

MSA Board Nomination

Name: John Hoffmann

Position: Chair, International Relations

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Rank and Affiliation: Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Media Studies, Philipps-Universität, Marburg

Statement of Qualifications:

Since receiving my PhD in 2018, I have held appointments at the University of Konstanz and the Philipps-Universität, Marburg; and at conferences and invited talks in Germany, the UK, Sweden, the Netherlands, and this coming fall in Athens, I've developed a professional network in Europe that I would look forward to incorporating into the MSA. I would also be able to introduce new disciplinary blood into modernist studies by bringing in scholars from film and media studies, my current institutional home. Furthermore, with funding from the German Research Foundation, I will be hosting a conference in Marburg in the summer of 2023, which would prepare me well for organizing a future MSA conference outside the United States. Finally, although I do not currently hold a tenured position, I am working through the ranks of the German system, a process that often requires years of competitive grant writing before joining the professoriate. I see my rank as an opportunity to work with other members of the MSA board, especially the Graduate Student and Contingent Faculty Representatives, to help emerging scholars who are interested in entering the European system. I am confident I could serve out my term if elected.

List of Relevant Publications:

"The Optics of Orientation: Walter Benjamin and Mikhail Kaufman in Moscow." *Modernism/modernity* 24.4 (November 2017): 751-770.

"The Volk against Fascism: Socialist Realism and the Aesthetics of Expressionism." *New Literary History* 51.3 (Summer 2020): 587-614.

"Animating the Nations: Julius Pinschewer's Anglophone Cinema." *Film History* 30.3 (Fall 2018): 51-74.

"Grand Hotel Theory." In *Hotel Modernisms: 1890-1950*, edited by Anna Despotopoulou, Vassiliki Kolocotroni, Efterpi Mitsi. London: Routledge, forthcoming for the series "Among the Victorians and Modernists"

CV:

EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Johns Hopkins University, 2018
Dissertation: "Being Together: Aesthetics and Anthropology from Kant to the Cinema." Douglas Mao (advisor), Mary Favret (second reader), Elisabeth Strowick (outside reader)

M.A. English, Johns Hopkins University, 2014

M.A. Humanities, The University of Chicago, 2011

B.A. Liberal Arts, St. John's College, 2008

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Fellow, Philipps-Universität Marburg, fall 2019-present

Visiting Scholar, University of Konstanz, spring 2019

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Aesthetics; Critical Theory; Global Modernism; German, British, American Modernism;
Cinema and Media Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

"The Volk against Fascism: Socialist Realism and the Aesthetics of Expressionism." *New Literary History* 51.3 (Summer 2020): 587-614.

"Animating the Nations: Julius Pinschewer's Anglophone Cinema." *Film History* 30.3 (Fall 2018): 51-74.

"The Optics of Orientation: Walter Benjamin and Mikhail Kaufman in Moscow." *Modernism/modernity* 24.4 (November 2017): 751-770.

"Kant's Aesthetic Categories: Race in the *Critique of Judgment*." *diacritics* 44.2 (2016): 56-84.

Chapters in Edited Collections

"Grand Hotel Theory." In *Hotel Modernisms: 1890-1950*, edited by Anna Despotopoulou, Vassiliki Kolocotroni, Efterpi Mitsi. London: Routledge, forthcoming for the series "Among the Victorians and Modernists."

"Forged Identities: Race and Nationhood 1700-2000." In *Fakes, Lies, and Forgeries: Rare Books and Manuscripts from the Arthur and Janet Freeman Bibliotheca Fictiva Collection*, edited by Earle Havens, 103-114. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries, 2014.

Translations

Heide Schlüppmann, "The Discovery of Early Cinema: The Moment of 'Silence.'" In *Histories of Film History*, edited by Malte Hagener and Yvonne Zimmerman, Amsterdam University Press, forthcoming for the series "Film Culture in Transition"

Victor Zhirmunsky, *Rhyme* (selections). *The Chicago Review* 57.3/4 (Winter 2013): 121-128.

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Eigene Stelle (three-year research fellowship; includes research and travel budget, funds to organize a conference, and funds for a lecture series), German Research Foundation (DFG), 2019

Research Grant, Modernist Studies Association, 2019

Research Fellowship, Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz, 2019

Research Grant, The Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Program in Jewish Studies, Johns Hopkins University, 2017

Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 2017

Long-Term Research Grant (ten months), Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, 2015-16

Research Grant, Modernist Studies Association, 2016

Travel Grant, Max Kade Center for Modern German Thought, 2015

Pedagogical Training Certificate, Preparing Future Faculty Teaching Academy, Johns Hopkins University, 2015

Owen Scholars Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 2012-2015

Denis Family Curatorial Fellowship, Sheridan Libraries Special Collections, 2013-14

Graduate Student Visitorship, Friedrich Schlegel Graduiertenschule für literaturwissenschaftliche Studien, Freie-Universität Berlin, 2012-2013

INVITED TALKS

"Jenseits der Grenze: Transnationale Filmkultur zwischen Deutschland und Großbritannien," University of Marburg, January 2020

"Beyond the Border: Transnational Film Culture between Germany and Great Britain," University of Konstanz, June 2019

"The Anglophone Films of Julius Pinschewer," Colloquium on Advertising and Moving Images held by the Department of Media Studies, Stockholm University, Sigtuna, Sweden, March 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Panels Organized

"Continental Modernism/Global Modernism," Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference (MSA), Toronto, October 2019

"Form without Formalism," MSA, Amsterdam, August 2017

Papers Presented

"The Creative Treatment of Fantasy: Lotte Reiniger, the GPO Film Unit, and Advertising as Transnational Cinema." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference (SCMS), 2021

"Berlin, Barcelona, Palestine: Else Lasker-Schüler after Expressionism," MSA, Toronto, October 2019

"Lotte Reiniger's London: The GPO Film Unit and Advertising as Transnational Cinema." SCMS Partners Conference, London, July 2019

"Fairy Tale Advertising: Lotte Reiniger and the GPO Film Unit." Orphans Pre-Conference Colloquium, New York, April 2018

"Choreography in Early Yeats," MSA, Amsterdam, August 2017

"'Weaving Olden Dances': W.B. Yeats and Collective Movement," American Conference for Irish Studies - Southern Region, University of Kentucky, March 2017

"The Optics of Orientation: Walter Benjamin's 'Moscow,'" Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Pasadena, CA, November 2016

COURSES TAUGHT

"Propaganda und visuelle Medien" [Propaganda and Visual Media], Institut für Medienwissenschaft, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Summer 2021 (taught in German)

"Die Psychoanalyse und das Kino" [Psychoanalysis and the Cinema], Institut für Medienwissenschaft, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Winter 2020 (taught in German)

"Hollywood und die Kulturindustrie," Institut für Medienwissenschaft, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Winter 2019 (taught in German)

"Hollywood and the Culture Industry," English and Media Studies, Johns Hopkins University, fall 2018

"Modern Literature and the Land," English Department, Johns Hopkins, fall 2017

"Stage and Screen," English and Media Studies, Johns Hopkins, spring 2017

"Visions of War," Expository Writing, Johns Hopkins, fall 2014 and spring 2015

English as a Second Language, American University in Iraq, Sulaimaniyah, Iraq, spring 2009

ARCHIVAL EXPERIENCE

Bodleian Library, Oxford; British Film Institute, London; The National Archives, Kew;

Wellcome Library, London; Deutsches Filminstitut, Wiesbaden; Bundesarchiv Filmarchiv, Berlin; Deutsches Literaturarchiv, Marbach am Neckar; Stadtbibliothek Wuppertal; Sheridan Libraries Special Collections, Johns Hopkins University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University and Department Service

Invited Speaker, Colloquium on Cinephile Networks, University of Marburg, May 2019

Invited Speaker, address to the undergraduate English Club on graduate school prospects, Johns Hopkins University, March 2014 and March 2017

Coordinator, English Department Tudor & Stuart Lecture Series, fall 2014 - spring 2015

Organizer, Prospective Graduate Student Visit, spring 2013 and spring 2014

Graduate Representative, Homewood Grievance Committee, nominated by department chair, Johns Hopkins University, 2013 - 2014

Academic Service

Co-curator, "Fakes, Lies, and Forgeries," exhibition of the world's largest collection of literary forgeries, Sheridan Libraries Special Collections, October 2014

Poetry Staff Editor, *The Chicago Review*, fall 2011 - spring 2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association; Modernist Studies Association; Society for Cinema and Media Studies

LANGUAGES

German (teaching and research)

Italian (reading and conversation)

French (working)

Ancient Greek (working)

REFERENCES

Douglas Mao, Russ Family Professor in the Humanities, Department of English, Johns Hopkins University

Mary Favret, Professor, Department of English, Johns Hopkins University

Elisabeth Strowick, Professor, Department of German, New York University

Patricia Kain, Teaching Professor and Director, Expository Writing Program, Johns Hopkins University (retired)

Anne Eakin-Moss, Assistant Professor, Comparative Thought and Literature, Johns Hopkins University