

VESNA KUIKEN  
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## EDUCATION

- PhD, 2015 American Literature, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
- MA, 2008 American Literature, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
- BA, 2007 European Literary Traditions, Department of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, University of Belgrade, Serbia

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2016-Present Lecturer, Department of English, University at Albany, SUNY
- 2022-24 Lecturer, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
- 2012-2014 Instructor of Record: Literature Humanities, Columbia University
- 2010-2012 Writing Coach and Writing Center Consultant, Columbia University

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

*Memory Lanes: How Islands Remember in American Literature* (manuscript under consideration by Oxford University Press)

### Edited Collection

*Dispersion: Thoreau and Vegetal Thought*, assistant editor, with Branka Arsić (Bloomsbury Press, 2021)

### Articles

- "Emerson's Banyan-Rhizomatics," *SubStance Journal* 166 (54.1), 2025: 57-63.
- "Chance Encounters: Thoreau's Pomontology in 'Wild Apples,'" in *Dispersion: Thoreau and Vegetal Thought*, eds. Branka Arsić and Vesna Kuiken (New York: Bloomsbury, 2021), pp. 189-204.
- "Foreign Before 'The Foreigner': Jewett's Conjure Aesthetics" Special issue on women and medicine in nineteenth-century American literature, *Arizona Quarterly*, 74.4 (2018): 115-144.
- "Idiorhythmic Regionality, or How to Live Together in Jewett's *Country of the Pointed Firs*," *Arizona Quarterly*, 74.3 (2018): 87-118.
- "1884: *The Princess Casamassima*, Anarchy, and Henry James's Materialist Poetics," *The Henry James Review* 38.2 (2017): 113-133, recipient of the 2016 Leon Edel Prize.

- “‘Fit to Be Free’: From Race to Capacity in Jewett's ‘The Mistress of Sydenham Plantation,’” *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* 5.2 (2017): 239-266.
- “The Impersonal Lives of Margaret Fuller: A Problem of Biography,” *Nineteenth-Century Prose* 42.1 (2015): 95-112.
- “On the Matter of Thinking: Margaret Fuller’s Beautiful Work,” in *American Impersonal*, ed. Branka Arsić (New York: Bloomsbury, 2014), pp. 99-129.

### **In progress**

- “Submarine Histories: Stowe’s Cuban Communities”

### **Translations** (English to Serbian, selection)

Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism*, Judith Butler, *Psychic Life of Power* (co-translation), Gil Anidjar, *The Jew, the Arab: A History of the Enemy*, David Wills, *Prosthesis* (co-translation)

### **INVITED LECTURES AND SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- “Thaxter’s Tidal Perception,” Jewett Unbound Conference, Paris, France, October 18-19, 2024, conference co-organizer and presenter
- “Melville and Thaxter: Two Models of Outlandishness,” Melville Society Annual Conference, Paris, France, June 27-30, 2022, panel organizer and presenter
- “Life on the Rocks: Celia Thaxter on Ecological Memory,” University of Utah, February 26, 2022 (invited lecture)
- “Geology and Memory of Celia Thaxter’s Isles of Shoals,” Princeton University, November 30, 2021 (invited lecture)
- “Chance Encounters: Thoreau on Wild Apples,” MLA, January 9-12, 2021 (panel organizer)
- “Life on the Rocks: Celia Thaxter’s Driftwood Aesthetics,” October 18-25, 2020, C19, virtual.
- “Idiorhythmic Temporalities in American Literature,” symposium *Anthropocene Now: Ecology, Ethics, Politics*, April 20, 2018, SUNY-Albany, symposium organizer.
- “Geology, History, and Native Americans in Sarah Orne Jewett’s Fiction,” Columbia University, EPIC Seminars, February 2, 2017 (invited lecture)
- “The Intimate Narration of Shell-Heaps: Jewett and the Native Americans,” SUNY-Albany, November 17, 2016 (invited lecture)
- “The Aesthetics of Vegetal Healing: Jewett and the Caribbean,” Seton Hall University, February 11, 2016 (invited lecture)
- “1884: *The Princess Casamassima* and James’s Materialist Poetics,” The Henry James Society Conference, Brandeis University, June 9-11, 2016, panel organizer.
- “‘Fit to be Free’: On Being a Person in Jewett’s ‘Mistress of Sydenham Plantation,’” The Society of American Women Writers, Philadelphia, PA, November 4-8, 2015.

## **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS**

- 2024 English Department, UAlbany, grant for conference organization
- 2024 Maine Women Writers Collection, grant for conference organization
- 2017-19, 2021 Individual Development Award, Program of the New York State/United University Professions Professional Development Committee,
- 2019-20 Strategic Allocation of Resources (StAR) grant for English Department's Humanities Labs project
- 2020 Maine Women Writers Collection Research Support Grant, Josephine S. Abplanalp Library, University of New England
- 2018 Council on Research Award, SUNY-Albany
- 2017 The Leon Edel Prize for the best essay on Henry James
- 2012-13 Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2010-11 Global Supplementary Grant, Open Society Institute
- 2012, 2013 Mellon Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University,
- 2008 Bunner Award for the best Americanist MA thesis, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, 2008
- 2007-14 Marjorie Hope Nicolson Fellowship, Columbia University

## **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- 2016-Present Department of English, University at Albany, SUNY  
Honors Committee Member  
Awards Committee Member  
Development Committee Member  
Symposium and Events Organizer
- 2019-Present Reviewer for *Textual Practice* and *Arizona Quarterly*
- 2014-2016 Senior Research Associate and Grant Writer, El Museo del Barrio, NYC

## **LANGUAGES**

Serbian (native), Latin (basic reading), Russian (basic reading and comprehension)

## **REFERENCES**

Academic Research

Branka Arsić Charles and Lynn Zhang Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University ([ba2406@columbia.edu](mailto:ba2406@columbia.edu))

Ross Posnock Anna Garbedian Professor of the Humanities, Columbia University  
([rp2045@columbia.edu](mailto:rp2045@columbia.edu))

Stuart Burrows Associate Professor, Brown University ([Stuart\\_Burrows@brown.edu](mailto:Stuart_Burrows@brown.edu))

Teaching

Nicholas Dames Theodore Kahan Professor of Humanities, Columbia University  
([nd122@columbia.edu](mailto:nd122@columbia.edu))

Gareth Williams Violin Family Professor of Classics, Columbia University ([gdw5@columbia.edu](mailto:gdw5@columbia.edu))

Jeffrey Berman Distinguished Teaching Professor, University at Albany, SUNY ([jberman@albany.edu](mailto:jberman@albany.edu))