Eric Robertson

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Environmental Humanities May 2013

University of Utah

Bachelor of Arts, English May 2011

University of Utah

ACADEMIC INTERESTS

My academic interests include queer cultural ecology in English literature and film, critical theory studies (particularly queer theory and ecocriticism), philosophy of science, creative fiction/non-fiction writing, and environmental humanities.

TEACHING INTERESTS

I am interested in teaching English, critical theory, environmental philosophy and humanities courses within higher education. I am also interested in developing course material in American studies, creative writing, environmental ethics and education, film studies, and queer cultural and material ecology.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

 **Queer Ecology**

Queer theory and behavioral ecology walk into a bar. The discursive turn meets the meat—minds versus matter(ing). I’m interested in constructing a theoretical platform whereon queer theorists such as Lee Edelman, Jack Halberstam, and Kathryn Stockton are marooned with some of the greats in behavioral ecology, Susan Gowaty, Kristen Hawkes and Sarah Hrdy—the Darwinian feminists meet the gender atheists.

I’m thinking of some big questions to ask. How do nonprocreative bodies find themselves as mythic figures within social narratives and to what ecological ends could those figural positions be of some benefit? How are queer bodies becoming integral participants in human ecological and cultural ontologies?

TEACHING/EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

**Humanities Instructor** 2013-present

Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Utah Valley University

* I currently teach Humanities 1010, “Humanities Through the Arts.”

**English Instructor** 2013-present

Department of English, Salt Lake Community College

* I currently teach English 2010, “Intermediate Writing,” and English 1010, “Introduction to Writing,” as well as “Intro to Queer Studies,” and “Introduction to Novel Writing.”

**Associate Instructor**

University of Utah, Honors College 2017-present

* I currently teach HONOR 2211 Writing in Honors, and HONOR 3200 Research University.

**Editor**

*Dark Mountain Project*2018-present

* I am currently the fiction and creative nonfiction editor for the bi-annual publications of the *Dark Mountain Project*, an environmental humanities art and literary journal from the UK.

**Academic Peer Reviewer**

*Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism* 2020-present

* I am a peer review consultant in ecocriticism for the academic journal *Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism*. UK, Routledge Press.

**Managing Editor** 2013-present

*saltfront: studies in human habit(at)*

* I currently act as a founding and managing editor of a locally organized environmental humanities and literary arts journal created to explore environmental issues through creative storytelling.

 **Curriculum Development Manager, English/Literary Theory** 2012-2013

Schmoop.com

* I was employed as an online Curriculum Development Manager, preparing resource and study modules in English literature and literary critical theory.

**Teaching Fellowship** 2011-2013

College of Humanities, University of Utah

 • I taught WRTG 2010, “Rhetoric and Composition.”

**Teaching Assistantship** 1993-1996

Department of Theatre and Film, Brigham Young University

* I taught three sections of Film 117, “Intro to Film Art and Analysis.”

**Linguistic Language Tutor** 1993-1995

Department of Humanities Linguistic Lab, Brigham Young University

* I helped tutor Swedish language students and monitored language exams.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

 **Featured Presenter**

Robertson, E. (2019). “Meme-ing the American Dream: Navigating Queer Multitudes.” Presented at the Annual Humanities Symposium, “Memes, Emblems and Icons.” Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah. March 2019.

Robertson, E. (2017). “Why Shit Matters: Post-human Humor as Queer Ecological Performance in MTV’s *Jackass.*” 2017 ASLE, *Association for the Study of Literature and Environment*, Biennial Conference, “Rust/Resistance: Works of Recovery.” Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. June 2017.

Robertson, E. (2015). “Forgetting and Cultural Renewal: Queer Ecology’s Novel Forms.”

Presented at the Fourth Annual Humanities Symposium. Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah. March 2015.

Robertson, E. (2014). “The (W)holes of Human Nature: New Materialism and the

Humanities.” Presented at the Third Annual Humanities Symposium, “Found Objects.”

Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah. March 2014.

Robertson, E. (2012). “The Penetrated Male: Phallic Feedback and Imposture.”

Presented at The Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference*.* University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. February 2012.

Presented at the Confutati Graduate Symposium*.* University of Utah. April 2012.

Robertson, E. (2012). “The Queer Sublime: Volcanoes, Guts and Sloppy Sounds in

Shelley's *Frankenstein*.”

Presented at the *International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture,* Pepperdine University. August 7-9, 2012. Malibu, CA.

Presented at the *Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, ASLE-UK*, “Composting Culture: Literature, Nature, Popular Culture, Science.” September 2012. University of Worcester, UK.

Presented at the session on ecocriticism (co-sponsored by *Association for the Study of Literature & Environment*), 2012 PAMLA Conference. October 19-21, 2012. Seattle University, Seattle, WA.

PUBLICATIONS

 **Peer Reviewed Academic Articles**

Robertson, E. (2020). “American Overburdens.” *ISLE*, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment.* Oxford University Press.

 Robertson, E. (2017). “Wasted Sex, Wasteful Bodies; Queer Ecology and

 The Future of Energy Use.” *English Language Notes*. University of Colorado Boulder.

Robertson, E. (2014). “Volcanoes, Guts, and Cosmic Collisions: The Queer Sublime in *Frankenstein* and *Melancholia*.” *Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism*. Routledge Press. London, UK. February 2014.

Robertson, E. (2012). “The Penetrated Male: Phallic Feedback and Imposture.” *Trans-Scripts, An Interdisciplinary Journal in the Humanities and Social Sciences.* University of California Irvine. May 2012.

**Fiction**

Robertson, E. (2020). “For Whom it Should Remain Silent.” Fabula, *Dark Mountain Project, Book 18.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2020.

Robertson, E. (2019). “Poor Dumb Bastards.” Refuge, Ten Years on the Mountain, *Dark Mountain Project, Book 16.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2019.

Robertson, E. (2018). “All That Their Sons Collect.” *Dark Mountain Project, Book 13.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2018.

Robertson, E. (2017). “Wet Sage and Horse Shit.” *Walking on Lava*, Best of the *Dark Mountain Project.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2017.

Robertson, E. (2013). “Rebecca.” *saltfront: studies in human habit(at).* Issue 1. Saltfront Press. Salt Lake City. 2013.

Robertson, E. (2013). “A Meditation on Fear in Five Parts.” *Handbook*. Anthologized and presented by Stinne Storm at the 2013 “Conference on Communication and Environment,” Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Uppsala, Sweden. 2013.

Robertson, E. (2012). “Wet Sage and Horse Shit.” *Dark Mountain Project, Book 4.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2013.

**Creative Non-Fiction**

Robertson, E. (2018). “She Doesn’t Remember Falling.” *Dark Mountain Project, Book 13.* MPG Books Group. UK. 2018.

Robertson, E. (2017). “Stop Everything! Save the Planet!” *The Gay and Lesbian Review*. September–October 2017 • volume XXIV, number 5. Boston, MA. 2017.

# Book Reviews

# Robertson, E. (2019). “The Simple Pleasures of Indecipherable Magic in Janalyn Guo’s “Our Colony Beyond the City of Ruins.” *15 Bytes*. Artists of Utah. Salt Lake City. 2019.

# Robertson, E. (2017). “Struck From Different Dimensions: A Profile of Scott Abbott.” *15 Bytes*. Artists of Utah. Salt Lake City. May 2017.

HONORS/AFFILIATIONS

**Academic Acknowledgements**

Winner, Novel Category *Utah Arts Council, Original Writing Competitio*n 2015

Humanities Teaching Fellowship, University of Utah 2011- 2013

 Dean’s List, University of Utah 2010, 2011

 Princess Grace Emerging Playwright Award, *semifinalist,* New Dramatists 2005

 Theatre and Film Teaching Assistantship, Brigham Young University 1993-96

**Professional Associations/Memberships**

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE)

 Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA)

 International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (ISSRNC)

 Screen Actor’s Guild (SAG)

Actor’s Equity

Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)

RELATED EXPERIENCE

**Playwright** 2005-2008

Salt Lake Acting Company, New Play Sounding Series

* My original play *Mammoth* was chosen for professional development, including actor workshops and a professional staged reading. The creative development team included David Mong, literary manager, Mike Dorrell, dramaturge, and Julie Jensen, resident playwright.

 **Actor** 1996-2005

Screen Actor’s Guild/Actor’s Equity

* I appeared in a variety of films and television programs as well as on stage with Salt Lake Acting Company and Pioneer Theatre Company.