

KANIKA LAWTON

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EDUCATION

University of Toronto Cinema Studies Institute, Toronto, ON

MA, Cinema Studies, 2019

Major Research Paper: Bodies as Mirrors: Figuring Annihilation in the Female Double

Supervisor: Meghan Sutherland

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

BA, Psychology and Film Studies, 2017

Senior Thesis (Honours): Once Upon a Time in the South: Ideology, Genre Subversion, and Western-Blaxploitation Hybridity in Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*

Supervisor: Lisa Coulthard

University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Go Global Exchange Program, Pre-Psychology, 2015-2016

Université Laval, Québec, QC

Explore - Second Language Bursary Program, French, 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, University of Toronto Cinema Studies Institute

CIN213: Cinema and Sensation II: Sex, Spring 2019

Instructor: Daniel Laurin

CIN210: Horror Film, Fall 2018

Instructor: Carrie Reese

Teaching Duties:

- Created weekly tutorial lesson plans from class lectures' core themes.
- Led weekly tutorials of 25+ undergraduate students, providing an overview of the week's lecture and facilitating class discussions.
- Held office hours, meeting with students to answer questions concerning course materials, grades, extensions, and other accommodations.
- Graded assignments and led workshops and Q&A sessions.

AREAS OF INTERESTS

Surveillance studies, critical theory, queer theory, feminist film theory, intermediality, subjectivity, race as/and technology, futurity, visuality and negation, machine learning and artificial intelligence.

AWARDS & HONOURS

2020 BOAAT Writer's Retreat Poetry Fellow

2018-2019 University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science Fellowship

2018 Faculty of Arts and Science Program-Level Fellowship

2018 Pink Door Fellow

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Film Studies Association of Canada (2019 - Present)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (2019 - Present)
UBC Undergraduate Film Student Association (2017)
Psychology Students' Association of UBC (2014 - 2015)

ON-CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Editor and Social Media Manager, The Neutral: University of Toronto's Cinema and Media Studies Journal (2018 - 2019)

- Edited and provided feedback on accepted articles for publication.
- Maintained The Neutral's Twitter account by posting issue launches and calls for submission.

Drop-In Centre Volunteer, LGBTQOUT (2018 - 2019)

- Held weekly drop-in hours in a confidential space for LGBTQ+ students and allies.
- Offered peer-to-peer support as a mentor and confidant.
- Provided resources such as pamphlets, sexual and reproductive health products, and contact information for local, provincial, and national organizations and helplines.

Student Volunteer Editor, UBC Undergraduate Film Student Association (2017)

- Selected thesis papers for presentation at inaugural undergraduate film symposium.
- Worked with assigned film undergraduate during primary and secondary rounds of editing by providing copyedits and detailed feedback.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Staff Director, Sundress Publications (2020 - Present)

- Alongside staff director, assign tasks to intern cohort such as interviews, press kits, and email campaigns.
- Work closely with interns during each manuscript's publication process, including selecting manuscripts during open reading periods, copyediting, proofreading, sending ARCs, and developing press materials.
- Read applications, conduct interviews, and hire interns during open staff calls.
- Write letters of recommendation for current and past interns.

Editorial Intern, Sundress Publications (2020)

- Copyedited and proofread poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and craft manuscripts.
- Composed and scheduled blog posts and promotional emails.
- Wrote press releases and assembled press kits.
- Conducted interviews with authors on their work and craftsmanship.
- Collected editorial data such as submissions, promotional materials, and ARCs.

Copyeditor, Luxury Presence (2019 - Present)

- Edit copy for various clients in the luxury real estate market, including blog posts, community guides, and summarized lists.
- Use Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and style guide to edit copy for maximum SEO optimization while meeting clientele objectives and maintaining their unique "voice."
- Efficiently complete simultaneous assignments to meet tight turnaround times.

Guest Editor, Glass: A Journal of Poetry (2019)

- Read and selected poetry submissions for Glass Poetry's *Poets Resist* series.
- Ensured accepted writers provided necessary information prior to publication.

Social Media Manager, Rambutan Literary (2018 - 2019)

- Utilized Facebook Business and Twitter Analytics data to increase reader engagement with the work of Southeast Asian writers.
- Created social media campaigns to reach wider audiences by promoting contributors' work and organizations that positively impact the greater Southeast Asian community.

Founding Editor-In-Chief, L'Éphémère Review (2016 - Present)

- Work with genre editors to select and publish poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, photography, and art for quarterly issues.
- Write website and social media copy, including calls for submission and social media posts.
- Use TweetDeck, Later, and Hootsuite to schedule social media posts.

PUBLICATIONS

“We Never Needed Your Consent”: Bodily Autonomy and Racialized Transference in *Ghost in the Shell* (2017)

Media-N, Journal of the New Media Caucus: “No Template: Art and the Technicity of Race,” 2021

On the Shores of (Counter)memory: Reconfiguring Utopia in Janelle Monaé's *Dirty Computer* (an “Emotion Picture”)

Spectator 41.1, Spring 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“She Doesn't Know What the Fuck She Looks Like!”: Killing the Digital Self in *Cam* (2018)

Interruptions - Spiral Film and Philosophy Conference
Toronto, ON, (Date TBD)

On the Shores of Memory: Reconfiguring Utopia in Janelle *Monáe's Dirty Computer* (an “Emotion Picture”)

Constellations: Connections, Disruptions, and Imaginations in Cinema and Beyond - First Forum Conference (University of Southern California)
Los Angeles, CA, October 2019

“We Never Needed Your Consent”: Bodily Autonomy and Racialized Transference in *Ghost in the Shell* (2017)

Backward Glances: Reboot - Screen Cultures Graduate Conference (Northwestern University)
Evanston, IL, September 2019

Pick My Face Up Off the Ground: “Placeless, Raceless, Bodiless” Potentiality in Janelle *Monáe's Dirty Computer* (an “Emotion Picture”)

It's Alive! Film/Form/Life - Spiral Film and Philosophy Conference
Toronto, ON, May 2019

“An Entirety of Spectacle”: The Aesthetic Remaking/Remodelling and Unrelenting Survivorship of the Fox Theatre, Westwood Village

Where is Cinema? Columbia University Film and Media Graduate Conference
New York City, NY, February 2019

“I Thought You Only Murdered Boys?” “I Go Both Ways”: Re-Considering Non-Monosexuality Through the Lens of Undecidability, De-Categorization, and Consumption in *Jennifer’s Body* (2009)

Fluidity - University of Toronto Cinema Studies Institute Annual Graduate Conference
Toronto, ON, January 2019

Once Upon a Time in the South: Ideology, Genre Subversion, and Western-Blaxploitation Hybridity in Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*

39th Annual Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference
Albuquerque, NM, February 2018

RELEVANT SKILLS

5+ years of editorial and publishing experience in digital markets, including social media management, content writing, and copyediting.

Proficient in Microsoft Office, G Suite, WordPress, and Squarespace.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)

French (intermediate)

Khmer (intermediate)

REFERENCES

Meaghan Sutherland, Associate Professor, Cinema Studies Institute and Department of Visual Studies, University of Toronto
(416) 978-2878
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Kass Banning, Associate Professor, Cinema Studies Institute, University of Toronto
(416) 978-6497
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Alice Maurice, Associate Professor, Cinema Studies Institute and Department of English, University of Toronto
(416) 287-7180
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Angelica Fenner, Associate Professor, Cinema Studies Institute and Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Toronto
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