

LEON J. HILTON

Brown University

Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Brown University Providence, RI

Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies (July 2017–)

University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Penn Humanities Forum (2016/17)

Affiliations: Department of English & Cinema Studies Program

EDUCATION

Ph.D. New York University (with distinction), 2016

Department of Performance Studies

M.A. New York University, 2010

Department of Performance Studies

B.A. Wesleyan University, 2007

College of Letters, Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript

Collective Drift: Neurodivergence and the Errancies of Performance (manuscript under review)

Edited Journal Issues

2017. Co-editor with Tanja Aho and Liat Ben-Moshe, "AQ Forum: Mad Futures: Culture, Politics, Affect."

American Quarterly Vol. 69 No. 2 (June): 291-302.

Chapters in Edited Volume

2018. "On Stillness and Stuckness: Isabelle Huppert on Stage." *Forty-Seven Varieties of Blankness: The Cinema of Isabelle Huppert*, edited by Iggy Cortez and Ian Fleishman (book proposal under review).

2018. "The Politics of the Body: Disability and the Queer Imaginary in David Wojnarowic's *Close to the Knives*." *Routledge Companion to Literature and Disability*, edited by Alice Hall (Routledge).

2018. "Staging the Asylum: Javier Téllez's Disability Aesthetics." In *Art/Sex/Identity: The Work of Tobin Siebers and Disability Studies*, edited by Cynthia Wu (University of Michigan Press).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2018. "The Bright Shapes Were Going: Cognition, Disability, and Theatrical Form in Elevator Repair Service's *The Sound and the Fury*." *The Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*, "Drama, Theatrical Performance, and Disability," edited by Carrie Sandahl and Ann Fox, forthcoming.
2017. "Avonte's Law: Autism, Wandering, and the Racial Surveillance of Neurological Difference." *African American Review*, "Blackness and Disability," edited by Therí A. Pickens. Vol. 50, No. 2: 221-235.
2013. "The Horse in My Flesh: Transpecies Performance, Affective Athleticism." *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, "The Athletic Issue," edited by Jennifer Doyle. Vol. 19, No. 4: 487-514.
2011. "Xiu Xiu and the Cause of Desire." *Journal of Popular Music Studies* Vol. 23, No. 3: 307-323.

Performance Reviews, Art Reviews, and Other Writing

2017. "In the Flesh: Mark Bradford in the US Pavilion." *Art In America* Online (May): Web.
2017. "Madness Is Contagious: Language, Madness, and Violence in a Theatrical Adaptation of Roberto Bolaño's *2666*" (co-authored with Ivan A. Ramos). *TDR/The Drama Review: The Journal of Performance Studies* Vol. 61, No. 2, (T234): 166-172.
2015. "Mapping the Wander Lines: The Quiet Revelations of Fernand Deligny." *Los Angeles Review of Books* (July): Web.
2014. "Presence, Rhetoric, Difference: Jérôme Bel and Theater HORA's Disabled Theater." *TDR/The Drama Review: The Journal of Performance Studies* Vol. 58, No. 4: 156-162.
2011. Performance review: *Trifles* by Susan Glaspell. *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory* Vol. 21, No. 1: 147-149.
2010. "X-Ray of Civilization: David Wojnarowicz and the Politics of Representation." *Social Text* Website (December): Web.

Academic Book Reviews

2018. *A Body, Undone* by Christina Crosby. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*.
2017. *Indirect Action: Schizophrenia, Epilepsy, AIDS, and the Course of Health Activism* by Lisa Diedrich. *Disability Studies Quarterly* Vol 37, No 4 : Web.
2016. *Acts of Conspicuous Compassion: Performance Culture and American Charity Practices* by Sheila Moeschen. *Disability Studies Quarterly* Vol. 36, No. 3: Web.
2016. *Sensational Flesh: Race, Power, and Masochism* by Amber Musser. *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*. Vol. 26, No. 1: 105-107.

2013. *Animacies: Biopolitics, Racial Mattering, Queer Affect* by Mel Y. Chen. *E-Misferica* Vol. 10: Web.
2010. *B-Boys, B-Girls, and Hip Hop Culture in New York* by Joseph G. Schloss. *Dance Research Journal* Vol. 42, No. 2: 113–116.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2017. Humanities Research Fund Grant, Office of the Vice President for Research, Brown University
2016. Creative Capital/Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant
2016. Michael Kirby Memorial Award for Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation, NYU
- 2014-15. Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2014. Chateaubriand Fellowship–Humanities and Social Sciences, US Embassy of France (declined)
2013. Sponsored Participant, School for Criticism and Theory (Cornell University), NYU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Office of the Dean
2012. NYU Council for the Study of Disability grant, “Disability, Access, and the Arts: A Critical Disability Studies Residency,” UC–Irvine Humanities Center
2011. Paulette Goddard Award Summer Research Fellowship, NYU
2011. Corrigan Fellowship for Doctoral Study, NYU (5 years)
2009. Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Fellowship, NYU (full-tuition support for M.A.)

CONFERENCES AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

“Disability, Late Liberalism, and the Activist Body.” Activist Body Symposium, Brown University (September 2017)

“Disability Aesthetics, Schizoanalysis, and the Neural Subject.” Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Studium Generale: “What is Happening to Our Brain?—on making collective heads: performance, choreography, theory, and the social body,” Amsterdam (March 2017)

“Disability Aesthetics, Schizoanalysis, and the Neural Subject.” American Studies Working Group, Haverford College (March 2017)

“Would It Get Some Wind for the Sailboat: Robert Wilson and Christopher Knowles, Toward a Theatre of Neurological Difference.” University of Hong Kong, School of English (February 2017)

“Gestic Performance, Queer Voicing, and the Neurodivergent Commons.” Brown University, Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies (February 2017)

“Would It Get Some Wind for the Sailboat: Robert Wilson and Christopher Knowles, Toward a Theatre of Neurological Difference.” Florida State University, School of Theatre (December 2016)

“Shaping the Right Statement: Queerness, Disability, and the Texture of Neurodiversity.”
“Sense Matters” Research Group, New York University Center for the Humanities (September 2016)

"Deligny's Cartographies: Translation, Performance, and the Mapping of Autism Before Neurodiversity."
Translating Cultures and the Medical Humanities Workshop, Wellcome Trust/UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, London (September 2016)

Selected Conference Presentations

“Come Aboard Our Ship of Folly”: Kate Millett and the Mad/Queer Aesthetics of Anti-Psychiatry.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, Chicago (November 2017)

“Race, Performance, and Psychiatric Dissent.” Session on New Directions in Literary and Cultural Disability Studies and Critical Ethnic Studies, Annual Convention, Modern Language Association, Philadelphia (January 2017)

“The Slightest Gesture’: Autism, Wandering, Cartography.” Annual Convention, American Comparative Literature Association, Harvard University (March 2016)

“Avonte’s Law: Autistic Wandering, Disability Surveillance, Racial Schematization.” “Crip Futurities,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (February 2016)

“Caméra, outil pédagogique: Deligny, Autism, Cinema.” Annual Convention, Modern Language Association, Austin (January 2016)

“Vitality, Memory, Displacement: Bhanu Kapil, Ana Mendieta, and the Performance of Biological Sovereignty.” Performance Studies Working Group, Annual Conference, Association for Theater in Higher Education, Montreal (July 2015)

“Caméra, outil pédagogique: Deligny, Autism, Cinema.” Annual Conference, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Montreal (March 2015)

“Scenes of Teaching: Muñoz, Performance, and the ‘Living Abundance.’” GL/Q Caucus Panel: “Performing Impossibility: Memorializing José Muñoz.” Annual Convention, Modern Language Association, Vancouver (January 2015)

“The Shape of the Right Statement: Neurodiversity and Performance.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, Los Angeles (November 2014)

“Neurofugitivity: Race, Disability, and Cartographies of Survival.” Annual Meeting, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Dallas (October 2014)

“Performing the Autism Archive: Deligny and Baggs.” Annual Meeting, International Federation for Theater Research, Warwick, UK (August 2014)

“Post-Industrial Pathology: Cognition, Disability, and the Aesthetics of Late Capitalism.” Living Labor: Marxism and Performance Studies Conference, Department of Performance Studies, New York University (April 2014)

“Autistic Perception, Neurodiversity, and Contemporary Performance.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, Washington, DC (November 2013)

“The Smallest Gesture: Neurodivergence, Queerness, Gesture.” Debilitating Queerness, LGBT Studies Program Annual Conference, University of Maryland-College Park (April 2013)

“Performing Queer Nonsovereignty: Roni Horn, Félix González-Torres, and the Politics of Friendship.” Working Group, “Performance and Geographies of Knowledge Production” 8th Encuentro, Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, São Paulo (January 2013)

“How to Wake Up Next to Your Own Dead Body: The Queer Necropolitical Performances of Ron Athey and Ishmael Houston-Jones.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico (November 2012)

“Neurodiversity and Autistic Performativity.” Working Group, “Sense, Affect, and Being Singular Plural.” Conveners: José Esteban Muñoz, Tavia Nyong’o, Karen Shimakawa Annual Meeting, American Society for Theater Research, Nashville (November 2012)

“Autistic Perception and the Terror of an ‘Unhuman’ Aesthetics.” “Terror and the Inhuman” Conference, Department of Modern Culture and Media, Brown University (October 2012)

“Is History What Hurts? Actionism and the Body Politic in the 1970s.” Working Group: “1973, or a Moment Like It.” Conveners: Jon Rossini and Patricia Ybarra. Annual Meeting, American Society for Theater Research, Montreal (November 2011)

“Is Violence Reparative? Ron Athey and the Erotics of the Boundary.” English Graduate Students Association Conference, CUNY Graduate Center (February 2010)

Conference Sessions and Working Groups Organized

Panel Co-Organizer, “Mad/Queer Pedagogies of Dissent.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association (November 2017)

Panel Co-Organizer and Respondent, “Critical Disability Studies Caucus: The Home Which Is Not One.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association (November 2016)

Panelist and Session Co-Organizer, “Mad Studies and Affect Theory.” Critical Disability Studies Caucus, American Studies Association, Toronto (October 2015)

Working Group Co-Convener, “Avant-Gardes, Otherwise: Aesthetics, Experimentation, and the Undercommons.” American Society for Theater Research, Baltimore (November 2014)

November 2014. Panel Co-Organizer: “Theorizing Beyond the Regime of the Theoretical.” Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, Los Angeles

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brown University, Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies

Queer Performance

Theatre and Performance History

University of Pennsylvania, Penn Humanities Forum/English and Cinema Studies

The Wild Child in the Cultural Imagination. Spring 2017, Instructor of Record

New York University, Department of Performance Studies

Performance in New York. Summer 2016, Instructor of Record

Introduction to Performance Studies. Summer 2014 and 2015, Teaching Assistant/Writing Tutor

Occidental College, Department of Critical Theory and Social Justice

Introduction to Critical Theory. Spring 2016, Instructor of Record

Body Politics. Spring 2016, Instructor of Record

Methods in Critical Theory: Michel Foucault. Spring 2016, Instructor of record

California State University–Northridge, Department of Communication Studies

Performance and Cultural Studies Criticism. Fall 2015, Instructor of Record

Introduction to Performance, Language, and Cultural Studies. Fall 2015, Instructor of Record

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2017. Co-organizer, “Translation Across the Boundaries of the Human,” a daylong symposium sponsored by the Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania

2017. Co-organizer, “Disability Studies: A History,” a two-day conference sponsored by the Disability Studies Working Group, University of Pennsylvania.

2015– Member, Critical Disability Studies Caucus, American Studies Association.

2015. Alan Bray Memorial Prize Committee, GLQ Caucus, Modern Language Association

2015–. Editorial Review Board member, *Disability Studies Quarterly*.

2014–. Peer Reviewer: *Disability Studies Quarterly*; *GLQ: The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies*; *Women & Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*; *The Journal of Popular Music Studies*

2013. Graduate coordinator, “Cripistemologies: A Disability Studies Conference,” Co-Sponsored by the Council for the Study of Disability and Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at NYU

EDITORIAL

2016. Editor: André Lepecki, *Singularities: Dance in the Age of Performance* (Routledge)

2011–13. Managing Editor, *TDR/The Drama Review: A Journal of Performance Studies* (MIT Press)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society for Theatre Research

American Studies Association

Association for Theatre in Higher Education

National Women's Studies Association

Performance Studies International

College Art Association

REFERENCES

Available upon request.