

KYLE STEVENS

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412-983-1379

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022-Present Associate Professor of Film Studies, Appalachian State University
2016-2021 Assistant Professor of Film Studies, Appalachian State University
Spring 2020 Visiting Assistant Professor, MIT
2015-2016 Visiting Assistant Professor of Cinema Studies and English, Colby College
2013-2015 Levy Kay Fellow in Film Studies and Digital Humanities, Brandeis University
2009-2013 Visiting Lecturer of English and Film Studies, University of Pittsburgh

EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D. with Distinction, University of Pittsburgh, English
Ph.D. Certificate in Film Studies
Committee: Lucy Fischer (advisor), Colin MacCabe, Marcia Landy, Mark Lynn
Anderson, David Shumway
2000 B. A., University of South Carolina, Magna Cum Laude with Honors

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2017- Contributing Editor, *Discourse: Journal for Theoretical Studies in Media and Culture*
2016-2019 Editor-in-Chief, *New Review of Film and Television Studies*

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- 2015 *Mike Nichols: Sex, Language, and the Reinvention of Psychological Realism*. Oxford University Press.

EDITED BOOKS

- 2022 *The Oxford Handbook of Film Theory*. Oxford University Press.
2018 *Close-Up: Great Cinematic Performances, Volume 1: America*. Co-edited with Murray Pomerance. Edinburgh University Press.
2018 *Close-Up: Great Cinematic Performances, Volume 2: International*. Co-edited with Murray Pomerance. Edinburgh University Press.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 “The Digital Human Something; or, The Case of Miquela.” *Screen*. Vol. 63, No. 1. Spring 2022. pp.130–136.
2021 “Political Humor, from Dry to Wet.” *Cultural Critique*. Vol. 112, Summer 2021. pp.1-23. Winner of the Jack Rosenbalm Prize for Scholarship in American Humor by the American Humor Association
2021 “When Movies Get Sick.” *Critical Inquiry*. Vol. 48, No. S2, Winter. pp. 17-24.
2020 “Romantic Comedy and the Virtues of Predictability.” *New Review of Film and Television Studies*, Guest ed. Maria San Filippo. Vol. 18, No. 1.

- 2020 “Stanley Cavell and The World Heard.” *Discourse: Journal for Theoretical Studies in Media and Culture*, Guest Eds. Daniel Morgan and Jennifer Fay. Vol. 42, no. 1-2, pp. 20–48.
Reprinted in *The Thought of Stanley Cavell and Cinema*. Ed. David LaRocca. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2020.
- 2015 “Clay, Ink, Documentary, Set: On Teaching *Casablanca*.” *The Cine-Files*. Issue 9.
<http://www.thecine-files.com/teaching-casablanca/>
- 2015 “Toward a Theory of Voice-Over through *Brief Encounter*.” *World Picture Journal*.
http://www.worldpicturejournal.com/WP_10/Stevens_10.html
- 2014 “Where Vanity Meets Volition: Technicity, Self-Monitoring, and the Comedy of Exasperation.” *World Picture Journal*.
http://www.worldpicturejournal.com/WP_9/Stevens.html
- 2013 “Dying to Love: Gay Identity, Suicide, and Aesthetics in *A Single Man*.” *Cinema Journal*. Vol. 52, No 4. pp. 99-120.
- 2010 “Tossing Truths: Improvisation and the Performative Utterances of Nichols and May.” *Critical Quarterly*. Vol. 52, no. 3. pp. 23-46.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2022 “The Occupation of the Skull: Cinema, Sound, Headphones.” *The Oxford Handbook of Film Theory*. Ed. Kyle Stevens. Oxford University Press. (Forthcoming)
- 2021 “The Predicaments of Queer Stardom: Ben Wishaw, Ezra Miller, Zachary Quinto.” *Stellar Transformations: Movie Stars of the 2010s*. Ed. Steve Rybin. Rutgers University Press. (Forthcoming.)
- 2020 “Elaine May: Subverting Machismo ‘Step by Tiny Step’.” *The Other Hollywood Renaissance*. Eds. R. Barton Palmer, Murray Pomerance, and Dominic Lennard. Edinburgh University Press.
- 2018 “Michel Surreault in *La cage aux folles*.” *Close-Up: Great Cinematic Performances, Volume 2: International*. Eds. Murray Pomerance and Kyle Stevens.
- 2017 “A Star is Dead: Barrymore's Anti-Christian Metaperformance.” *Hamlet Lives in Hollywood: John Barrymore and the Acting Tradition on Screen*. Ed. Steve Rybin and Murray Pomerance. Edinburgh University Press.
- 2017 “Queer Movements: Color, Performance, and Rhythm in John Huston’s *Reflections in a Golden Eye*.” *John Huston as Adaptor*. Ed. Wesley King and Douglas McFarland. SUNY Press.
- 2014 “Ford Does Isherwood.” *The American Isherwood*. Ed. James Berg and Chris Freeman. Minneapolis: U. of Minnesota Press.
- 2009 “What a Difference A Gay Makes: Marriage in the Nineties Romantic Comedy.” *Falling in Love Again: Romantic Comedy in Contemporary Cinema*. Eds. Deborah Jermyn and Stacey Abbott. NY: I.B. Tauris Press.

REVIEWS AND OTHER SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Entries on Hannah Arendt and Béla Balázs. *The Film-Philosophy Reader*. Eds. Gregory Flaxman, Elena Oxman, and Rick Warner. (Forthcoming)
- 2019 “Hailing Who?” November 1. <https://docalogue.com/november-hail-satan/>
- 2019 “Bewitched by *Olivia*.” *LA Review of Books*. September 12. <https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/bewitched-by-olivia/>
- 2019 “Scorpio Rising.” “50 Queer Writers, 50 Favorite Queer Films.” Ed. Kyle Turner. *Paste Magazine*. June 26, 2019. <https://www.pastemagazine.com/movies/queer-film/50-queer-writers-50-favorite-queer-films/>
- 2019 “Can *You Ever Forgive Me?* and Marielle Heller’s Queer Art of Transparency.” *Adaptation*. Vol. 12, No 1. pp. 58–60.
- 2018 “Wet Humor.” *Critical Inquiry Blog In the Moment*. <https://critinq.wordpress.com/2018/09/17/wet-humor/>
- 2018 Review of Annette Insdorf’s *Opening Overtures*. *Critical Inquiry*. https://criticalinquiry.uchicago.edu/kyle_stevens_reviews_cinematic_overtures/
- 2017 To-camera commentary for Blu-ray release of *The Fortune* (Mike Nichols, 1974). Powerhouse Films UK.
- 2017 “Look at the Politics: On *Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures*.” *The Journal of American History*. Volume 104, Issue 1. p. 307–309.
- 2017 “*Welcome to Night Vale*’s Cecil Baldwin on Finding the Queerness in His Character.” Interview with podcast voice actor Cecil Baldwin. *Slate.com*.
- 2015 “Suffering without Meaning: Augustín Zarzosa’s Recuperation of the Melodrama.” *Discourse: Journal for Theoretical Studies in Media and Culture*. Vol. 37, Issue 3. Fall.
- 2014 “Thoughts on Writing ‘Dying to Love’ Then, Now.” *Cinema Journal*, Afterthoughts and Postscripts. 52:4. https://www.cmstudies.org/general/custom.asp?page=CJ_after524_stevens
- 2012 “Review: *Film: A Sound Art* by Michel Chion.” *Film Criticism*. Winter. Vol. 34. p.81-84.
- 2011 Entries on *Carnal Knowledge*, George Cukor, Katherine Hepburn, Elaine May, *The Method*, *The Philadelphia Story*, Barbra Streisand, *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* in *Movies in American History: An Encyclopedia*. Ed. Phillip DiMare. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO Press.
- 2006 “Review: *New Queer Cinema: A Critical Reader*.” *Film Criticism*. Fall/Winter, Vol. 31. p. 173-176

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “A World Viewed: Celebrating Cavell’s Life in Film.” Harvard University. (Canceled)
- 2020 “Headphones, Cinematic Listening, and the Frame of the Skull.” Boston Cinema and Media Studies Collective, hosted by MIT.

- 2018 “Where Ground Meets Sky: Cavell and the Horizon of Film Sound.” Emory University.
- 2017 “The World Heard: Reflections on Stanley Cavell’s Ontology of Cinematic Sound.” UNC Chapel Hill Comparative Literature Speaker Series.
- 2015 “‘I had no thoughts at all’: Brief Encounters with Voice-Over.” University of Pennsylvania. Cinema Studies Colloquium.

CONFERENCES AND COLLOQUIA

- 2022 “More Theory.” World Picture Conference.
- 2021 “In Defense of Film Theory.” European Network for Cinema and Media Studies.
- 2021 “Headphones, Listening, and the Frame of the Skull.” SCMS Conference.
- 2019 “Wet Humor.” World Picture Conference.
- 2019 “The Infamous Instagay.” SCMS Conference seminar “Cinema, Media, and Self-Images”
- 2018 “The Occupation of the Skull: Cinema, Sound, Headphones.” World Picture Conference.
- 2018 “Wet Humor.” American Humor Studies Association.
- 2018 “The Sweet, Sweet Invisible Climax of *The Telephone Book*.” SCMS Conference.
- 2017 “The Promises of Unmasking.” World Picture Conference.
- 2017 “The Joy of Hostility: Affective Scale, Sexual Politics, and Farcical Performance through *La cage aux folles*.” SCMS Conference.
- 2016 “On Teaching Comedy” for “The Pleasures and Perils of Comedy Scholarship” workshop. SCMS Conference.
- 2016 “Mis-Fits: Stardom and the Casting of Doubt.” Panel chair. SCMS Conference.
- 2015 “Bad Reception: Telephobia, Death, and Listening.” World Picture Conference.
- 2015 “Voice-Over, Suicide, and Sexuality.” SCMS Conference.
- 2014 “Voice-Over as Abandonment and Containment in *Brief Encounter*.” World Picture Conference.
- 2014 “At Wit’s End: Exasperation in Anglophone Film and Television Comedy.” SCMS Conference.
- 2014 “The Sitcom Between Humanism and Posthumanism.” Brandeis University Fellowship Colloquia.
- 2013 “At Wit’s End: Exasperation in Anglophone Film and Television Comedy.” World Picture Conference.
- 2013 “Down the Loop-Hole: *Catch-22*, Surrealism, and the Draft.” SCMS Conference.
- 2012 “Singing the Pretty: Women’s Voices and Classical Hollywood.” SCMS Conference.
- 2012 “*The Graduate* and Utterance.” Film-Philosophy Series. William Jewell College.
- 2011 “*A Single Man*: Tom Ford’s Glamorous Closet.” SCMS Conference.

- 2011 “Ford Does Isherwood: The Advertising Aesthetic of *A Single Man*. MLA Conference.
- 2010 “Tossing Truths: Nichols and May’s Impact on Cinematic Dialogue.” Film-Philosophy III Conference. Warwick University.
- 2010 “Adapting *Myra Breckinridge*.” University of Pittsburgh Women’s Studies Program.
- 2009 “*The Graduate*: Silence and the Sixties Student.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference.
- 2009 “Male Stoicism and the Impact of Second-Wave Feminism in *Carnal Knowledge*.” University of Pittsburgh Women’s Studies Program.
- 2008 “*Angels in America*: Overlapping the Actor.” SCMS Conference.
- 2008 “On the Current Anxiety Over the Presence of Politics in the Film Studies Classroom.” Film Pedagogy Panel. University of Pittsburgh.
- 2007 “Acting and Subtext in Mike Nichols’ Films.” SCMS Conference.
- 2007 “Fixating on the Future: Death and Performance in *Angels in America*.” Critical Exchange Series. University of Pittsburgh.
- 2007 Respondent to Professor Dudley Andrew. Virtues of Fidelity: Film Adaptation as Literary Truth Conference. University of Pittsburgh.
- 2006 “The Invisible Face: Münsterberg, Darwin and the Close-Up.” SCMS Conference.
- 2006 Panel Chair: “History/Memory/Trauma.” Film Speaker Series. University of Pittsburgh.
- 2005 “The Crisis of Marriage in the Contemporary Romantic Comedy.” 12th Annual URI Symposium on Queer & Questioning Issues. University of Rhode Island.
- 2005 “The City in Romantic Comedy.” University of Pittsburgh Film Series Colloquium.

AWARDS

- 2021 Named by students as one of the “Most Helpful Faculty Members,” Appalachian State
- 2021 William C. Strickland Outstanding Junior Faculty Award, Appalachian State
- 2020 Named by students as one of the “Most Helpful Faculty Members,” Appalachian State
- 2009 Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award (student nominated), University of Pittsburgh
- 2008 Distinguished Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh English Department

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 College of Arts and Sciences Research Grant, Appalachian State University
- 2016 Humanities Scholar Fellowship, Appalachian State University
- 2008 Speaking in the Disciplines Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh
- 2008 Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh
- 2007 Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Graduate Student Travel Award
- 2006-8 Graduate Students Association Travel Award, University of Pittsburgh
- 2006-8 Arts and Sciences Travel Grant, University of Pittsburgh, for archival research
- 2002 Andrew Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh,

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

- 2017- Chair, Film Studies Program
- 2016- Women and Gender Studies Committee

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

- 2014 Committee for the Minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

- 2011 Film Assessment Committee
- 2011 Film Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2010 Committee on Pedagogy, English Department
- 2010 Committee on Film Studies Curricula
- 2008 Organized Film Colloquium: "Casting the Study of Performance."
- 2007 Founder: Film Studies Graduate Student Organization
- 2007 Graduate Representative to English Planning and Budget Committee (elected)
- 2006 President of the English Graduate Student Organization (elected)
- 2006 Graduate Representative to the Graduate Procedures Committee (elected)
- 2005 Graduate Representative to English Department ad hoc committee to revise Ph.D. project
In connection with Carnegie Initiative (elected)
- 2004-7 Peer Mentor: English Department

TO THE FIELD

Reader for: University of Chicago Press, Routledge Press, SUNY Press, Oxford University Press, *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, *Journal of Popular Romance Studies*, *Discourse*, *Open Philosophy*, *InTransition**

Mentor, Alexander Doty Queer Mentorship Program, Society for Cinema and Media Studies
SCMS Queer Caucus Writing Prize selection committee

Fellowship reviewer, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2016- Queer Cinema Series, Appalachian State University (open to public)
- 2012 Speaker and organizer, PittArts and Pittsburgh Filmmakers Film Series
- 2007 Organized screening series of Almodóvar's oeuvre, University of Pittsburgh
- 2007 Programming Committee, Pittsburgh Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
- 2006 Volunteer, Three Rivers Film Festival, Pittsburgh Filmmakers Society

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Cinema and Media Studies
GALECA: The Society of LGBTQ Entertainment Critics

LANGUAGES

Proficiency in French and German