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## Contributor Bios, Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies, Issue 18, Spring 2018

## Contributor Bios

Currently pursuing her PhD in English at UNLV, **Chelsea Adams** focuses her studies on African American literature, blues and jazz music, and black vernacular dance. She regularly writes about minority culture representation in literature, with a special focus of representation of black musicians, dancers, and the art forms they produce. She also runs the Blues and Jazz Dance Book Club, an international online book club project, to offer easy and open access to the public about the history of blues, jazz, and black vernacular dance. To learn more about Chelsea and her work, visit [cjuneadams.com](http://cjuneadams.com).

**Sarah E. Beyvers** teaches British Literature and Culture at the University of Passau, Germany. She has published articles on video game culture, fan engagement, and contemporary film. Her main research interests include fan cultures, feminist literatures, unreliable narration across media, and video game narratology.

**Hannah Bonner** is a Film Studies Ph.D. student in the Department of Cinematic Arts at the University of Iowa. Her essay "Our Bodies, Our Self(ies): Mediating and Mitigating Social Media and Selfveillance in Girls" appears in Routledge's HBO's Original Voices: Race, Gender, Sexuality and Power (2018). Additionally, her essays and book reviews have appeared in Bustle, VIDA: Women in the Literary Arts, The Little Patuxent Review, Weird Sister, ROAR, and Asheville Poetry Review. She is the Executive Director for the Bijou Film Board, a student-run organization that partners with the local theater FilmScene to screen independent and foreign films.

**Lauren Frances Evans** is an artist and educator who has been living and working in Iowa City, IA since 2014. During her time in Iowa, she has served as an Artist in Residence for the Iowa City Community School District, was a recipient of an Artist Project Grant from the Iowa Arts Council, and has taught various studio art courses at the University of Iowa and Grinnell College. Originally from Atlanta, GA, Evans completed her undergraduate studies at the College of Charleston, and received her MFA from the University of Maryland. In the fall of 2018 she begins a new position as an Assistant Professor of Art at Samford University in Birmingham, AL. To learn more about her work visit [www.laurenfrancesevans.com](http://www.laurenfrancesevans.com).

**Laura Hayes** is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Iowa specializing in Victorian literature. Her research focuses on representations of bodies in motion, with a particular interest in the extremes of compulsion and composure. Attending closely to form and style, she examines how textual and figural representations of movement (or confinement) shape cultural perceptions of age, gender, class, and education. Laura holds a master's degree from Boston College (2015) and a bachelor's from Western Washington University (2011). Currently, she teaches Rhetoric at the University of Iowa.

**Tala Khanmalek** is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the American Studies and Gender and Sexuality Studies Programs at Princeton University. She completed her PhD in the Ethnic Studies Department at UC Berkeley with a Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, was a Visiting Scholar at UC Santa Cruz's Science and Justice Research Center, and a Lecturer in the Liberal Studies Department and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at CSU Los Angeles.

**Adam Lovasz** is a doctoral student in Philosophy affiliated with Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest. He has written and presented extensively on several topics, including ecological theory, Continental Philosophy, literature studies, materiality and political philosophy. He has written and co-written a number of books, including the first Hungarian language monograph on the philosophy of Georges Bataille. Among his most notable English language books is *The System of Absentology in Ontological Philosophy*, published in 2016 by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. His interests include philosophies of the body, posthuman aesthetics, postmodernism and speculative realism. In addition, Adam is co-founder of Absentology, a working group dedicated to popularizing new directions in philosophical research, and associate editor of *Filozofski Pogledi/Philosophical Views*, an international multilingual journal of philosophy. He has published a number of journal articles in the *Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies R&D*, *New Academia*, *Pivot*, *Rhizomes* and more.

**Nicholas Manai** is a graduate student in the English department at Villanova University whose research focuses on 20th and 21st century American novels. He is interested in the politics of canon formation and the ways a Buddhist understanding of subjectivity intersects with contemporary representations of the individual and affect theory. An essay that examines the limits and affordances of self-fashioning in Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure* will appear in the next edition of *Modern Horizons*. In his spare time he is working on adapting some of his research concerning contemporary representations of Eastern philosophy into a longer creative piece.

**Evelyn Millard** is a PhD candidate in English at the University of Iowa. Her work focuses on questions of ethics and embodiment in transgender literature, along with an interest in its production and amplification. When she's not working, Evelyn is most likely to be found playing board games while eating burritos.

**Kate Nesbit** is a PhD candidate in English at the University of Iowa. She studies nineteenth-century British literature, and her research interests include sound and sound studies, reading history, and oral reading practices. She is currently writing her dissertation on listening to reading aloud in nineteenth-century Britain.

**Erik Noonan** is from Los Angeles. He is the author of the poetry collections *Stances* and *Haiku d'Etat*. His writing appears in a variety of publications, including the anthology *Cross Strokes: Poetry Between Los Angeles and San*

*Francisco*. He is an Assistant Editor at *Asymptote*. For more, please visit [eriknoonan.net](http://eriknoonan.net).

**Caitlin Simmons** is a doctoral candidate in English, with a background in 18th-century and 19th-century British literature. Caitlin is especially interested in depictions of dispossession and alienation in the long Romantic Period, and addiction and alcoholism throughout the industrial revolution. More recently, she has begun to study the literature of dispossessed communities and individuals, such as Native Americans, survivors of the Shoah, and victims of the Atlantic Slave trade. Much of her research examines identity formation, healing the archive, and methods for overcoming dispossession. Caitlin has a BA in English and Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an MA in British Literature from San Diego State University. She currently teaches General Education Rhetoric at the University of Iowa, developing students' written and oral communication skills through a critical engagement with multi-modal texts and their function in argumentation, and by enhancing her students' relationships with the local community.

**Susan K. Thomas** is an independent scholar, having earned her Ph.D. in English at the University of Kansas (KU) in 2012 with an emphasis in 20<sup>th</sup> century queer literature. She currently works as an editor for KU's Assessment & Achievement Institute while working on her Master's in Library & Information Science with a concentration in archives at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She enjoys writing for academia in her free time.

**Florian Zitzelsberger** is tutor for English and American Literary Studies at the University of Passau, Germany. His research is prompted by an interest in American popular and queer culture and focuses on self-reflexivity and metareference across media, ecocriticism, coming-out narratives, and the American film musical.