

**Gerard Holmes, PhD**  
4A Hillside Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
802-595-0104 / [gholmes@umd.edu](mailto:gholmes@umd.edu)

## **EDUCATION**

PhD in English Literature, University of Maryland, College Park  
Dissertation: “*Discretion in the Interval*”: *Emily Dickinson’s Musical Performances*  
Committee: Martha Nell Smith, Scott Trudell, Kellie Robertson, and Marta Werner  
MA in English Literature, Hunter College, City University of New York  
BA in English and Writing, Goddard College

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### *Editor*

Forthcoming, co-edit special issue, *ESQ*, 2024, “Thomas Wentworth Higginson, apart from Emily Dickinson,” and contribute Introduction and essay, “Reported, Phonographically: Thomas Wentworth Higginson’s 1858-1859 Spiritualist Lectures, Extemporaneous Speech, and the Problem of Evidence.”

Co-edited special issue, “New Directions in Emily Dickinson and Music,” *Women’s Studies*, Volume 50, no. 2, March 2021. Co-wrote “Introduction,” pp. 113-122, and contributed essay, ““the Bird / Who sings the same, unheard, / As unto Crowd -’: Dickinson, Improvisation, and the Business of Birdsong,” pp. 175-194.

### *Peer-reviewed Essays*

“‘Discretion in the Interval’: Emily Dickinson, Musical Improvisation, and Manuscript Variations,” Chapter 24, *Oxford Handbook to Emily Dickinson*, Oxford University Press, edited by Cristanne Miller and Karen Sanchez-Eppler, 2022, pp. 407-424.

“Emily Dickinson, Jenny Lind, and Rural Nineteenth-Century Fandom,” *Reception: Texts, Readers, Audiences, History*, Volume 12, 2020, pp. 38-53.

“‘Invisible, as Music –’: What the Earliest Musical Settings of Emily Dickinson’s Poems, Including Two Previously Unknown, Tell Us about Dickinson’s Musicality,” *Emily Dickinson Journal*, Volume 28, no. 2, 2019, pp. 73-105.

### *Public Audiences and Reviews*

Forthcoming, *Legacy*, 2023, review of George Boziwick, *Emily Dickinson’s Music Book and the Musical Life of an American Poet*.

Review, “Boziwick, George, *Emily Dickinson’s Music Book and the Musical Life of an American Poet*,” *Emily Dickinson International Society Bulletin*, 2023.

Review, “Athenot, Éric and Cristanne Miller, eds. *Whitman & Dickinson: A Colloquy*,” *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, Volume 36, no. 3: Spring / Summer 2019, pp. 353-357.

“What Academic Humanists Can Learn from Nonprofits,” Public Humanities as / and Comparatist Practice cluster, *Contemporaries / Post45*, 2019.

Review, “Emily C. Friedman. *Reading Smell in Eighteenth-Century Fiction*.” *The Eighteenth-Century Intelligencer*, Volume 31, no. 2: October 2017, pp. 29-31.

### *Editorial Assistant*

*Why I Like This Story*. Edited by Jackson R. Bryer. Camden House, 2019.

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### **FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, CERTIFICATES, AND GRANTS**

#### *Fellowships*

American Council of Learned Societies / Mellon Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2019-2020

Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, 2019-2020 (declined)

Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship at the American Antiquarian Society, 2019

Endowed Summer Fellowship for Archival Work in English Studies, 2019

James F. Harris Visionary Scholarship, 2018-2019

Kwiatek Summer Fellowship, 2018

Stringer Fellowship and Merit Fellowship, 2015-2016

Arts and Humanities Technology Fellowship, 2002-2003

#### *Awards and Certificates*

Honorable Mention, Charles A. Caramello Distinguished Dissertation Award, 2021

Georgetown University Graduate Certificate in the Engaged and Public Humanities, 2018

Dickinson Critical Institute Graduate Student Mentorship, Emily Dickinson International Society, 2016, 2017, and 2023

#### *Grants*

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, 2016, 2017, and 2019

UMD Arts & Humanities Travel Grant, 2016 and 2019

Center for Literary and Comparative Studies Spring 2017, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 grants for Humanities Beyond the Academy reading / working group

UMD College of Arts and Humanities and Pepsi Fund grants for Humanities Beyond the Academy career diversity symposium, 2019

### **CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND TALKS**

#### *Organizer, Convener or Chair*

Convener and Chair, “Thomas Wentworth Higginson, apart from Emily Dickinson” roundtable, Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, January 2022

Chair, “Personal Passions and Pleasures” panel, Society for the Study of American Women Writers Triennial Conference, November 2021

Chair, “The Art of Mortality: Death, Philosophy, and Suicide” panel, Emily Dickinson International Society Annual Meeting, August 2021

Convener and Chair, “Improvisation in Nineteenth-Century American Literature” panel, Modern Language Association, Seattle, WA, January 2020

Convener, “Graduate School, Class Mobility, and the Job Market” panel, Modern Language Association, Seattle, WA, January 2020

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Convener and Chair, “Emily Dickinson at Play” panel, Northeast Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, March 2019

Organizer, “Activism, Academia and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Graduate Education” symposium, with keynote speaker Professor Gregory Laski, University of Maryland, February 2019

**Invited Participant**

“What the Academic Humanities Could Learn from the Nonprofit Arts and Humanities about Partnerships, Engaging the Public, and Rebuilding Our Discipline,” American Comparative Literature Association, Washington, DC, March 2019

“Reinventing Graduate Education in the Humanities: Diversity and Social Justice” (invited), Connected Academics Symposium, Washington, DC, September 2018

“Reinventing Graduate Education: Roles for Faculty, Graduate Students, and Administrators,” East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ECASECS), Staunton, VA, October 2018

**Participant**

“Emily Dickinson, George Sand, and Making Noise,” Emily Dickinson International Society Annual Meeting, Amherst, MA, July 2023

“George Sand’s *Consuelo* Novels and Margaret Fuller’s Improvised Work-Life,” Thoreau Society Annual Gathering, Concord, MA, July 2023

“Nineteenth-Century American Women Writing about Music,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers Triennial Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2021

“Surprise in Charles Brockden Brown’s Time, and Ours,” Charles Brockden Brown Society, Providence, RI, October 2021

“The Present Moment in C19 Studies: Spontaneity, Surprise, and Anticipation,” Presentism Seminar, C19 conference (virtual), October 2020

“‘Discretion in the Interval’: Emily Dickinson’s Musical Performances,” Modern Language Association, Seattle, WA, January 2020

“Walt Whitman, Improviser,” American Literature Association, Boston, MA, May 2019

“‘Make Me Bearded Like a Man!’: Emily Dickinson and Circus Culture,” Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association, Washington, DC, April 2019

“‘An almost Tuscan power of improvisation’: Spontaneity, Ideas of Italy, and Poetic Performance in the Eighteenth Century,” East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ECASECS), Staunton, VA, October 2018

“‘I am small, like the Wren’: Emily Dickinson’s Selected Birdsongs,” Modern Language Association, New York, NY, January 2018

“Emily Dickinson’s Manuscript Readers: An *Alternative* Extended Reception History,” Reception Study Society, St. Paul, MN, September 2017

“The ‘Alien Force’ of Emily Dickinson in the Fin de Siècle and Beyond,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, “Border Crossings,” Bordeaux, France, July 2017

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“I am afraid to own / a Body –”: Emily Dickinson’s Musical and Manuscript Variations,” Society for Textual Scholarship, College Park, MD, May-June 2017

“Gossip, the Unspoken, and Emily Dickinson,” Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association, San Diego, CA, April 2017

“Emily Dickinson, Music Geek,” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 2017

“The Colonial and Literary Adventures of Surprise,” East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ECASECS) Conference, Fredericksburg, VA, October 2016

“‘...all from her own inspiration’: Composition and Improvisation in Emily Dickinson’s Work,” Emily Dickinson International Society Conference, Paris, France, June 2016

### **TEACHING, SERVICE, AND RELATED SKILLS**

#### *Teaching – University of Maryland, College Park*

Fall 2023: English 420, Romanticism; English 398N, Writing for Nonprofits; English 319C, From Frankenstein to Dracula: The Monstrous and Fantastic in Nineteenth-Century Literature

Spring 2023: English 398N, Writing for Nonprofits, two sections

Fall 2022: English 398N, Writing for Nonprofits; English 101, Academic Writing,

Spring 2022: English 398B, Writing for Social Entrepreneurship (online only); English 222, American Literature 1865 to Present

Fall 2021: English 140, American Fictions: Cross-Examining U.S. Literature, History, and Politics; English 101, Academic Writing

Spring 2021: English 398B, Writing for Social Entrepreneurship (online only)

Fall 2020: English 101, Academic Writing, two sections

Fall 2018: English 297, Introduction to Professional Writing

Spring 2018: English 243, What is Poetry?

Spring 2017: English 101, Academic Writing

Fall 2017: English 101, Academic Writing, two sections

#### *Guest Teacher*

Poetry Discussion Group, “Emily Dickinson’s Natural Music,” online presentation and guided poetry discussion, Emily Dickinson Museum, March 23 & 25, 2022

Poetry Discussion Group, “Yankee Doodle Variations: Emily Dickinson and Improvisation,” online presentation and guided poetry discussion, Emily Dickinson Museum, March 19 & 26, 2021

English 439D / Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Studies 459B / Women’s Studies 498Y, Dickinson, Whitman, Erotics, Epic American Poetry, September 10, 2019

English 748C, Dickinson: Sexual and Textual Geographies, March 4, 2019

#### *Selected Service*

Working Group for Online and Blended Teaching, University of Maryland English, 2022-2023

Essay Referee, *ANQ: A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes, and Reviews*, 2022

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Panel and Proposal Reader, Society for the Study of American Women Writers conference, 2021

Member, Modern Language Association Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Humanities, 2018-2021

Member, English Department Coordinating Committee, 2019-2020

Founder, Humanities Beyond the Academy graduate student reading / working group, 2016-2019

Member, English Department PhD Recruitment Committee, 2017 and 2018

Member, English Department PR, Outreach, and Development Committee, 2017-2018

Secretary, Graduate English Organization, 2016-2017

Graduate Representative, Stringer Fund Steering Committee, 2015-2017

Graduate Representative, English Department Assembly, 2015-2016

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

C19: The Society of 19th-Century Americanists  
Charles Brockden Brown Society  
Emily Dickinson International Society  
Modern Language Association

Society for the Study of American Women  
Writers  
Thoreau Society