

Colton Valentine

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APPOINTMENTS

Harvard Society of Fellows Junior Fellow	2024-present
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EDUCATION

Yale University Ph.D. in English Certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Committee: Marta Figlerowicz, Stefanie Markovits, Katie Trumpener, and Ruth Yeazell	2019-2024
University of Oxford M.St. in English (1830-1914) Distinction	2018-2019
École Normale Supérieure - Paris Sorbonne IV - EHESS M1 and M2 in Théorie de la littérature Très bien	2016-2018
Harvard University A.B. in Comparative Literature summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa 24	2012-2016

BOOKS

Between Languages: Queer Multilingualism in the British Belle Époque
Under contract at Princeton University Press.

ARTICLES

"The Belle Époque Queer Fairy Tale." *Representations* 166 (2024): 1-26.

"Illness as Character as Metaphor." *ELH* 91.2 (2024): 441-65.

"Translating Decadent Style." *Victorian Studies* 66.3 (2024): 448-56.

"Vernon Lee, Queer Relations, and a New Guard of Victorianist Multilingualism." *Victorian Studies* 64.1 (2021): 62-87.

- “Domesticating Decadence: Joris-Karl Huysmans, Pierre Louÿs, and Their Invisible English Translators.” *MLQ* 82.4 (2021): 441-72.
- “‘I Sappho’: A Case for Character in the Early Writings of Algernon Swinburne.” *Victorian Poetry* 59.1 (2021): 23-47.
- “H.G. Wells and the *Fin-de-Siècle* Gustatory Paradox.” *Review of English Studies* 71.302 (2020): 937-51.
- “A Temple to Transnational Queerness: The Politics of Commemorating Oscar Wilde.” *European Journal of English Studies*, Issue on “Decentering Commemorations” 24 (2020): 146-61.
- “Not Noticing, Infallibly: The Critical Liaisons of Henry James, French Decadence, and Honoré de Balzac.” *The Henry James Review* 41.2 (2020): 97-115.
Recipient of Leon Edel Prize
- “*La Peau de Weltliteratur*: Balzac’s Window into Goethe’s New Literary Era.” *Journal of World Literature* 5.1 (2020): 111-31.
- “Does James Love his Isabel?: Revisiting Affect in the Author-Character Relation.” *The Henry James Review* 40.3 (2019): 226-33.
- “Conception versus réception: La remise en cause balzacienne d’une homologie transnationale.” *L’Année balzacienne* 20.1 (2019): 271-87.
- “Vers une génétique de la critique: le cas de Georges Poulet.” *Genesis* 46 (2018): 173-81.

SPECIAL ISSUES

- “Free Indirect Style Across Languages,” ed. Eve Houghton and Colton Valentine. *Narrative* (in progress).

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Conservative Translation.” *Conservatism and Literary Studies*, ed. Alex Murray. Cambridge University Press (under contract).
- “Cognitive Eating: George Gissing and the Victorian Brainworker.” *Mind and Embodiment in Late Victorian Literature*, ed. Marion Thain and Atti Viragh (Edinburgh University Press, 2025), 20-39.
- “Charlotte Mew’s Travel Poetics.” *Charlotte Mew: Poetics, Ecologies, Bodies*, ed. Francesca Bratton, Megan Girdwood, and Fraser Riddell (Palgrave Macmillan, 2024), 225-44.

TRANSLATIONS

Vernon Lee's Cosmopolitan Prose: A Translated Selection. MHRA Texts and Translations (forthcoming).

"Free Indirect Style in Modern French," by Charles Bally. *Narrative* (in progress).

"On Vernon Lee's Walter Pater and Translating the Victorians." *Victorian Literature and Culture* 51.2 (2023): 293-305.

ACADEMIC REVIEWS

Review of Linda K. Hughes, *Victorian Women Writers and the Other Germany: Cross-Cultural Freedoms and Female Opportunity*. *Style* 58.1 (2024): 96-100.

Review of Dustin Friedman, *Before Queer Theory: Victorian Aestheticism and the Self*. *Review of English Studies* 71.302 (2020): 1007-9.

PUBLIC CRITICISM

"The Country That Made Its Own Canon." *The New Yorker*, January 2026.

"Oblique Strategies." Review of Justin Torres's *Blackouts*. *Bookforum*, November 2023.

"Aubrey Beardsley's Perverse Recipe for Success." *The New Yorker*, February 2023.

"Against Queer Presentism: How the Book World Neglects the Archive." *The Drift*, October 2022.

"The Madeleine's Metapragmatics: On Michael Lucey's *What Proust Heard: Novels and the Ethnography of Talk*." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, April 2022.

"Geographical Amusement: The Rise of the Cartographic Board Game." *Cabinet Magazine*, August 2020.

"A Bid for History: On Leah Price's *What We Talk About When We Talk About Books*." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, December 2019.

"But Are You Sure?: On Kristen Roupenian's *You Know You Want This*." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, March 2019.

"Toward a Different Solution: Édouard Louis, Émile Zola, and the Literary Accusation." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, August 2018. Co-written with Benjamin Bernard.

CATALOGUE ESSAYS

“Violet Essence and Pork Suet.” *Genius Loci: Notes on Places*, Kunstverein Ludwigshafen (forthcoming).

TEACHING

World Cinema (ENGL S192/FILM S240, Yale) Teaching Fellow for Marta Figlerowicz	Summer 2023
The Victorian Problem Novel (ENGL 201/WGSS 203, Yale) Instructor of Record with Ruth Yeazell	Spring 2023
Decadence and Its Discontents (ENGL 114 31, Yale) Instructor of Record	Fall 2022
James Baldwin’s American Scene (ENGL 192/AFAM 182, Yale) Teaching Fellow for Jacqueline Goldsby	Spring 2022
Queer Modernisms (ENGL 194/WGSS 194, Yale) Teaching Fellow for Juno Richards	Fall 2021

GUEST TEACHING

Sophomore Tutorial (ENGL 97, Harvard) Lesson on <i>Billy Budd</i> , deconstruction, and queer theory for Tara Menon	Spring 2026
Novels and Narrative (ENGL 209, Brandeis) Lesson on <i>Madame Bovary</i> and free indirect style for John Plotz	Spring 2026
Troubling Translation (ENGL 114 04, Yale) Lesson on ekphrasis and translation for Zoë Burgard	Fall 2022
Decadence: The Ethics of Excess (EGMT 1540, UVA) Lesson on <i>Les Fleurs du mal</i> and literary decadence for Ben Bernard	Fall 2022

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS

“An Origin’s Foils: Charles Bally and the German Grammarians.” *ACLA*, February 27-29, 2026.
Organizer for Seminar on Free Indirect Style Across Languages.

“Matthew Arnold’s Neutrality.” *NAVSA*, November 13-16, 2025.

“Translation as Multilingual Collation: The Case of Vernon Lee (1856-1935).” *Rethinking Translation Seminar*, Harvard University, September 26, 2024.

“‘Goblin Market’ as Queer Fairy Tale” and “Michael Field’s *Femmes Damnées*-s.” *MLA*, January 4-7, 2024.

“Translating Decadent Style.” *NAVSA*, November 9-11, 2023.
Organizer for Roundtable on Revisiting Decadent Style.

“Of Genres and Journals: Michael Field and the Frères Goncourt.” *Nineteenth Century Research Seminar*, University of Oxford, October 30, 2023.

“Bibliography Royal: On Queer Reading, Translating, and Editing.” *Queer Atmospheres: Alternative Histories and Phenomenologies of the Long Nineteenth Century*, Johns Hopkins University, September 8-9, 2023.

“Henry James as Multilingual Intermediary.” *ACLA*, March 16-19, 2023.

“Translating Impressibility: Walter Pater’s Octave Feuillet and Vernon Lee’s Walter Pater.” *Aestheticism: Sensations and Ideas*, Università Iuav di Venezia, July 14-16, 2022.

“Vernon Lee and Disgusted Literary History.” *NAVSA*, March 3-5, 2022.

“‘The room in Paris, the room at Geneva’: Charlotte Mew as Travel Writer.” *Charlotte Mew and Friends*, July 9, 2021.

“Affective Travel: Revisiting the Continent in *Little Dorrit*.” *Dickens Society Symposium*, July 12-14, 2021.

“Tobias Smollett’s Affective Aesthetics.” *Tobias Smollett at 300*, Institute for English Studies, May 13-14, 2021.

“George Gissing’s Economies of Eating.” *NeMLA*, March 11-14, 2021.

“Les traductions et auto-traductions françaises de Vernon Lee.” *Décadence, périodiques, traductions*, Université de Bourgogne, October 2, 2020.

“*En Route* to the Victorians.” *Decadence and Translation*, University of Glasgow, December 13, 2019.

“Revisiting Queer Time with Oscar Wilde.” *Aesthetic Time, Decadent Archives*, Goldsmiths, University of London July 18-19, 2019.

“‘It might be London’: Spectral Neighbours in the Novels of E.M. Forster.” *Neighbours of Ours*, Literary London Society, July 11-12, 2019.

“Mapping Literary Cosmopolitanism.” *Connected Past*, University of Oxford, December 6-7, 2018.

“Gastronomie à Rebours: A More Dialectical Decadence.” *Tummy Trouble*, University of London, November 10, 2018.

“Le transnationalisme interne de l’oeuvre d’Algernon Swinburne: une approche génétique.” *ITEM 50th*, École Normale Supérieure, October 17-19, 2018.

“The Transnational Economy of Émile Zola’s *Au Bonheur des Dames*.” *The Landscapes of Industry*, Université de Lille, June 13-16, 2018.

“Conception vs. Reception: Balzac’s Challenge to Transnational Homology.” *Balzac et l’Angleterre*, University of Oxford, April 12-14, 2018.

“Critical Distance in the Works of Erich Auerbach and Georges Poulet.” *Culture and/or Science*, University of Belgrade, June 1-3, 2017.

AS RESPONDENT

Respondent to Robin Dembroff, “Real Men on Top.” Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Colloquium, Yale University, October 17, 2022.

Respondent to Kristin Mahoney, “Queer Kinship After Wilde.” Modern and Contemporary Research Seminar, University of Oxford, May 25, 2022.

Respondent to Grace Lavery, “Some Objections to the Anti-Pornographic Reading of *The Old Curiosity Shop*.” 18th and 19th Century Colloquium, Yale University, November 5, 2021.

Respondent to Ika Willis, “Reception All The Way Down.” University of Oxford, June 20, 2019.

AS CONVENER OR ORGANIZER

Convener of Victorian Literature and Culture Seminar, Harvard University, 2025-2026.

Organizer of Trans/Queer Approaches to Bibliography and Book History, Harvard University, March 11-13, 2025.

Convener of 18th and 19th Century Colloquium, Yale University, 2020-2021.

Graduate Organizer of Yale Program in the History of the Book Lecture Series, Yale University, 2020-2021.

Organizer of Harvard-Yale Graduate Conference in Book History, Yale University, April 30, 2020.

Organizer of Histories of Queer Cosmopolitanism Conference, University of Oxford, May 19, 2019.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Junior Fellowship, Harvard Society of Fellows (2024-2027): for three years of postdoctoral research

Junior Fellowship, Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (2024-2026): to support training, study, and collaboration in critical bibliography

Departmental Dissertation Prize (2024): awarded by Yale English for best dissertation

Departmental Publication Prize (2023 and 2022): awarded by Yale English for best graduate student essay accepted for publication

Yale Translation Initiative Summer Fellowship (2022): for archival research on Vernon Lee's untranslated Italian criticism

FLAS, MacMillan, and European Studies Council Fellowships (2022): for advanced Italian language coursework at the Accademia del Giglio, Florence

Associates in Teaching (2022): awarded by Yale's Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning to co-teach "The Victorian Problem Novel" with Ruth Yeazell

Sawyer Seminar Seed Grant (2021): for research on how data access shapes digital humanities scholarship

Leon Edel Prize (2020): awarded by *The Henry James Review* for best essay on Henry James by an early-career scholar

Rapid Prototyping Grant (2020): for text mining research on Victorian reception of French literature

Ertegun Scholarship (2018): for humanities graduate study at the University of Oxford

DAAD Fellowship (2017): for intensive German language coursework at the Goethe Institut, Berlin

William-Lodge Fellowship (2016): for graduate study in France from Harvard Committee on General Scholarships

Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize (2016): awarded to senior thesis for "outstanding scholarly work or research"

Sophia Freund Prize (2016): given to the highest ranking summa graduate

LANGUAGES

French, Italian, Spanish, German, Swedish, Latin