

Dr Georgina Colby

School of Humanities
University of Westminster, 309 Regent Street, London, W1B 2HW
g.colby@westminster.ac.uk

Academic Appointments

August 2016- present	Reader in Modern and Contemporary Literature, School of Humanities, University of Westminster. Lecturer 2012-2016, Promoted to Senior Lecturer, 2016. Promoted to Reader, August 2021.
Sept 2008 - Aug 2012	Visiting Lecturer in English and Philosophy, Department of English, Royal Holloway, University of London
Sept 2010 - Aug 2012	Visiting Lecturer in Photography, Sotheby's Institute of Art, London

Education and Qualifications

Sept 2003 - March 2007	PhD in American Literature. Department of English, Royal Holloway, University of London. Passed without revisions.
Sept 1999 - Sept 2000	MA English Literature: Modernism and Modern Writers. Royal Holloway, University of London. Distinction
Sept 1995 - Sept 1998	BA (Hons) English Literature, Royal Holloway, University of London. 2:1

Professional Qualifications

2017	Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy
2011	inSTIL programme in Skills of teaching to Inspire Learning (HEA accredited). Royal Holloway, University of London

Research and Teaching Interests

Twentieth- and twenty-first century avant-garde writing
Twentieth- and twenty-first century poetry and poetics
American Literature
Feminisms
Gender Studies
Avant-garde writing and manuscript practice

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Reading Experimental Writing (ed.) (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2020)

The Contemporary Small Press: Making Publishing Visible (co-editor with Leigh Wilson) (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020).

Kathy Acker: Writing the Impossible (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2016)

Journal Special Issues

Death and the Contemporary, a themed double issue of *New Formations: A Journal of Culture/Theory/Politics*, 89-90, 2017.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

'Experimental Inscription and the Archive: Kathy Acker's Manuscript Practice.' *Reading Experimental Writing* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020), 74-98.

'The Contemporary Small Press, Avant-Garde Aesthetics, and the Politics of Disidentification' in *The Contemporary Small Press: Making Publishing Visible* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), pp 237-270.

'Kathy Acker', in Kaye Mitchell (ed), *The Edinburgh Companion to Experimental Women's Writing* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020). Forthcoming.

'Feminist Solidarity and Experiment in Kathy Acker's Early Writings'. *Journal of Narrative Theory*, 48 (3); 2018; 290-313.

'Forms of Solidarity'. *Jacket* 2. January 2018.

'Imaginary Intimacies: Death and New Temporalities in the work of Denise Riley and Nicolas Royle. *Death and the Contemporary*, *New Formations: A Journal of Culture/Theory/Politics*, 89/90, 2017; pp. 170-192.

'Engaged Disengagement: Reframing as Feminist Critique in Vanessa Place's *Tragodia*'. *Textual Practice*, 31 (4), 2017; pp 707-723.

'The Reappropriation of Classical Mythology to Represent Pain: Falling Silent in the work of Kathy Acker and Robert Mapplethorpe.' *Comparative Critical Studies*, 9.1, 2012, pp 7-35.

'Radical Interiors: Kathy Acker's *My Mother: Demonology* and Cindy Sherman's 'Sex Series'. *Women: A Cultural Review*, 23 (2), 2012, pp. 182-200.

'Spaces in difference: Laura Parnes' *Blood and Guts in High School*', *n.paradoxa: International Feminist Art Journal*, 19, 2007, pp 73-80.

'Contemporary Artists and the Camera'; 'Performance and Participation'; 'Bodies Politic'; and 'Advertising' in *Photography: The Whole Story* (London: Thames and Hudson, 2012).

Media Articles and Reviews

'Strategic Vulnerability: Our Growing Recognition of Kathy Acker', *The Times Literary Supplement*, October 27, 2017; pp 3-4.

'Sexual Violence Against Women and Credibility.' *Women's Asylum News*, 136, June/July, 2016, pp. 6-7.

'Profiles in Research: Georgina Colby and the Kathy Acker Papers.' *Women at the Center*. Newsletter, Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, Duke University, Issue 27, Spring 2015.

'Unfamiliar Crossings'. A review of Heidi Slettedahl Macpherson's *Transatlantic Women's Literature*. *Contemporary Literature*, 51 (2), Summer 2010, pp. 438-448.

Creative Writing (as editor)

OUTLines: Writing from the Small Press [ed.] (Oystercatcher Press, 2015)

Live and Broadcast Media

'Kathy Acker Interviews the Spice Girls'. BBC Podcast for the series *Unpopped*. March 2018. Guest Interviewee.

'Kathy Acker's Guts', *Freedom, Books, Flowers and the Moon*, TLS podcast, October 26th, 2017. Guest Interviewee <https://www.the-tls.co.uk/podcast-freedom-books-flowers-moon>

BBC World Service: Guest Interviewee on World Business Report, 'The Future of Book Publishing'. 13th April, 2016.

Book Series

Series Editor (with Eric White) of *Edinburgh Critical Studies in Avant-Garde Writing* and *Edinburgh Foundations in Avant-Garde Writing* published by Edinburgh University Press.

Websites

Feminist Representations, <https://feministrepresentations.com/>

S A L O N - LONDON, <https://www.salon-london.org/>

The Contemporary Small Press, <https://thecontemporarysmallpress.com/>

Journal Series Editing

Reviews Editor of the peer-reviewed journal *New Formations: A Journal of Culture, Theory, Politics*.

Research Grants

External

- 2017 BA/Leverhulme Small Grant. Feminist Representations: Sexual Violence, Asylum, and Testimony (£9, 753). Principal Investigator.
- 2016 Arts Council England Grant for the Arts. 'The Contemporary Small Press: Reading Being Read' (£12, 930). Co-investigator.
- 2014 Mary Lily Grant, David M Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Duke University, NC (\$1000).
- 2012 Arts Council England Grant for the Arts. 'Death and the Contemporary' (£7, 525). Principal Investigator.

Internal

- 2016 University of Westminster Research Grant. S A L O N - LONDON, a site for responding to the present through experimental women's writing (£1600).
- 2015 University of Westminster Research Grant. 'Sexual Violence Against Women: Voice and Representation' (£4,035).
- 2013 University of Westminster Research Grant. 'Print Screen: Writing and the Moving Image' (£4000). Principal Investigator.

Research Leadership and Collaboration

Feminist Representations: Sexual Violence, Asylum, and Testimony (Principal Investigator), 2019-2020

Funded by a BA/Leverhulme Small Grant 2018, this international project is a collaboration with Professor Jane Freedman at Université Paris 8. A series of three international workshops, *Feminist Representations* aims to explore the contributions the arts and humanities may make to address institutional failures in the areas of sexual violence against women and girls, with a specific focus on asylum, translation, voice and testimony.

S A L O N - L O N D O N (Founder and Director), 2016-present

A site and a London-based reading series for reading and responding to the contemporary through feminist avant-garde writing, in collaboration with Professor Susan Rudy at Queen Mary, University of London.

The Contemporary Small Press (Co-founder), 2013-present

The Contemporary Small Press project is a large-scale project providing a forum for contemporary small publishers of poetry and fiction, funded by the Arts Council England. The series 'Reading and Being Read: Readers, Writers, Publishers', is a nationwide site-specific series of events that took place between 2016 and 2017, with the aim to foster and build an interactive culture of reading and writing across England in public libraries.

***Print Screen: Writing and the Moving Image* (2013, Principal Investigator)**

A series of interdisciplinary events that took place across London exploring the relation between writing and the moving image. The events took place at the ICA, the Photographers' Gallery, and the Old Cinema at the University of Westminster.

***Death and the Contemporary* (2012, Principal Investigator)**

Funded by the Arts Council England, *Death and the Contemporary* was a series of three interdisciplinary events exploring the representation of death in contemporary culture, in collaboration with the artist, Anthony Luvera. The first event was part of the *Inside/Out Festival*, London, 2012.

Professional Activities and Editorial

2021	Series Editor for Edinburgh Critical Studies in Avant-Garde Writing and Edinburgh Foundations in Avant-Garde Writing
2019	Peer Reviewer for the British Academy's Heritage, Dignity and Violence Programme
2018-	Reviews Editor of <i>New Formations: A Journal of Culture, Theory, and Politics</i>
2012-	Regular peer reviewer for the publishing houses Palgrave Macmillan, Edinburgh University Press, and Bloomsbury
2012	Peer Reviewer for <i>Contemporary Women's Writing</i> ; <i>New Formations: A Journal of Culture/Theory/ Politics</i> ; <i>Feminist Theory</i>

Continuous Professional Development

Public Engagement: Conference Organisation

'Avant-Garde Aesthetics, and the Politics of Disidentification', Contemporary Innovative Poetry Research Seminar, IES, 28 October 2020

'The Small Press, Avant-Garde Aesthetics, and the Politics of Disidentification', ACLA, 09 April, 2021
Feminist Representations Workshop 1: Asylum, Translation, Voice and Testimony, Université Paris 8, 6-7 September, 2018.

'Sexual Violence Against Women: Voice and Representation'. June 17th, 2016, Kings Place, London. A one-day symposium. Speakers included Keir Starmer, MP, Professor Jacqueline Rose, and Debora Singer, MBE.

The Contemporary Small Press: Reading and Being Read. The British Library, 20 February, 2016. A one-day symposium.

The Contemporary Small Press Symposium and Book Fair. Fyvie Hall, University of Westminster, 20 February, 2015. A one-day symposium followed by an evening book fair with readings, music, and small press stalls.

Print Screen: Writing and the Moving image. The Photographers' Gallery, 17 December, 2014. A one-day symposium.

Public Engagement: Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

'Feminist Solidarity and Experiment in Kathy Acker's Early Writings'. Contemporary Innovative Poetry Research Seminar Series. Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced. Senate House, London. 26 June, 2019.

'Publishing Practice-Based Research and Research Based Practice'. *Techné* Symposium: 'Environments of Research', Royal Holloway, University of London, 11 January, 2019.

'The Avant-Garde and the Avant-Texte: Kathy Acker's Manuscript Practice'. Kathy Acker: Get Rid of Meaning. Badischer Kunstverein Gallery, Karlsruhe, Germany. 23 November, 2018.

'Forms of Solidarity.' Institute for Modern and Contemporary Culture Research Seminar Series, University of Westminster, 07 February 2018.

'Writing-Through: Kathy Acker's *Don Quixote: Which Was a Dream.*' Institute for Modern and Contemporary Culture Research Seminars Series, University of Westminster, 03 February, 2016.

'Engaged Disengagement: Reframing as Feminist Critique in Vanessa Place's *Tragodia*'. Contemporary Innovative Poetry Research Seminar, Senate House, London. 25 March, 2015.

Roundtable on 'The Found', *Conceptual Gestures* Series, Birkbeck, University of London, February, 2012.

Roundtable on the work of Vanessa Place, *Conceptual Gestures* Series, Birkbeck, University of London, September, 2011.

'New Subcultural Aesthetics: New York Photographers of the 1970s', Sotheby's Institute of Art, London, February 2010.

'Feminist Appropriations: Kathy Acker and Laura Parnes', Alma Enterprises Gallery, London, September 2006.

Public Engagement: Event Organisation

S A L O N - London presents 'On Repertoires and lists: Kate Fagan and Sam McBean'. The Yurt, St Benet's Chaplaincy, London. 11th December, 2018.

S A L O N - London presents Carla Harryman in Conversation with Redell Olsen. Fyvie Hall, University of Westminster. 03 November, 2018.

S A L O N - London presents 'Unknowability and Collaborative Creative / Critical Practice: Ilya Parkins and Lara Harworth. October 10, 2018.

S A L O N - London presents Sophie Seita and Amy Tobin. Fyvie Hall, University of Westminster. 17 August, 2018.

S A L O N - SUNDAY with Erin Moure and So Mayer. Brunswick Centre Tenants' Room. 8 April, 2018.

S A L O N - London presents Laynie Browne in Conversation with Andrea Brady. Fyvie Hall, University of Westminster, 13 March, 2018.

Women Writing: Press for Progress - An International Women's Day Panel Discussion. University of Westminster, 07 March, 2018, 6-9pm.

S A L O N - London launch. Redell Olsen in conversation with Caroline Pedwell. Parasol Unit for Contemporary Art, London, November 3, 2017.

The Contemporary Small Press: Reading and Being Read. Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, 27th June, 2017, 6-9pm.

The Contemporary Small Press: Reading and Being Read. Newcastle City Library. Saturday 18th February, 2017.

The Contemporary Small Press: Reading and Being Read. Manchester Central Library. Saturday 12 November, 2016.

'A Glove Covered in Lime'. Kreider and O'Leary in Conversation with Maria Fusco. 18 March, 2016.

'Dawn Poetics: Caroline Bergvall in Conversation with Marina Warner'. Wednesday September 14, 2016.

Simon Perril, 'The Idea of Cinema in the Mind of a Painting', ICA Studio, 19 June, 2014. Part of the *Print Screen: Writing and the Moving Image* series.

Kreider + O'Leary, 'Ways to Cut the Earth Open'. The Fyvie Hall, University of Westminster, 17 January, 2014. Part of the *Print Screen: Writing and the Moving Image* series.

David Herd, 'The View From Dover.' The Regent Street Cinema, University of Westminster. Part of the *Print Screen: Writing and the Moving Image* series. 12 November, 2013.

'Death, Aesthetics, and Representation.' The Photographers' Gallery, London. 11 September, 2013.

'Death and Trauma'. The Swedenborg Hall, London, 20 December, 2012.

'Death and Space.' The Deadhouse, Somerset House, London. This event was part of the *Inside/Out Festival* 2012.

Selected Conference Papers

'*Récriture Feminine*: Kathy Acker' *Blood and Guts in High School*. Contemporary Experimental Women's Writing Conference, University of Manchester, 12 October 2013.

'Radical Interiors: Cindy Sherman's 'Sex Series' and Kathy Acker's *My Mother: Demonology*'. Representing the Contentious: A Symposium. Co-organised by The Wellcome Trust, Queen Mary University, and University of Cambridge. London, August 2011.

'Reflection, Self, Death: Subcultural Aesthetics in John Ashbery's "Self Portrait in a Convex Mirror" and Peter Hujar's *Portraits in Life and Death*'. American Image/Text Conference, University of East Anglia, June 2011.

'The Politics of Violence and Contemporary Literature', Second Annual Critical Theory Conference. University of Exeter, September 2010.

Professional Memberships

Higher Education Academy
Royal Society of Arts
The Contemporary Women's Writing Association
The British Association of Contemporary Literary Studies
British Association of American Studies
ACLA

Wider Contribution to the University and Community

External Examiner: PhD

Dr Charlotte Baker, *Reading 'Psychosis' in Kathy Acker's Writing: Rethinking Clinical and Critical Perspectives*. Royal Holloway, University of London. The viva voce took place on 18 January 2016.

Dr Cathrine Avery, *Talking Back to Chandler and Spillane: Gender and Agency in Women's Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction*. Birkbeck, University of London. The viva voce took place on 28 February, 2017.

Internal Examiner: PhD

Kate Turner, *The Queer Moment: Post-Devolution Scottish Literature*. University of Westminster. The viva voce took place on 30th September 2016.

PhD Supervision

As Director of Studies (Supervisor):

Isabelle Coy-Dibley, 'New Orientations: Touch in Women's Experimental Writing'. Completed 2020.

As Second Supervisor:

Sally Willow, 'A practice-based exploration into the act of writing as the utopian moment through a critical study of Ernst Bloch's utopian philosophy and the work of Theresa Hak Kyung Cha' (2015-2020)

External Examining

Postgraduate:

Canterbury Christ Church University, 2021-present

External examiner for the MA in English Literature

Undergraduate:

Institute of continuing Education, University of Cambridge (2020-present)

Moderating External Examiner for two Undergraduate courses in English Literature: the Undergraduate Certificate in English Literature: Texts and Contexts at Level 4, and the Undergraduate Diploma in English Literature: Literature and Criticism.

Course Leader MA English Literature: Modern and Contemporary Fictions (September 2016-present).

Key administrative responsibilities:

- Personal Tutor for each MA student
- Board Member University Postgraduate Course Committee
- major and minor modifications to MA modules
- liaising with Quality and Standards
- representing the MA on the University Teaching Committee
- commissioning the External Reviewer for the Course Review process
- authoring the Course Review for the Annual Review
- continual development of the postgraduate curriculum
- liaising with staff to develop new modules for the MA.
- recruitment of students and assessing admissions applications on UKPass
- overseeing the suite of modules, monitoring the marking and assessment for the modules, and the content available to the students on the Blackboard sites.
- liaising with the External Examiner for the MA, and chairing the Examiner's bi-annual meetings.
- managing staff resources and allocating Dissertation supervisors in line with the Department's WAM allocations.
- managing the marketing and programme development of the MA
- chairing the MA Staff Student Course Committee meetings

Year Tutor Level 4 (2013-2015)

- pastoral care of around 80 undergraduate students
- supporting students with their Mitigating Circumstances applications
- day-to-day pastoral care

Teaching and Learning

Teaching on Postgraduate Programmes

MA English Literature Modern and Contemporary Fictions, University of Westminster

2019-2020

Dissertation – core module

2018-2019

Themes and Problems in Modern and Contemporary Fictions – core module

Experimental Women's Writing, Photography and Film (convenor) – research-led option module

Dissertation (convenor) – core module

2017-2018

Themes and Problems in Modern and Contemporary Fictions – core module

Experimental Women's Writing, Photography and Film (convenor) – research-led option module

Dissertation (convenor) – core module

2016/2017

Subjectivities in Modern and Contemporary Fictions (convenor) – core module

Institutions and Histories (convenor) – core module

Dissertation (convenor) – core module

Experimental Women's Writing, Photography and Film (convenor) – research-led option module

2015/2016

Experimental Women's Writing, Photography and Film (convenor) – research-led option module

2014/2015

Photography and Literature (co-convenor) – team-taught option module

2013/2014

Experimental Women's Writing (convenor) – research-led option module

2012/2013

Reading the Nation (convenor) – option module in American Literature

MA English Literature: Modernism and Modern Writers, Royal Holloway, University of London

2010-2012 Modern and Contemporary Poetry (module tutor)

Teaching on Undergraduate Programmes

University of Westminster

2019-2020

Keywords for Literary Study (convenor) - first year core module

Poetry and Politics – first year option module

Reflective Writing – first year core module

2018-2019

Keywords for Literary Study (convenor) - first year core module

Academic Tutor – second year core tutorial module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

2017-2018

Keywords for Literary Study (convenor) - first year core module

Academic Tutor – second year core tutorial module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

2016-2017

Keywords for Literary Study (convenor) – first year core module

Literature and Psychoanalysis (convenor) – third year option module

Academic Tutor – second year core tutorial module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

2015-2016

Literature and Psychoanalysis (convenor) – third year option module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

2014/2015

Introduction to Arts and Culture (convenor) – first year option module

Literature and Psychoanalysis (convenor) – third year option module

Introduction to Literary Studies – first year core module

Studies in Modern Poetry – third year option module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

2013/2014

Literature and Psychoanalysis (convenor) – third year option module

Introduction to Literary Studies – first year core module

Studies in Modern Poetry – third year option module

Dissertation – 2013/14

Literature and Psychoanalysis (convenor) – third year option module

2012-2013

Introduction to Literary Studies – first year core module

Studies in Modern Poetry – third year option module

Dissertation – supervision of undergraduate dissertations

Royal Holloway, University of London

2010-2012

The Idea of America in Literature and Philosophy (convenor) - third year undergraduate option module

Philosophy and the Arts - second-year option module

2008-2010

Critical Theory - second-year option module

Romanticisms - second-year option module