

ELIOT BESSETTE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY ♦ DEPARTMENT OF FILM AND MEDIA
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, Film and Media, 2020

Dissertation: “Thinking Through Fear in Film and Haunts”

Committee: Linda Williams (chair), Alva Noë, Kristen Whissel

M.A. University of California, Los Angeles, Cinema and Media Studies, 2012

A.B. University of Chicago, Cinema and Media Studies, and English Language and Literature, 2010

AWARDS AND HONORS

Doctoral Completion Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 2016, 2019

Summer Departmental Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 2016

David N.K. and Aileen Wang Family Fellowship in the Arts and Humanities and the Social Sciences,
University of California, Berkeley, 2014–2015

Film and Media Fellowship for Doctoral Study, University of California, Berkeley, 2012–2017

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Chicago, 2010

Departmental Honors in Cinema and Media Studies, University of Chicago, 2010

General College Honors, University of Chicago, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

“Emotional POV in *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*.” Accepted for publication at *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*.

“How to View *13 Ghosts*.” In *ReFocus: The Films of William Castle*, edited by Murray Leeder, 115–136. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2018.

“Mulvey and Trump on *Citizen Kane*.” *New Review of Film and Television Studies* 15, no. 4 (2017): 410–414.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

“The Threatening Spaces and Fearful Phenomenology of Haunts.” Revise-and-resubmit at *Horror Studies*.

“Hedonic and Aesthetic Problems of Extreme Haunts.” Submitted for initial review.

BOOK REVIEWS

Horror Film and Affect: Towards a Corporeal Model of Viewership, by Xavier Aldana Reyes. *Horror Studies* 8, no. 1 (2017): 167–170.

Fatalism in American Film Noir: Some Cinematic Philosophy, by Robert B. Pippin. *Film Criticism* 37, no. 3–38, no. 1 (2013): 157–160.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “*The Wolfman* (2010) and the Demise of Big-Budget Horror.” SCMS Conference, virtual conference, March 21, 2021
- “Why There Are No Affects.” Film-Philosophy Conference, Brighton, England, July 10, 2019
- “The Point-of-View Shot in Boxing Films.” Yale Film and Media Studies Graduate Student Conference: The Aggressive Image, New Haven, CT, February 18, 2018
- “Fear without Empathy and Empathy with Fear.” Society for Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image Conference, Helsinki, Finland, June 14, 2017
- “Haunt Mediation: 2D Renderings of 3D Threat Spaces.” SCMS Conference, Chicago, IL, March 26, 2017
- “The Glitch as Monstrous Threat.” Precarious Aesthetics Conference, Berkeley, CA, October 15, 2015
- “Free Ghost Viewer to Everyone’: *13 Ghosts* and the Fun of Horror Gimmicks.” SCMS Conference, Montreal, QC, March 29, 2015
- “Fear, Time, and Knowledge.” SCMS Conference, Seattle, WA, March 22, 2014
- “What Kind of Thinker is Ingmar Bergman?” SCMS Conference, Chicago, IL, March 7, 2013
- “Justifying Anti-Religiosity in Silent-Era Cinema.” Religion and Spirituality in Society Conference, Vancouver, BC, February 21, 2012
- “The Vitiating of Space in *The Innocents* and *Halloween*.” Popular Cultural Association / American Cultural Association National Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 20, 2011

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

- “How Unified is the Horror Genre?” Delivered virtually. Berkeley City College, “Comparative Film Genres” (for Avy Valladares), March 25, 2021
- “The Curious Pleasures and Threatening Spaces of Haunts.” Invited talk, delivered virtually. Georgia Institute of Technology, April 6, 2020
- “Finnish Horror Cinema.” Berkeley City College, “Global Cinema” (for Laura Ruberto), April 26, 2018
- “The Horror Genre.” Berkeley City College, “Introduction to Film Art” (for Avy Valladares), May 6, 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley

- “Film Genres” (with co-instructor), Spring 2020
- “History of Film I: Silent-WWII,” Summer 2019
- “Boxing Films,” Spring 2018
- “The Emotional Life of Horror Films,” Fall 2017
- “Boxing Films” (with co-instructor), Spring 2017
- “The Emotional Life of Horror Films,” Spring 2016
- “Genres, Major and Minor” (with co-instructor), Fall 2015
- “The Contemporary American Horror Film,” Summer 2015
- “Cinema and the Aesthetics of Surrealism” (with co-instructor), Spring 2014

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Berkeley

“The History of Film Theory” (for Emily Carpenter), Fall 2013

Reader, University of California, Berkeley

“History of Film I: Silent–WWII” (for Anne Nesbet), Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant, UCLA

“Introduction to the Art and Technique of Filmmaking” (for Rory Kelly, online), Summer 2011

POPULAR WRITING AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Radio interview with *The Graduates*, KALX 90.7 FM Berkeley,
<https://www.kalx.berkeley.edu/news/eliot-bessette-graduates>, May 21, 2019

Staff Writer for *Haunting.net*, various publications, <https://www.haunting.net/author/erbessette/>, 2017–2018

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Coordinator, Berkeley Conference on Film and Media: “Serialities 1915/2015,” 2015

Graduate Student Representative, University of California, Berkeley Film and Media Department, 2014–2015

Graduate Student Representative, UCLA Cinema and Media Studies Department, 2011–2012

LANGUAGES

German (reading, some speaking)

Spanish (reading)

Latin (reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Cinema and Media Studies, 2012–

Society for Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, 2017–

REFEREES

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