

Curriculum Vitae

Judith M. Halberstam

Current Position

Associate Professor of Literature, UC San Diego. (Tenured in 1996)

Areas of specialization: queer theory, 19th century novel, Victorian Culture, Gothic literature and the horror film, modern novel, postmodern culture, film and video, feminist theory, gender studies.

Education

1991 Ph.D. in English Literature, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

1989 M.A. in English Literature, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

1985 B.A., Highest Honors in English, University of California, Berkeley.

Book Projects

Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and The Technology of Monsters. Durham, N.C.:Duke University Press, 1995.

Posthuman Bodies. Co-Edited with Ira Livingston, Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1995.

Female Masculinity. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1998.

The Drag King Book. With Della Grace. London: Serpent's Tail, 1999.

Male Fraud: Counterfeit Masculinities and the Case of Brandon Teena. (NY: NYU Press, contracted).

Fellowships

REFLAGS Visiting Professor of Gay and Lesbian Studies at Yale University, 1996/7.

Draper Postdoctoral Fellow, Liberal Studies, NYU, 1995-6.

Summer Faculty Research Grant, 1995.

Affirmative Action Faculty Career Development Program Grant, 1993-4

Campus Nominee for NEH Summer Fellowship, 1993.

Academic Senate Research Grant, 1992-1993; 1994-5; 1996-7.

Academic Senate Travel Grant, Fall 1991.

University of Minnesota Dissertation Fellowship, 1990-1991.

Publications

"Female-to-Butch: Butch/FTM Border Wars and the Masculine Continuum" in GLQ, Special Issue on Transgender Studies, edited by Susan Stryker (forthcoming, March 1998).

"Bondage Up Yours!: Female Masculinity and the Tomboy," in Tomboys and Sissies: A CLAGS Reader, edited by Matt Rottneck. New York: New York University Press, Forthcoming, 1998.

"Jackdaddy, Rapper, Superfly: Race and Gender in the Drag King Scene," in Social Text, Special Issue on "Race and Sexuality," edited by Jose Munoz and Ann McClintock, (Fall 1997).

"Queer Theory, Gothic and Drag Kings," in The Lesbian and Gay Encyclopedia, edited by Bonnie Zimmerman.

"Sex Debates," in Lesbian and Gay Studies: A Critical Introduction, edited by Andy

- Medhurst and Sally Munt. London: Cassell, 1997.
- "Between Butches," in *Butch/Femme: Theorizing Lesbian Gender*, edited by Sally Munt. London: Cassell, 1997.
- "Bathrooms, Butches and the Aesthetics of Female Masculinity," in *Rose is a Rose is a Rose: Gender Performance in Photography*, edited by Jennifer Blessing. New York: Guggenheim Museum, 1997: 176 - 189.
- "Who's Afraid of Queer Theory?" in *Class Issues: Pedagogy, Cultural Studies and the Cultural Sphere*, edited by Amitava Kumar. New York: NYU Press, 1997.
- "Techno-Homo: on Bathrooms, Butches and Sex With Furniture," in *Processed Lives: Gender and Technology in Everyday Life*, edited by Jennifer Terry and Melodie Calvert. London and New York: Routledge, 1997: 183 - 194.
- "The Future of Lesbian Studies," *Lesbian Studies*, eds. Bonnie Zimmerman and Toni McNaron (Forthcoming, 1995).
- "Even Stone Butches Get the Blues: Lesbian Masculinities," *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, Vol. 8:2 #16 (Winter 1996), special issue on "Queer Acts" edited by Jose Munoz : 61 - 74.
- "The Joe-Joe Effect," *GLQ* Volume 1 #3 (Summer, 1994).
- "Gender Ambiguities," (Book Review) *Gender and History* Vol. 6 #1 (April 1994): 151-153.
- "F2M: The Making of Female Masculinity" in *The Lesbian Postmodern*, ed. Laura Doan (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1994): 210-28.(Reprinted in *Lesbian Words*, ed.Randy Turoff (Masquerade Books, 1995).
- "Imagined Violence/Queer Violence: Representations of Rage and Resistance," *Social Text* #37 (Winter 1993): 187 - 201.
- "Technologies of Monstrosity: Bram Stoker's Dracula," *Victorian Studies* 36 #3 (Spring 1993): 333 - 352. (Reprinted in *Culture and Politics in the 1890's*, eds. Sally Ledger and Scott McCracken [Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1994]).
- "The Fiction of Courtly Love and Gender Production," (Book Review) *Signs* 19 #1 (Autumn 1993): 241 - 243.
- "Skinflick: Posthuman Gender in Jonathan Demme's *The Silence of the Lambs*," *Camera Obscura* (Fall 1992): 37 - 54.
- "Queer Film and Video: A Review of *How Do I Look?*," (Book Review) *American Book Review* (October, 1992).
- "Automating Gender: Postmodern Feminism in the Age of the Intelligent Machine," *Feminist Studies* (Winter, 1992): 439 - 460.
- "Starting From Scratch: Female Rappers and Feminist Discourse," *Revisions: Journal of Women's Studies at MSU* 2:2 (Winter 1989): 1-4.

Invited Speaker 1995-1997

- "Raging Bull Dyke: On Women and Boxing," A Seminar On Violence convened by Joseph Bristow at UCLA, November 21-23, 1997.
- "Sex Debates: Women and the Public Sphere, a Sex Panic Event, NGLTF Creating Change, San Diego, Nov.13 - 16, 1997.
- "Academia and Activism," a roundtable discussion with Robyn Wiegman, Jennifer Brody and Gayatri Gopinath at NGLTF Creating Change Conference, San Diego, Nov.13-16, 1997.
- "Commies and Tribades," Colloquium Participant, Queer Now and Then Conference at UC Santa Cruz, Oct. 31, 1997.
- "Modern Masculinity," Guest Speaker, Gender Seminar, Univ. Of Lincolnshire and Humberside, Oct. 27, 1997.

- "Female Masculinity and the Category of the Ugly," Plenary Lecture at Considered Unseen, University of Leeds, October 25-26, 1997.
- "Sex Without Sexuality," The Sawyer Seminar on Sexual Identities and Identity Politics, convened by George Chauncey at the University of Chicago, Inaugural Symposium, October 18-19, 1997.
- "Gothic Nation: Richard Marsh's *The Beetle*," Plenary Lecture at 3rd International Gothic Association (IGA), "Legacies of Walpole: The Gothic after Otranto," St. Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, Univ. Of Surrey, July 15-18 1997.
- "Queer Pedagogy," Gay/Lesbian Lecture Series, NYU, May 7, 1997.
- "Drag and Performance," Gay and Lesbian Annual Lecture, Swarthmore College, Philadelphia, March 1, 1997.
- "Drag Kings and Female Masculinity," Gay and Lesbian Lecture Series, University Of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, February 21, 1997.
- "Drag Kings: Masculinity and Performance," American Studies Series, Wesleyan University, February 14, 1997.
- "Transgender Discourse and the Rhetoric of Migration," Gay and Lesbian Lecture Series, CLAGS, February 5, 1997.
- "Introduction for Esther Newton's Kessler Memorial Lecture," CLAGS, CUNY, December 6, 1996.
- "Drag Kings: An Introduction," Yale University, November 7, 1996.
- "Drag Kings," Keynote at Queer Student Conference, SUNY Binghamton, October 25, 1996.
- "Technologies of Masculinity: A Short History of Male Impersonation," invited speaker in series on "Technology of Gender," University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Center for Twentieth Century Studies, September 20, 1996.
- "Lesbian Genders," guest lecture, Whitney Art Museum, May 1, 1996.
- "Looking Butch: A Rough Guide to Butches on Film," Video/Lecture Presentation commissioned by the London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, March 18 -28, 1995. Also delivered by invitation in film festivals in Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Austin, June 1995 - August 1996.
- "Tommies, Tribades and Inverts: An Introduction to Female Masculinities," Draper Postdoctoral Lecture, NYU, New York City, November 1995.
- "Bodies That Splatter," SUNY Stony Brook Humanities Center, Stony Brook, NY, May 2, 1995.
- "Studying Sex," Columbia University, Queer Lecture Series, New York City, May 4, 1995.
- "Lesbian Masculinities," University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Gay and Lesbian Studies Brown Bag Series, May 10, 1995.

Teaching

The Sensation Novel of the 1860's, Fall 1991; Victorian Gothic: Gothic Monstrosity, Graduate Seminar, Winter 1992; Gay and Lesbian Literature: An Introduction, Spring 1992; The 1890's: Vampires, Degenerates and Decadents, Spring 1992; Queer Theory: Graduate Seminar, Fall 1992; Weird Women Writers, Winter 1993; The Industrial Novels: Narratives Of Poverty, Winter 1993; Introduction to the Literatures of the British Isles, Spring 1993; Technofiction, Spring, 1993; Gender and the Horror Film, Graduate Seminar, Fall 1993; Prisons, Police and Detection in the 19th C. Novel, Fall 1993; Lesbian, Gay and Queer Culture, Winter 1994; Lesbian, Gay and Queer Cinema, One Unit Seminar, Winter 1994. The British Novel in the Twentieth Century, Fall 1994; Lesbian Feminism 1969 - Present, Fall 1994; Introduction to the Study of

Gender and Sexuality, Graduate Seminar, Winter 1995; *Some Bodies: Introduction to Gender Studies*, MA Seminar, NYU, Fall 1995; *Bodies, Sexualities, Power: Queering Masculinity*, Graduate Seminar, NYU, Winter 1996; *The English Conspiracy Novel of the Turn of the Century*, UCSD, Summer, 1996; *The Queer Gaze*, Yale University, Fall 1996; *Literature and the History of Sexuality*, Yale, Spring 1997; *Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies* (team taught), Yale, Spring, 1997; *Postmodern Fiction: Race and Gender in the Contemporary American Novel*, UCSD, Fall, 1997; *Interdisciplinary Queer Studies*, Graduate Seminar, UCSD, Spring 1998.

Editorial Experience

Reviewer, *Signs: A Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, *National Women's Studies Journal*, *Victorian Studies*, *GLQ*.

Manuscript reader for Routledge, Rutgers University Press, SUNY Press, Columbia University Press, Chicago University Press, Duke University Press, Oxford University Press.

References

Professor Diana Fuss, Dept of English, Princeton University

Professor George Lipsitz, Department of Ethnic Studies, UC San Diego

Professor Esther Newton, Department of Anthropology, SUNY Purchase

Paper titles for National Central University

1) Male Fraud: Counterfeit Masculinities and the Case of Brandon Teena

On December 31, 1993 three young people were shot to death execution style in a town called Falls City in rural Nebraska. Ordinarily this story would have evoked only mild interest and a few questions about the specific brutalities of rural America; however, one of the three victims was a young white person who had been born a woman but who was living as a man and had been dating local girls. The other two victims, Brandon's friend Lisa Lambert and her friend Philip DeVine - a disabled African American man, appeared to have been killed because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time (although this too is debatable). In this paper, I allude to a few of the multiple narratives that collect around the name Brandon Teena and lay out some of the battles about gender identity, regionality, class, sexuality and violence that have been produced by this incident. A close investigation of the life and death of Brandon reveals that more than transgender politics are at stake in the narratives that emerge from this case; also at issue are questions about urban versus rural queer identities and a more general discussion of white masculinities and geographies of gender. I will use as my text for the discussion of this case, a recent independent video production by Susan Muska and Greta Olafsdottir called "The Brandon Teena Story"; however, it is worth noting that this tape is just one of a slew of media representations of the case in recent years: the story has been fictionalized in a novel by Denitia Smith called *The Illusionist*; it has been written up as a true crime mystery called *All S/He Wanted* by Aphrodite Jones; Diane Keaton is currently producing a feature film about the case starring Drew Barrymore and Christine Vachon is also producing a queer feature about the murders. At the same time, queer media artist Shu Lea Cheang has created a web site for the Guggenheim simply called "Brandon," which she describes as a "Multi-artist, multi-author, multi-institutional collaboration." This presentation tries to make sense of the multiple fictions surrounding the life and death of Brandon Teena.

2) Looking Butch: A Rough Guide to Butches on Film

This clip show/lecture is adapted from a chapter of my book *Female Masculinity* (Duke UP, 1998). In this presentation, I will explore the history of butch women on film in order to reclaim a tradition of cinematic female masculinity which lesbians have tended to disavow within a discourse of "positive and "negative" images. I begin with a consideration of definitions of the lesbian image and I also try to present a map of recent debates within queer cinema over positive and negative images, spectatorship and the role of feminist psychoanalytic film theory. I devote the rest of the presentation to a survey of butch images from both mainstream and independent film and I argue for a reconsideration of what it means to "look" butch, to look at butches and even to engage a "butch" gaze.