

August 2013

**ANCA E. PARVULESCU**

Department of English  
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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

- 2012- Associate Professor, Washington University in St Louis  
Joint Appointment in the Department of English and The Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities (IPH)  
Director of Graduate Studies, Program in Comparative Literature  
Courtesy Appointment in the Program in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies  
Courtesy Appointment in the Program in International and Area Studies
- 2006-2012 Assistant Professor, Washington University in St Louis

**EDUCATION**

- 2006 PhD, University of Minnesota, Department of English  
Minor in Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies
- 1998 BA, University of Timisoara, Romania, English Language and Literature

**BOOKS**

*The Traffic in Women's Work: East European Migration and the Making of Europe* (University of Chicago Press, 2014)

*Laughter: Notes on a Passion* (MIT Press, 2010)

**ARTICLES**

- “Kafka’s Laughter.” *PMLA* (forthcoming).
- “Old Europe, New Europe, Eastern Europe: Reflections on a Minor Character in Fassbinder’s *Ali, Fear Eats the Soul*.” *New Literary History* 43:4. Special Issue, “A New Europe?” Fall 2012. 727-750.
- “Import/Export: Housework in an International Frame.” *PMLA* 127:4. October 2012. Special Issue, “Work.” 845-862.
- “European Kinship: Eastern European Women Go to Market.” *Critical Inquiry* 37:2. Winter 2011. 187-213.
- “To Yes-Laugh: Derrida’s Molly.” *Parallax* 16:3. Special Issue, “Yes!” Ed. Gary Peters. Spring 2010. 16-27.
- “The Professor’s Desire: On Roland Barthes’s *The Neutral*.” *Diacritics* 37:1. Spring 2007. 32-39.
- “‘So We Will Go Bad’: Laughter, Women, Film.” *Camera Obscura* 21:2. Summer 2006. 144-167. Translated into Czech, *The Czechoslovak New Wave*, ed. Petra Dominkova, The Academy of Sciences, forthcoming 2014.
- “To Die Laughing and to Laugh at Dying: Revisiting *The Awakening*.” *New Literary History* 36:3. Summer 2005. 477-495.
- “Beyond Marriage: The Couple.” *Discourse*. 25.3. Special Issue, *The Problem of Marriage in the New Century*. Fall 2004. 285-299.
- “University of Dissensus / University of Laughter.” *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*. 37.1. Special Issue, *The University*. Ed. Jeffrey Williams. Spring 2004. 47-58.

**FELLOWSHIPS, PRIZES AND AWARDS**

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| 2012-2015 | Weiner Research Grant, Graduate School, Washington University                                  |
| 2012-2013 | Mellon Vertical Seminar, “Modernism and Its Media,” Washington University                      |
| 2010-2013 | Faculty Fellow, Liggett / Koenig Residential College, Washington University                    |
| 2010-2011 | Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, Graduate School, Washington University                       |
| 2010-2011 | Faculty Research Grant, Graduate School, Washington University                                 |
| 2010-2011 | American Councils for International Education Long-Term Fellowship (taken during Summer 2010)  |
| 2010-2011 | Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Washington University (taken during Spring 2011) |
| 2009-2010 | William Andrews Clark Memorial Library Short-Term Fellowship (taken during Summer 2009)        |

- 2008-2009 Barbara Thom Postdoctoral Fellowship, The Huntington Library
- 2006, 2007 Samuel Holt Monk Prize for Scholarly, Critical or Theoretical Writing, University of Minnesota
- 2005-2006 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Minnesota
- 2005 Graduate Research Partnership Program, University of Minnesota
- 2005 Norbert Elias Graduate Stipend, Marbach am Neckar, Germany
- 2004 Women's Caucus for the Modern Languages Annette Kolodny Award, Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, 2004
- 2004-2005 Harold Leonard Memorial Fellowship in Film Study and Harold Leonard Memorial Film Study Grant, University of Minnesota
- 2002-2003 Thomas F. Wallace Fellowship, University of Minnesota
- 2000-2001 English Department Fellowship, University of Minnesota
- 1999 Open Society Foundation Translation Grant

#### INVITED TALKS

- "Laughter: From the Revolutionary Epidemic to the Laughter Factory," The Amber Arts and Technology Festival, Istanbul, November 2, 2013.
  - "Feminism in the Age of Queer Theory: Reproduction, *No Future*, and J.M. Coetzee's *Slow Man*," Global Humanities Lecture Series, University of Louisville, September 9, 2013.
  - "Kafka's Last Laugh," *The Last Laugh* (Art Exhibit), Apexart Gallery, New York, June 4, 2013.
  - "Kafka's Laughter," Keynote Address, *Laughter*, University of California, Berkeley, March 8-10, 2013.
  - "The Passion of Laughter," *The Object of Comedy*, Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht, March 8, 2012.
  - "The Passion of Laughter," Faculty Book Celebration, Center for the Humanities, Washington University, November 29, 2010.
- "Happiness," Interview with Sally Platcksin, MLA's *What's the Word?* National Public Radio, December 2009.
- "The Laughing Twentieth Century," University of Ljubljana, April 10, 2009.
  - "The Witch, the Hysteric, the Old Hag: Scenes from the Gallery of Laughing Figures," University of Minnesota, March 23, 2007.

## CONFERENCES

- “Cinema of Migration in the Age of the Digital,” *Digital Crossroads: Media, Migration and Diaspora in a Transnational Perspective*, Utrecht University, June 28-30, 2012.
- “Passport Love,” Cultural Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, March 28-April 1, 2012.
- “The ‘Timisoara Massacre’ Revisited: Notes on 1989,” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Los Angeles, January 6-9, 2011.
- “The Traffic in Women: A Concept for Eastern European Feminism?” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Los Angeles, January 6-9, 2011.
- “Derrida’s Laughter,” *Derrida Today*, The Goodenough College, London, July 19-21, 2010.
- “European Kinship: Eastern European Women on the Marriage Market,” American Comparative Literature Association, Harvard University, March 26-29, 2009.
- “‘Laugh, Laughers!’: The Laughing Avant-Gardes from Khlebnikov to Sarraute,” *Art, Praxis and Social Transformation*, San Francisco, November 6-9, 2008.
- “The Laughing Novel: Nathalie Sarraute with Hélène Cixous,” *The Novel and Its Borders*, Aberdeen, July 8-10, 2008.
- “Passion / Emotion / Affect,” American Comparative Literature Association, Long Beach, April 21-24, 2008.
- “Kafka’s Burst: Notes on the State of Exception,” The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, University of Louisville, February 21-23, 2008.
- “The Passion of Laughter,” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 28-30, 2007.
- “From Folly to Madness—via Laughter,” The British Comparative Literature Association Conference, Goldsmiths College, London, July 2-5, 2007.
- “Reading the *Déjà Vu*,” The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, University of Louisville, February 22-24, 2007.
- “‘Let’s Get Out of Here’: A Rhetoric of Laughter,” *Rhetoric, Politics, Ethics*, Ghent University, Belgium, April 21-23, 2005.
- “The Sound of Laughter,” *Sonic Interventions: Pushing the Boundaries of Cultural Analysis*, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, Amsterdam, March 29-31, 2005.
- “‘We Have Nothing Else to Sell’: The Traffic in Eastern European Women,” *Who’s Afraid of Feminism? Teaching and Researching Gender Studies in the Central and East European Region*, University of Timisoara, May 5-7, 2005.
- “‘So We Will Go Bad’: Manners, Cheekiness and Women’s Laughter,” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 28-30, 2004.

- “Ralph Ellison’s ‘Extravagance of Laughter’; or, How to Destroy a Laughing Barrel,” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 28-30, 2004.
- “University of Dissensus / University of Laughter,” Annual Convention of the Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, November 7-9, 2003.
- “Laughing One’s Way ‘Out’: Bataille on Laughter,” *Literature and Its Others*, University of Turku, May 8-10, 2003.
- “She Who Laughs Last: Three Laughter Images in Hélène Cixous’s Work,” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, New Orleans, December 28-30, 2001.

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

- L14 E Lit 153 Literature Seminar for Freshmen: Laughter (Fall 2010, Spring 2012)
- L93 Hum 205 Literary Modernities (Fall 2006, Fall 2009, Fall 2011, Fall 2012)
- L14 E Lit 215 Introduction to Literary Study (Fall 2007, Spring 2010)
- L14 E Lit 311 International Modernism (Fall 2011)
- L14 E Lit 3552 Introduction to Literary Theory (Spring 2013)
- L93 Hum 3311 Laughter: From Joubert to Bataille (Spring 2007)
- L93 Hum 360 The Traffic in Women and European Cinema (Fall 2010, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)
- L93 Hum 405 Theory and Methods in the Humanities (Fall 2007, Fall 2009)
- L93 Hum 455 Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities Senior Colloquium (Spring 2008)
- L14 E Lit 461 Daughters v. Mothers: Feminist Affects (Spring 2010)
- L14 E Lit 461 Figures in Literary and Critical Theory (Spring 2007)
- L14 E Lit 519 Seminar: Primitivism and Its Discontents (Spring 2008)
- L14 E Lit 523 Seminar: Theories of Globalization (Fall 2013)