

JOSHUA BENNETT

DEPARTMENT: Literature
CITIZENSHIP: United States of America

DATE: October 2022

EDUCATION			
DATE	DEGREE	FIELD	INSTITUTE
2016	PhD	English	Princeton University
2013	MA	English	Princeton University
2011	MA	Theatre and Performance Studies	University of Warwick
2010	BA	English and Africana Studies, <i>magna cum laude</i> with Honors, Phi Beta Kappa, minors in History and Spanish	University of Pennsylvania

TITLE OF DOCTORAL THESIS

Being Property Once Myself: In Pursuit of the Animal in 20th Century African American Literature

FELLOWSHIPS, ACADEMIC HONORS and AWARDS

2021	Guggenheim Fellowship in American Literature
2021	Whiting Award in Poetry and Nonfiction
2021	William Sanders Scarborough Prize, MLA
2021	Russell Ladd Newcomb 1926 Fellowship, Dartmouth College
2021	Karen E. Wetterhahn Award for Distinguished Creative or Scholarly Achievement, Dartmouth College
2021	Lorna C. Hill '73 Award for service through support & mentorship of Black students, Dartmouth College
2021	Editor, Norton Library edition of <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>
2021	Juror, Scholastic Writing Awards
2021	Juror, National Student Poets Program
2021	<i>The Best American Poetry</i> , "Benediction"
2020	Visiting Scholar, Friends Seminary
2019	Mellon Assistant Professorship in English, Dartmouth College
2019	Visiting Writer, University of Pittsburgh
2019	Visiting Lecturer, Chautauqua Institution
2019	<i>The Best American Poetry</i> , "America Will Be"
2017	Literature Fellowship, National Endowment for the Arts
2017	William F. Milton Fund Research Fellowship, Harvard University
2016	Society of Fellows, Harvard University
2016	Scholar in Residence, Adams House, Harvard University
2016	Cave Canem Fellowship
2015	Josephine de Karman Fellowship
2015	Winner, National Poetry Series
2015	Porter Ogden Jacobus Fellowship, Princeton University
2015	Visiting Scholar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2014	Dr. Laurence C. Morse *80 Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University
2014	Bread Loaf Orion Environmental Writers Conference Fellowship
2013	Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop Fellowship
2013	Associate Fellowship, Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics
2012	Center for Social Difference Graduate Fellowship, Columbia University
2011	Carl A. Fields Center Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University
2011	President's Fellowship, Princeton University

2010 Phi Beta Kappa, Delta Chapter, University of Pennsylvania
 2010 Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship
 2009 Marshall Scholarship
 2009 Rhodes Scholarship Finalist
 2009 Harry S. Truman Scholarship Finalist
 2007 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021-present Professor of English and Creative Writing, Dartmouth College
 2019-2021 Mellon Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing, Dartmouth College
 2016-2019 Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows, Harvard University

SEMINARS, COLLOQUIA, and PRESENTATIONS

Public Lectures and Performances

November 2020 “Being Property Once Myself” at Smith College
 October 2020 “Being Property Once Myself” at the Harvard Graduate School of Design
 September 2020 “Being Property Once Myself” at the Intersections Working Group at Princeton University
 August 2020 “Poetry for the People” at the Humanities Summer Series at Dartmouth College
 July 2020 “And the world can’t take it away: Black poetics in a state of emergence” at the Milstein Program at Cornell University’s Distinguished Speakers Series
 July 2019 “The Life of the Spoken Word” at Chautauqua Institution
 June 2019 “Nobody Knew Where I Was and Now I Am No Longer There” at the Future of American Studies Institute at Dartmouth College
 February 2019 “Four Horses: Pursuing the Animal in Black Poetics” at the University of Pittsburgh
 February 2018 “The beginning of the end of the world: vermin being and 20th century black ecopoetics” at the University of Pennsylvania
 November 2016 “This Bridge Between Starshine and Clay: black joy aesthetics” at Sarah Lawrence College
 October 2014 “Algorithm & Blues” at the Wilson College Signature Lecture Series at Princeton University
 September 2012 Invited by the Clinton Global Initiative to both perform “Morse Code,” an original poem, and introduce President William Jefferson Clinton
 May 2010 Selected to give the Commencement address for the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania
 March 2010 Invited by Harvard University to speak alongside Amiri Baraka at the 2010 Black Arts Festival
 August 2009 Invited by the Adventures of the Mind Conference to perform “Derrick,” an original poem, alongside former U.S. Poet Laureates Billy Collins and Rita Dove at the Institute for Advanced Study
 July 2009 Cast by Reggie Bythewood to perform “Iron,” an original poem, in the ESPN documentary, One Night in Vegas
 May 2009 Invited to perform “Tamara’s Opus,” an original poem, at the White House for President Barack Obama
 April 2009 Starred in the HBO Documentary Brave New Voices, an examination of the global youth performance poetry movement, first aired April 11th

February 2009 Invited by Simmons-Lathan Media Group LLC to perform “Vanguard,”
 an original poem, at the NAACP Image Awards
 January 2009 Invited by the Robert Redford Foundation to perform “Ultraviolet,” an
 original poem, at the Sundance Film Festival

Conference Papers and Presentations

April 2021 “The Beginning of the End of the World” at New Adventures in
 American Studies Colloquium at the University of California-Berkeley
 November 2018 “Other Arks” at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting
 October 2018 “Four Horses: Pursuing the Animal in Black Poetics” at Sarah Lawrence
 College
 August 2018 “Underground: Two Inquiries into Black Social Life” at the Memory and
 Performance in African-Atlantic Futures conference at the University of
 Leeds
 October 2015 “If You Surrender to The Air: Morrison, Birds and The Black Masculine”
 at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting
 March 2015 “Vermisurgence: Pestiferous Life in The Work of Richard Wright” at
 the Food, Literature and the American Racial Diet course session at
 Princeton University
 March 2014 “Nineteenth Century Americanists and Animal Studies—A Roundtable”
 at the C19 conference
 February 2013 “Calling Untame Spirits into Flesh: mapping the intersections of race and
 animality in Charles Chesnut’s The Conjure Woman” at the Alien
 Bodies: Race, Space and Sex in the African Diaspora conference at Emory
 University
 May 2013 “Race and Nature in Nineteenth Century American Literature: A
 Conversation with Joshua Bennett, Brigitte Fielder, James Finley, Ian
 Finseth, Jennifer James, and others” at the Association for the Study of
 Literature and the Environment Annual Meeting

FIELDS OF INTEREST

African American Literature
 Poetry and Poetics
 Environmental Studies
 Disability Studies

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICE

July 2022-present Association of Black Princeton Alumni, Member
 July 2022-present Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni, Member
 Sep 2021-present Rye Country Day School Alumni Executive Board, Member
 Dec 2016-present June Jordan Fellowship, Director
 June 2011- present The Strivers Row, Founder, Program Director

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Fall 2022 Budget Committee,
 Dartmouth College
 Fall 2020 Convergences: A Black Life and Letters Lecture Series,
 Dartmouth College
 Fall 2020 Co-Director, Honors Program in English,
 Dartmouth College
 Summer 2019 Committee on Intellectual and Social Life,

Spring 2019 Dartmouth College
 Environmental Humanities Faculty Working Group,
 Dartmouth College
 Summer 2019 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Faculty Advising Board,
 Dartmouth College

PUBLISHED MATERIALS

Books

2022 The Study of Human Life. New York, New York: Penguin Books, 144 pages. 2022.
 2020 Being Property Once Myself: Blackness and the End of Man. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. 215 pages, 2022.
 2020 Owed. New York, New York: Penguin Books. 96 pages, 2020.
 2016 The Sobbing School. New York, New York: Penguin Books. 91 pages, 2016.

Essays

2021 "I will not be taught how to behave" in *Art in America*
 2021 "Giant Steps" in *Freeman's*
 2021 "In Pursuit of the Practice of Freedom" in *Poetry Magazine*
 2020 "Wherever We Are Gathered" in *Cabinet Magazine*
 2019 "Revising the Wasteland: black antipastoral & the end of the world" in 19|21, Milkweed Editions
 2018 "Another Life: Terrance Hayes and the Poetics of the Un-thought" in *Poetry Magazine*
 2018 "Revising the Wasteland: black antipastoral & the end of the world" in *The Paris Review*

Articles in Refereed Journals

2021 "Lords of Sounds and Lesser Things" in *Callaloo* Vol. 41, No. 2 (29-43)
 2021 "This That Life Beyond Your Own Life" in *Callaloo* Vol. 41, No. 2 (1-3)
 2020 "All Things Are Dear That Disappear" in *Propter Nos* Vol. 4, No. 1 (116-128)
 2019 "Buck Theory" in *The Black Scholar* Vol. 49, No. 2 (27-37)
 2018 "Beyond the Vomiting Dark: toward a black hydropoetics" in *Ecopoetics: Essays in the Field*, University of Iowa Press
 2016 "Coming to the Clearing: Contemporary Black Poets in Conversation" in *Callaloo* Vol. 39, No. 2 (277-289)

Published Poetry

2022 "Dad Poem X" in *The New Yorker*
 2022 "Benediction" in *The Atlantic*
 2022 "Halation" and "Dad Poem" in *Harvard Review*
 2021 "Dad Poem" and "Dad Poem (The New Temporality)" in *The Yale Review*
 2021 "Dad Poem," "Trash" and "The Hurricane Doesn't Roar in Pentameter" in *Colorado Review*
 2021 "Moxie" in *Magma*
 2020 "Abolition," "Dad Poem," "Sonnet" and "Systema Naturae" in *The Southern Review*
 2020 "Dad Poem (Ultrasound #2)" in *Poem-a-Day*, Academy of American Poets
 2020 "Dad Poem" in *The Wall Street Journal*

2020 "Reparation" in Poetry
 2020 "Dad Poem" in Together in a Sudden Strangeness: America's Poets
 Respond to the Pandemic
 2020 "America Will Be" in African American Poetry: 250 Years of Struggle and
 Song
 2020 "American Abecedarian" in 400 Souls: A Community History of Black
 America, 1619-2019
 2020 "Reparation" in Provincetown Arts
 2019 "Owed to Your Father's Gold Chain" and "Trash" in The Kenyon Review
 2019 "Summer Job" in Wildness
 2019 "Trash" in Puerto Del Sol
 2019 "Owed to the Tardigrade," "Trash" and "Trash" in Winter Tangerine
 Review
 2018 "America Will Be" in The Nation
 2018 "The Book of Mycah" in Poetry
 2018 "The Next Black National Anthem" and "Token Comes Clean" in The
 Los Angeles Review of Books
 2018 "Barber Song" and "Owed to the Plastic on your Grandmother's Couch"
 in Tin House
 2018 "Purple City Byrd Gang" in The Cortland Review
 2017 "Frederick Douglass is Dead" in Boston Review
 2017 "Metal Poem" and "Mike Brown is a Type of Christ" in American Poetry
 Review
 2017 "X" and "Praise Song for the Table In The Cafeteria Where All The
 Black Boys Sat Together During A Block, Laughing Too Loudly" in The
 Kenyon Review
 2016 "home force: presumption of death" in The New York Times
 2016 "Owed to Pedagogy" in Poetry
 2016 "Ode to Long Johns" and "Elegy for Prison" in Boston Review
 2016 "Agnosis" and "First Date" in Callaloo
 2016 "Ode to Ankle Weights" and "Token Sings The Blues" in The Journal
 2016 "When Thy King Was A Boy" in Winter Tangerine Review
 2015 "The Sobbing School" and "Aubade With Insomnia" in New England
 Review
 2015 "Preface to a Twenty-Volume Regicide Note" in Guernica
 2015 "Flight/Plan" in Women & Performance: a journal of feminist theory
 2015 "Samson Reconsiders," "VCR&B," and "On Flesh" in Blackbird
 2015 "On Blueness" and "Love Poem Ending With Typewriters" in Beloit
 Poetry Journal
 2015 "In Defense of Passing" and "Still Life With Toy Gun" in World
 Literature Today
 2015 "On Extinction," "Praise House" and "Plural" in Wave Composition
 2015 "The Open," "Black History, Abridged," "Flyweight" and "Elegy for The
 Modern School" in Connotation Press
 2015 "Invocation" in Vinyl
 2015 "Anthrophobia" and "Hometown Ghazal" in Fjords Review
 2015 "On Stupidity," "Taxonomy" and "Tenacious Elegy: Insurgent Life in The
 Era of Trial by Gunfire with a line from Sylvia Wynter" in Pinwheel
 2015 "The Red, White and Blue Seuss" and "The Telekinetic's Day Off" in
 Tidal Basin Review
 2014 "Yoke" and "Masquerade Ball" in Callaloo
 2014 "Ode to the 99 Cent Store" and "On Rage" in Transition
 2014 "Clench" and "home force: presumption of death" in The Collagist
 2014 "Theodicy" in Word Riot
 2014 "12 Absolutely True Facts about Richard Wright" in Anti-
 2013 "Three Poems for Grandpa's Temper" in Revolution House

- 2013 “last words of a man overboard” & “Patriophobia, or, Wolverine’s Son Reflects on Questions of The Body” in Muzzle
- 2013 “Family Reunion” in Clarion
- 2013 “15 Questions for Jonah on the occasion of his unfortunate tenure inside the belly of a giant fish” & “Didn’t Old Pharaoh Get Lost in the Red Sea: theorizing amnesia in Afro-diasporic maritime literature” in Drunken Boat
- 2012 “Tamara’s Opus” in Disability Studies Quarterly

UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS

Forthcoming/Confirmed

Essays

- 2022 “Language Games” in Harper’s Magazine
- 2022 “King Malcolm” in To Begin Again

Articles in Refereed Journals

- 2023 “Perishable Kingdom” in Transition (under review)

Edited Volumes

- 2023 Minor Notes, Vol. 2. New York: Penguin Publishing Group: Penguin Classics.
- 2022 Minor Notes, Vol. 1. New York: Penguin Publishing Group: Penguin Classics.

Books

- 2023 The Earth is a Living Thing. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2023.
- 2023 Spoken Word: A Cultural History. New York, New York: The Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 304 pages. 2023.
- 2023 Spoken Word: A Cultural History. London, United Kingdom: Square Peg, 304 pages. 2023.
- 2023 Owed. Paris, France: Éditions Globe, 96 pages. 2023.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Dartmouth College

- Fall 2020 “Nature Writing”
Creative Writing Seminar
- Fall 2020 “Modern Black American Literature”
Special Topics Course
- Fall 2019 “Black Love and its Discontents”
Special Topics Course
- Fall 2019 “The Practice of Freedom”
Expository Writing Course
- Summer 2019 “Contemporary American Poetry”
Major Course
- Spring 2019 “The Black Outdoors”
Special Topics Course

Columbia University

- Fall 2017 “Black Soundings in Contemporary Poetry”
Graduate Creative Writing Seminar
- Spring 2016 “Black Soundings in Contemporary Poetry”

Graduate Creative Writing Seminar

Urban Word NYC

Summer 2015

“I Dig Graves When I Laugh: Black Feminist BreakBeat Poetics”
Creative Writing Poetry Workshop for NYC teenagers

Princeton University

Spring 2015

“Race is Socially Constructed: Now What?”
Teaching Assistant

Fall 2014

“Introduction to African American Studies”
Teaching Assistant

ADVISING

List of Theses Supervised

Ph.D.

2022-present Ph.D., Dissertation Advisor, English, Vanderbilt University

Title: TBD

Advisee: Savannah DiGregorio

Anticipated Defense Date: May 2025

2019-present Ph.D., Dissertation Advisor, English, Tufts University

Title: A Livable Assertion: A Poetic Study of Black Nature

Advisee: Roshad Meeks

Anticipated Defense Date: May 2023

B.S. or B.A.

2021 B.S., Thesis Advisor, History, Dartmouth College

English and Creative Writing Department

Advisor

Title: “Trust and Believe: Essays on the Black Indoors, Popular Skepticism, and the Critical Inheritance of the ‘House Slave’”

Advisee: Jordan McDonald

Completed; defended 2021

2021 B.S., Thesis Advisor, African and African American Studies, Dartmouth College

Advisor

Title: “Hacking The New Jim Code”

Advisee: Marina Cepeda

Completed: 2021

REFERENCES

Dr. William Gleason

Hughes-Rogers Professor of English and American Studies

Princeton University

bgleason@princeton.edu

(609) 258-4056

Gregory Pardlo
Director of the MFA Program at Rutgers-Camden
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Rutgers Graduate School-Camden
pardlo@camden.rutgers.edu
(917) 743-9888

Dr. Imani Perry
Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies
Department of African American Studies
iperry@princeton.edu
(609) 258-1750

Dr. Josef Sorett
Professor of Religion and African American and African Diaspora Studies
Columbia University
js3119@columbia.edu
(212) 851-4141