehman, 83:2 (2014)  
 Louise Glück, 83:1 (2014)  
 J. D. McClatchy, 82:4 (2013)  
 Peter Cole, 82.2 (2013)  
 Robin Robertson, 82.1 (2013)  
 Angie Estes, 81:4 (2012) [rpt. in *The Allure of Grammar: The Glamour of Angie Estes's Poetry*, ed.  
 Doug Rutledge, U of Michigan P, 2018]  
 Spencer Reese, 81:3 (2012)  
 Kevin Young, 81:2 (2012)  
 Christian Wiman, 81:1 (2012)  
 John Koethe, 80:4 (2011)  
 Ellen Bryant Voigt, 80:3 (2011)  
 John Ashbery, 80:2 (2011)  
 Eavan Boland, 80:1 (2011)  
 Elizabeth Alexander, 79:4 (2010) [*Best American Poetry 2010*, ed. Kevin Young]  
 Paul Muldoon, 79:3 (2010) [*Best American Poetry 2010*, ed. Kevin Young]  
 Alfred Corn, 79:2 (2010)  
 Karl Kirchwey, 79:1 (2010)  
 Maureen N. McLane, 78:4 (2009)  
 Gary Snyder, 78:3 (2009)  
 Rosanna Warren, 78:1 (2009)  
 Henri Cole, 77:4 (2008)  
 Kay Ryan, 77:3 (2008)  
 Frank Bidart, 77:2 (2008)  
 Louise Glück, 76:4 (2007)  
 John Hollander, 76:2 (2007)  
 Peter Filkins, Marilyn Nelson, Catriona O'Reilly, and Robert Pinsky, 76:1 (2007)  
 Carl Phillips, 75:4 (2006)  
 Heather McHugh, 75:3 (2006)  
 Michael Longley, 75:1 (2006)  
 Charles Wright, 74:4 (2005)  
 Thylas Moss and Charles Simic, 74:2 (2005) [rept. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* v 256]  
 Thom Gunn and Anthony Hecht, 74:1 (2005)

**Interviews, video, short essays, notes, and introductions, edited letters**

- “Don’t worry. Yale still teaches Shakespeare,” *Washington Post* (December 15, 2017)
- “About that Ouija Board: How Langdon Hammer Summoned a Poet’s Spirit,” Interviewed by Dwight Garner, *New York Times* (2016)
- “On Hart Crane,” Interview with Niall Munro by Dan Schneider, *Cosmoetica* (2016)
- Interviewing Robin Magowan for the James Merrill House (2016)
- Interviewed by Gil Roth, Virtual Memories Project (2015)
- In conversation with Stephen Yenser at the Hammer Museum, UCLA (2015)
- James Merrill House Annual Lecture, La Grua Center, Stonington CT (2015)
- “James Merrill and the Other World: Langdon Hammer in Conversation,” Academy of American Poets (2014)
- Interviewing Stephen Yenser for the James Merrill House (2014)
- Interviewing J. D. McClatchy for the James Merrill House (2014)
- “Bringing Poetry Back to the Basics: The ‘Fascination with the Possibilities of Language’ in May Swenson’s Poems,” *Reader’s Almanac: Official Blog of the Library of America* (Feb 2013)
- “Langdon Hammer on Hart Crane,” *Reader’s Almanac: Official Blog of the Library of America* (Feb 2012)
- “Object Lesson: Poetry via Ouija,” *Yale Alumni Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2012
- Introduction to *The Mower: New and Selected Poems* by Andrew Motion (Boston: David R. Godine, 2009), 1-5
- “Teaching Voice,” *On Common Ground* (Spring 2009) 13: 6-7
- Introduction to *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce, Signet Classic Edition (New York, 2006), 7-18
- “Elizabeth Bishop: Letters to Arthur Gold and Robert Fizdale and James Merrill,” *Yale Review* 91 (2003) 2: 27-54
- “Last Words: On Stevens and Apocalypse” [afterword to an issue on “Stevens and Apocalyptic Language” edited by Eleanor Cook], *Wallace Stevens Journal* 23 (1999) 2: 194-96
- “Caroline Gordon, Allen Tate, and Hart Crane: An Exchange,” *Sewanee Review* 106 (1998) 1: 88-90
- “Hart Crane and Joseph Stella,” *Artists on Art: Observations by Yale Faculty on Works in the Yale University Art Gallery*, ed. Daphne Deeds (Yale U Pubs. 1999), 22-25
- “Bright Stones: Letters of Hart Crane and Jean Toomer,” *Yale Review* 84 (1996) 2: 22-38
- “Efforts of Attention: An Interview with Anthony Hecht,” *Sewanee Review* 104 (1996) 1: 120-33
- “Working Through Poems: An Interview with John Hollander,” *Southwest Review* (1995): 423-37; repr. in *The Poetry of Everyday Life* by John Hollander, U of Michigan P, 1999

### **Selected papers and invited lectures**

- “On ‘Self-Portrait in a Tyvek TM Windbreaker,’” Lecture for the Symposium, “Line by Line,” English Department, U of Hartford, 2017
- “The Talking Board: Ouija, Wordplay, Poetics,” History and Theory of Lyric Forms lecture, English Department, U of Chicago, 2016
- Lectures and public conversations in conjunction with the publication of *James Merrill: Life and Art* (March-November 2015): New York Institute for the Humanities (NYU); Poetry Center, 92<sup>nd</sup> Street YMHA, New York; Century Association, New York; Leon Levy Center for Biography at CUNY Graduate Center; The Book Club, Greenwich CT; Jonathan Edwards

- College, Yale; James Merrill House, Stonington; Hammer Museum, UCLA; Collected Works, Santa Fe, NM; keynote lecture, James Merrill Symposium, Washington University in St. Louis; seminars and English Department lecture, University of Georgia; English and Comparative Literature, Brown; Biography Group (NYU)
- “James Merrill’s Voices from the Other World,” U of Chichester, 2010; English Department, Princeton, 2011; Poetry and Mysticism Symposium, Judaic Studies, Yale, 2012
- “Poetry, Biography, James Merrill,” Presentation with Richard Howard, Levy Center for Biography, CUNY, 2010
- “James Merrill: Some of His Voices,” Woodberry Poetry Room, Harvard University, 2010
- “Meeting Ephraim: JM, DJ, and the Ouija Board,” James Merrill House Lecture, Stonington CT, 2008
- “The Soul is not a Soul: John Ashbery and Louise Glück,” Keynote Lecture, Beall Poetry Festival, Baylor College, 2008
- “Lost at Sea: Jasper Johns with Hart Crane,” lecture for the exhibition “Jasper Johns: Gray,” Art Institute of Chicago, 2007; English Department, University of Rochester, 2008
- “Plath’s German,” Sylvia Plath 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Oxford University, 2007; Cross-cultural Poetics Group, Yale, and Smith College, 2008; Freie Universität, Berlin, 2012
- “Recognizing Hart Crane,” Keynote Lecture, Horace Bissell Symposium, Hiram College, 2007; additional talks about Crane at Chapters Bookstore, Washington DC; New School, New York; Poetry Society of America, CUNY Graduate Center, 2006-7
- “Auden and ‘The Prick,’” Modernist Studies Association, Chicago, 2005
- “James Merrill: The Biographical Container,” Literary Biography conference at Beinecke Library, Yale, 2005; Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, 2006
- “James Merrill in Stonington: The Winter of ‘The Summer People,’” First Annual James Merrill Lecture, Stonington Town Library, Stonington, Connecticut, 2005
- “Life into Art: James Merrill’s ‘16.ix.65,’” James Merrill: A Celebration, Yale, 2005
- “James Merrill at Amherst,” Amherst College, 2004
- “Masks of the Poet: James Merrill and Kimon Friar,” Ninth Annual Kimon Friar Lecture in Neo-Hellenic Arts and Letters, American College of Greece, Athens; lecture, Hellenic Studies Program, Yale, 2003
- “The Teaching of Modern Literature: Lionel Trilling and Two Students,” Modernist Studies Association, Houston 2001; Vanderbilt, 2003
- “Crane’s Letters,” Hart Crane Centennial Celebration, 92<sup>nd</sup> St YMHA, New York City, 1999
- “Modern Letters and the Making of the Author’s Life,” Modernist Studies Association, Penn State, 1999
- “Stieglitz, Crane, and Abstract Form,” Yale U Art Gallery, 1999
- “The American Poetry of Geoffrey Hill and Thom Gunn,” U of London, 1998
- “The Tone of Contemporary Poetry,” Wellesley College, 1998
- “Plath’s Lives,” Yale, 2001; U of Chicago, 1999; Johns Hopkins, 1995; Faculty Seminar in Psychoanalysis and the Humanities, NYU, 1995
- “On Sylvia Plath” and “On Elizabeth Bishop,” Hilén Lectures in American Literature and Culture, U of Washington, 1995
- “Writing Lives: Postwar American Poetry,” English Department, Emory, 1995
- “Ashbery’s Formalism,” MLA Convention, San Diego, 1994
- “Thylias Moss’s Postmodernism,” The Poetry Center, Paterson, New Jersey, 1994
- “How Will Culture Cure You? Disease and Desire in Elegies for David Kalstone,” MLA

- Convention, Toronto, 1993  
 “Mrs. Gaskell and the Martyrdom of Charlotte Bronte,” MLA Convention, San Francisco, 1991  
 “Books, Lives, and Merchandise: The Literary Author in the Marketplace,” USC, 1990  
 “Feminism and ‘The New Formalism,’” MLA Convention, New Orleans, 1988  
 “Allen Tate's Two Eliots, 1922 and 1926,” T. S. Eliot Centenary, U of New Hampshire, 1988  
 “An Unfinished Face: Flannery O'Connor and *A Memoir of Mary Ann*,” Northwestern, 1987

## Poems

- “The Divining” and “A Troika for Rachmaninoff,” *Shenandoah* 38 (1986) 4: 43-44  
 “Detail from ‘The Assassination of Khosrow Parviz,’” *Ploughshares* 7 (1981) 3: 95-96  
 “Chenega Island,” *Yale Review* 70 (1981) 3: 409-10

## PRIZES, FELLOWSHIPS, and GRANTS

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- Winner, Lambda Literary Award for Gay Memoir/Biography, 2016  
 Finalist, Poetry Foundation Pegasus Prize for Poetry Criticism, 2015  
 Fellow, Leon Levy Biography Center, CUNY Graduate Center, 2012-13  
 Graduate Student Mentor Award in the Humanities, Yale University, 2011  
 Resident Fellow, Liguria Study Center, Bogliasco Foundation, Italy, 2009  
 Resident Fellow, James Merrill House, Stonington, CT, 2008  
 Robert Rosenkranz and Alexandra Munroe Foundation, 2005  
 Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, 2003-04  
 Research Fellowship, Larry Kramer Initiative for Gay and Lesbian Studies at Yale, 2003  
 Research Fellowship, Niarchos Foundation, Hellenic Studies Program, Yale, 2002, 2003  
 Research Fellowship, Olin Library, Washington U, St Louis, 2002  
 Griswold Faculty Research Fellowship, Yale, 2001  
 Moore Fund and Beinecke Library grants for teaching, Yale, 2002-4  
 Whitney Humanities Center Research Fellow, Yale, 1994-95  
 Griswold Faculty Fellowship, Yale, 1994  
 Smart Family Fund (funding for poetry series at Yale), 1994  
 Morse Junior Faculty Fellowship, Yale, 1991-92  
 Frederick W. Hilles Fund, Yale, 1990  
 Whiting Dissertation Fellowship, Yale, 1984-85  
 Tinker Prize for the Outstanding English Major, Yale, 1980  
 Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, 1978

## EDITORIAL WORK AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

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Chair, External Review Committee of Creative and Academic Writing, Wesleyan University, 2016  
 Advisory Council, Library of America, since 2015  
 Advisory Board, Claude Fredericks Foundation (Pawlet, VT), since 2010  
 Advisory Board, James Merrill House (Stonington, CT), since 2009  
 Editorial Board, *Yale Review*, since 2007  
 Poetry Editor, *American Scholar*, since 2004  
 Judge, George G. Nathan Prize in Drama Criticism, 2005-7, 2011, 2014-17  
 Judge, with Gary Snyder and Caroline Kizer, Bollingen Prize in Poetry (Robert Creeley selected) 1999; with Ellen Bryant Voigt and Nicholas Jenkins (Frank Bidart selected) 2007  
 Advisory Editor, *English Literary History (ELH)*, since 1998  
 Book manuscript referee: Princeton UP, Harvard UP, Blackwell, Wesleyan UP, U of Virginia P, Cambridge UP, Fairleigh Dickinson UP, Cornell UP, Stanford UP, Oxford UP, Johns Hopkins UP, Yale UP, Ohio State UP  
 Article referee: *Modernism/Modernity*, *PMLA*, *American Literary History*, *GLQ*, *MLQ*, *Contemporary Literature*, *ELH*, *Yale Journal of Criticism*, *Pacific Coast Philology*, *Arizona Quarterly*, *Religion and Literature*

## TEACHING

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### Yale College classes with average enrollments:

Introduction to Literary Study (freshman seminar): 16  
 Modern Prose (expository writing): 16  
 Major English Poets (freshman/sophomore seminar): 18  
 Writing of Verse (poetry writing workshop): 16  
 Postwar American Poetry (junior seminar): 16  
 Life of the Author from Johnson to Woolf (senior seminar): 16  
 American Literature and the Cold War (senior seminar): 16  
 The World of James Merrill (senior seminar): 16  
 Modern Literature and the Eastern Mediterranean (seminar, co-taught with George Syrimis): 12  
 Contemporary American Literature (lecture): 200  
 Modern Poetry (lecture): 50  
 Poetry Since 1950 (lecture): 40  
 Daily Themes (lecture and writing courses): 90

Lectures for Modern Poetry 2007 were recorded and transcribed for free online access as a pilot course in Yale's [Open Access Video Project](#) and reviewed by Virginia Heffernan in the *New York Times* (September 19, 2008). The international reach of the lectures was discussed by Katharine Mangan in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (April 29, 2012).

Yale-in-London seminars 2017

Knowing People: British Biography, Portraiture, and Psychoanalysis  
 London: The Metropolis and Modern Imagination

Supervisor for 34 senior essays and 5 poetry projects

**Yale University Graduate School classes:**

Lyric Theory

Theory and History of the Lyric, Medieval and Modern (co-taught with Ardis Butterfield)

Postwar American Literature

Modern Poetry

The Life of the Author

Elizabeth Bishop and James Merrill

Poetry and Society After Auden

Contemporary American Poetry

Research Seminar: Twentieth-Century Poetry

The Teaching of English

**Orals examiner** for 2-3 PhD students annually in English, American Studies, Comparative Literature, French, Spanish, and East Asian Studies

**Dissertation supervisor for 30 Yale PhD students:**

Jeannine Johnson, PhD 1998, dissertation revised as *Why Write Poetry? Modern Poets Defending Their Art* (Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2007); current position: Lecturer and Director, Writing Program, Wellesley College

Aidan Wasley, PhD 2000, dissertation revised as *W. H. Auden and American Poetry* (Princeton UP, 2009); current position: Associate Professor, English, U of Georgia

Stephen Burt, PhD 2000, dissertation revised as *Randall Jarrell and His Age* (Columbia UP, 2003, winner of the Robert Penn Warren-Cleanth Brooks Award from the Warren Studies Center); current position: Professor, English, Harvard U

David Rosen, PhD 2000, dissertation revised as *Power, Plain English, and Modern Poetry* (Yale UP 2005, winner of the Warren-Brooks Award); current position: Professor, English, Trinity College (Hartford)

Shaileen Beyer, PhD 2002 (“The Grace of Accuracy: Modern and Postmodern Devotional Poetry”); current position: Librarian, Enoch Pratt Free Library (Baltimore)

Isaac Cates, PhD 2002 (“Nature Poetry after Darwin”); current position: Lecturer, English, U of Vermont

William Burgos, PhD 2002 (“Parody in the Work of John Ashbery”); current position: Director, Writing Across the Curriculum, Long Island U

Charlotte Taylor, PhD 2004 (“Accountability and Forgiveness: Ezra Pound and Robert Lowell”); current position: Law (Washington, D.C.)

Karin Roffman, PhD 2004, dissertation revised as *From the Modernist Annex: American Women Writers in Museums and Libraries* (U of Alabama P, 2010; UAP prize for a book about American literature); current position: Lecturer and Associate Research Scholar, Yale U

Charles Baraw, PhD 2005 (“Hawthorne and the Traveling Eye: Nineteenth-Century Tourism and American Literary Culture”); current position: Associate Professor, English, Southern Connecticut State U

Siobhan Phillips, PhD 2007, dissertation revised as *The Poetics of the Everyday: Creative Repetition in*

- Modern American Verse* (Columbia UP, 2010); current position: Associate Professor, English, Dickinson College
- Rebecca Boggs, PhD 2007 (“The Gem-Like Flame: The Poetics of Intensity in Hopkins, Hart Crane, and H.D.”); current position: Senior Program Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities
- Kamran Javadizadeh, PhD 2008 (“Bedlam and Parnassus: Madness and Postwar American Poetry”); current position: Assistant Professor, English, Villanova University
- Jesse Zuba, PhD 2008, dissertation revised as *The First Book: Twentieth-Century Poetic Careers in America* (Princeton UP, 2015); current position: Assistant Professor, English, Delaware State U
- Susannah Hollister, PhD 2009 (“Poetries of Geography in Postwar America,” Winner of the Yale Graduate School’s Field Prize for a Dissertation in the Humanities); current position: Lecturer, U of Texas San Antonio
- Patrick Redding, PhD 2009 (“Democratic Individualism in Modern Poetry”); current position: Associate Professor, English, Manhattanville College
- Andrew Goldstone, PhD 2009, dissertation revised as *Fictions of Autonomy: Modernism from Wilde to De Man* (Oxford UP, 2013); current position: Associate Professor, English, Rutgers U
- Emily Setina, PhD 2010 (“Finer Optics: Photography and Modern Literature”); current position: Assistant Professor, English, U of Nevada Las Vegas
- Erica Levy McAlpine, PhD 2011, “Lyric Elsewhere: Strategies of Poetic Remove”); current position: Lecturer, St Edmund Hall, Oxford U
- Nathan Suhr-Sytsma, PhD 2012, dissertation revised as *Poetry, Print, and the Making of Postcolonial Literature* (Cambridge UP, 2017); current position: Assistant Professor, English, Emory U
- Andrew Karas, PhD 2013, “Modern Poetry’s Versions”; current position: Associate Director, University Scholars Program, Northeastern U
- Edgar Garcia, PhD 2015, “Deep Land: Modernism, Media, Indigeneity”; current position: Assistant Professor, U of Chicago
- Gabriele Hayden, PhD 2016, “Modernism’s Spanish: Translation, Collaboration, and Exploration”
- Kimberly Andrews, PhD 2016, “The Academic Avant-Garde: Poetry and the University since 1970”; current position: Assistant Professor, Washington College
- David Gorin, PhD in progress, “Lyric Poetry after Lyric Poetry”
- Paul Franz, PhD in progress, “Politics and History in Modern British Poetry”
- Xiao Situ, PhD in Art History in progress, “Emily Dickinson’s Window Culture”
- Brandon Menke, PhD in progress, “Queer Lyricism and Visual Regionalism”
- Lukas Moe, PhD in progress, “American Verse Cultures from 1944 to 1980”
- Chelsie Malyszczek, PhD in progress, “The Right Word: Poetic Diction and the Individual Talent”

### **Additional teaching:**

#### **Sponsor for PhD students visiting Yale University:**

Natasha Silver (U College London, 2016)

**Dissertation reader and PhD examiner** for Brandeis (1995) and Oxford (2010) universities

#### **Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute and National Initiative:**

American Voices: Listening to Fiction, Poetry, and Prose (Local seminar 2007 and National 2008)  
 The Sound of Words: An Introduction to Poetry (Local 2011 and National 2009)  
 Creating Lives: An Introduction to Biography (National 2010)  
 Playing with Poetry: Rules, Tools, and Games (National 2014)

**Breadloaf School of English in Santa Fe, New Mexico:**

American Modernism (2016, 2018)  
 The Life of the Author (2016)

**YALE UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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Chair, Committee on the Future of *The Yale Review*, 2017-18  
 Windham Prize Steering Committee, Beinecke Library, 2010-16  
 Dean's Task Force on Sexual Harassment, 2010  
 University Budget Committee, 2005-07  
 Beinecke Library Advisory Committee, 2005-11, 2014-16  
 Yale Center for British Art Advisory Committee, 2005-08, 2011-16  
 Term Appointments Committee, 2004-05  
 Executive Committee substitute chair and fact finder, 2011-12, 2014  
 Chair, Executive Committee, Yale College, 2002-03  
 Fact-finder, Executive Committee, Yale College, 2001-02  
 Graduate Vice-President, New Haven Chapter of PBK, 2001-06  
 Clapp Prize, Poetry Fellowship, Yale College, annually since 1992  
 Sudler Prize Committee, Yale College, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2006  
 Selection committee, Graduate Prize Teaching Fellowship, 1999  
 Cameron Committee on Student Governance, Graduate School, 1996 (committee authored the constitution for the Graduate Student Assembly)  
 Selection committee for Rosenkranz Writer-in-Residence, Yale College (Robert Stone appointed in 1993 and Louise Glück in 2004)

Service in the English Department:

Department Chair, 2005-fall 2008, 2014-17, 2017-19  
 Acting Department Chair, fall 2011, fall 2013  
 Chair, Department Creative Writing Review, 2011  
 Chair, Department Self-Study and External Review, 2006-07  
 Senior Appointments, 2004-05  
 Graduate Studies, 2004-05, 2011, 2014  
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, 1995-2000  
 Associate DUS, 1990-94  
 Junior Appointments, 1993, 1995-96, 1998-99, 2005-08, -11, -13-17  
 Chair, Senior Writer Search Committee, 2002-04  
 American Literature Search Committee, 2002-03  
 Chair, Department Self-Review, 2001  
 Chair, writing committee, English, 1999-2000, 2001 (designed and implemented the Writing

Concentration in the English Major)  
Chair, readings committee, English, 1996-2001  
Coordinator, Schlesinger Visiting Writer, English, 1999-2002  
English Department prizes committee, 1988-2000