

Christopher Seiji Berardino
(he/him/his/they)
900 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92521
cberardi@ucr.edu
949.322.5905 (Cell)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English Literature, August 2021 – Cornell University.

MFA in Creative Writing (Fiction), December 2018 – Cornell University.

MA in English Literature, December 2017 – Cornell University.

BA in English Literature, May 2013 – University of California, Berkeley.

DISSERTATION

Multitude Modernism: “Democratic Epiphany” in Interwar American Literature. George Hutchinson (Chair), Daniel Schwarz, Elizabeth Anker.

Multitude Modernism theorizes the existence of a modern multiethnic tradition in American literature of the 1930s and 40s. Exploring the works of Richard Wright, H.T. Tsiang, Zora Neale Hurston, and John Steinbeck, I analyze instants wherein an individual is depicted as “melting” and “melding” with their surrounding social environment. I call these surrealistic moments “democratic epiphany.” I argue this technique not only articulates a collectivist form of modernism, but creates a vibrant, inclusive, and radical literary movement hereto unrecognized.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journals

“A Man in A Group Isn’t Himself at All’: Revisiting Steinbeck’s Phalanx Theory,” *Steinbeck Review*. Spring 2021.

“Redefining Group-Man: An Application of the ‘Flexible Phalanx’ Theory,” *International Journal of English Language and Literature*. November 2013.

“‘Into the Sea of Faces’: Joyce’s Epiphany in Wright’s ‘The Man Who Lived Underground,’” *African American Review*. Revise and Resubmit.

“But I am a Nut no More: ‘Agitational Ecstasy’ in H.T. Tsiang’s *Hanging On Union Square*,” *MELUS*. Revise and Resubmit.

Book Review

“Left of Poetry: Depression America and the Formation of Modern Poetics” by Sarah Ehlers (2019). *Journal of American Studies*. Fall 2020.

Journalism

“Liberia: Decent Work in Law and Practice Key to Worker Rights, Says Union Leader”. The Solidarity Center. June 2012.

Creative Non-Fiction

“You are the First of Your Family to Return,” *The Pinch Journal*, Spring Issue, 2021.

“You Can’t Stop Thinking About the Bomb,” *Newfound*, October 15, 2020.

Short Fiction

“Silverblue,” *Pilgrimage*, Winter Issue, 2021.

“Dog Bait,” *Breakwater Review*, Spring Issue, 2021.

“Ojichan,” *Beyond Words Literary Magazine*, November, 2020.

“I Hope You Know We Are Good,” *Prometheus Dreaming*, April 2020.

“Among the Cattails,” *Every Writer’s Resource*, April 2020.

“The Toothpick Samurai,” *FLARE: The Flagler Review*, Spring Issue, 2020.

“Ghost in the Bathroom,” *Copperfield Review*, December 10, 2019.

“Gonzales, California,” *Blind Corner Literary Journal*, November 16, 2019.

“I Will Die in Miami in the Sun,” *Flash Fiction*, July 8, 2019.

“Charlie,” *Connu Magazine*, November Issue, 2013.

Poetry

“This is Just to Say,” *From Whispers to Roars*, April 17, 2020.

Books

Internment Stories: An Inheritance in Pieces (forthcoming), Assure Press, 2022.

Infamy, A Novel (under review by invitation), Random House 2022.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/ PANELS

2022. “H.T. Tsiang and Radical Street Theater.” Riverside Postdoctoral Association, University of California, Riverside, Virtual.

2021. “Teach-in on Confronting Anti-Asian Racism.” Cornell Graduate School Office of Inclusion and Student Engagement, Cornell University, Virtual.

2021. "A Forgotten Man, An Average Man, A Worker: Agitational Ecstasy in H.T. Tsiang's *The Hanging on Union Square*." American Comparative Literature Association, Virtual.
2020. "'But I am a Nut no more': Joyce's Epiphany in H.T. Tsiang's *The Hanging on Union Square*." Association for Asian American Studies, Washington DC (COVID*).
2020. "'Into the Sea of Faces': Joyce's Epiphany in Wright's 'The Man Who Lived Underground.'" Northeastern Modern Language Association, Boston, MA.
2019. Graduate Student Sponsored Panel "Stories from the Field, Getting and Doing the Work of Asian American Studies in the Professoriate and Beyond" Association for Asian American Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin (Participant).
2018. Chair for Panel on "Linearity in the Novel." Society for Novel Studies, Ithaca, NY.
2018. "Paper Sons: Counter Authentication in Fae Mae Ng's *Bone* and Helena Viramontes' *Under the Feet of Jesus*." American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, CA.
2016. "Paper Sons: Counter Authentication in Fae Mae Ng's *Bone* and Helena Viramontes' *Under the Feet of Jesus*." Yale American Literature in the World Graduate Student Conference.

INVITED LECTURES

2022. Invited Lecture for Macalester College Creative Writing Workshop. "Internment Literature: Recovery and Resistance." Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota.
2021. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Conference. "H.T. Tsiang and Agitprop Theatre: Exploring Democratic Epiphany," Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut (virtual).
2020. Summer Success Symposium. "Mastering Your Transition Into and Progression Through Graduate School," Office of Inclusion and Student Engagement, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.
2019. Symposium. "Increasing Diversity in the Humanities." Inclusive Teaching Institute for Graduate Teaching and Post Docs, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.
2018. Invited Lecture for Cornell University Undergraduate Writing Workshop. "Writing the Archive." Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

READINGS

2020. Society for Asian American Graduate Affairs. "Write In and Read Out Against Racism." Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
2019. Sons and Daughters of Japanese American Internment Book Club. Invited Reading of "Ghost in the Bathroom." San Diego, CA. (Virtual).

2018. Undergraduate Writing Workshop, “Dog Bait” Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
2017. MFA Graduation Reading. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
2016. MFA Fall Reading. Buffalo Street Books, Ithaca, NY.
2015. Berardino, Christopher. “Union Strong Arts Night.” Orange County Employees Association, Santa Ana, CA.
2014. “New Fiction Night.” The Gypsy Den, Santa Ana, CA.
2013. Joyce Carol Oates Writers’ Workshop Reading. University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

APPOINTMENTS

UCR Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Scholar: University of California, Riverside, Department of English, 2021-2022.

Lecturer: Cornell University, Department of English and Creative Writing, Spring 2020.

Editorial Assistant: Epoch Magazine: Cornell University, Fall 2019 to Spring 2020.

Graduate Writing Instructor: Cornell University, Department of English, Fall 2015 to Present.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Cornell University, Department of English, Spring 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Lecturer, Cornell University

“Introduction to Creative Writing,” Creative Writing, English 2800, Spring 2020.

This introductory course in the composition of fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction exposed students to a broad range of literary movements spanning from the 19th century to our contemporary moment. In addition to writing, students learned to meaningfully respond to others’ writing, discover new directions for their own writing, and participated in a vibrant, collaborative student community.

Graduate Writing Instructor, Cornell University

“The ‘Composite Novel’: A Study in Community,” Freshman Writing Seminar, Spring 2021.

Flexible both in content and structure, the oft-forgotten “composite novel” has held great appeal for underrepresented groups. Defined as a “literary work composed of shorter texts that...are interrelated in a coherent whole according to one or more organizing principles,” the composite novel is particularly suited for interweaving a variety of character perspectives. This course examined the unique ways in which the “composite novel” enriches a text’s capacity to create a diverse and inclusive sense of community.

“American Champloo, Asian-American Literature,” Freshman Writing Seminar, Fall 2019.

Champloo is an Okinawan word used to describe a local style of panfry, meaning “stirred together,” or “mixed up.” In addition to exploring major works, themes, and authors of twentieth-century and contemporary Asian American literature, this course examined textual spaces where Asian and American cultures are “stirred together” in an effort to articulate what a uniquely Asian American culture might look like.

“Low Modernism, The Lost Literary Movement,” Freshman Writing Seminar, Fall 2017.

While the academy has canonized and championed the works of Eliot, Pound, and Hemingway as literary masterpieces, there is considerably less focus on modernist writers of color whose works were published simultaneously. This lost movement, shaped by immigration and great migration, represents an important historical moment for people of color who radically changed what it means to be an American. This class investigated whether “proletarian” or “ethnic” literature, produced between the 20's and 40's, constitutes its own brand of modernism.

“No Longer Confined to the Text: American Literature and Pop Culture,” Freshman Writing Seminar, Fall 2016, Spring 2017.

Where would Langston Hughes be without Jazz? Nathanael West without film? Junot Díaz without hip-hop? The study of American Literature, as a field, has had to account for the influence of mass/ popular culture in identifying a uniquely “American” tradition. No longer confined to the text, the current field of American Literature now considers a range of non-print media (such as film and music) to be valid, influential, and necessary objects of study. This course examined how authors of canonical American literature have been influenced by non-print media and mass consumerism.

“Short Stories,” Freshman Writing Seminar, Fall 2015, Spring 2016.

What is the difference between an anecdote and a short story or a memoir and a short story? How does the short story separate itself from the prose poem, the myth, or the parable? What can a short story do that no other art form can do, including cinematic narrative? This course focused on the reading and analysis of short stories derived from a range of cultures and time periods, with some emphasis on English-language stories, particularly those from the North American continent.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University

“The Cornell Novel” English/American Studies 2060, Spring 2017.

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

University of California, Riverside, Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2021-2022.
Pushcart Prize Nominee, “You are the First of Your Family to Return,” *The Pinch Journal*,
January 2022.

Short Story, “Dog Bait,” winner of the *Breakwater Review*’s 2021 Fiction Contest.

Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society, inductee, December 2020.

Cornell Provost Diversity Fellowship, Fall 2020.

Cornell Dean’s Scholar, Fall, Spring 2020.

Short Story Collection, *Internment Stories*, named as finalist for The Hudson Prize in Fiction, Black Lawrence Press, August 2020.
Novel, *Infamy*, Placed on Shortlist for UK First Novel Prize, Daniel Goldman Associates, July 2020.
Exemplary Service Award for Advanced Career Student, Cornell Graduate School Office of Diversity and Inclusion; nominee, May 2020.
Alan Young Bryant Memorial Award in Poetry Criticism, Cornell English Department, May 2019.
Cornell Graduate School Travel Grant, March 2019.
Cornell University's American Studies Graduate Research Grant Award, November 2018, November 2019.
Cornell University Sage Fellow, 2018-2019, 2015-2016.
Truman Capote PhD Writer's Award, Cornell English Department, May 2018.
Arthur Lynn Andrews Short-Story Award, Cornell English Department, May 2017.
Joyce Carol Oates Writing Workshop, January 2013.
The Mark Schorer Prize (Department Citation) for the English department's most outstanding graduating senior; nominee, May 2013.

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY/ MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Teaching and Learning in the Diverse Classroom edX Course, certified, October 2020.
Antiracist Graduate Student Workshop, Instructor, October 2020.
Society for Asian American Graduate Affairs, President, 2020-Present.
Graduate and Professional Student Diversity Council, Voting Member, 2020-Present.
Multicultural Academic Council, Mentor, 2019-Present.
Freedom for Immigrants Group, Cornell Feminist, Gender, Sexuality Studies Program, Member, 2019-Present.
Cornell Future Professor's Institute for Graduate Students and Post Docs, Member, 2019- Present.
Cornell's Diversity and Inclusion Dissertation Writing Group, Member, Summer 2020.
Cornell Minority, Indigenous, Third World Studies Research Group: Antiracist and Anticolonialism: Then and Now, Roundtable Conversation, Participant, 2019.
Officer for Department of English, Cornell Graduate Student Union, 2017.
Graduate Student Mentor for Dual MFA/PhD Candidates, 2016-Present.
Student Representative, GPSA, 2014-15.
UC Berkeley Student Advocate's Office, 2010-2013.
UC Berkeley Student Legal Clinic, 2010-2012.
UC Berkeley Multi-Racial, Multi-Ethnic, Multi-Cultural, Student Union, 2009-2013.

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association.
American Studies Association.
Association for Asian American Studies.
Association of Writers and Writing Programs.
Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society.

Modern Languages Association.
National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

20th Century American Literature, Asian American Studies, Leftist Literary Studies, Anglo Modernism, American Modernism, Comparative Ethnic Studies, Creative Writing, Creative Non Fiction, Antiracist Pedagogy.

REPRESENTATION

Zeynep Sen, Literary Agent, Wordlink Incorporated. Email: z.sen@wordlink.us

REFERENCES

Traise Yamamoto, Associate Professor of English, University of California, Riverside. Email: traise.yamamoto@ucr.edu.

George Hutchinson, Newton C. Farr Professor of American Culture, Cornell University. Email: gbh33@cornell.edu

Daniel Schwarz, Fredric J. Whiton Professor of English Literature and Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow, Cornell University. Email: drs6@cornell.edu

Elizabeth Anker, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Cornell University.
Email: anker@cornell.edu

Joyce Carol Oates, Roger S. Berland Professor of Humanities, Princeton University.
Email: jcsmith@princeton.edu

Helena Viramontes, Goldwin Smith Professor of English, Cornell University.
Email: hmv2@cornell.edu

Karen Tei Yamashita, Professor of Literature and Creative Writing, University of California at Santa Cruz. Email: kyamash@ucsc.edu

Maureen McCoy, Professor Emerita in Creative Writing, Cornell University.
Email: mem35@cornell.edu

Stephanie Vaughn, Professor and Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow, Cornell University.
Email: sv19@cornell.edu

Sara Xayarath Hernández, Associate Dean for Inclusion and Student Engagement, Cornell University. Email: sh267@cornell.edu

Jane Juffer, Professor of English and Director of Feminist, Gender, and Sexual Studies Program,
Cornell University. Email: jaj93@cornell.edu