

**ANNA VITALE**  
avitale at wisc dot edu

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. English literature. Minor in Transdisciplinary Visual Studies.

University of Wisconsin-Madison, May 2017.

Dissertation: *Suicidal Fantasy in Three American Authors*

Advisors: Dr. Lynn Keller and Dr. Mario Ortiz-Robles

Description: Critics often eschew suicidal fantasy despite its prevalence in conceptions of American authorship since the 1960s. Amiri Baraka, Kathy Acker, and David Wojnarowicz repeatedly obscure the identity of the author in order to suggest that the wish to kill one's self mediates excessive identification, a relentless adherence to recognizable identity. Interpretations of suicidal fantasy reveal a social wish to live in the midst of more ambivalent forms of politicized and psychical identity.

M.F.A. Writing, Bard College, 2007.

B.A. Women's Studies; Creative Writing (High Honors), University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 2003.

**Additional Education**

Institute for Critical Social Inquiry, The New School, Michael Taussig, "Thought-Images, Body, and Mimesis in Walter Benjamin," June 2017.

Cornell School of Criticism and Theory, Renata Salecl, "Psychoanalysis and Surveillance," June 2016.

London Graduate School, Summer Academy in the Critical Humanities on Jacques Derrida's *Glas*, June 2014.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Full-length Books**

*Detroit Detroit*. Roof Books, 2017.

*Different Worlds*. Troll Thread, 2017.

**Chapbooks**

*Unknown Pleasures*. Perfect Lovers, 2013.

*How We Know Who We Are* [one act play]. Cannot Exist, 2013.

*Anna Vitale's Pop Poems*. OMG Press, 2010.

*Breaststa*. Mondo Bummer Press, 2010.

**Poetry and Other Media (selected)**

"A House is Not a Home." *Supplement v.2* (forthcoming 2017). Creative Writing Program & Kelly Writers House at the Center for Programs in Contemporary Writing (University of Pennsylvania).

"Accord." *Two Serious Ladies*. <http://www.twoseriousladies.org/accord-by-anna-vitale/>

"Teenage Punks." *Monsters and Dust* (2014), editors: Chris Pappas, Aay Preston-Myint, and Joe Proulx.

- “[I’d like to start with that conversation about death].” *Wonder* (2013). editors: Andrew Durbin and Ben Fama. <http://shitwonder.tumblr.com/post/64782740249/anna-vitale>
- “Change Pictures” [archive of performance]. *Emergency Index* (2013). Ugly Duckling Presse.
- “Street View Lyric” [video]. *Gauss PDF* (2013), editor: Gordon Faylor. <http://www.gauss-pdf.com/post/48781187888/gpdf070-anna-vitale-street-view-lyric>
- “Taping Volume.” *P-Queue* 8 (2011), editors: Holly Melgard and Joey Yearous-Algozin.
- “Vitale In School.” *The Brooklyn Rail* (December 2010/ January 2011), editor: Anselm Berrigan. <http://www.brooklynrail.org/2010/12/poetry/>

### Academic

- “The blackness of Holly Melgard’s ‘Black Friday,’” *Conceptual Writing (plural and global)*. Special Feature editor: Divya Victor. *Jacket2* (Feb 5 2016).
- “Feces on the Philosophy of History! A Manifesto of the MLA Subconference,” with Bennett Carpenter, Laura Goldblatt, Lenora Hanson, Karim Wissa, and Andrew Yale, *Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture* 14.3 (2014): 381-393.

### Under Review

- “Suicidal Fantasy in Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones)”

### Generalist

- “The Top 4 Wants As I Heard Them at Simone White’s Unofficial AWP Off-Sight.” *Ohio Edit* (Feb 2017).
- “Who Does the Book Pray on Behalf Of? Toni Morrison’s *God Help the Child*.” *Entropy* (June 2015).
- “Experience Unlimited at the East Bay Poetry Summit.” *Harriet: a poetry blog*, The Poetry Foundation (June 2013).
- “Conversations on Psychoanalysis.” *Humanities NOW*, Center for Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Oct 10 2012).
- “When Psychoanalysis is Poetry.” *Poetry Labor Project* (June 17 2012).

### AWARDS

#### University of Wisconsin-Madison

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| June 2016   | Cornell School of Criticism & Theory Scholarship.   |
| May 2015    | Summer Dissertation Fellowship. (Also: May 2014).   |
| April 2015  | Vilas Travel Grant.   |
| Oct 2015    | Nominated for Early Excellence Award in Teaching. (Also: Oct 2014).   |
| 2013 - 2014 | A.W. Mellon Workshop Grant, “Art and Scholarship, in Theory and Practice,” with Dr. Jill Casid, River Bullock, Lauren Hawley, Andrew Saylor, and Katie Schaag, The Center for Humanities. |

### TEACHING

#### School of Visual Arts Faculty

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Visual and Critical Studies Department |                     |
| Fall 2017                              | Visuality in Poetry |
| Spring 2017                            | Visual Poetics      |

## **Bard College Faculty**

Institute for Writing and Thinking

Summer 2017 Language and Thinking

## **University of Wisconsin-Madison Teaching Assistantships**

Department of Afro-American Studies

Spring 2016 Black Music and American Cultural History

Fall 2015 Masterpieces in African American Literature

Department of English

Spring 2015 Literature and Popular Culture: Science Fiction

Fall 2014 Composition [Instructor]

Spring 2014 British Literature to 1750

Fall 2013 Introduction to Literature: Ghosts, Monsters, and the Paranormal

## **Eastern Michigan University Adjunct Lectureship**

2008 - 2010 Introduction to Creative Writing

Fall 2008 & 2009 Performance Poetry

Spring 2009 & 2010 Poetry and the Body

## **INVITED LECTURE**

Nov 2016 "Change Positions: A Talk on Amiri Baraka & the Anti-Imperialist Singers'  
Performance at the Poetry Project in November, 1975," GIANT NIGHT:  
The Poetry Project at 50 Series, New York, NY.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Nov 2017 "Activist Pedagogies: Thinking Beyond Solidarity and Allyship," Roundtable  
Participant, American Studies Association, Chicago, IL.

Oct 2017 "The Name of the Author: Amiri Baraka and Kathy Acker," Communal Presence:  
New Narrative Writing Today, University of California-Berkeley.

March 2015 "When Children Don't Get To Be: Tony Terrell Robinson, Jr. and Antigone,"  
American Comparative Literature Association, Sheraton Seattle.

Feb 2015 "Holding Court" [performance], The Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate  
Conference, University of Milwaukee-Wisconsin.

Feb 2014 "Street View Lyric" [performance and video], The Midwest Interdisciplinary  
Graduate Conference, University of Milwaukee-Wisconsin.

April 2013 "Eminem's Personification of Detroit," American Comparative Literature  
Association, University of Toronto.

June 2012 "Revisiting What Makes Language Poetry Political: Representations of Force in  
Barrett Watten's *Progress*," Poetry and Poetics of the 1980s, National Poetry  
Foundation, University of Maine.

Feb 2012 "The Sign Says Closed: Defining the Limits of Language and the Collective in *The  
Wide Road*," The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900,  
University of Louisville.

## **POETRY READINGS AND PERFORMANCES (SELECTED)**

Oct 2017 Featured Reader with Kim Rosenfield. Bushel. Delhi, NY.

Oct 2017 Dancer, *The Politics of the Unconscious*, led by Marija Krtolica, The New  
Perspectives Theatre, New York, NY.

May 2017      Featured Reader with Marie Buck, curated by Joseph Mosconi.  
                     Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art. Los Angeles, CA.

Sep 2015      Featured Reader with Isaac Pool and Tyrone Williams, curated by Thom Donovan.  
                     Michael Jon Gallery. Detroit, MI.

April 2014     Featured Reader. Brooklyn Poetry Summit. Brooklyn, NY.

July 2013      Featured Reader. Printer's Ball. Spudnik Press. Chicago, IL.

May 2013      Featured Reader. East Bay Poetry Summit. Oakland, CA.

Oct 2012      Featured Reader. Segue Reading Series. New York, NY.

April 2012     Featured Reader with Brad Flis. Hosted by Rob Halpern. Ypsilanti, MI

June 2011     Featured Reader. Thunder Sky. Hosted by Dana Ward. Cincinnati, OH.

Oct 2010      Featured Reader with Eileen Myles. The Shaped Reading Series. Madison, WI.

May 2010      Featured Reader. The Friday Night Series. St. Mark's Poetry Project. New York, NY.

April 2010     Featured Reader with Anselm Berrigan. College for Creative Studies Center  
                     Galleries. Detroit, MI.

## **SERVICE**

### **Community**

DJ, 91.1 WFMU-FM Jersey City, Freeform Radio (Jan 2017-present).

Curator, Oscar Presents: A Reading Series with Jordan Dunn, Lewis Freedman, and  
                     Andy Gricevich, Madison, WI (2013-2016).

Board of Directors, Rainbow Cooperative Bookstore, Madison, WI (2012-2013).

Executive Staff and DJ, 88.3 WCBN-FM Ann Arbor,  
                     University of Michigan's Freeform College Radio Station (2000-2010).

### **Professional**

Editor, *textsound: an audio journal* (2008-2010).

### **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Curator, FELIX Series of New Writing, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2012-2015).

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Modern Language Association (2015-present).

American Comparative Literature Association (2013-present).

American Psychoanalytic Association (2013-present).

American Studies Association (2017-present).