

**Christy L. Burns**

Department of English  
College of William & Mary  
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**Academic degrees:**

Ph.D. Humanities Center, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 1992. Comparative Literature.  
B.A. Cornell University, May 1984. English Literature.

**Specializations:** Modernism, Postmodernism, Contemporary Literature, Contemporary Film, Continental Philosophy, Critical Theory.

**Teaching and Research Positions:**

College of William & Mary, Tenured Associate Professor of English, 1998-present.  
Assistant Professor of English, 1992-1998. On faculty in Women's Studies, courses taught in Literary and Cultural Studies and Film Studies.  
Director of Women's Studies, 2008-2011. Interim Director, Spring 2007.  
Brown University, Visiting Scholar, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, 1999-2000; Visiting Associate Adjunct Professor, Department of English, Fall 1999.  
Zürich James Joyce Foundation, Visiting Scholar, Fall 1993.

**Grants and Awards:**

College of William & Mary, Sabbatical Research Grant, 1999-2000; 2005-2006.  
Alumni Fellowship Award for Teaching, College of William & Mary, 1998.  
ACLS Travel Grant for conference presentation in Dundee, Scotland, 1996.  
College of William & Mary, Summer Research Grants, 1993, 1994, 1997, 2001.  
College of William & Mary, Reves Center Grants for travel to international conferences 1994, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2010.  
Zürich James Joyce Foundation Scholarship, Fall 1993.  
Ford Foundation Travel Grants for conference presentations related to Women's Studies, 1990, 1991, 1992.

**Publications:**

**Books:**

*Gestural Politics: Stereotype and Parody in Joyce*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2000.

**Articles:**

"Tarkovsky's *Nostalgia*: Refusing Modernity, Re-Envisioning Beauty." *Cinema Journal*. 50.2 (Winter 2011): 104-122.

**Publications/Articles continued:**

“Consuming the Local: Irish Film in a Global Economy.” *Global Babel: Questions of Discourse and Communication in a time of Globalization*. Eds. Margueritte Murphy and Samir Dayal. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008: 272-297.

“Postcolonial Cartographies: The Nature of Place in Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake* and in Friel’s *Translations*.” *Joyce, Imperialism, and Post-Colonialism*. Ed. Leonard Orr. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2008: 127-143.

“In Memoriam—Hugh Kenner.” *James Joyce Quarterly*. 39:4 (Winter 2004): 635-638.

"Politics and Postmodern History in Thomas Pynchon's *Mason & Dixon*." *Postmodern Culture*. Fall 2003 (14:1).

Review Essay: “Re-Thinking Modernism after the 1990s.” On Ann Banfield’s *The Phantom Table: Woolf, Fry, Russell and the Epistemology of Modernism* and Rosemary Sumner’s *A Route to Modernism: Hardy, Lawrence, Woolf*. *Modern Fiction Studies*. 48:2 (Summer 2002): 470-479.

"Beautiful Labors: Lyricism and Feminist Revisions in Eavan Boland's Poetry." *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*. 20:2 (Fall 2001): 217-236.

"Erasure: Alienation, Paranoia, and Loss of Memory in *The X-Files*." *Camera Obscura*. 45 15:3 (Spring 2001): 195-225.

"Suturing Over Racial Difference: Problems for a Colorblind Approach in a Visual Culture." *Discourse*. 22.1 (Fall 2000): 70-91. (On film *Suture*, McGehee and Siegel, 1993).

"Powerful Differences: Critique and *Eros* in Jeanette Winterson and Virginia Woolf." *Modern Fiction Studies*. 44:2 (Summer 1998): 364-392.

"Parodic Irishness: Joyce's Reconfigurations of the Nation in *Finnegans Wake*." *Novel*. 31:1 (Spring 1998): 237-255.

"In the Original Sinne: The Gay Cliché and Verbal Transgression in *Finnegans Wake*." *Quare Joyce*. Ed. Joseph Valente. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1998: 201-222.

"Parody in 'Scylla and Charybdis.'" *Images of Joyce*. Vol. 2 Ed. Clive Hart, C. George Sandulescu, Bonnie Kime Scott & Fritz Senn. Colin Smythe & Oxford University Press, 1998: 498-504.

**Publications/Articles continued:**

"Parody and Postmodern Sex: The Humor of Pynchon and Janowitz." *Performing Gender and Comedy: Theories, Texts, and Contexts*. Ed. S. Hengen. Gordon and Breach, 1998: 149-166.

"Fantastic Language: Jeanette Winterson's Recovery of the Postmodern Word." *Contemporary Literature*. 37:2 (Summer 1996): 278-306.

"The Art of Conspiracy: Punning and Paranoid Response in Nabokov's *Invitation to a Beheading*." *Mosaic*. 28:1 (March 1995): 99-117.

"Re-Dressing Feminist Identities: Tensions between Essential and Constructed Selves in Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*." *Twentieth Century Literature*. 40:3 (Fall 1994): 342-364.

"An Erotics of the Word: Female 'Assaucyeties' in *Finnegans Wake*." *James Joyce Quarterly*. 31:3 (Spring 1994): 315-335.

**Book Reviews, Notes, Contributions:**

*Joyce's Rare View: The Nature of Things in Finnegans Wake*, by Richard Beckman. Review. *James Joyce Quarterly*, Volume 45:3-4 (Spring-Summer 2008): 604-08.

Anthology Entry: "Thomas Pynchon." *The Thomson Anthology of American Literature*. Volume 5: 1945-Present. Ed. Henry Hart. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth. Forthcoming.

Anthology Entry: "Betty Friedan." *The Thomson Anthology of American Literature*. Volume 5: 1945-Present. Ed. Henry Hart. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth. Forthcoming.

Anthology Entry: "John Barth." *The Thomson Anthology of American Literature*. Volume 5: 1945-Present. Ed. Henry Hart. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth. Forthcoming.

Anthology Entry: "Donald Barthelme." *The Thomson Anthology of American Literature*. Volume 5: 1945-Present. Ed. Henry Hart. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth. Forthcoming.

Anthology Entry: "Thomas Pynchon." *The Pearson Custom Library of American Literature*. Eds. John Bryant (General Editor), Jacquelyn Y. McLendon, Cristanne Miller, Robin G. Schulze, David Shields (Assoc. Editor). Boston: Pearson Custom Publishing, December 2002.

**Book Reviews, Notes, Contributions (continued):**

Anthology Entry: "Don DeLillo." *The Pearson Custom Library of American Literature*. Eds. John Bryant et al. Boston: Pearson Custom Publ., December 2002.

"James Joyce" entry. *A William Carlos Williams Encyclopedia*. eds. Bryce Conrad and Richard Frye. Greenwood Press. Accepted.

"Joyce's Significance for Derrida." Review of *Reading Derrida Reading Joyce*, by Alan Roughley. *Novel*. 34: 1 (Fall 2000). 143-45.

*Belief and Resistance: Dynamics of Contemporary Intellectual Controversy*, Barbara Herrnstein Smith. Review. *Modern Language Notes* 112:5 (Winter 1997): 986-990.

*Joyce and Popular Culture*, ed. by R.B. Kershner. Review. *ELT: English Literature in Transition*. 40:4 (September 1997): 353-358.

*Parody: Ancient, Modern, and Post-Modern*, by Margaret A. Rose. Review. *Modern Language Notes*. 109:5 (Winter 1994): 986-988.

"Repetition and/or Negation in Joyce: News from the Zürich Workshop." *James Joyce Quarterly*. 31:4 (Summer 1994): 429-431.

*Radical Parody: American Culture and Critical Agency After Foucault*, by Daniel O'Hara. Review. *Modern Language Notes* 108:5 (Winter 1993): 1006-1009.

*Nabokov's Otherworld*, by Vladimir E. Alexandrov. Review. *Modern Language Notes* 106:5 (Winter 1991): 1079-1082.

*An Annotated Critical Bibliography of James Joyce*, by Thomas F. Staley. Review. *Modern Language Notes* 104:5 (December 1989): 1226-1228.

**Work in Progress:**

Second Book Project: *Beyond Reason: Sensate Meaning in Modern to New Millennial Fiction*. Addresses twentieth-century literature's invocation of sensate experience to replace rationalist notions of meaning. Explores the changing and potentially troubling social impact as this emphasis on the sensate is passed from modern to postmodern novelists. Complications arise from changes in cultural constructions of desire, in the shifting role of literature in a visual culture, and in the use and understanding of representation. Turns to twenty-first century fiction, where nostalgia is reconfigured as a productive means of reading and revitalization of the past.

Article: "Nostalgia, Mourning, and *Désistance* in *Ulysses*." In *Modernism and Nostalgia*. Ed. Tammy Clewell. Accepted. Collection under consideration at Palgrave, with a pre-contract.

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**Work in Progress (continued):**

Book Review: *Passion for Joyce: Letters between Hugh Kenner and Adaline Glasheen*. Review. *James Joyce Quarterly*.

**Invited Lectures, Talks, Papers:**

“Immigration in Ireland, Old and New.” Introduction of *Once* (John Carney, 2006). *Global Film Festival* W&M Film Studies. Williamsburg Library. February 2010.

“Circean Sense: Joyce’s Transformation of Phenomenology and the Senses in ‘Circe.’” Joyce and Materiality panel. Modern Language Association. Philadelphia. December 2009.

“Strange New Land.” Introduction of *In America* (Jim Sheridan, 2002). *Global Immigration Film Series*. Williamsburg Public Library/W&M. February 2009.

“Gender and Humor in Post-Celtic Tiger Troubles Films: Neil Jordan’s *Breakfast on Pluto* (2006).” Reel Ireland Conference. University of Connecticut, Storrs. April 2008.

“Mourning, Refusal, and Desistance in *Ulysses*.” *Ulysses Symposium*. University of Maryland. College Park. October 2007.

“Just Outside Hollywood: Paul Haggis’ *Crash* (2004).” Lecture for Keio Institute. College of William & Mary. August 2006.

“Fear of What Lies Behind the Visible: Violence Against the Body in Queer Film.” Featured Speaker. OUT Conference of Virginia. College of William & Mary. October 2005.

“From the Visible to the Risible: Shifting Significations in Joyce.” The Vision Thing: Eyes in Joyce's Fiction. James Joyce Conference. Cornell University. June 2005.

“Filming Sexual Difference: From Cross-Dressing to Undressing in Queer Films.” “Queer” Media Panel. Thirteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women. Scripps College. Claremont, California. June 2005.

“Frank McCourt’s *Angela’s Ashes*.” Newport News Public Library. Reading/speaker series, “Explore Your Community Roots at Your Library.” Newport News, Virginia. March 2005.

“Teaching the Reshaped Literary Canon.” Featured speaker. VCCS English Peer Group Conference. Charlottesville, Virginia. October 2004.

“Semi-Conscious Modernism: Sleep and Wakefulness in Proust and Joyce.” Joyce Among the Moderns. International James Joyce Symposium. Dublin. June 2004.

**Invited Lectures and Papers (continued):**

"Humor in Hugh Kenner." Roundtable in Memory of Hugh Kenner. International James Joyce Symposium. Dublin. June 2004.

"Consuming the Local: Irish Cultural Exports in a Global Economy." Interdisciplinarity, Culture, and the Global Economy seminar. American Comparative Literature Association. San Diego County. April 2003.

"Joyce and the Sensate Word." *Ulysses* Colloquium. University of Maryland. College Park. November 2000.

"Virginia Woolf, the Prince of Abyssinia and the Emergence of Primitivist Aesthetics." Modernist Orientalism Panel, Modernist Studies Association Conference. University of Pennsylvania. October 2000.

"Erasure': Alienation, Memory Loss, and Postmodern Paranoia in *The X-Files*." Monroe Scholars Lecture Series. College of William & Mary. September 1998.

"Crossing Anger with Desire: Winterson's Interpretation of Woolf's Feminism and Art." Women's Studies/English Department. Wake Forest University. November 1996.

"In the Wake of the Nation: Recent Appositions of Community and Language." Reves Center. College of William and Mary. February 1995.

"The map of the souls' groupography': Joyce's Cartographical Reconceptation of the Nation." Zürich James Joyce Foundation. May 1994.

"The Word is My Wife': Control of the Feminine in Joyce's Writing." Zürich James Joyce Foundation. November 1993.

"Transforming Women in Joyce's Works." Università di Trieste. October 1993.

"Towards an Understanding of Parody as Political Praxis in Contemporary Critical Theories." Commonwealth Center. College of William and Mary. April 1993.

"Representation, Identity, and the Polis: A Map of Contemporary Concerns Stemming from Plato's *Republic*." Rutgers University, Camden. February 1992.

"Disease and Friendship in Wim Wender's *An American Friend*." NEH Summer Film Series, "Disease as Metaphor." Johns Hopkins Medical School. Baltimore. July 1989.

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**Invited Paper (continued):**

"The Humor of W.C. Fields." NEH Lecture and Film Series, "Comedy as Catharsis." Johns Hopkins Medical School. Baltimore. October 1988.

**Papers Delivered (since 1995):**

"Phenomenal *Finnegans Wake*: Joyce, Husserl, Derrida." Joyce and Philosophy panel. 2011 North American James Joyce Conference. Los Angeles, CA, 2011.

"Mourning and Nostalgia in *Ulysses*: Stephen's Refusal." Contrarian Readings panel. International James Joyce Symposium XXII. Prague, Czechoslovakia. June 2010.

"Control & Dominance in Joyce: The Wars within Sexuality." Forms of Desire/Forms of Control: Joyce, Beckett, Ballard panel. Modernist Studies Association. McGill University, Montreal. November 2009.

"Proliferous Desires: When Sensory Experience Eludes the Sexual in *Ulysses*." Senseate Meaning/Sensory Experience in Joyce panel. International James Joyce Conference. University of Texas. Austin. June 2007.

"Hosting the Other: Neil Jordan's *The Crying Game* as Global-National Film." American Council of Irish Studies (ACIS) Conference. CUNY Graduate Center. New York City. April 2007.

"Postmodern Sex: Representations in Pynchon, Acker, and Ballard." Women's Studies/Black Studies Brown Bag Lunch series. College of William & Mary. March 2007.

"Irish Film, At Home and Abroad." ACIS Panel. Modern Language Association Conference. Philadelphia. December 2006.

"Outside Hollywood: Modernist Temporality and Interiority in Tarkovsky." In or Against the Grain: Modernism and Film. Modernist Studies Association. Chicago. November 2005.

"The Backward Glance: Contemporary Fiction's Nostalgic Difference from Modernism." Modernist Nostalgia seminar. Modernist Studies Association. Chicago. November 2005.

"Gothic Shock or Nostalgic Bliss? Remembering Home in *Ulysses*." At Home in *Ulysses*. James Joyce Conference. Cornell University. Ithaca. June 2005.

"Filming Sexual Difference: Cross-Dressing to Undressing in Queer Film." Women's Studies/Black Studies Brown Bag Lunch series. College of William & Mary. March 2005. (Presented in conceptual stages in June 2005, and in a final, polished version in October 2005).

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**Papers Delivered (continued):**

"Gestural Politics: Stereotype and Parody in Joyce." New Work in Modernism panel. Washington Area Modernist Symposium. University of Maryland, College Park. October 2002.

"Phenomenology and Modernism: Woolf, Proust, and Bergson." American Comparative Literature Association Conference. Boulder. April 2001.

"Virginia Woolf, the Prince of Abyssinia and the Emergence of Primitivist Aesthetics." (Also delivered at MSA, listed above). Modern Language Association Conference. Washington, D. C. December 2000.

"Cosmopolitan Consciousness in *Finnegans Wake*." Joyce 2000: The Right to Write. London. June 2000.

"Reading Joyce: Differential Communities." Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Chicago. December 1999.

"Parallax and Postmodern History: Joyce and Thomas Pynchon's *Mason & Dixon*." Millennial Joyce. Charleston. June 1999.

"Race, Memory, and Perception: *Suture*'s Implication for Multicultural Debates." Narrative Conference. Dartmouth. April 1999.

----- Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Toronto. December 1997.

"Erasure: Alienation and (Anti)Marginalization in *The X-Files*." Conspiracy Culture Conference. Winchester. July 1998.

"Parody and the Law: Joyce, Butler, Lacan." XVI International James Joyce Symposium. Rome. June 1998.

"For History's Abandonment: Artistry and the Working Woman in Eavan Boland." Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Toronto. December 1997.

"Culture, History, and Blindness: Debates about Multicultural Subjectivity." Social and Political Philosophy Discussion Group. College of William and Mary. December 1997.

"Home for the Displaced: Eavan Boland's Revision of the Irish Domestic." Locations of Culture. Modern Literature Conference. East Lansing. October 1997.

"In the language of sweet tarts: Girlish Murmurings and Wayward Words in *Finnegans Wake*." Historical Joyce/Hysterical Joyce. University of Toronto. June 1997.



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**Papers Delivered (continued):**

"Anonymous Artistry: The Irish Working Woman in Eavan Boland's Poetry." English Club. College of William and Mary. March 1997.

"Appropriating the Feminine: Feminist Humor in the '90s." Women's Studies Lecture Series. College of William and Mary. September 1996.

"In the Original Sinne: The Gay Cliché and Verbal Transgression in *Finnegans Wake*." *Re:Joyce*. University of Dundee, Scotland. July 18-21, 1996.

"'Delicate words exhausted': Jeanette Winterson's Erotic Revival of the Postmodern Word." Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Chicago. December 1995.

"Communally Speaking: The Foundation of 'Nonation' in *Finnegans Wake*." Joyce and Modern Culture. Brown University. Providence. June 1995.

"Fantasy from the Rock: Jeanette Winterson's Integration of the Imaginary and the Real." Twentieth-Century Literature Conference. University of Louisville. February 1995.

**Panels Chaired:**

"Joyce and Philosophy." North American James Joyce Conference. Los Angeles, CA. 2011.

"The Four Corners: Looking at World Cinema." Conference for Society of Cinema and Media Studies, Philadelphia, PA. March 2007.

"Sensate Meaning/Sensory Experience in Joyce." International James Joyce Conference. University of Texas. Austin. June 2007.

"At Home in *Ulysses*." James Joyce Conference. Cornell University. Ithaca. June 2005.

"Modernism's Desires." American Comparative Literature Association Conference. Boulder. April 2001.

"Cosmopolitan Joyce." Joyce2000: The Right to Write. London. June 2000.

"Irishness and Community in Joyce." Joyce and Modern Culture. Brown University. Providence. June 1995.

"Stepping Off the Edge: Postmodern Feminism and Fantasy." Twentieth-Century Literature Conference. University of Louisville. February 1995.

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**Panels Chaired (continued):**

"Humor in the Writings of James Joyce: The Political Implications." California-Joyce Conference. Irvine. June 1993.

"The Politics of James Joyce's Humor." Thirteenth International James Joyce Symposium. Dublin. June 1992.

**Professional Organizations:** Modern Language Association, Modernist Studies Association, James Joyce Society, American Comparative Literature Association, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, American Philosophical Society.

**Manuscript/Article Reader:** State University of New York Press, Ohio State University Press, Nebraska University Press; *PMLA*, *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Modern Fiction*, *Twentieth Century Literature*

**External Review:** Ph.D. program review, English Department, Northern Illinois State University; I reviewed a Ph.D. Dissertation: "'Transcendent Doings': Thomas Pynchon, Kathy Acker, and the Postmodern Sacred." (Review completed in 2009).

Tenure Reader for Department of English, North Carolina State University, 2009.

**Languages:** Reading ability in French, German, and Spanish