

Curriculum Vitae

ELENA GORFINKEL

**Department of Art History & Film Studies Program
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201**

**Phone: 414-229-2723
Email: gorfinke@uwm.edu**

EDUCATION

- PhD, with Distinction. Cinema Studies, New York University. January 2008.
Dissertation Title: "'Indecent Desires': Sexploitation Cinema, 1960s Film Culture, and the Adult Film Audience." Committee: Chris Straayer (advisor); Robert Sklar; Anna McCarthy, Linda Williams, Eric Schaefer.
- MA, Cinema Studies, New York University. August 1999.
- BA, Cum Laude. Humanities, Hofstra University. December 1995. American Culture/Literature Focus.

PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH

Book Manuscript

- *Indecent Desires, Obsolete Bodies: Sexploitation Cinema, 1960s Film Culture & Erotic Historicity.* In revision.

Edited Book

- *Taking Place: Location and the Moving Image*, edited with John David Rhodes. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, November 2011.

Articles, Book Chapters

- "Impossible, Impolitic: *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul* and Fassbinder's Asynchronous Bodies," *A Companion to Rainer Werner Fassbinder*, ed. Brigitte Peucker. Hoboken: Wiley Blackwell, 2011.
- "Dated Sexuality: Anna Biller's *VIVA* and the Retrospective Life of Sexploitation Cinema." *Camera Obscura: Feminism, Culture & Media Studies* 78. Volume 26, No. 3 December 2011.
- "Tales of Times Square: Sexploitation's Secret History of Place," in *Taking Place: Location & the Moving Image*, University of Minnesota Press. November 2011.
- "Wet Dreams: Erotic Film Festivals..." (reprint, revised) in Eric Schaefer, ed. *Sex Scene: Media and the Sexual Revolution*. Anthology contracted by Duke University Press. Forthcoming 2012.
- "Arousal in Ruins: *The Color of Love* and the Haptic Object of Film History," *World Picture Journal* 4, "Arousal" Issue. (April 2010.)

< http://english.okstate.edu/worldpicture/WP_4/Gorfinkel.html>

- "A Brief History of The Secret Cinema," Andrea Grover & Ed Halter, ed., *Microcinema Primer: A Brief History of Small Cinemas*, Aurora Picture Show Press. Forthcoming 2011.
- "Solitary Particles: *The Wayward Cloud*," *Electric Sheep*. (Spring 2009). 27-29.
- "Cult Film, or Cinephilia by Any Other Name," *Cineaste*. Vol. 34, No. 1, (Winter 2008). 33-38.
- "Wet Dreams: Erotic Film Festivals of the Early 1970s and the Utopian Sexual Public Sphere." *Framework: The Journal of Cinema & Media*, Vol. 47, No. 2, (Fall 2006.) 59-86.
- "The Future of Anachronism: Todd Haynes and The Magnificent Andersons." In *Cinephilia: Movies Love & Memory*. Marijke de Valck and Malte Hagener, Eds. Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam Press, 2005. 153-168.
- "Radley Metzger's 'Elegant Arousal:' Taste, Aesthetic Distinction, and Sexploitation." In *Underground USA: Filmmaking Outside of the Hollywood Canon*. Xavier Mendik & Steven Schneider, Eds. London: Wallflower Press, 2002. 26-39.
- "The Body as Apparatus: Chesty Morgan Takes on the Academy." In *Unruly Pleasures: The Cult Film and its Critics*. Graeme Harper and Xavier Mendik, Ed. London: FAB Press, 2000. 155-169.

Interviews & Editing

- "Unlikely Genres: An Interview with Anna Biller," *Camera Obscura: Feminism, Culture & Media Studies* 78. Volume 26, No. 3 December 2011.
- "Shown in 16mm on a Giant Screen: Adventures in Alternative Exhibition with The Secret Cinema – An Interview with Jay Schwartz," *Framework: The Journal of Cinema & Media*, Vol. 49, No. 2. (Fall 2008.) 114-37.
- Editor, with Jonathan Buchsbaum. "Cinephilia Dossier," *Framework: A Journal of Cinema & Media*, Vol. 50, No. 1-2. (Fall 2009.) 176-228.

In Preparation

- Dossier editor, "The Work of the Image: Cinema, Labor, Aesthetics," in *Framework: The Journal of Cinema & Media*, Vol. 53, No.1.
- "The Body's Failed Labor: Performance Work in Sexploitation Cinema," *Framework*, Spring 2012.
- "Expurgating Bodies: Naomi Uman's *Removed* and the Work of Defacement," book chapter. In Frances Guerin, ed. *On Not Looking*, collected anthology. In preparation.
- "Scent & Sentimentality: Notes on Cinema's Least Popular Sense," Research and revision stage, journal article.
- "Pat Rocco's Gay Adult Cinema and the Moment of Obsolescence, 1967-1975," Revision stage, journal article.

General Audience

- "Technologies of Undressing," with Eric Zimmerman. *Sex Appeal: The Art and Allure of Graphic Design*, ed. Steven Heller. New York: Allworth Press, 2000.

- “From Flesh to Hardware.” with Nancy Nowacek. *Sex Appeal: The Art and Allure of Graphic Design*, ed. Steven Heller. New York: Allworth Press, 2000.
- “Geek Chic: How Nerds Stole the Idea of Fashion,” in *Merge Magazine*, No.3, December 1998.
- “Technologies of Undressing: The Digital Paper Dolls of KISS,” with Eric Zimmerman *ZED, Journal Of Design and Criticism*, No. 5, September 1998.
- “Kiss & Tell”, with Eric Zimmerman, in *21•C Magazine*, Issue No.1, Winter 1997.

AWARDS/HONORS

- Katherine Singer Kovacs Essay Award Honorable Mention, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 2008, for “Wet Dreams: Erotic Film Festivals of the Early 1970s and the Utopian Sexual Public Sphere,” in *Framework*, Vol. 47, No. 2 (Fall 2006).
- NYU Presidential Service Award for “Cinephilia Symposium,” Spring 2002.
- William K. Everson Academic Achievement Award, NYU Cinema Studies, May 1999.
- Undergraduate Excellence Scholarship, Hofstra University, 1991–1995.
- Jeffrey Weinper Memorial Award for Writing, Hofstra University, May 1995.

GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

- Global Studies Fellowship, UWM Center for International Education, Fall 2011-Spring 2012.
- UWM Graduate School Research Committee Award, 2010-2011. Summer salary & archival research at the Kinsey Institute for Sex Gender & Reproduction.
- UWM Graduate School Travel Grant, Spring 2010. For conference travel & archival research.
- UWM Center for 21st Century Studies, 2010-2011 Center Fellow, Alternate.
- UCLA Film & Television Archive Visiting Researcher Stipend, July 2008.
- Moody Research Grant, Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation Library, April 2005.
- George Amberg Memorial Dissertation Fellowship, The Jerome Foundation, May 2004.
- NYU Cinema Studies Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Fall 2001-Spring 2002.
- NYU Graduate School of Arts & Science Travel Grants, Conference Travel, 1997-2005.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Art History Department & Film Studies Program, Fall 2009 - Present.

Courses:

- Art History 205: History of Film 1: Development of an Art, Fall 09, Fall 10
- Art History 206: History of Film 2: Development of an Art, Spring 10, Spring 11
- Art History 308: Film Styles: Cult Films, Fall 10
- Film Studies 590: Contemporary Film Theory, Spring 11
- Art History 761: The Carnal Screen: Sexuality, Gender & Embodiment in the Cinema, Spring 10 (Graduate Seminar)

Visiting Assistant Professor Bryn Mawr College, Film Studies Program,
Fall 2008- Spring 2009.

Lecturer Bryn Mawr College, Film Studies Program, Fall 2007-Spring 2008.

Courses:

- History of Film, 1895-1945 - Fall 08
- Cult Genres: Camp, Kitsch & Trash Cinema – Fall 07, Spring 09
- Women & Cinema – Fall 07, Fall 08
- Art & Exploitation: Gender & Sexuality in 1960s Cinema – Spring 08
- Contemplating Art Cinema - Spring 08
- Introduction to Film – Spring 08
- Identification in the Cinema – Spring 09

Adjunct Instructor

- Film & Media Department, Hunter College CUNY, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007.
- Film Department, Brooklyn College CUNY, Fall 2005, Spring 2006.
- Department of Cinema Studies, NYU, Spring 2004, Spring 2003, Spring 2005.
- Communication & Media Studies Department, Fordham University, Spring 2004

Courses:

- Language of Film 1
- Women & Film
- Art & Exploitation
- Stars: History, Image, Identity
- Youth Spaces: Rebellion, Consumption & the Teen Film
- History of Film 1: 1895-1945

Teaching Assistant

- Expressive Cultures - Film: Alfred Hitchcock, T.A. for Dr. Richard Allen, Morse Academic Plan, New York University, Spring 2002.
- Film Aesthetics: Studio Art Design, T.A. for Prof. Richard Traubner, Cinema Studies, New York University, Spring 2001.
- Comparative Directors: Craven/Cronenberg/Romero, T.A. for Prof. Matt Fee, Cinema Studies, New York University, Fall 2000.

Research Assistant for Dr. Robert Sklar, Professor of Cinema Studies, New York University, Fall 1999 – Spring 2000.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Invited Lectures

- Keynote address, “World Cinema Now” Conference, Monash University, Melbourne Australia. September 2011. Scheduled.
- “The Gawker in the Text: Allegories of Reception in 1960s Sexploitation Cinema,” Chicago Film Seminar, Chicago, IL. March 2011.

- “Toward a Theory of Affectivity,” Humanities Faculty Theory Seminar, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA. February 2009.
- “Dated Sexuality: Anna Biller’s *VIVA* and the Retrospective Life of 1960s Sexploitation Cinema.” Philadelphia Cinema and Media Studies Seminar, Temple University, Philadelphia. May 2008.

Conference Presentations

- “Film After Cinema: Sandra Gibson & Luis Recoder’s *Light Spill* & Museological Materialism,” Moving Image & Institution: Cinema and Museum in the 21st Century Conference, Cambridge University, Cambridge UK, July 2011.
- “The Body’s Failed Labor: Performance Work in Sexploitation Cinema,” & panel chair “The Work of the Image: Cinema, Labor Aesthetics,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. March 2011.
- Presentation on UCLA archival research on Pat Rocco “User Perspectives in a Digital Age,” Workshop, Association of Moving Image Archivists Conference, Philadelphia PA. November 2010.
- “Expurgating Bodies: Naomi Uman’s *Removed* and the Work of Defacement.” 4th Annual *World Picture* Conference: on “Representation,” Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. October 2010.
- “Anna Biller’s Time Machine Cinema,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies Conference, Los Angeles, California. March 2010.
- “Decomposing Cinema,” 3rd Annual *World Picture* Conference: on “Style,” Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. October 2009.
- “Scent & Sentimentality: Notes on Cinema’s Least Popular Sense,” 2nd Annual *World Picture* Conference on “The Popular,” Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. October 2008.
- “‘Structural Skin Flick’: Private Space, Sexuality and the Technology of Failure in Milton Moses Ginsberg’s *Coming Apart* (1969).” Documentation, Demonstration, Dematerialization: Art and Cinema of the Late 1960 & 70s Conference, University of California, Berkeley. April 2007.
- “Tales of Times Square: Sexploitation’s Secret History of Place.” Society for Cinema & Media Studies Conference, Chicago, IL. March 2007.
- “Wet Dreams: Erotic Film Festivals of the Early 1970s and the Utopian Sexual Public Sphere.” Society for Cinema & Media Studies Conference, Vancouver, BC, March 2006.
- “‘Knowing It and Seeing It’: Issues of Film Censorship and Obscenity in Pedagogical Context.” Association of Moving Image Archivists Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota. November 2004.
- “Feeling in the Dark: Cruising Cinephilia in Jacques Nolot’s *Porn Theatre* and Tsai Ming Liang’s *Goodbye Dragon Inn*.” University College, London. “Cinephilia 3: From Film to Digital Images Conference,” June 2004.
- “The Future of Anachronism: Todd Haynes and the Magnificent Andersons.” University of Amsterdam, “Cinephilia Take Two Conference.” June 2003.
- “Looking Forward, Looking Back: Tropes of Obsolescence in Late Sixties Sexploitation,” Society for Cinema Studies Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, also Chair, “Decline Decay Obsolescence” Panel. March 2003.

- "Art or Exploitation: Dated Sexuality and the Trash Heap of History." Society for Cinema Studies Conference, Washington D.C. Co-Chair, Trash Cinema Panel. May 2001.
- "Tactility, History Sexuality: Peggy Ahwesh's *The Color of Love* and the Felt Object of Film History." Concordia University, Montreal, Uncommon Senses Conference, April 2000.
- "Subject to Repeat: Seriality, Memory, and the Aesthetic of Masochism in *Sick*," Society for Cinema Studies Conference, Chicago, March 2000.
- "Home and the Politics of Transgender." University of California, Berkeley, "Performing Unnatural Acts" Conference. November 1999.
- "*Playtime: Hulot's Derive and the Re-Constituted Urban Space*," University College, Dublin, "Cinema and the City" Conference. March 1999.
- "Cultural, Interactive, and Aesthetic Elements of the Video Game *Parappa the Rapper*." Brown University. "High/Low Machine: Toward a Computer Aesthetic" Visual Art Symposium, co-presentation on March 1998.
- Co-presentation on Japanese digital culture of "Kisekae," School for the Art Institute of Chicago, Annual International Society for Electronic Art Conference, September 1997.
- "Technology of the Nerd, Society of the Bespectacled: Fashioning Geek Chic," Bowling Green State University, Ohio. "Style" Conference, July 1997.
- "Trash TV and the Urge to Purge," Harvard University, Center for Literary & Cultural Studies, Cambridge, MA, "Dirt Conference." March 1996.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Departmental Service

- Graduate Committee, UWM Art History Dept. Fall 2010- Present.
- Art History Gallery Committee, UWM Art History Dept, Fall 2010-Present.
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, UWM Art History Dept. Fall 2009-Summer 2010.
- Core Faculty Committee, UWM Film & Media Studies Program. Fall 2009- Present.

Conference Organization

- "World Cinemas, Global Networks," Center for International Education, UW-Milwaukee, Spring 2012. International film studies conference, co-organizer.
- SCMS Host Committee, SCMS 2008 Conference, Philadelphia, PA
- Confessions of a Vice Baron: Sexploitation Filmmakers Meet the Academy Roundtable, NYU Dept. of Cinema Studies, Spring 2003.
- Cinephilia Conference, NYU Dept of Cinema Studies, February 2002
- NYU Cinema Studies Student Faculty Conference, Spring 1999, 2000, 2001.

Editorial & Advisory

- Referee, *Framework: A Journal of Cinema & Media*
- Book Proposal Reviewer, Berg Press, 2009.
- Editorial Advisory Board, *World Picture Journal*. www.worldpicturejournal.com

PROGRAMMING/CURATION

- *Light Spill*, Sandra Gibson & Luis Recoder. Curation of moving image installation in the UWM Art History Department Gallery, January 27-February 10, 2011.
- SEXperimental, Ocularis, Galapagos Performance Space, Brooklyn, NY. November 2001. Co-curated with Bradley Eros, Karyn Riegel, and M.M. Serra.
- 16th Annual MIX: The NY Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film and Video Festival, Anthology Film Archives, NY. November 2002, Festival Programming Committee.
- From MIX with Love, Ocularis, Galapagos Performance Space, Brooklyn, NY. November 2002, Co-curator.

COMMUNITY

- Introduction to Kelly Reichardt's *Ode*, White Light Cinema, Chicago, August 2011.
- Panel Chair & Moderator, "Sex & Film" Panel, Chicago International Film Festival, October 2010.
- Juror, Milwaukee Underground Film Festival, UWM, May 2010.
- Introductory Remarks and Talkback, *Hot & Bothered: Feminist Pornography & Filming Desire*, Screening, UWM Union Theatre, March 2010.
- Introductory Remarks and Talkback, *UNTITLED* Screening, Sunday Cinema Club, Oriental Theater, Milwaukee. November 2009.

LANGUAGES

- English
- Russian

AFFILIATIONS

- Society for Cinema and Media Studies.
- Association of Moving Image Archivists.

REFERENCES

Available on request.