

Sarah Jane Cervenak, Ph.D.

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Education

Ph.D., Performance Studies. Dissertation: *Wandering: Between Performance and Philosophy*.
Chair: Fred Moten. New York University: 2005.

M.A., Performance Studies, New York University: 1999.

B.A., Women's Studies. Honors Thesis (received highest honors): "Whiteness, Muscles, and National Sovereignty: Rethinking Gay and Lesbian Liberation", Chair: Linda Zerilli. Rutgers University, New Jersey: 1998.

Experience

Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies and African American Studies, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, August 2009-present

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Introduction to the Humanities Program, Stanford University, August 2005-June 2009

Adjunct Lecturer, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Rutgers University, January 2005

Visiting Scholar and lecturer, Ethnic Studies Department, University of California-Berkeley, July 2002-2004

Awards

Recipient, Paulette Goddard Scholarship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University: 1999.

Member, Cap and Skull Honors Society, Rutgers University: 1998.

Teaching and Research Interests:

Black Feminist Theory, Performance Studies, Visual Culture

Teaching Experience

Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
Introduction to African American Studies
Race, Gender, and Performance
Topics in Feminist Theory: Haunting
Senior Seminar in African American Studies
Feminist Theory: Gender, Race, Class (Graduate)
Topics in Black Performance Studies (Graduate)

Publications

Books

Cervenak, Sarah J. *Wandering: Philosophical Performances of Racial and Sexual Freedom* forthcoming, Duke University Press 2014.

Peer Reviewed Journals

Cervenak, Sarah J. "Against Traffic: De/formations of Race, Rationality, and Freedom in the Art of Adrian Piper," *Discourse: Theoretical Studies in Media and Culture*, 28 (2 /3) (2008): 114-128.

Cervenak, Sarah J. "Dignity, the Sacred, and the Ends of Black Performance," *Spectator: The University of Southern California Journal of Film and Television*, 30 (2) (Fall 2010): 18-27.

Cervenak, Sarah J. "Gender, Class, and the Performance of A Black Enlightenment" *Palimpsest: A Journal on Women, Gender, and the Black International*. Spring 2012.

Cervenak, Sarah J. and Danielle Bouchard. "Ravenously Hungry, Desperately Thirsty, Randier than A Sailor": Dialectics of Race, Desire, and Capital in *Eat Pray Love*. *Women's Studies Journal, Special Issue of Women and Travel*. Accepted. Anticipated 2013.

Book Chapters

Cervenak, Sarah J., Karina Lissette Cespedes, Caridad Souza, and Andrea Straub. "Imagining Differently: Rethinking the Politics of Listening in a Feminist Classroom. In *This Bridge We Call Home: Radical Visions for Transformation*. Edited by Ana Louise Keating and Gloria Anzaldúa, 341-356. New York: Routledge. 2000.

Cervenak, Sarah J. "Railroading the Novel: Gayl Jones' Mosquito," In *New Essays on the African American Novel*, edited by Loyalerie King and Linda Selzer, 107-122. New York: Palgrave. 2008.

Book Reviews

Cervenak, Sarah J. Invited Review of *Monstrous Intimacies: Making Post-Slavery Subjects*, by Christina Sharpe. *Women's Studies: an Interdisciplinary Journal* 40.8 (November 2011).

Cervenak, Sarah J. Review of *Travel, Humanitarianism, and Becoming American in Africa*, by Kathryn Mathers. *Transition Magazine*, 107, 2012. (W.E.B. DuBois Institute of African American Studies, Harvard).

Cervenak, Sarah J. Invited Review of *Adrian Piper: Race, Gender and Embodiment* by John Bowles. *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, Anticipated 2012.

Under Review

Cervenak, Sarah J. "Black Re/collection: Leonardo Drew's Loving Gathering, *Women and Performance*, Special Issue, "The Haptic: Thinking Through Texture."

Presentations

"In Bad Form: Wangechi Mutu's Aesthetics of New Life," to be presented at the *Critical Ethnic Studies Association* conference, Chicago, IL, September 2013

"Dis/membering as Remembering: Race, Sexuality and Value in the Art of Leonardo Drew and Wangechi Mutu, *Canadian American Studies Association* annual conference, Ottawa, CA, November 2011.

"Beauty Beyond Use: Restorations of Life in the Black South", Conference of African American Studies and Culture, sponsored by the African American Studies Program, UNCG, November 2011.

Panelist, "Race and Representation: Art Exhibit", Weatherspoon Museum, UNCG, as part of AFS's *Conversations with the Community*, November 2011.

Co-discussant, *One Nation Under God* [film], Women's and Gender Studies film series, September 2011.

Panelist, "Performance as Radical Politics", *Elsewhere Living Museum*. Downtown Greensboro, NC, September 2011.

"Dignity, the Sacred, and The Ends of Black Performance", Empowerment and the Sacred Conference, University of Leeds, Leeds, England, June 2011.

Invited Guest Presentation, Black Performance Theory Working Group, University of California-Santa Barbara, May 2011.

“Revelations in the Cast Off: The Black Radical Art of Leonardo Drew”, The Art of Public Memory Conference, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, April 2011

“Adrienne Kennedy’s Trip”, Dialogue on Progressive Enlightenment, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College, March 2011.

Presentation on David Wojnarowich’s *Fire in My Belly*, Weatherspoon Art Museum, January 2011.

“Thrown Away: Leonardo Drew’s Revelation”, American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, November 2010.

“Gliding Against the Tight Space: Bill T. Jones’ Still/Here”, Conference on African American Culture sponsored by the African American Studies program (UNCG), October 2010.

Organizer of art event, Charge it to the Game: Resisting the Consumption of Racialized, Gender Performances, April, UNCG, 2010.

Presentation on Leonardo Drew at the Weatherspoon Art Museum (UNCG), Lloyd International Honors College, March 2010.

Co-facilitator, with Dr. Tara Green (African American Studies), “Black Female Body Images”, as part of the *Conversations with the Community* Series, March 2010.

“Blackness at the Funeral Pyre: William Pope L’s Revelation”, 2nd Annual Diaspora Studies Symposium, North Carolina Central University, March 2010.

Co-discussant, *The Coat Hanger Project* [film], Women’s and Gender Studies Film Series, 2009.

Discussion facilitator, *Jane: Abortion and the Underground*, November 2009.

“Non-Places of Her Mind: Adrienne Kennedy’s *Funnyhouse*”, ACLA conference, Harvard University: May 2009.

“An Uncertainty of Someone Else’s Making: The Ends of Blackness in the Work of William Pope L.”, IHUM Research Colloquium, Stanford University: April 2008.

“Railroading the Novel: Gayl Jones’ *Mosquito*”, Modern Language Association, Chicago, IL: 2007.

“Worrying the Line: Gayl Jones’s Underground Railroad”. Celebrating the African American Novel Conference, Penn State University: April 1-2, 2005.

“Imagining Differently: Rethinking the Politics of Listening in a Feminist Classroom.” National Ethnic Studies Association, March 23, 2000.

“Its Own Kind of Beauty: Melancholic Narcissism in the Work of Laura Aguilar.” Rethinking the Corporeal. Cornell University: 2000.

“Disturbing the Evidence: The Relation between Ghosts and Mechanical Reproduction In the work of Essex Hemphill and Marlon Riggs”. Performing Unnatural Acts: Queer Ethnic Studies Working Group, University of California, Berkeley: 1999.

Professional Service

Invited Guest Reviewer, *Women’s Studies: an Interdisciplinary Journal* 40.8 (November, 2011) – special issue on "Women inventing the 1950s".

University Service

Panel Organizer, “The Black South”, Conference on American Culture and Experience [CACE] African American Studies Program, UNCG: November 2011.

Member, Organizing Committee, *The Art of Public Memory Conference*, Women’s and Gender Studies Program, UNCG: April 2011.

Program Service

Interim Director, Graduate Studies, African American Studies Program (UNCG): 2010-2011.

Member, Curriculum Committee, African American Studies Program (UNCG): 2009-present.

Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, Women’s and Gender Studies (UNCG): 2010-present.

Dissertation/thesis committees

Member, Carrie Hart’s Master’s Thesis Committee; Women’s and Gender Studies Program (UNCG): 2010-2011.

Member, Keonta Moore’s Master’s Thesis Committee; Historical Preservation Program (UNCG): 2009-present.

Member, Jawana Southerland's Dissertation Committee; Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations (UNCG): 2010-present.

Member, Bethenny Garr's Dissertation Committee, Counseling and Educational Development (UNCG): 2011-present.

Member, Chris Kennedy's Dissertation Committee, Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations (UNCG): 2010-present.

References

Frederick C. Moten
Helen L. Bevington Professor of Modern Poetry
Duke University

André Lepecki
Associate Professor of Performance Studies
New York University