

## **RACHEL LEWIS**

Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational Sexualities  
Women's Studies Program  
University of Connecticut  
354 Mansfield Road, Unit 2181  
Storrs, CT 06269  
Tel.: (860) 617-6281  
E-mail: [rachel.a.lewis@uconn.edu](mailto:rachel.a.lewis@uconn.edu)

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Musicology, Cornell University, May 29th, 2011

Concentrations in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Film and Media Studies, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies

Teaching and research interests: transnational feminisms; LGBT/queer studies; human rights; sexuality and immigration; media and cultural studies; gender and music; opera.

M.A. in Musicology, with a graduate minor concentration in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Cornell University, September, 2007

B.A. in Music (First Class Honours with Distinction), York University (U.K.), 2004

### **DISSERTATION**

Title of Dissertation: "Bordering on Desire: Towards a Transnational Lesbian Cinema".

Dissertation Committee: Steven Pond (Music) (Chair)  
Rebecca Harris-Warrick (Music)  
Amy Villarejo (FGSS and Film)  
Jane Juffer (FGSS and English)  
Shelley Feldman (FGSS and Development Sociology)

## **TEACHING POSITIONS**

- 2011 – 2012 Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational Sexualities, Women's Studies Program, University of Connecticut
- 2010 - 2011 Dissertation Fellow/Lecturer in Gender Studies, Oklahoma State University
- Spring 2010 Adjunct Lecturer in Women's Studies, Wells College

## **AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS**

- Cornell University Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2009-10
- Cornell University Sage Fellowship, 2004-05, 2007-08
- Cornell University Sage Summer Fellowship, 2005, 2006, 2007
- Conference Travel Grants awarded by the Cornell University Graduate School, the Cornell University Department of Music, and the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Cornell:
- Beyond Citizenship: Feminism and the Transformation of Belonging, Birkbeck College, London, June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010
- Lesbian Lives XVII: Lesbian Lives, Studies, and Activisms: In-Laws, Outlaws, and Other Relations, University College, Dublin, February 19-20<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- National Women's Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, November 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Feminist Transitions Conference, Edge Hill University, Liverpool, U.K., June 19-21<sup>st</sup>, 2009
- Lesbian Existence and the Lesbian Continuum, Dublin, June 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- Speaking Out of Place: Feminist Theory and Music 9, Montreal, June 6-10<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- Prize for Best Undergraduate Essay, York University (UK), June, 2004

## PUBLICATIONS

“Towards a Transnational Lesbian Cinema”, forthcoming in the *Journal of Lesbian Studies*. Special issue, “Global Lesbian Cinema”

“The Cultural Politics of Lesbian Asylum: Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled* (2005) and the Case of the Lesbian Asylum-Seeker”, in Dana Collins, Sylvanna Falcon, Sharmila Lodhia, and Molly Talcott, eds. *New Directions in Feminism and Human Rights* (New York and London: Routledge, 2011)

“Lesbians under Surveillance: Same-Sex Immigration Reform, Gay Rights, and the Problem of Queer Liberalism”, *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict, and World Order* 37/1 (2010): 90-106. Special issue, “Sexuality, Criminalization and Social Control”

“The Cultural Politics of Lesbian Asylum: Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled* (2005) and the Case of the Lesbian Asylum-Seeker”, *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 12/3-4 (2010): 424-443. Special issue, “New Directions in Feminism and Human Rights”

“What’s Queer about Musicology Now?” Introduction to the Queer Vibrations special issue of *Women and Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture* 13 (2009): 43-53

“Ethel Smyth and the Emergence of the Lesbian Composer”, in Mary McAuliffe and Sonja Tiernan, eds. *Sapphists and Sexologists: Histories of Sexualities*. Vol. II (Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008), 208-226

“Love as Persuasion in Monteverdi’s *L’incoronazione di Poppea*: New Thoughts on the Authorship Question”, *Music & Letters* 86/1 (2005): 16-41

## JOURNALS EDITED

Guest editor for *Women and Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture* 13 (2009)

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Bordering on Desire: The Cultural Politics of Lesbian Asylum* [Book manuscript in preparation]

“Contested Relations: Refugee Law, Lesbian Existence, and the Human Rights Paradigm”

“Reaffirming Pleasure, Embodying Erotic Justice: Oreet Ashery’s *Staying* (2010) and the Cultural Production of Lesbian Migration”

“Bound by Desire: Queer Re-Imaginations of Sexual Citizenship and Asylum in Mónica Enríquez’s *Fragments of Migration* (2008) and *Un/binding Desires* (2011)

## **INVITED TALKS/LECTURES**

“Feminism, Neoliberalism, and Development: Queering the Connections”, GWST 2113: Transnational Women’s Studies, Oklahoma State University, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010

“The Cultural Politics of Lesbian Asylum”, Gender and Women’s Studies Research Forum, Oklahoma State University, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

“Engendering Displacement: Music, Film, and the Limits of Humanitarian Advocacy”, Film/Music/Sound Symposium, Syracuse University, October 15-16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

“Lesbian Asylum: the Politics and the Practice”, Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Colloquium, Cornell University, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

“Engendering Displacement: Music, Film, and the Limits of Humanitarian Advocacy”, Department of Music, Cornell University, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

“Deportation Deferred: Lesbian Migration and the Politics of Queer Immigrant Resistance”, SEWSA 2011, Structural Adjustments: Queering Privatization, Framing Disaster, Georgia State University, March 24-26<sup>th</sup>, 2011

“Where in the Transnational World Are Lesbians?” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference: Difficult Dialogues II, Denver, Colorado, November 11-14<sup>th</sup>, 2010

“Lesbians on Welfare: Queer Re-Imaginations of Citizenship and Social Protection”, Beyond Citizenship: Feminism and the Transformation of Belonging, Birkbeck College, London, June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

“Same-Sex Immigration Rights in a Transnational Frame”, Lesbian Lives XVII: Lesbian Lives, Studies, and Activisms: In-Laws, Outlaws, and Other Relations, University College, Dublin, February 19-20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

“Integrating Transnational Feminisms in the Women’s and Gender Studies Core Curriculum”, National Women’s Studies Association Conference: Difficult Dialogues, Atlanta, Georgia, November 12-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

“Lesbian Asylum: the Problem of Representation”, Gendering East/West Conference, University of York, U.K., July 8-10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

“Engendering the Lesbian Refugee: Jan Dunn’s *Gypo*”, Revisiting the Beach Conference, Newcastle University, U.K., July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

“Transnational Feminism as Pedagogical Practice”, Feminist Transitions Conference, Edge Hill University, Liverpool, U.K., June 19-21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

“Bordering on Desire: Lesbian Cinema in Europe”, Lesbian Lives XVI: Representations of the Lesbian in Art, Culture, and the Media”, University College, Dublin, February 13-14<sup>th</sup>, 2009

“Border Crossings: Music, Exile, and the Case of the Lesbian Asylum-Seeker in Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled*”, Foreign Language Film Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, November 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2008

“Lesbian Rights, Human Rights”, Women’s Worlds Conference, Madrid, Spain, July 3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2008

“Border Crossings: Music, Exile, and the Case of the Lesbian Asylum-Seeker in Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled*”, Screen Conference, Glasgow University, July 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2008

“Gender, Disembodiment, and the Female Voice in Maryam Shahriar’s *Daughters of the Sun*”, Music and the Moving Image, New York University, May 30-June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

“Lesbians under Surveillance: Citizenship and Immigration in the Aftermath of Terror”, The Human Condition Series, Terror Conference, Laurentian University at Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario, May 2-3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

“Border Crossings: Music, Exile, and the Case of the Lesbian Asylum-Seeker in Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled*”, Lesbian Lives XIII: Writing Lesbian Culture: Theories and Praxis, University College, Dublin, February 15-16<sup>th</sup>, 2008

“Seeing Differently: Transnational Perspectives on Music and Lesbian Desire in Deepa Mehta’s *Fire*”, UCLA Queer Studies Conference, Los Angeles, October 19-20<sup>th</sup>, 2007

“Border Crossings: Music, Exile, and the Production of ‘Home’ in Angelina Maccarone’s *Unveiled*”, Music, Justice, and Gender Conference, Syracuse University, September 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2007

“Seeing Differently: Transnational Perspectives on Music and Lesbian Desire in Deepa Mehta’s *Fire*”, Lesbian Lives XIV: Lesbian Existence and the Lesbian Continuum, University College, Dublin, June 14-16<sup>th</sup>, 2007

“Seeing Differently: Transnational Perspectives on Music and Lesbian Desire in Deepa Mehta’s *Fire*”, Feminist Theory and Music 9: Speaking Out of Place, McGill University, June 6-10<sup>th</sup>, 2007

“Outside the Frame: Representations of Lesbian Femininity in Prodigy’s ‘Smack My Bitch Up’”, *Femme 2006: Conversations and Explorations*, San Francisco, August 11-13<sup>th</sup>, 2006

“Historicizing the Lesbian Composer”, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Durham University, July 6-9<sup>th</sup>, 2006

“‘Devoid of Feminine Charm and Unworthy of a Woman’: Gender, Pathology, and the Emergence of the Lesbian Subject in Ethel Smyth’s *Opus 7*”, Lesbian Lives XIII: Historicizing the Lesbian, University College, Dublin, February 10-12<sup>th</sup>, 2006

“On a Lesbian Relationship with Silence”, Music and Silence Conference, York University, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational Sexualities, Women’s Studies Program, University of Connecticut, 2011-2012:**

WS 1105: Gender in Everyday Life (Fall 2011)

WS 1124: Gender and Globalization (Fall 2011)

WS 2255: Sexualities, Activism, and Globalization (Fall 2011)

WS 3998: Queer Migration (Spring 2012)

**Dissertation Fellow/Lecturer in Gender Studies, Oklahoma State University, 2010-2011:**

GWST 4113: Feminist Theories (Spring 2011)

GWST 2123: Introduction to Gender Studies (Spring 2011)

GWST 3450: Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights (Fall 2010)

**Adjunct Lecturer in Women's Studies, Wells College:**

Introduction to Women's Studies, Wells College (Spring 2010)

**Instructor, Cornell University, 2008:**

Freshman Writing Seminar: Women, Music, and Sound in Classic Hollywood Cinema (Cornell University, Fall 2008)

Popular Music in America, Course Unit on MTV and Women in the Music Video (Cornell University, April 2008)

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University, 2005-2009:**

FGSS 201: Introduction to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (Fall 2009)

FGSS 201: Introduction to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (Spring 2009)

MUSIC 103: Music of the African Diaspora (Spring 2007)

MUSIC 221: History of Rock and Roll (Spring 2006)

MUSIC 222: Introduction to Jazz (Fall 2005)

**Guest Lectures, Cornell University, 2007-2010:**

FGSS 2010: Introduction to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010, "Queer Migration"

Music 111: Gender, Sexuality, and Musical Reception, April 9th, 2008, "Female Composers and the Nineteenth-Century Canon"

Music 111: Futurism and Music, Cornell University, March 12th, 2007, "Feminist Film Theory"

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION/PARTICIPATION

Third Annual Oklahoma Gender and Women's Studies Workshop,  
"Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Reproductive and Sexual Health", Oklahoma  
State University, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

"Queer Vibrations", Cornell University, March 30-31<sup>st</sup>, 2007:

An interdisciplinary graduate student conference on music and queer  
performance

Keynote speakers: Judith Peraino (Associate Professor, Musicology,  
Cornell University), and Suzanne G. Cusick (Associate Professor,  
Musicology, New York University).

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Feminist Media Studies*, 2010—present

Gender and Women's Studies Curriculum Committee, Oklahoma State  
University, 2010-2011

Women's Studies Curriculum Committee, Wells College, 2009-2010

Moderator, Roundtable Discussion, "Feminist and Queer Inquiry on  
Campus". Celebrating Forty Years of Women's Studies at Cornell,  
October 30-31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Events Committee, Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Cornell  
University, 2009-2010

Graduate Assistant for the Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Studies Program at  
Cornell University, 2006-07

During my time as graduate assistant for the Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Studies  
Program, I assisted in the selection of guest speakers; helped to plan and  
publicize conferences and symposia; managed office correspondence and  
paperwork; organized and took minutes for the Steering Committee and LGBTQ  
Community meetings; coordinated events with the Feminist, Gender, &  
Sexuality Studies Program, the Queer Studies Colloquium, and other  
departments/student groups; and advertised/facilitated the annual LBG Studies  
Graduate and Undergraduate prizes.

Graduate Student Representative, Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Studies  
Steering Committee, Cornell University, August 2005-present

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Co-founder and organizer of the Feminist Theories Reading Group, Oklahoma State University, 2010-2011

An interdisciplinary reading group for faculty and graduate students devoted to exploring current literature in feminist, queer and critical/cultural studies

Participant in the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Reading Group, Cornell University, 2009-2010

Participant in the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Colloquia, Cornell University, 2008-2009

Co-founder with Jessica Metzler of the Queer and Transnational Studies Reading Group, Cornell University, 2008-2009

An interdisciplinary reading group devoted to addressing the intersections between queer and transnational studies. Funded by the Cornell Society for the Humanities