

## Two Major Awards for Cristanne Miller

*Adapted from UBNOW (February 1 and April 28, 2018)*

Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Edward H. Butler Professor of English at UB, received two major awards last year – one from the major professional organization for the study of modern languages and the one from the President of UB.

In February, Miller received the Modern Language Association's biennial Prize for a Scholarly Edition for her book *Emily Dickinson's Poems: As She Preserved Them* (Belknap Press).



"Miller demonstrates how engaging with the materiality of the poems leads to new knowledge about the poet and her work," according to the MLA's three-member selection committee, which called the work a masterpiece of layout, design and content. "This outstanding edition helps make clear the complexity of Dickinson's habits and how they have affected our understanding of her poetry."

The MLA has awarded its recognition for outstanding scholarly editions every other year, beginning in 1995.

"Increasingly, I have felt that the most useful thing I can do for the profession, and for my own particular fields in the profession, is to produce eminently readable, clear, critical editions," says Miller. "Editing Dickinson's poems is a particularly contentious area within the world of textual editions. It is therefore extremely gratifying to have my edition of Dickinson's poems considered a 'masterpiece of scholarly production.'"

Miller's edition of Dickinson's verse is the only extant volume of the poet's work to distinguish between those poems she carefully preserved and her other work while presenting the poems in the order Dickinson arranged them. It's also the first annotated reading

*(continued on page 2)*

## Wooster Group brings "The B-Side" to UB

By **BERT GAMBINI**

*Adapted from UBNOW, Feb. 1, 2018*

The Wooster Group, an innovative company of theater and media artists, presented four free performances of the critically acclaimed "The B-Side: 'Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons'" as part of its residency in UB's Creative Arts Initiative (CAI).

Chosen by Ben Brantley of The New York Times as one of the best shows of 2017, "The B-Side" is based on performer Eric Berryman's interest in the album "Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons," recorded in 1964 by the English department's own Bruce Jackson.

The album features work songs, blues and spirituals performed by a group of inmates in Texas' racially segregated prison farms. Berryman played the album and transmitted the material live by channeling, via an in-ear receiver, the voices of the men on the record. Accompanying him were Jasper McGruder and Philip Moore. Berryman also provided context from Jackson's book "Wake Up Dead Man: Hard Labor and Southern Blues."

Performances took place from February 8-11, in the Black Box Theater in UB's Center for the Arts.

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Members of the Wooster Group - from left Philip Moore, Eric Berryman and Jasper McGruder - perform "The B-Side: 'Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons' A Record Album Interpretation."

Photo: Bruce Jackson

### IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Chair.....	2
Faculty News.....	3, 4
Department News .....	4
Program Notes.....	5
Spotlight.....	5
Undergrad News .....	6

Graduation Ceremony 2018.....	7
Graduate Student News .....	8
Emeriti News .....	8
Alumni/ae News .....	9-11
In Memoriam .....	11
Upcoming Events .....	12



## Message from the Chair...



Dear Alumni, Parents, Students, and Friends of the UB English Department,

Welcome to an exciting new year in the UB English Department. I would like to call your attention to just a few of the exciting features you'll find in this year's newsletter:

- Introductions to our new hires: Eric Pritchard, associate professor specializing in race, sexuality, and the politics of literacy; and Kristen Moore, associate professor in English and

Engineering, working on access issues in technical writing. We are delighted to welcome them to our faculty.

- An article on Professor Cristanne Miller's two major awards: from the Modern Language Association for her scholarly edition, *Emily Dickinson's Poems: As She Preserved Them* (Harvard University Press's Belknap Press); and the UB President's Medal of Honor in recognition of Professor Miller's extraordinary service to

the University.

- A piece on faculty member, Bruce Jackson's central role in the Wooster Group's critically acclaimed production of "The B-Side: 'Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons.'" The album Jackson recorded in 1964 served as the inspiration for, and the sole text of, this impressive production.

- Highlights from this year's graduation ceremony. We are so proud of all our graduates. Stay tuned for what they do next!

- Memorials to five of our recently departed colleagues and friends

Also look for: an impressive list of faculty promotions, awards, recognitions, and publications; updates on some of our programs; and news from our alums.

To all the friends who read this newsletter, I want to say: thank you for your ongoing interest in the department. Please keep in touch! We always love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Ablow

## Two Major Awards for Cristanne Miller

(continued from page 1)

edition of the poems and the first to include the alternative words and phrases that Dickinson wrote on many of her pages, including how she maintained multiple drafts of unresolved poems.

"Editing calls on all the archival, scholarly and interpretive skills that I have developed over my years in the profession, and in the particular case of Dickinson studies, it also calls on any talent I have for appealing simultaneously to popular and scholarly audiences that would seem to have different interests or that disagree about appropriate modes of representing the poems," she says.

Two months after receiving this award, it was announced that Miller would be awarded the UB President's Medal in recognition of extraordinary service to the university. This award, first presented in 1990, recognizes "outstanding scholarly or artistic achievements, humanitarian acts, contributions of time or treasure, exemplary leadership or any other major contribution to the development of the University at Buffalo and the quality of life in the UB community." Miller received the award at the 2018 commencement ceremonies in May.

In addition to the edition of Dickinson's poems, Miller has authored or edited 20 books. Her other publications include path-breaking scholarship on Dickinson, on the American Civil War and on the modernist period, with a particular focus on Marianne Moore but ranging to a comparison of the gender, sexual and religious politics in literary communities in New York and Berlin.

She has been awarded fellowships for this work from such national and international organizations as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. In 2013, Miller received the Fulbright/Tocqueville Distinguished Chair Award to teach and study in Paris.

What's next? As of Fall 2018, Miller is directing UB's Digital Humanities Initiative – a pioneering effort to use emerging technologies as for scholarly preservation and also to reinvigorate the value and practice of humanities education.

## Wooster Group brings "The B-Side" to UB

(continued from page 1)

The Wooster Group develops and presents work in New York City at The Performing Garage at 33 Wooster St. Its national and international touring productions have received Bessie and Obie awards for individual productions and for sustained achievement.

With "The B-Side," the Wooster Group returned to an artistic form it has explored throughout its 42-year history: working with record albums as source material for original theater pieces, including, most recently "Early Shaker Spirituals: A Record Album Interpretation" (2014), based on a 1976 album of Shaker songs recorded by the sisters of the Shaker community in Sabbathday Lake, Maine.

Berryman saw "Early Shaker Spirituals" in 2015 and brought the album "Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons" – which had been in his record collection for years – to the group, and together they collaborated on "The B-Side."

"After I saw 'Early Shaker Spirituals,' I was inspired to have the black convict work song tradition of these men honored in the same way," he said.

Reviewing "The B-Side" in The New York Times, Brantley wrote: "Music seldom sounds more exciting than when you're introduced to it through the ears of a passionate fan. That's the experience, heightened to the point of transcendence, that's on offer in the Wooster Group's extraordinary 'The B-Side: 'Negro Folklore from Texas State Prisons.'"

Peter Marks of The Washington Post hailed "The B-Side" as "galvanizing, hypnotizing, ravishing," concluding, "this is an hour of listening for any audience anywhere that wants its spirits lifted even as its conscience is stirred."

In addition to its schedule of free performances, the Wooster Group's residency also included several workshops and public discussions.

# Faculty News...

## PROMOTIONS:



**Carrie Tirado Bramen**, promoted to Professor.

Carrie started her career at UB in 1994 as an Assistant Professor.

The recipient of three teaching awards including the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Carrie teaches courses in nineteenth-century American literature, American 1890s, US Latino/a cultural studies, travel writing and American Pluralism.

She is the author of *American Niceness: A Cultural History* (Harvard UP, Fall 2017), a study of the role niceness has played in configuring a democratic personality that is free from Old World snobbery.

She is currently working on a book about the semiotics of the nineteenth-century sky.

Carrie is the current Director of the UB Gender Institute.



**David Alff**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure

David came to UB as an Assistant Professor in 2012 after earning his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.

His first book, *The Wreckage of Intentions: Projects in British Culture, 1660-1730* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017) investigates the origins of projects, concrete yet incomplete efforts to advance British society in a period defined by revolutions of

finance and agriculture, the rise of experimental science, and the establishment of constitutional monarchy.

David is the new Director of Undergraduate Studies.



**Judith Goldman**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure

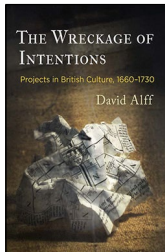
Judith came to UB as an assistant professor in 2012. She earned her PhD from Columbia University.

Her recent book, *agon*, (The Operating System) was published in 2017.

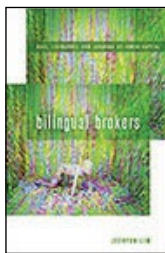
Her interests include contemporary North American and British poetry and poetics, sound studies, ecocriticism and ecopoetics, biopolitics, media studies, 18th-century literature and philosophy (Scottish Enlightenment).

Judith is the new Director of the Poetics Program.

## PUBLICATIONS:



**David Alff, Associate Professor**, published *The Wreckage of Intentions: Projects in British Culture, 1660-1730* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017)



**Jeehyun Lim, Assistant Professor**, published *Bilingual Brokers: Race, Literature, and Language as Human Capital* (Fordham University Press, 2017)

## RECOGNITIONS:

**Rachel Ablow, Professor & Eng. Dept. Chair**, was named Humanities Director for the College of Arts & Sciences for 2018-19.

**Walt Hakala, Associate Professor**, has been appointed the Director of the Asian Studies program

## AWARDS:

**Dave Alff, Associate Professor**, received a OVPRED/Humanities Institute Seed Grant.

**Dimitri Anastasopoulos, Chad Lavin, and Joseph Valente** were awarded fellowships from the UB Humanities Institute for 2018-2019.

**Carrie Bramen, Professor**, was invited to the NEH Summer Institute: History of Women's Suffrage in the Americas.

**Judith Goldman, Associate Professor**, received a OVPRED/Humanities Institute Seed Grant.

**Walt Hakala, Associate Professor**, received the 2017 Exceptional Scholar Award for Young Investigators; was named a 2018/19 Univ. at Buffalo Experiential Learning Network Faculty Fellow, and received a 2018/19 Univ. at Buffalo Baldy Center Research Grant.

**Jody Kleinberg Biehl, Clinical Associate Professor**, received the Milton Plesur Outstanding Faculty Member Award.

**Jeehyun Lim, Assistant Professor**, received a 2018 Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library Short-Term Visiting Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.

**Carine Mardorossian, Professor**, was named a 2018/19 Univ. at Buffalo Experiential Learning Network Faculty Fellow.

**Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor**, won the Modern Language Association Prize for a Scholarly Edition for *Emily Dickinson's Poems: As She Preserved Them*.

**Christina Milletti, Associate Professor**, won the Juniper Prize for Fiction from the University of Massachusetts Press for her forthcoming novel *Choke Box: A Fem-Noir*.





## Welcome...

### **Eric Pritchard, Associate Professor**

- is an award-winning writer and cultural critic. He earned his BA in English-Liberal Arts from Lincoln University, the nation's oldest historically Black college and university. He also earned an MA in Afro-American Studies and a PhD in English from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Pritchard's research and teaching focuses on the intersections of race, queerness, sexuality, gender and class with historical and contemporary literacy, literary, and rhetorical practices, as well as fashion, beauty, and popular culture.



His first book, *Fashioning Lives: Black Queers and the Politics of Literacy* (Southern Illinois University Press, November 2016), won three book awards: the inaugural 2017 Outstanding Book Award from the Conference on Community Writing, the 2018 Advancement of Knowledge Award and the 2018 Lavender Rhetorics Book Award for Excellence in Queer Scholarship, both from the Conference on College Composition and Communication. He is also editor of "Sartorial Politics, Intersectionality, and Queer Worldmaking," a special issue of *QED: A Journal in GLBTQ Worldmaking* (Vol. 4, Issue 3, Michigan State University Press, 2017).

Outside the classroom, he enjoys spending time with his dogs, live music, theater, shopping at vintage stores, art museums, listening to podcasts, and watching pretty much anything that airs on VH1, Bravo or The CW.

### **Kristen Moore, Associate Professor**

- received her PhD in English, Composition and Rhetoric at Purdue University. Before coming to UB, she was an Assistant Professor of Technical Communication and Rhetoric at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX, where she was also the Director of Undergraduate Studies.



Kristen's research explores the intersection of public rhetoric and technical communication with a focus on how user experience (UX) designers can make institutions and public policy more equitable and inclusive. Her research engages critical theories and field methodologies, including institutional critique, intersectionality, and storytelling. Moore is most interested in learning with communities and making meaning from stories yet untold, unheard, or valued.

Moore has received a number of awards for her scholarship and her mentoring. She received two national awards for her co-authored article "Disrupting the Past to Disrupt the Future," which is also the basis for her manuscript in progress, tentatively titled: *Beyond the Social Justice Turn in Technical Communication: Coalition-building for Change*. She also co-founded an award-winning non-profit mentoring organization called Women in Technical Communication.

At UB, Moore directs the Community-based UX lab (the CUE), teaches courses in technical communication, and works on multiple equity and inclusion projects across the university.

Kristen can often be found playing a stringed or key instrument, drawing or sketching ideas, reading non-fiction, conducting in-depth celebrity "research," and porch sitting.

## Goodbye...

**Bob Daly**, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, retired after 44 years with the department. He can still be seen in the hallways of Clemens.

**Nnedi Okorafor**, Professor, who came to UB in 2014, is developing a project for HBO and moved to Chicago to be closer to family.

**Hershini Young**, Professor, who came to UB in 2002, accepted a position at the University at Texas, Austin.

## Department News...

**The Certificate in Professional Writing and Digital Communication** is a flexible program designed to serve students who are interested in pursuing careers in technical, professional, and digital communication and students who see the development of communication skills as advantageous to their professional and educational goals.

Students may enroll independently in the Certificate program. That is, they do not need to be pursuing another graduate degree at the University. However, students can complete the Certificate while enrolled in another degree program. Depending on the degree one chooses to pursue, courses in the Certificate may also contribute to the requirements of that degree.

Visit our website for more information on this exciting new program: <https://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/graduate/certificate-in-professional-writing-and-digital-communication.html>



## Program Notes...

### POETICS PROGRAM

As the incoming director of the Poetics Program, I want to thank Myung Mi Kim for her term as director and for her guidance and collegiality. The Program's focus in 2018-2019 is loosely on the theme of "labor," and I am excited to announce our events for the fall, with a slate of visitors that includes Catherine Wagner, Luke McMullan, Jill Magi, and Hugo García Manríquez. Special highlights: In September, in addition to reading her poetry at Rust Belt Books, Catherine Wagner, Professor of English at Miami University and co-founder and president of that university's AAUP chapter, will teach a workshop-seminar at UB entitled, "On Unsettlement: On Creative Labor and Collective Work," which will take up settler colonialism, racial capitalism, and alternative futures of "unsettlement," in part through discussion about making creative work on these issues. In October, Jill Magi, a poet, book artist, and textile artist on the faculty at NYU, Abu Dhabi, will give a public talk, "The Political of the Textile: On the Intelligence of Craft and Textile Models for an Impossible Citizen," followed by a reading, at the site of Just Buffalo Literary Center; later in the week at UB, she will teach a workshop-seminar, "Taking Imbalance Seriously: The Leap and the Fall as Recognition Moment," which will work through the productivity of "falling," as glitch and minor failure, for creative work. The semester will finish with a celebration of new publications by Poetics community members in November at the Western New York Book Arts Center. Looking towards Spring, we're planning a student-organized and -led symposium on "Race, Indigeneity, and Ecopoetics" ...*stay tuned!* I look forward very much to seeing colleagues, friends of the English Department, students present and past, and fellow travelers in poetry at the Poetics Program events throughout 2018-19.

- Judith Goldman

Director, Poetics Program

<http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/graduate/poetics.html>

### CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF PSYCHOANALYSIS AND CULTURE

#### Upcoming Events

**Tues., Oct. 16 - 5:00PM** - MARI RUTI - *Psychoanalysis & Culture Lecture* - 120 Clemens

**Wed., Oct. 17 - 10:30AM** - MARI RUTI - *Psychoanalysis & Culture Seminar* - 1032 Clemens

**Fri., Nov. 2 - 12:30PM** - PIETRO BIANCHI - *Psychoanalysis & Culture Seminar* - 1032 Clemens

**Mon., Nov. 5 - 4:30PM** - PIETRO BIANCHI - *Psychoanalysis & Culture Seminar* - 1032 Clemens

<http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/graduate/psychoanalysis.html>

## Spotlight on: Environmental Humanities

by **Randy Schiff**

The Environmental Humanities Research Workshop provides an institutional meeting space for those committed to exploring the new terrain opened by the ecological turn in the humanities. Co-organized since 2011 by Carine Mardorossian and Randy Schiff, the Environmental Humanities workshop is a dynamic, interdisciplinary organization that consists of faculty, students, and staff who come together from all across the University at Buffalo campus. The workshop (including under its former name, the Ecocritical Studies Research Workshop) has regularly invited prominent speakers doing work on the cutting edge of the environmental humanities to give lectures for our group. Past speakers come from a range of disciplines, and include such luminaries as Timothy Morton, Stacy Alaimo, Carolyn Dinshaw, Ted Steinberg, and Una Chaudhuri. The Environmental Humanities Research Workshop

has also zealously collaborated with other organizations, building alliances with collegial groups such as the Gender Institute, Media Study, the Queer Theory Workshop, and the Early Modern Reading Group by co-sponsoring visits by speakers such as Shelley Streeby, Vin Nardizzi, and Kathleen Biddick. To foster new work and generate interdisciplinary conversations, the Environmental Humanities Research Workshop has organized several talks and colloquia featuring graduate-student works-in-progress. Our workshop also features the Ecocritical Theory Reading Group, which has been meeting regularly since 2011 to discuss books that are vital to engaging fully with the environmental humanities. Continuing to grow our group as new members join us, the Environmental Humanities Research Workshop is currently developing plans to increase our presence on social-media networks and to generate new ideas about incorporating activism and pedagogy into our group's activities and mission.



# Undergraduate Student News...

## 2018 Writing Award Winners

**Kayleigh Reed:** Winner of the *CAS Outstanding Senior Award for English*.

**Ethan Wolfson-Seeley:** Winner of the *George Knight Houpt Prize* for excellence and proficiency in the work of the English Department.

**Shaun Nowicki:** Winner of the *English Department Essay Prize*.

**Virginia Freeman:** Winner of the *Scribblers Prize* for the best piece of creative writing by an undergraduate woman.  
*Honorable Mentions:* **Laura Bristol, Caitlin Conlon, Victoria Rucinski**

**Caitlin Conlon and Grey Grohman:** Winners of the *Axlerod Memorial Award* for poetry.  
*Honorable Mention:* **Andy Canizares, Gary Sheedy**

**Amanda McLaughlin:** Winner of the *Joyce Carol Oates Prize for Fiction*.

**Anthony Defeo, Virginia Freeman, and Ariana Nash:** Winners of the *Albert Cook, The Mac Hammond,* and the *John Logan Prize* in poetry, fiction, or drama.  
*Honorable Mention:* **Harrison Cheung, Grey Grohman**

### Phi Beta Kappa (ΦBK) inductees:

Shaun Nowicki	Kayleigh Reed
Victoria Rucinski	Hannah Santanam

### Sigma Tau Delta (ΣΤΔ) inductees:

Davila Tarakinikini	Asma Bahadar
Alexis Meyers	

## 2018 University Libraries Winners

**Ariana Nadia Nash:** Winner of the *Academy of American Poets Prize*.

**Caitlin Conlon:** Winner of the *Friends of the University Libraries Prize*.

**Kathleen Naughton:** Winner of *The Dan Liberthson Poetry Prize*.

## JOURNALISM AWARDS

Five *Spectrum* students won national journalism awards for the 2017-2018 year. This includes a first place Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Mark of Excellence Award for **Michael Akelson** for his breaking news story, “Blindsided.” **Madelinn Fowler**, an English major, and **Tori Roseman**, a political science major, won an SPJ honorable mention Mark of Excellence Award for editorial writing. Fowler was also a finalist for column writing.

**Pierce Strudler**, a graphic design student, won a third place Pinnacle design award from College Media Association. **Kirsten Dean**, a biology major, is a Pinnacle finalist for best feature story. The winners will be announced at the end of October.

**Hannah Stein** and **Brenton Blanchet** received this year’s Rosalind Jarrett Sepulveda Journalism Education awards totaling \$2,000. The awards include a trip to New York City, registration to College Media Association’s spring student media conference and two nights at the conference hotel in Manhattan. The students attended with eight other *Spectrum* students. While there, the students met with UB alumni, including Sam Fernando, a CNN news writer, who took them on a tour of the studio and introduced them to CNN anchorman Chris Cuomo. Fernando inaugurated a new, annual award which pays the \$100 conference registration fee for one student. The first student was **Sarah Crowley**, *Spectrum* senior news editor and an English and political science major.

**NAME** magazine—the English department’s undergraduate literary magazine—is published annually in the spring. Each year, the staff selects an issue that is especially significant to students and then writes a statement at the outset of the magazine. For the 2018 issue, the editorial staff designed an issue around the gun control movement. Called the #ME NEXT issue, **NAME**’s cover features design work by Art Editor Moshe Douglas (Art Major), and a powerful statement by Fiction Editor Dan McKeon (English major with a Creative Writing Certificate). “We will not always be the youth of this country. Soon we will be its leaders,” he reflects. His words lead off a range of poetry, fiction, and artwork by undergraduates across the university.



photos by Christina Milletti





## Graduation Ceremony May 2018...



*photos by Gabrielle Marek*



## Graduate Student News...

### Tenure-Track Placements

**Kyungjin Bae**, Changwon National University (assistant professor)

**Leah Benedict**, Kennesaw State University (assistant professor)

**Sungho Lee**, Korea National University of Education (assistant professor)

**Travis Matteson**, Alfred State University (assistant professor)

**Melissa Schindler**, University of North Georgia (assistant professor)

**Yoonha Shin**, County College of Morris (assistant professor)

### Full-Time, Non Tenure-Track

**Matt Rigilano**, Penn State University – Abington (teaching professor)

**Jung Eun Seo**, Yonsei University (postdoctoral fellow)

**Andi Coulter**, Visiting Assistant Professor (Michigan State University, Grand Rapids)

**Patrick McDonald**, Full-time Instructor (Auburn University)

### Alt-Ac

**Alison Fraser**, Assistant Curator of the Poetry Collection (University at Buffalo)

**Dan McKeon**, Associate Editor at General Code in Rochester.

### Opler-Doubrava Fifth-Year Fellowships

**Allison Cardon**, “Without Property: Injury, Rights, and Injustice in Eighteenth-Century Literature”

**Matt Connolly**, “Heroes of the Professional Managerial Class: Pop, Race, and the Paraliterary”

**Hannah Fogarty**, “Tactile Values: Touch in Victorian Literature and Psychology”

**Claire Nashar**, “Bad Translator: Experimental Translation in New North American Poetry”

### CAS Dissertation Fellowship

**Laura Hensch**, “Expanding the Registers of Silence and Voice: The Multi-Sensory Effects of Experimental Punctuation and Typography in the British Modernist Novel”

### Humanities Institute Public Humanities Fellow

**Declan Gould**, “Healthcare Coverage for All: Recovering Stories of Illness, Physical, and Mental Disability to Build Grass-roots Advocacy and Community”

## riverrun Awards

Congratulations to the 2018 riverrun Fellowship Award winners. Each award winner will be able to visit an archive, and will make a public presentation of their research in the Fall.

**Woody Brown**, will be visiting the Special Collections at Amherst College.

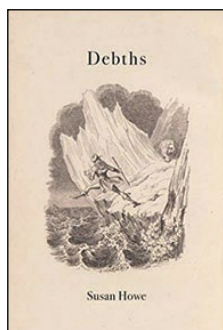
**Declan Gould**, will be visiting the Special Collections at UC-San Diego.

**Claire Nashar**, will be visiting the Special Collections at the University of Connecticut.

**Seol Ha**, will be visiting the National Archives in Washington, DC.

## Emeriti News...

Former UB English faculty member **Susan Howe**’s new book *Debths* (New Directions, 2017) is featured in the *New York Review of Books* (Sep 28, 2017):



Langdon Hammer writes: “Arriving in her eightieth year, the book pushes forward with fresh experiments in poetic form, while looking back on the whole of her life and career. Concerned with first and last things, with childhood and old age, it is a summing up of what is essential and abiding; and it is also just the opposite, a book of dispersals and vanishings that gives the last word to the illegible and incomplete.... Howe has combined the activities of reading and collage-making to create a highly original mode of writing that raises questions about what poetry is and how it works on a level even more fundamental than her spirited play with the genres of poem and essay.”





## Alumni/ae News...

**Mindy Aloff** (MA, 1972) Edited *Dance in America: A Reader's Anthology*, a collection of writing about American dance over several centuries, edited by will be published this fall by The Library of America.

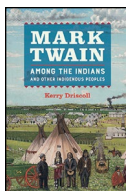
**Marleen S. Barr** (PhD, 1980) She is the author of *When Trump Changed: The Feminist Science Fiction Justice League Quashes the Orange Outrage Pussy Grabber*, the first single authored Trump short story anthology (B Cubed Press, 2018).

**John W. Bateman** (MA, 2016) Recently signed a publishing contract on his novel *Who Killed Buster Sparkle?* with Unsolicited Press, a small indie press out of the northwest. Anticipated release Spring 2019. In addition, his short screenplay *Not Everything Was Burning* is the runner-up for the Short Screenplay Competition in the 2018 Oxford Film Festival (public table reading to take place at the festival).

**Anselm Berrigan** (BA, 1994) Author of a new book of poems, *Something for Everybody*, from Wave Books, August 2018. Editor of *What Is Poetry? (Just Kidding, I Know You Know): Interviews from the Poetry Project Newsletter 1983-2009* (Wave, 2017). Recipient of Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists Award (2017). Performed and taught and otherwise lived at the Kistrech International Poetry Festival in Kenya, October, 2017.

**Alec Brownie** (BA Anthropology with Philosophy Minor, 2009; MA English, 2012; Certificate in Innovative Writing, 2017) He continues to work as a professional freelance editor and proofreader for documents of all kinds, including prose fiction, biographies and autobiographies, grant proposals, dissertations, scientific research and conference papers. If you are interested in his services, his email address is brownie2@buffalo.edu, and he is now on the Center for Writing Excellence's list of recommended editors. While he's enjoyed working freelance, he is still in the market for a more permanent position or long-term job. His recent editing work includes local priest Venatius Agbasiere's twin books *Suffering* and *Social Media*, which were published earlier this year and can be found in Barnes & Noble. He has a project coming up with a local businesswoman in which she will collect people's experiences as first-time parents and he will turn them into humorous stories, to be distributed in hospitals. He has read an excerpt from his short story "The Mirror in the Maze" before a live audience for the first time at Caffèology as part of an event hosted by Green Buffalo Productions to network with Buffalonian publishers. His other stories include "Pieces of Paper", "The Explorer's Almanac" and "5:00 PM - Blast Off!", and his autobiographical article "Life and Thoughts of an Aspie" that was published in the Winter 2015 issue of At Buffalo [www.buffalo.edu/atbuffalo.html](http://www.buffalo.edu/atbuffalo.html).

**Joanne Farrell Coggins** (BA, 1981) Retired. Moving back to Buffalo, NY in 2018



**Kerry Driscoll** (MA, 1983; PhD, 1984) The University of California Press has just published her new book, *Mark Twain among the Indians and Other Indigenous Peoples*. Her email address is [kdriscoll@usj.edu](mailto:kdriscoll@usj.edu).

**Karen L. Eichler** (BA, 1994; MA, 1997) is a member of the two-person improvisational comedy group Defiant Monkey Improv. Karen and her husband, Andrew, perform shows and teach workshops for both adults and children. They are Teaching Artists with Young Audiences of Western New York and also design and implement customized professional development. Karen and Andy have published their first book, *The Five Elements of Improv: How to Take Your Improv to the Next Level*, available on Amazon. Defiant Monkey Improv performs a full-length improv comedy show and runs an open "Improv Jam" once a month at the Kenan Center's Taylor Theater in Lockport, NY. Karen uses her degrees from UB to teach public speaking at Niagara University and teach writing at Empire State College, which keeps them alive while they pursue their dream of performing full time. If you see the "2 Person 1 Man Band", "Space Girl and Rinaldo the Robot", or "Hertie Gertie's Monkey Mayhem Show starring Lola, the Lowland Gorilla" performing on the street, tip them generously. One of them was an English major at UB.

**Mark J. Estren** (PhD, 1978) Recently completed his seventh book, about spiritual experiences associated with or mediated by cannabis use: *One Toke to God*. His most previous books have been on health subjects, taking off from his psychoanalytic studies begun at UB but moving much more intensely into clinical and self-help fields. His primary work is now focused in three areas: 1) Writing in lay language, for general-interest publications, about many of the latest developments in medical research, including but not limited to geriatric psychological issues, which have become something of a personal specialty and focus. This includes interviewing leading researchers worldwide as well as digesting and interpreting their peer-reviewed journal publications. 2) Continuing to produce columns about investments -- currently 24/year for the "Bottom Line Personal" print newsletter and 52/year (one per week) for online distribution. 3) Writing reviews of books (primarily children's books) and music (primarily classical) for the website [www.infodad.com](http://www.infodad.com), with new material uploaded every Thursday morning.

**Erwin Ford** (PhD, 1988) In 2015-6 The Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of South Carolina established *The Erwin H Ford II Collection of George V Higgins*. <http://library.sc.edu/file/3929>. *The Erwin Ford Collection of George V. Higgins* contains a collection of typescripts, books, articles, reviews, recordings of interviews with national figures that knew Higgins, and correspondence from Higgins over 20 years, providing national and international scholars, faculty, and students an



## Alumni/ae News (continued)...

opportunity to discover a wealth of materials that capture Higgins' singular impact on the development of the American literary canon. His 2014 Biography of George V. Higgins was a Pulitzer Nominee. He recently retired from Albany State University in Georgia.

**Graham Foust** (PhD, 2002) His latest book of poems is *Night-ingalelessness* (Flood Editions 2018). He is returning to full-time teaching after four years as Director of Undergraduate Studies in English and Literary Arts at the University of Denver.

**Ram Gundu** (BA, 2016) Currently he is pursuing his Masters (MS) in Management Science at the Imperial College London. He is due to graduate in August. Immediately upon graduation he will commence his second masters degree at the University of Minnesota. He has been awarded a fellowship at their Human Resources, Industrial and Labor Relations department within the Carlson School of Management. He is eager to start the next leg of his academic journey. He truly believes he could not have gained entry into such institutions of repute with fellowships without the continued support of the professors who have taught him within the English department, especially Dr. Schiff. Other professors such as: Dr. McCaffery, Dr. Daly, Dr. Kim and Joe Hall have left perennial impressions on his attitudes and nodes of abstractions that continue to shape, inspire and guide his thought processes even as he undertakes a seemingly disparate discipline such as organizational science. He is exceedingly grateful to have taken classes under such seasoned preceptors. He hopes this message reaches their eye and relays to them the depth of impact they have left in him. He will always bear their teachings at heart. Email for correspondence: sgundu@buffalo.edu

**Daniel J. Kaczmarek** (MA, 2005) After several years teaching writing and literature across WNY, Daniel has recently returned to the University at Buffalo where he currently serves as the Director of Assessment and Evaluation for the division of Student Life.

**William J. Kullback** (BA, 1982 - English) (MBA, 1984 - Accounting) Chief Financial Officer, BioLegend, Inc. San Diego, CA. Loyal UB supporter and Bulls fan! Married 28 years, three grown children. Avid distance runner w/ 54 marathons completed to-date.

**James Maynard** (PhD, 2007) had his book, *Robert Duncan and the Pragmatist Sublime* published last spring in the University of New Mexico Press series *Recencies: Research and Recovery in Twentieth-Century American Poetry*. Other work has recently appeared in *Poetics and Precarity* (SUNY Press, 2018); *The Collages of Helen Adam* (Further Other Book Works/Cuneiform Press, 2017); *Jonathan Williams: The Lord of Orchards* (Prospecta Books, 2017); *Theodore Enslin: A Checklist* (Alexander Rare Books, 2017); and *Appalachian Journal* (Black Mountain College issue, 2017/2018).

**John McGowan** (PhD, 1978) He is a Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is one of the editors of the *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*, with the new 3rd edition published in June 2018. His 2002

book, *Democracy's Children: Intellectuals and the Rise of Cultural Politics* has recently been made available for free as an e-book from Cornell University Press, and has also been brought back into print as a paperback. In 2017-2018, he was a fellow at the National Humanities Center along with Buffalo English department alum Stephanie Foote. [jpm@email.unc.edu](mailto:jpm@email.unc.edu)

**Jim Morrison** (PhD, 1988) **Mary Cappello**, and **Jean Walton**, all Buffalo English Ph.D's ('88), have coauthored *Buffalo Trace: A Threefold Vibration*, forthcoming from Spuyten Duyvil Press in September 2018. This is a triptych of hybrid essay/memoir pieces, each of novella length, all set in the Buffalo English department in the 1980s. It's also blurbed by other UB English alums, Charles Baxter (PhD, '74) and Elizabeth Willis (PhD, '91), as well as other notable writers, Christopher Bram, Phillip Lopate, and Lucy Jane Bledsoe. <http://www.spuytenduyvil.net/buffalo-trace.html>

**Elizabeth A. Petrino** (BA, 1984) was promoted last year to Professor of English. Currently, she serves as an Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Fairfield University. Her most recent book, *Lydia Sigourney: Critical Essays and Cultural Views* (U Mass Press, 2018), co-edited with Dr. Mary Louise Kete, University of Vermont, appeared this spring. The volume is the first collection of original essays devoted to the poet's work, which examine both her literary texts and her influence on the cultural movements of her day.

**Matt Pieknik** (MA, 2011) In May 2018, Matt received his Master of Social Work (MSW) from New York University, and in June he will commence practicing privately in Manhattan. He provides psychotherapy and psychoanalysis to adults across the lifespan, as well to couples, and focuses on issues related to gender, sexuality, love and relationships, trauma recovery, addiction, and aging. He is also pursuing post-graduate training in Lacanian psychoanalysis. He lives in Hell's Kitchen with his partner, Jeanpier, and their schnauzer, Lilly.

**Alessandro Porco** (PhD, 2011) He was promoted to Associate Professor of English at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, where he teaches courses on modern and contemporary poetry as well as hip-hop music and culture. He recently edited the critical edition of Jerrold Levy and Richard Negro's *Poems* by Gerard Legro (2016), a previously unpublished work of prank poetics first written and performed at Black Mountain College in 1949; he compiled and wrote the afterword to Steve Venright's *The Least You Can Do Is Be Magnificent: Selected & New Writings, 1983-2016* (2017); and he is editor of *Deportment: The Poetry of Alice Burdick*, forthcoming from Wilfrid Laurier University Press in fall 2018.

**Marion Quirici** (PhD, 2016) has been appointed co-director of the Health Humanities Lab at Duke University's Franklin Humanities Institute. As director of an interdisciplinary faculty working group called the Disability and Access Initiative, and faculty advisor of a student organization called Duke Disability Alliance, she is building



## Alumni/ae News (continued)...

a disability studies community and working on efforts to make the campus and learning environment more accessible and inclusive. This year, she is organizing a conference on “Disability in the Disciplines” for April 25-26 at Duke. marion.quirici@duke.edu

**Randall Reade** (BA, 1984) After graduation, he obtained a law degree from Case Western Reserve University in 1987 and went to work for the US Department of Labor in Washington, DC. Although he immediately liked the city, he really didn't like his job, and gradually realized he didn't like being an attorney. He quit and started his own company which floundered about, and eventually formed the Washington DC ArchAngels, which is an angel investment company that brings together accredited investors and early stage technology companies. Similar to Shark Tank, only they are not fake, scripted or invest in low end consumer products! He deals with entrepreneurs from all over the world, and travels frequently. To his surprise, many companies that hire people in the tech sector and many entrepreneurs are liberal arts majors, musicians, or artists of all kinds. It turns out that a liberal arts degree is one of the very best ways to develop your mind so that you think outside the box, find creative solutions even in scientific areas, and are able to form companies that grow and scale globally. He has found that even in China, IT companies prefer students with liberal arts degrees. He teaches piano on the side, and so he really shouldn't be surprised, as he sees that musicians often are hired software and IT developers for their hard work ethics, devotion to detail, and yet can think big and at the 20,000 foot level. If ever our world needs more liberal arts majors, it is now, and we need to make the case. Our future economy depends upon it. zltd@earthlink.net

**Jacob Richter** (MA, 2016) Has been accepted into the Clemson University Rhetorics, Communication and Information Design program for the 2018-2019 academic year.

**Matthew J. Rigilano** (PhD 2014) He was a 2017-2018 Ahmanson-Getty Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. He recently published an article with the *Journal of Early Modern Cultural Studies* entitled “Waking the Living-Dead: The Biopolitics of Early Modern Sleep.” He will be teaching English courses at Penn State Abington as a full-time Assistant Teaching Professor in August 2018.

**Massimo Vizzaccaro** (MA, 1988) Has been working extensively as a translator and localizer since 1987; in 2006 he co-translated (with Chiara Midolo) *Are Italians White?* (J. Guglielmo and S. Salerno, eds.); in 2008 he published the Italian edition of *New Keywords – A Revised Vocabulary of Culture and Society*, an updated version of Raymond Williams' 1978 book *Keywords*; in 2018 he co-translated (with Chiara Midolo) Mo Daviau's novel *Every Anxious Wave*. He has been teaching courses in translation from English into Italian and in British/American civilization at UNINT (Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma) for the past 20 years (for further information, please visit the <http://www.unint.eu/en/interpretation-andtranslation/professors/8-pagina/280-massimo-vizzaccaro.html> web page); has been teaching post-graduate courses in American cinema and society at UNINT since 2009; Graduated in Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Rome in 1986, where he obtained also his Italian Ph.D. in American Studies in 1995 defending a thesis on the American poet Louis Zukofsky; Was awarded a Fulbright grant in 1986 and studied at SUNY Buffalo where he received his MA in English in 1988. massimo.vizzaccaro@unint.eu

**Leona Weiss (Sherman)** (PhD, 1975) Happily retired from high school teaching, but doing part-time work for UC Berkeley Admissions and International Baccalaureate. weissleona@gmail.com

## In Memoriam...

The Department is very sad to announce the losses of a number of friends and colleagues over the past year:

- **George Hochfield**, who taught American literature courses at UB for nearly 30 years (from 1963-1992), and took to translating poetry and prose from Italian after retirement, died in Berkeley, California. George was one of the five UB faculty who refused to take the loyalty oath in 1964, and successfully sued to have it declared unconstitutional.
- **Norman Holland** passed away in September at the age of 90. Norman was chair of the English Department in 1966. He left Buffalo to accept a position at the University of Florida in 1983.
- **Rita Lipsitz**, longtime administrative assistant in the department, passed away in February at the age of 93. Characterized as “the one indispensable administrator in the department,” Rita embodied the department's graciousness and hospitality for 25 years.
- **Aaron Rosen**, who taught in our department from 1960 to 1990 while publishing many essays and books of poetry, passed in January at the age of 92.
- **Roy Roussel** came to UB in 1967 as a professor in the English department before switching to Media Study in 1996. Roy passed away in February, after a yearlong battle with cancer. He was 79.

They will all be greatly missed.





## Upcoming Events...

**Thurs., Oct. 4 - 4:00-5:30PM** - JEFFREY MASTEN - *Juxtapositions Lecture* - 120 Clemens

**Fri., Oct. 5 - 8:00PM** - LUKE McMULLAN - *Poetics Plus Reading* - 468 Washington St.

**Wed.-Fri., Oct. 10-12** - RIVERRUN GLOBAL FILM SERIES 2018: MEXICAN CINEMA & CULTURE - 1300 Elmwood Ave. (Burchfield Penney)

**Fri., Oct. 12 - 4:00-6:00PM** - CHAD LAVIN - *Humanities Institute Lecture* - Hallwalls, 341 Delaware Ave.

**Wed., Oct. 17 - 4:00PM** - JODY KLEINBERG BIEHL - *English Dept. Lecture* - 306 Clemens

**Thurs., Oct. 18 - 4:00PM** - KELLIE ROBERTSON - *Environmental Humanities Research Workshop Lecture* - 306 Clemens

**Fri., Oct. 19 - 7:00PM** - MITCHELL JACKSON - *Exhibit X Fiction Series Reading* - 341 Delaware Ave. (Hallwalls)

**Tues., Oct. 23 - 6:30-8:00PM** - JILL MAGI - *Poetics Plus Lecture & Conversation and Reading* - 468 Washington St., 2nd Flr. (Just Buffalo); **Thurs., Oct. 25 - 3:30-6:00PM** - *Poetics Plus Seminar/Workshop* - 538 Clemens

**Fri., Nov. 2 - 4:00-6:00PM** - JOSEPH VALENTE - *Humanities Institute Lecture* - Hallwalls, 341 Delaware Ave.

**Sat., Nov. 3 - 9:00AM-5:00PM** - 2018 RUSTGI UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE ON SOUTH ASIA - *Asian Studies Program Conference* - location TBA

**Thurs., Nov. 8 - 2:00-3:20PM, 4:00-5:30PM, 5:45-6:45PM** - TRACY COX-STANTON - *Global Film & Media Informal Conversation, Juxtapositions Lecture & Global Film & Media Screening* - 112 Center for the Arts

**Fri., Nov. 9 - 8:00PM** - HUGO GARCIA MANRIQUEZ - *Poetics Plus Reading* - 415 Grant St. (Rust Belt Books)

**Tues., Nov. 13 - 7:00PM** - SHELLEY JACKSON - *Exhibit X Fiction Series Reading* - 341 Delaware Ave. (Hallwalls)

**Tues., Nov. 27 - 12:00-1:30PM** - TANYA SHILINA-CONTE - *Humanities Institute Lecture* - 830 Clemens

**Tues., Nov. 27 - 2:00-3:20PM** - KALPANA SUBRAMANIAN - *Global Film & Media Lecture* - 112 Center for the Arts

**Fri., Nov. 30 - 8:00PM** - CELEBRATING POETICS COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS - *Poetics Plus Reading* - 468 Washington St.

### BUFFALO FILM SEMINARS SERIES 37

Fall 2018 - Thursdays at 7:00PM

Dipson Amherst Theatre, 3500 Main Street, Buffalo, NY

**Oct. 9:** Pier Paolo Pasolini, *The Gospel According to Matthew*, 1964

**Oct. 16:** Robert Bresson, *Mouchette*, 1967

**Oct. 23:** Mike Hodges, *Get Carter*, 1971

**Oct. 30:** David Lynch, *The Elephant Man*, 1980

**Nov. 6:** Krzysztof Kieslowski, *Three Colors: Blue*, 1993

**Nov. 13:** Alan Mak and Wai-Keung Lau, *Infernal Affairs*, 2002

**Nov. 20:** Martin Scorsese, *The Departed*, 2006

**Nov. 27:** Tom McCarthy, *Spotlight*, 2015

**Dec. 4:** John Huston, *The Man Who Would Be King*, 1975

Further information at: <http://buffalofilmseminars.com>

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