

Thomas Love
PhD candidate, Art History
Northwestern University

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Education

- 2021 **PhD, Northwestern University**, Department of Art History.
Affiliated with Critical Theory Cluster
Committee: Hannah Feldman (Chair), Huey Copeland, Anna Parkinson
Dissertation: "Queer Exoticism: Strategies of Self-Othering in West Germany, 1969-1994."

In post-1960s West Germany, queers sought to critique conservative European norms and envision liberated forms of social life. But in trying to articulate their marginality outside the terms of identity, they recycled stereotypes of racial and ethnic difference, a practice I call queer exoticism. To demonstrate the relevance of queer exoticism as a historical phenomenon, I analyze visual objects from across multiple West German queer subcultures, identifying exoticist tendencies within tattooing, experimental filmmaking, and neo-expressionist painting. Extending aesthetic debates around orientalism and primitivism, I argue that queer identity was constructed around representations of difference rooted in colonial power dynamics.

- 2017 **MA, Northwestern University**, Department of Art History.
Thesis: "Quincy Index: Carl Andre's Vernacular Modernism"
- 2011 **BFA, The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art**, School of Art.

Fellowships & Awards

- 2020 Rauschenberg Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva Island, FL (postponed).
- 2019-20 Whitney Independent Studies Program, Critical Studies fellow.
Tutor: Gertrud Koch (Brown University/Freie Universität Berlin).
- 2019 DAAD Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists.
Affiliated with PD Dr. Marc Siegel (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz).
- 2018-19 Fulbright U.S. Student Grant, Graduate Fellow.
Affiliated with PD Dr. Marc Siegel (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz).
- 2017-18 Paris Program in Critical Theory, Fellow.
Led by Professor Samuel Weber (Northwestern University).
- 2017 SSRC Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship.
- 2016 Barbara Smith Shanley Graduate Travel Fellowship.
- 2011 Sarah Cooper Hewitt Fund Prize.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- "Quincy Index: Carl Andre's Vernacular Modernism." *Art History*. Manuscript under review.

- “Ornament and Time: Ulrike Ottinger’s Queer Temporality.” *The Germanic Review*. Proposal accepted, manuscript in progress. Estimated publication: Winter 2021.
- “I Vote with Clicks and Bricks: An Interview with Devin Kenny.” *Art Institute Review*. Proposal accepted, manuscript in progress. Estimated publication: September 2021.

General-Audience Publications

- “Emo Artifice as an Archive of Feelings.” *Art in America* (October 17, 2019), online.
- “A.L. Steiner + Zackary Drucker.” In *She Models for Her*, edited by Phoebe d’Heurle and Maryam Hosseini, exhibition catalog (The Shed: New York, 2019).

Translations

- Markues Aviv, “Embroided to the Max.” In *Henrike Naumann*, exhibition catalog, Karl Schmidt-Rottluff Stipendium (Kunsthalle Düsseldorf and Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes: Düsseldorf, 2019).

Workshops and Institutes

- Summer Institute for Psychoanalysis and the Media.
Université Paris 3 – Sorbonne Nouvelle. Jun. 25-28, 2018.
- Dissertation workshop: “Queer Temporalities and Media Aesthetics.”
Institut für Medienwissenschaft, Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Apr. 24-26, 2018.
Led by Professors Penelope Deutscher and Astrid Deuber-Mankowsky.
- Summer Institute of Cologne [sic!], “Queer Becomings and Unnatural Intimacies,”
Universität zu Köln – Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung. Aug. 22-Sept. 2, 2016.
Led by Professor Nick Davis.

Presentations

Invited Talks

- “Queer Temporality in the Work of Ulrike Ottinger”
Guest Lecture, MFA Program, University of Delaware. Dec. 5, 2019.
- “Ulrike Ottinger and the Time of the Queer Other”
Guest Lecture, “Deutsches Nachkriegskino. Erster Versuch: Kristl, Ottinger, Sander, Schroeter,”
Prof. Marc Siegel, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany: Jul. 3, 2019.
- “The Lure of Silk,” Panel Presentation, *Learning to Speak in a Future Tense*,
Organized by Amanda Parmer, Abrons Art Center, New York, NY: Mar. 19, 2015.

Conference Papers

- “Surface and Emptiness: Ulrike Ottinger’s *Ornamentik*”
Conference paper, Whitney ISP Critical Studies Symposium
Whitney Museum of American Art (online), May 29, 2020.
- “The Ethnographic Roots of Queer Exoticism in Germany”
Conference paper, “The Past and Present of Queer German Studies,”
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada (online): Apr. 24-26, 2020.

- “Ticket of No Return: Queer Europhobic Exoticism in the Work of Ulrike Ottinger”
Conference paper, “Leaving Europe: Alternative Routes of Out-/Upward Mobility,”
KU Leuven, Belgium: Sept. 13-14, 2018.
- “Regarding One’s Own Pain: Masochistic Self-Imaging and the White German Subject,”
Conference paper, “Synaesthetic Border Crossings,”
PRISMES Université Paris 3 – Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France: Jan. 11-12, 2018.
- “Ambiguous Realism” presentation on *Audio/Visual Arts* panel at “Resistance, Radicalisms, and
Aesthetics” graduate student conference
Dept. of French and Italian, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL: Jun. 1-2, 2017.
- Panel Moderator, “Art as Direct Action,” Wall of Respect Symposium,
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL: Apr. 28-29, 2017.
- “*Quincy Index: Carl Andre’s Vernacular Modernism*” paper delivered at 52nd Annual Art Institute of
Chicago Graduate Student Seminar, AIC, Chicago, IL: Apr. 21-22, 2017.
- Respondent, “What Is the Use of Theory?” Critical Theory Cluster Dissertation Symposium.
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL: Feb. 16-17, 2017.
- “Dressing the Body in Movement / Dancing the Body in Fashion,” co-written with Miriam Piilonen.
“Doing the Body in the 21st Century” conference,
University of Pittsburgh, PA: Mar. 29 – Apr. 1, 2016.
- Introduction to *Goethe-Institut Emerging Artists 2015* screening,
The Block Cinema, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL: Jan. 22, 2016.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Fellow, Mellon Seminar, Art Institute of Chicago and Northwestern University

- “We Have Never Been Modern” (working title). Spring Quarter 2021.
This undergraduate seminar will take advantage of the encyclopedic collection of the Art Institute of Chicago in order to bring Modernist objects into dialogue with the ostensibly non-modern objects that inspired them. The seminar de-centers the traditional Modernist canon not by denying it, but by providing equal attention to its global interlocutors, past and present.

Visiting Lecturer [Lehrbeauftragter], Institute for Art in Context, Universität der Künste (UdK), Berlin

- “Europhobischer Exotismus / Europhobic Exoticism.” Sommer Semester 2018.
Academic seminar for master’s students in fine arts. The seminar covered the use of exoticism as an artistic strategy in 20th-century European art in order to critique or dis-identify with European cultural and social norms. Each class centered around the close reading and discussion of a single artwork or exhibition, from Jean-Hubert Martin’s *Les Magiciens de la Terre* to Renée Green’s *Import/Export Funk Office* and Camille Henrot’s *Grosse Fatigue*.

Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University

- “Art and Activism,” Prof. Rebecca Zorach. Dept. of Art History, Spring Quarter 2016.
Delivered guest lecture and led seminar on “AIDS Activism.”
- “Intro to American Art,” Prof. Chris Bell. Dept. of Art History, Winter Quarter 2016.
Led discussion section.

- “Intro to Modernism,” Prof. Stephen Eisenman. Dept. of Art History, Fall Quarter 2015.
Led discussion section and delivered guest lecture on “The Situationist International.”

Professional Experience

- 2021 Panel Co-chair, with Adri Kácsor (Northwestern University), “Periodical Revolution: Leftist Art Publications and the Aesthetics of Rebellion.” Panelists: Asli Menevse (Cornell), Przemyslaw Strozek (Archiv der Avantgarden), and Paul Smith (UCLA). CAA Annual Conference, online: Feb. 10-13.
- 2020 Workshop co-organized with Markues Aviv: “Einfluss/Ausfluss [Influence/Outfluence]” at Burg Giebichenstein Kunsthochschule Halle: Nov. 6-8.
- 2020 Panel Chair, “Apophatic Aesthetics in Contemporary Art.” Panelists: Mlondolozzi Zondi (Northwestern University), Cassandra Guan (Brown University), and Amalle Dublon (New School). CAA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL: Feb. 12-15.
- 2019 Conference co-organized with Ying Sze Pek (Princeton University): “To Institute the Postcolonial.” Roundtable discussion with Nanna Heidenreich, Anja Sunhyun Michaelson, and Christian Kopp. Aquarium am Südblock, Berlin: Aug. 24.
- 2017 Guided Tour of Centre Pompidou for undergraduate students in the Northwestern University/Université de Paris Sorbonne Nouvelle Program in Art, Literature, and Contemporary European Thought (ALCET): Nov. 20.
- 2017 Workshop co-organized with Sharon Hayes (Penn) and Tyrone Palmer (Northwestern University): “Blackness and Performativity.” Northwestern University, Depts. of Art History and Art, Theory, and Practice, Evanston, IL: Apr. 17.
- 2017 Curated Film Series: “The Gay Left: Homosexuality in the Era of Late Socialism.” The Block Cinema, Evanston, IL: Feb. 3 – Mar. 3.
- 2017 Course Research Assistant for Huey Copeland: “Black Masculinities.” Dept. of Art History, Northwestern University: Spring Quarter 2017.
- 2017 Research Assistant: Rebecca Zorach, Claudia Swan, Huey Copeland, Hiring Plan Research Committee, Dept. of Art History, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2015-7 Graduate Student Representative, Dept. of Art History, Northwestern University. Duties included planning Graduate Student Lecture Series. Invited speakers: Sharon Hayes (Penn), Allyson Nadia Field (UChicago), Amy Powell (Curator at Krannert Art Museum, UIUC).
- 2016 Research Assistant: Domietta Torlasco (Northwestern University). Assisted with media studies research project on cinematic depictions of children in wartime.
- 2010 Co-curator with Cassandra Guan and Janny Chiu: *In Play*. 31 Cooper Gallery, Cooper Union, New York, NY.
- 2010 Co-curator with Cassandra Guan, Calla Henkel, and Max Pitegoff: *Afterparty*. “End of Year Show,” 31 Cooper Gallery, Cooper Union, New York, NY.

Language Skills

English: native speaker

German: advanced proficiency

French: intermediate proficiency

Professional Affiliations

College Art Association (CAA)