

Curriculum Vitae and Full Publications List

Professor Lisa Downing



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SUMMARY BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT:

Lisa Downing (BA, MA London; DPhil Oxon.) is Professor of French Discourses of Sexuality at the University of Birmingham, UK. She held a Lectureship and Readership at Queen Mary, University of London, followed by Chairs at the Universities of Exeter and Birmingham. She was head-hunted to her Chair at Exeter at the age of 31, in 2006, making her one of the youngest ever full Professors in the humanities in the UK. She has been the recipient of the prestigious Phillip Leverhulme Prize in 2009, and of numerous awards and grants from bodies including The British Academy, The Wellcome Trust, and the AHRC. Her work crosses – and interrogates – disciplinary boundaries. She has written widely on cultural concepts including (ab)normality, exceptionality, selfishness, and freedom; on psychiatric and sexological diagnoses; on European traditions of feminism; and on the French philosopher and historian Michel Foucault. She is the author or editor of more than twenty book-length works and has authored over fifty academic articles and chapters. Her work has had significant impact outside of academia, particularly in the spheres of psychiatry and sexology and of visual art. Her monograph *Selfish Women* (Routledge, 2019) has enjoyed a particularly wide readership both inside and outside the academy and a second expanded and updated edition has just been commissioned in response to its popularity.

(1) EDUCATION

Academic Qualifications

D.Phil., 2000, University of Oxford, Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages

Thesis title: 'Desire and Immobility: Situating Necrophilia in Nineteenth-Century French Literature', supervised by Professor Malcolm Bowie

MA in European Languages, Literatures and Thought, 1996 (Distinction) (Drapers prize), Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London

BA in French, 1995 (Class 1) (Drapers prize, French Departmental prize for top First in year), Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London

Professional Qualifications

Postgraduate Certificate of Academic Practice (PGCAP) (Higher Education Academy accredited award), 2001, Queen Mary, University of London

(2) CAREER

Professor of French Discourses of Sexuality College of Arts and Law University of Birmingham	Sept. 2012 - present
Professor of French Discourses of Sexuality College of the Humanities, University of Exeter	Sept. 2006 – Aug. 2012
Reader in French Discourses of Sexuality School of Modern Languages Queen Mary, University of London	Sept. 2005-Aug. 2006
Lecturer in French School of Modern Languages Queen Mary, University of London	Sept. 1999 – Aug. 2005
Non-Stipendiary Lecturer in French Lincoln College and Lady Margaret Hall University of Oxford	Sept. 1997 – Aug. 1999

(3) RESEARCH

AREAS OF RESEARCH EXPERTISE:

- 1) Modern Critical Theory and Continental Philosophy. Especially: Michel Foucault, French feminism, ethics, psychoanalysis, queer theory;
- 2) Theoretical histories of cultural concepts. Especially: ab/normality, desire, freedom, selfishness (and my associated original concept 'self-fulness' from *Selfish Women*), reason (and my original concept of 'redistributed reason' from *Against Affect*);
- 3) History and theories of sexuality and feminism in comparative European (especially French) and Anglophone contexts from 1800-the present;
- 4) The mental health humanities and broader medical humanities; the history of psychiatric and sexological diagnoses (esp. sexual perversion/ paraphilia).

RESEARCH GRANTS, PRIZES, AWARDS, ETC.

2024 (as CI) Institute for Global Innovation/ Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Birmingham, Research Project ('Understanding Incel Behaviour to Reduce Extreme Violence against Women and Girls')

2021-22 (as PI Fellow) Research Fellowship, the Leverhulme Trust ('Against Affect')

2018-19 (as advisory board member) Seed Award, the Wellcome Trust ('Pharmacosexuality: The Past, Present and Future of Sex on Drugs'). PIs: Alex Dymock and Leah Moyle

2017 (as named academic partner) Arts Council Award for a project at the Grand, Union Birmingham ('Art, Gender, and Voice'). Artist PIs: Valeria Del Baglivo and Anna Santomauro

2012 (as advisory board member) AHRC Major Research Grant ('Queer Theory in France'). PIs: Oliver Davis and Hector Koliass

2010 (as PI) Research Grant, the Wellcome Trust ('A Critical Study of John Money's Contribution to the Sexological Concept of Paraphilia')

2009 (as Prize holder) Philip Leverhulme Prize, The Leverhulme Trust (for 'scholars under the age of 36 who have made an outstanding international contribution to their field of study and whose future contribution is expected to be of correspondingly high quality')

2008 (as conference organizer) British Academy Overseas Conference Grant ('Nature and Normality in The History of Sexuality', Prato, Italy)

2007 (as named host) British Academy Visiting Fellowship, to receive Dr Elizabeth Stephens, University of Queensland, Australia, to work in CISSGE, University of Exeter on a project entitled 'The Body in the Museum: Public Exhibitions of Human Bodies in British Anatomy Museums'

2005 (as PI) AHRC Research Leave Scheme ('The Subject of Murder')

2002 (as award holder/ conference organizer) British Academy Conference Grant for the First Annual Conference of the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes

2002 (as PI) British Academy Small Research Grant ('Patrice Leconte')

1996 British Academy Studentship for DPhil study (three-year full award)

1995 British Academy Studentship for MA study (one-year full award)

IMPACT AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

I am committed to disseminating my research to a wide range of non-academic professional and public audiences via an array of writing, speaking, broadcasting, and consultative activities. Most substantively, I have collaborated with the Royal College of Psychiatrists, with the American Psychiatric Association, and with the international artist Navine Khan-Dossos and several European galleries. Below is a recent, representative sample of activities:

April 2025 – blog post written to accompany my keynote lecture at 'All The Rage' conference, IFK Vienna, re-published on the science pages of the Austrian national broadcaster, ORF, [here](#).

Spring 2025 – the Canadian poet Natasha Sanders-Kay used my original concept of 'self-fulness' from *Selfish Women* in her published poem 'Self-Rescue' (p. 78, [here](#)). The poetic voice describes a longing to be 'Selfish at last' and acknowledges *Selfish Women* as the inspiration for her 'prayer' and 'daily practice' of becoming 'self-ful'.

2021-23 active in the [UPEN](#) initiative which aims to help policymakers understand the value of arts and humanities research methods. Participation in a networking event with senior Westminster civil servants on the topic of 'What is Culture?'.

December 2021 – commissioned [book review](#) of Stuart Jeffries's *Everything, All the Time, Everywhere: How We Became Postmodern* for the *Financial Times*.

2020-2021 – Co-created with Dr Jonathan Hurlow [a CPD module](#) for the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 'Prevent Strategy: Safeguarding Freedom of Expression and Preventing Stigma'. The module uses my original concept of 'identity category violations', introduced in my 2018 article, 'The Body Politic: Gender, The Right Wing, and "Identity Category Violations"' in *French Cultural Studies*. An identity category violation occurs when a person belonging to a given social group displays political views, beliefs or values that are at odds with the assumptions we have about people in that group. The identity category violation shows up the instability of the system by which we think we can predict individual conviction due to group membership. Awareness of this contributes to unconscious bias training.

May 2021 – guest on the BBC Radio 4 *Analysis* programme '[What the Foucault](#)', which takes as its starting point the observation I made on the episode of 'Free Thinking' devoted to Foucault that he is 'a bogeyman of the left', with Shahidha Bari.

February 2021 – interviewed on the programme '[Free Thinking](#)' on BBC Radio 3 about Michel Foucault's *History of Sexuality Vol. 4* with Shahidha Bari.

June 2019 – authored [article](#) for *Huffington Post* on Theresa May's premiership in the shadow of Margaret Thatcher's legacy, drawing on my work in *Selfish Women*.

June 2019 – invited speaker on a Royal College of Psychiatrists panel debate with Lord Alderdice and others, to debate the motion 'It is not the psychiatrist's job to de-radicalize'. I argued for the motion and my side prevailed.

2017 – dissemination of my research on the suppression of gender studies in Hungary, Romania, and Poland. Cited by David Matthews in [his article](#) of 11 May 2017 in *Times Higher Education* and by Thea Elnan in her article in the Norwegian newspaper *Morgenbladet* (written in Norwegian) in August 2017, on the subject of the Eastern European attack on gender studies.

2017-2019 – major artistic collaboration on the subject of gendered extremism with Navine G. Khan-Dossos. I contributed to three exhibitions and ran a series of events with the artist. The artist used my theorization of female exceptionality, first discussed in *The Subject of Murder* and developed in *Selfish Women*, for her exhibit [Echo Chamber](#) (Van AbbeMuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, 2017). This work is an aniconic portrait of the 'Isis bride' Samantha Lewthwaite. I participated in an [interview and public Q&A](#) at the gallery about the history of ideas about female violence with the artist in November 2017. In 2018, we co-created an exhibition, [Shoot the Women First](#) (The Breeder Gallery, Athens, Greece) about the doubly aberrant status of female terrorists who have historically been considered more dangerous by dint of their sex, drawing on the theoretical insights in *Selfish Women*. I wrote [a reflective text](#) to accompany Khan-Dossos's images and be distributed at the exhibition. In 2019 we collaborated on [There Is No Alternative](#) (The Showroom, London). The exhibition examined the branding and dissemination of the UK's PREVENT counter-extremism strategy. I curated a table of documents on mental health for the exhibition and chaired a panel debate on 'Wellbeing and freedom of expression in a PREVENT culture'.

2017 – as convenor of the cross-University of Birmingham Sexuality and Gender Research Network, my network and I collaborated on an Arts Council-funded project on 'Art, Gender, and Voice' at the Grand Union, Birmingham, directed by Valeria Del Baglivo and Anna Santomauro on the construction of feminist histories and futures.

May 2017 – interviewed on Salford Radio's ['Divas Up North'](#) about my then forthcoming book *Selfish Women*.

October 2015 – interviewed on the BBC Radio 4 programme ['Thinking Allowed'](#) on female killers with reference to *The Subject of Murder*.

June 2013 – article for the *Times Higher Education*: ['Identity Crisis for Women's Studies'](#) (on the disappearance of Women's Studies in UK HEs).

March 2013 – interviewed for [a profile piece](#) about my research for *The Subject of Murder* by Matthew Reisz for the *Times Higher Education*.

October 2012 – article for the *Times Higher Education*: ['A Necessary Monster'](#) on public reactions to Ian Brady's attempts to be moved from hospital to prison.

2011-2013 – invited by Dr Kenneth Zucker and Dr Ray Blanchard (American Psychiatric Association) to contribute input from my research on the social and political meanings of the diagnostic concepts of 'perversion' and 'paraphilia' to the work of the APA sub-work group on 'Paraphilia', leading to the publication of the new *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5, 2013)*. I assessed the lasting influence of 19th-century European medical beliefs upon current diagnostic categories and highlighted the ideological nature of much psychiatric conceptualization of sexual abnormality, encouraging greater awareness among US clinicians of the situated nature of their knowledge. I published [an article](#) in the journal *Archives of Sexual Behavior* reflecting on the eventual diagnostic definition that appeared in the *DSM-5*.

2006-2016 – co-convenor of the London-based [Critical Sexology Seminar Series](#), bringing together academics, clinicians, activists, and the public to critically interrogate cultural and psychological assumptions about sexuality. I was interviewed in my role as convenor of the series for [an article about sexology in the UK](#) by Matthew Reisz for the *Times Higher Education* in October 2008.

(4) EDUCATION

PHD STUDENT SUPERVISION

AT BIRMINGHAM:

I currently supervise (as primary or secondary co-supervisor) 9 students completing PhDs. The following are individuals who have successfully completed PhDs under my supervision:

Gurbax Matoo (first supervisor, part-time PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, from 2014) for a thesis entitled: 'Mothers or Monsters? A Comparative Study of South Asian and White Women Who Kill Their Children'. Viva passed in June 2025.

Daisy Savage (first supervisor, part-time PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, from 2018) for a thesis entitled 'Queering Nation, Querying Identity: Decolonial Feminism and Franco-Algerian Lesbian Voices'. Viva passed in December 2024.

Abby Fox (first supervisor, Distance Learning PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, from 2018) for a thesis entitled 'Dapper Dames, Dita, & Disneyland: Aesthetics of Power and Play in Modern Pin-Up Culture'. Viva passed in September 2024.

Azadeh Sarjooghian (second supervisor, College of Arts and Law-funded PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, from 2018) for a thesis entitled 'Identity and Gender Stereotypes: The Representation of Muslim Men's and Women's Bodies in Contemporary Middle Eastern Art'. Viva passed in July 2023.

Eleanor Hedger (third supervisor, AHRC M3C-funded PhD in Music and History, from 2017) for a thesis entitled 'Singing in the Face of Death: Music and Martyrdom during the English Reformation 1553-1649'. Viva passed in July 2021.

Katie Masters (first supervisor, College of Arts and Law-funded PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, from 2015) for a thesis entitled: 'Putting the "Social" in "Social Anxiety Disorder": A Feminist/ Antipsychiatry Perspective on this Diagnosis in Women'. Viva passed in June 2021. Thesis published as a book with Palgrave MacMillan in 2025.

Henrietta Phillips (first supervisor, AHRC-funded PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, University of Birmingham, 2012-2016) for a thesis entitled: 'Cultural Representations of the Moors Murderers and the Yorkshire Ripper in Relation to Class and Gender Discourses of The North'. Viva passed in January 2017.

AT EXETER:

Martin Baxter (second supervisor, PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, 2009-2013; external co-supervisor from September 2012) for a thesis entitled: 'Questioning the Reformability of Western Civilization's Rape Culture'. Viva passed December 2013.

Elena Lipsos (first supervisor, PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, 2010-2013; external co-supervisor from September 2012) for a thesis entitled: 'A Genealogy of "Pin-up", 1940-the Present'. Viva passed February 2014.

Caroline Walters (first supervisor, AHRC-funded PhD in Sexuality and Gender Studies, 2008-2011) for a thesis entitled: 'Discourses of Heterosexual Female Masochism and Submission 1880-the Present'. Viva passed May 2012.

Lara Cox (first supervisor, AHRC-funded PhD in French, 2008-2011) for a thesis entitled: 'Re-envisioning the Theatre of Absurd: The Lacanian Spectator and the Work of Fernando Arrabal, Arthur Adamov, and Eugène Ionesco'. Viva passed September 2011. PhD Thesis published as a monograph with Peter Lang in 2019. Dr Cox is now a Lecturer at the University of Toulouse, France.

Gerri Kimber (first supervisor, PhD in French, 2003-2006 at QMUL; 2006-2007 at University of Exeter) for a thesis entitled: 'Katherine Mansfield: The View from France'. Viva passed November 2007. Thesis published as two books with Peter Lang and Kakapo Books in 2008. Professor Kimber is now Visiting Professor in English at the University of Northampton.

AT QMUL:

Lucy Bolton (first supervisor, PhD in Film Studies, 2004-2007) for a thesis entitled "‘But What if the Object Started to Speak?’ Examining Onscreen Female Consciousness on Using the Thought of Luce Irigaray'. Viva passed April 2008. Thesis published as a book with Palgrave Macmillan in 2011. Professor Bolton is now Professor in Film Philosophy at Queen Mary, University of London.

POSTGRADUATE DEVELOPMENT AND TEACHING

At the University of Birmingham, I convene the MRes Sexuality and Gender Studies programme. I convene and teach on the two core modules: 'Theories, Issues and Methodologies' and 'Sexuality, Gender and Representation'.

At the University of Exeter, in 2007 I designed and convened MA and MRes programmes in Sexuality and Gender Studies, under the auspices of the Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Sexuality and Gender in Europe (CISSGE), which I founded and directed. I taught the core module and two optional modules on these programmes.

I also taught widely on the MA in European Languages and Culture at Exeter (2006-2009) and, prior to that, I convened the MA in European Literature, Culture and Thought (1999-2005) and the MA in Identity and Representation (2003-2005), the latter of which I also designed, at QMUL. I delivered the core course in Critical Theory for both programmes.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

At Birmingham, Exeter, and QMUL, I have taught optional modules on aspects of my research:

- (at Birmingham, 2012-18 and at Exeter, 2006-09) convenorship and teaching of a popular final-year module exploring the construction of sexuality in nineteenth-century literature, culture, and sexology
- (at Exeter, 2006-09) convenorship and teaching of a 2nd-year module exploring science and the literature of the supernatural in 19th-century Europe
- (at QMUL, 2006-09) convenorship and teaching of a module linking currents of political thought and the poetry of the nineteenth century in France
- (at all institutions) contributions to team-teaching in my areas of expertise (French and comparative European literature, European history of sexuality, the thought of the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries; critical theory)
- (at University of Oxford) French grammar classes; tutorials for Final Hons paper on Mallarmé, Baudelaire, Verlaine.

(5) ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP / ADMINISTRATION

I have participated in extensive training in academic management, including, at Exeter, taking part in the residential University Leadership Programme (2009). I have also received media training (at Exeter), PDR training (at both Exeter and Birmingham), unconscious bias training (at Birmingham), appointment panel protocols training (at both Exeter and Birmingham), and training in interview techniques for major research grants (at Birmingham). I complete regular mandatory CPD modules in areas such as health and safety, EDI, data security, etc.

AT BIRMINGHAM:

From 2025: Head of Research for the School of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music, overseeing research strategy, planning and implementation for 3 Departments and 3 REF units of assessment

2023-24 and 2024-25: AHRC M4C Consortium Lead for the School, supporting the departmental PGR leads to prepare their applications, and ensuring QA across the selection and interview practices within the School

2017-2020: REF Lead for UoA 26: assessed performance at previous REF and formulated measures to address deficiencies; devised new research strategy and formulated thematic streams; set up professorial group to oversee strategy, monitoring, and progress; monitored staff outputs, including formative mentoring and internal grading; produced environment template. Under my leadership our UoA moved up by two quartiles in 2021 from 2014, the biggest improvement of any UoA at Birmingham.

2012-2014: School Head of Postgraduate Studies: liaised between my School and the University Graduate School on recruitment, retention, and funding; chaired annual progress monitoring panels in the School for all first-year PhD students and for any problem cases; sat on internal funding panels; planned (successful) AHRC consortium bid.

2012-present: Set up and convened the [interdisciplinary staff research network](#) and a raft of postgraduate programmes in Sexuality and Gender Studies (a strategic research area across the University); organized numerous research events, workshops, and PGR training sessions under the auspices of this network including recently collaborating with Hungarian Universities (Szeged, ELTE, and Budapest) where teaching gender studies is banned to facilitate shared PG teaching and research.

AT EXETER:

2006-2012: Founder and Director of the Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Sexuality and Gender in Europe (CISSGE): mentored staff, visiting early career fellows, and post-doctoral fellows; attracted funded visiting fellows including Dr Elizabeth Stephens, University of Queensland, Australia and Professorial visiting fellows, including Professor Dennis Denisoff, University of Tulsa and Professor Tim Dean, then University of Illinois; coordinated a large research project 'Queer in Europe' in 2008, with a funded conference and numerous resulting publications; achieved internationalization of the University of Exeter's profile through these endeavours in line with strategic priorities.

2006-200: School Director of Postgraduate Studies: chaired the School's Postgraduate Committee and represented postgraduate studies on the following School committees: Executive Committee, Research Committee, Education Committee; represented the University Faculty of Postgraduate Studies on the University's Management Information Working Party; co-ordinated the successful application for a number of AHRC BGP awards across Modern Languages.

(6) CITIZENSHIP

MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIC BODIES /RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

- Research Affiliate, ARC-GS, UVA, the Netherlands (from 2018)
- Member of the Consortium of Critical Theory Programs, Chaired by Judith Butler, for *Paragraph* (from 2016)
- UK representative of the Network for Centres of Sexuality and Gender Studies, Yale University, USA, an international body to promote teaching and research in this interdisciplinary area (2008-present)
- Research Affiliate, Centre for Somatechnics (2008-present)
- Research Affiliate, Centre for the History of European Discourses (CHED), University of Queensland, Australia (from 2006 until the Centre's dissolution)
- Member of the Association of University Professors and Heads of French (from 2006)
- Founding executive board member of the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes. I held the post of Conference Officer on the executive committee (2002-2006)
- Founding Executive Board member of the 2001 Group (AHRC-funded training and symposium network for PGR students in French literary and historical studies) (2001-2008)

EDITORSHIP OF JOURNALS:

- Editor of *Paragraph: A Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, published by Edinburgh University Press (chief editor: 2024-2026).
- Editorial Board member of *INSEP: Journal of the International Network of Sexual Ethics and Politics*, published by Budrich.
- Editorial Board member of *Screen Bodies*, published by Berghahn
- Former Advisory Board member of *Psychology and Sexuality*, published by Taylor & Francis (as a non-psychologist offering a history/ theories of sexuality perspective, 2010-2015).

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

I am frequently consulted to assess appointments/ promotions applications/ research quality for a range of UK and Worldwide HE institutions:

- External assessor for Research Fellowships in Modern Languages: Clare College, Christ's College, and Jesus College, University of Cambridge (2006-2025).
- Assessed applications for promotion from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer for UK institutions: Queen Mary, University of London, UK (2009), University of Leicester (2011), King's College London (2015); an application for promotion to Reader for the University of Warwick (2013); applications for promotion to Professor for the Universities of Edinburgh (2007), Chester (2015), RHUL (2018), and Warwick (2020).
- Invited assessor for the National Commission for UNESCO's establishment of a UNESCO Chair in Gender Research (2019)
- Internationally, I have assessed an application for tenure (2008) and two applications for promotion to Reader (2010, 2012) for the University of Queensland, Australia, and applications for Personal Chairs for Georgia State University, USA (2008), Johns Hopkins University, USA (2020), and Western Sydney University, Australia (2024).
- External assessor, selected French outputs for University of Stirling's UoA 28 2014 REF submission (2013)
- Member of the AHRC Peer Review College (2009-2012)
- Nominated international expert assessor for a research appointment at the Institut Universitaire de France (2006)

EXTERNAL EXAMINING (BACHELORS):

- External Examiner for BA Politics, Sexuality and Gender at the University of Brighton (2022-2025)
- External Examiner for BA Psychoanalytic Studies at the University of Essex (2010-2013)
- External Examiner for the BA French programmes at the University of Bangor (from 2007-2010)

EXTERNAL EXAMINING (MASTERS):

- External Examiner for the MSc in Gender Research at the London School of Economics (2015-2019)
- External Examiner for the MA in Gender, Culture and Society at University College, London (2012-2017)

EXTERNAL EXAMINING (PHD):

- The University of Essex: Konstantinos Vlachakis, Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies, 2025
- The University of Bologna and the Humboldt University of Berlin (co-tutelle): Anna Chiara Corradino, Literature and Cultural Studies, 2022
- The University of Sussex, English, 2018 (fail)
- Brunel University: Emily Cox, Humanities, 2017
- The University of Warwick: Kayte Stokoe, Modern Languages, 2017
- La Trobe University, Australia: Jacinthe Flore, Humanities, 2017
- The University of Edinburgh: Joseph Blessin, History of Science, 2014
- Chichester University: Helen Hester, Cultural Studies, 2011
- University of Melbourne, Australia: Romana Byrne, History, 2010
- The University of Oxford: Carellin Brooks, Medieval and Modern Languages, 2010
- The University of Oxford: Jason Hartford, Medieval and Modern Languages, 2008

FULL PUBLICATIONS LIST

Authored books

Downing, Lisa, *Selfish Women*, 2nd expanded edition with a new Preface and Afterword (Abingdon: Routledge, in preparation; forthcoming: 2027)

Downing, Lisa, *Against Affect*, 'Provocations' (Lincoln: Nebraska University Press, in press; publication date: 1 April 2026), ISBN: 9781496242303

Downing, Lisa, *Selfish Women* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2019), ISBN: 9780367249892

Downing, Lisa, Iain Morland and Nikki Sullivan, *Fuckology: Critical Essays on John Money's Diagnostic Concepts* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015), ISBN: 9780226186610

Downing, Lisa, *The Subject of Murder: Gender, Exceptionality and the Modern Killer* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), ISBN: 9780226003542; 022600354

Downing, Lisa and Libby Saxton, *Film and Ethics: Foreclosed Encounters* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2010), ISBN: 0415409276

Downing, Lisa, *The Cambridge Introduction to Michel Foucault* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008), ISBN: 0521682991 (translation into Persian published in 2018)

Downing, Lisa, *Patrice Leconte*, French Film Directors Series (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), ISBN: 0719064252; 0719064244

Downing, Lisa, *Desiring the Dead: Necrophilia and Nineteenth-Century French Literature* (Oxford: 'Legenda', European Humanities Research Centre, University of Oxford, 2003), ISBN: 1900755653

Edited books

Downing Lisa (ed.), *After Foucault: Culture, Theory and Criticism in the Twenty-First Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), ISBN: 1107140498

Downing, Lisa and Robert Gillett (eds.), *Queer in Europe: Contemporary Case Studies* (London: Ashgate, 2011), ISBN: 9781409404644 (translation into Croatian published in 2013 by Zagreb Pride)

Downing, Lisa and Sue Harris (eds.), *From Perversion to Purity: The Stardom of Catherine Deneuve* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2007) ISBN: 0719073383

Nobus, Dany and Lisa Downing (eds.), *Perversion: Psychoanalytic Perspectives/ Perspectives on Psychoanalysis* (London: Karnac Books, 2006), ISBN: 1855759179

Edited conference proceedings

Nigel Harkness, Lisa Downing, Sonya Stephens and Tim Unwin (eds.), *Birth and Death in Nineteenth-Century French Culture* (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007), ISBN: 9042022604

Capitanio, Sarah, Lisa Downing, Paul Rowe and Nick White (eds.), *Currencies: Fiscal Fortunes and Cultural Capital in Nineteenth-Century France* (Bern: Peter Lang, 2005), ISBN: 3039105132

Guest-edited Special Issues of journals

Downing, Lisa (ed.), 'Critical Freedoms', Special Issue of *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, 46:3, 2023, ISSN: 02648334

Cox, Lara and Lisa Downing (eds.), 'Queering the Second Wave', Special Issue of *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, 41:3, 2018, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa (ed.), 'Sex Blogging', Special Issue of *Psychology and Sexuality*, 3:1, 2012, ISSN: 19419899

Downing, Lisa and Robert Gillett (eds.), 'European Culture/ European Queer', Special Issue of *Sexualities*, 15:1, 2012, ISSN: 13634407

Cryle, Peter and Lisa Downing (eds.), 'The Natural and The Normal in the History of Sexuality', Special Issue of *Psychology and Sexuality*, 1:3, 2010, ISSN: 19419899

Cryle, Peter and Lisa Downing (eds.), 'Feminine Sexual Pathologies in Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century Europe', Special Issue of *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 18:1, 2009, ISSN: 10434070

Articles in refereed journals

Downing, Lisa, 'Revisiting the Abject Phallus in a Post-#Metoo/ #BalanceTonPorc World', *Nottingham French Studies*, Special Commemorative Issue on 'Essays in Memory of Keith Reader', ed. Alex Hughes, Jeremy Lane and Bill Marshall, 64:2, 2025, 109-122, ISSN: 00294586,

Downing, Lisa, 'On Refusing to Care as a Feminist Ethic: A Response to "Reactionary Feminists" Louise Perry and Mary Harrington', *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, Special Issue on 'Cultures of Care in the 21st Century' ed. Jasmine Cooper and Katie Fleming, 48:2, 2025, 151-167, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'Author Functions and Freedom: "Michel Foucault" and "Ayn Rand" in the Anglophone "Culture Wars"', *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, Special Issue on 'Critical Freedoms', ed. Lisa Downing 46:3, 2023, 301-316, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'Im/mobility', *différences*, Special Commemorative Issue on 'Syntax of Thought: Reading Bersani', ed. Jacques Khalip and John Ricco 34:1, 2023, 150-155, ISSN: 15271986; 10407391

Downing, Lisa, "'(S)extremism": Imagining Female Violence in the Twenty-First Century with Navine G. Khan-Dossos and Julia Kristeva", *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, 43:2, 2020, 212-222, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'The Body Politic: Gender, The Right Wing, and "Identity Category Violations"', *French Cultural Studies*, 29:4, 2018, 367-377, ISSN: 01427237

Downing, Lisa, 'Shadow Sisters: Monique Wittig, Shulamith Firestone, and Proto-Antisocial Queer', *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, Special Issue on 'Queering the Second Wave', ed. Lara Cox and Lisa Downing, 41:3, 2018, 364-379 ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'Dying for Sex: Cultural and Forensic Narratives of Autoerotic Death', *New Formations*, Special Issue on 'Death and the Contemporary' ed. Georgina Colby, 89-90, 2017, 137-152, ISSN: 09502378

Downing, Lisa, 'Heteronormativity and Repronormativity in Sexological "Perversion Theory" and the *DSM-5*'s "Paraphilic Disorder" Diagnoses', *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 44:4, 2015, 1139-1145, ISSN: 00040002

Downing, Lisa, 'Safewording!: Kinkphobia and Gender Normativity in *Fifty Shades of Grey*', *Psychology and Sexuality*, 4:1, 2013, 92-102, ISSN: 19419899

Downing, Lisa, 'Gendered Constructions of the Nightmare in French Nineteenth-Century Medical Writing and Fantastic Fiction', *French Studies*, 66:3, 2012, 331-346, ISSN: 00161128

Downing, Lisa, 'Interdisciplinarity, Cultural Studies, Queer: Historical Contexts and Contemporary Contentions in France', *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, Special Issue on 'Queer Theory's Return to France', ed. Oliver Davis and Hector Kolias, 35:2, 2012, 215-232, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'Notes on a Proto-Queer Rachilde: Decadence, Deviance and (Reverse) Discourse in *La Marquise de Sade*', *Sexualities*, Special Issue on European Culture/ European Queer, ed. Lisa Downing and Robert Gillett, 15:1, 2012, 16-27, ISSN: 13634607

Downing, Lisa, 'Reading *Bitchy Jones's Diary*: Sex-Blogging, Community-Building and Feminism(s)', *Psychology and Sexuality*, Introduction to a Special Issue on 'Sex Blogging', ed. Lisa Downing, 3:1, 2012, 5-11, ISSN: 19419899

Downing, Lisa and Robert Gillett, 'Georges Bataille at the Avant-garde of Queer Theory?', *Nottingham French Studies*, Special Issue on 'The French *Avant-garde*', ed. Stephen Forcer and Emma Wagstaff, 50:3, 2011, 86-100, ISSN: 00294586

Downing, Lisa, 'On the Fantasy of Childlessness as Death in Psychoanalysis and in Roeg's *Don't Look Now* and von Trier's *Antichrist*', *Lambda Nordica*, 2: 3, 2011, 49-68, ISSN: 11002573

Downing, Lisa and Robert Gillett, 'Viewing Critical Psychology through the Lens of Queer', *Psychology and Sexuality*, Special Issue on 'Queer(y)ing Psychology', ed. Peter Hegarty, 2:1, 2011, 4-15, ISSN: 19419899

Gillett, Robert and Lisa Downing, 'The Translation of Deployment/ The Deployment of Translation: The *dispositif* in Foucault, his Exegetes and his Translators', *In Other Words: The Journal for Literary Translators*, Special Issue on 'Translating Queers/ Queering Translation', ed. B. J. Epstein, 36, 2010, 40-53, ISSN: 1361911X

Downing, Lisa, 'John Money's "Normophilia": Diagnosing Sexual Normality in Late-Twentieth-Century Anglo-American Sexology', *Psychology and Sexuality*, Special Issue on 'The Natural and The Normal in the History of Sexuality', ed. Peter Cryle and Lisa Downing, 1:3, 2010, 274-286, ISSN: 19419899

Downing, Lisa, 'Murder in the Feminine: Madame Lafarge and the Sexualization of the Nineteenth-Century Criminal Woman', *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, Special Issue on 'Feminine Sexual Pathologies', ed. Peter Cryle and Lisa Downing, 18:1, 2009, 121-37, ISSN: 10434070

Downing, Lisa, 'Re-viewing the Sexual Relation: Levinas and Film', *Film-Philosophy*, Special Issue on 'The Occluded Relation: Levinas and Film', ed. Sarah Cooper, 2007, ISSN: 14664615

Downing, Lisa, '*Baise-moi* or the Ethics of the Desiring Gaze', *Nottingham French Studies*, Special Issue on 'Focalizing the Body: Contemporary Women Writers and Filmmakers in France', ed. Gill Rye and Carrie Tarr, 45:3, 2006, 52-65, ISSN: 00294586

Downing, Lisa, 'The Birth of the Beast: Death-Driven Masculinity in Monneret, Zola and Freud', *Dix-Neuf*, 5, 2005, 28-46, ISSN: 14787318

Downing, Lisa and Dany Nobus, 'The Iconography of Asphyxiophilia: From Fantasmatic Fetish to Forensic Fact', *Paragraph: Journal of Modern Critical Theory*, 27:3, 2004, 1-15, ISSN: 02648334

Downing, Lisa, 'French Cinema's New "Sexual Revolution"?: Postmodern Porn and Troubled Genre', *French Cultural Studies*, 15:3, 2004, 265-80, ISSN: 01427237

Downing, Lisa, 'The Measure of Sexual Dysfunction: A Plea for Theoretical Limitlessness', *Transformations: Region, Culture, Society*, Special Issue on 'Regions of Sexuality', ed. Iain Morland & Wendy O'Brien, 8, 2004, ISSN: 14443775

Downing, Lisa, 'Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Aesthetic Violence and Motiveless Murder in French Decadent Fiction', *French Studies*, 58:2, 2004, 189-203, ISSN: 00161128

Downing, Lisa, 'On the Limits of Sexual Ethics: The Phenomenology of Autassassinophilia', *Sexuality and Culture*, 8:1, 2004, 3-17, ISSN: 10955143

Downing, Lisa, 'Death and the Maidens: A Century of Necrophilia in Female-Authored Textual Production', *French Cultural Studies*, 14:2, 2003, 157-68, ISSN: 01427237

Downing, Lisa, 'Between Men and Women; Beyond Heterosexuality: Limits and Possibilities of the Erotic in Lynne Stopkewich's *Kissed* and Patrice Leconte's *La Fille sur le pont*', *Romance Studies*, 20:1, 2002, 29-40, ISSN: 02639904

Downing, Lisa, 'Feminist Fictions of the Flesh (?): Alina Reyes's *Le Boucher* and Rachilde's *La Marquise de Sade*', *Journal of Romance Studies*, 2:1, 2002, 51-64, ISSN: 14733536

Book chapters

Downing, Lisa, 'Selfish Cinema: Sex, Heroism, and Control in Adaptations of Ayn Rand for the Screen' in *Questioning Ayn Rand: Subjectivity, Political Economy, and the Arts*, ed. Neil Cocks (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), 109-130, ISBN: 9783030530723

Downing, Lisa, untitled contribution to [*Feminism in Our Times: Crises, Connections and Cares*](#), ed. Yvette Taylor (Glasgow: University of Strathclyde Open Access publishing, 2020), 29

Downing, Lisa, 'Foucault and True Crime' in *After Foucault: Culture, Theory, and Criticism in the 21st Century*, ed. Lisa Downing (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018), 185-200, ISBN: 1107140498

Downing, Lisa, "'Straight" Necrophilia as a "Queer" Perversion in Lynne Stopkewich's *Kissed*', in *Tainted Love: Screening Sexual Perversities*, ed. Darren Kerr and Donna Perbedy (London: I B Tauris, 2017), 24-34, ISBN: 1780761961

Downing, Lisa, 'Perversion and the Problem of Fluidity and Fixity' in *Clinical Encounters in Sexuality: Psychoanalytic Practice and Queer Theory*, ed. Noreen Giffney and Eve Watson (New York: Punctum, 2017), 105-126, ISBN: 9780998531854

Downing, Lisa, 'Where's Girlhood? The Female Child Killer and Tony Hickson's *Where's Mary?* (2005)' in *International Cinema and the Girl: Local Issues, Transnational Contexts*, ed. Fiona Handyside & Kate Taylor (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), 153-163, ISBN: 9781137388926

Downing, Lisa, 'Snuff and Nonsense: The Discursive Life of an Imaginary Archive' in *Porn Archives*, ed. Tim Dean, Steven Rusczycky & David Squires (Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2014), 249-261, ISBN: 9780822356806

Downing, Lisa, 'On "Compulsory Sexuality", Sexualization, and History', Commissioned Afterword for *The Routledge History of Sex and the Body in the West, 1500 to the Present*, ed. Sarah Toulalan and Kate Fisher (Abingdon: Routledge, 2013), 527-533, ISBN: 978041547237

Downing, Lisa, 'Sexual Perversion as Textual Resistance in the Writing of Rachilde and Monique Wittig' in *Modernist Eroticisms*, ed. Anna Katharina Schaffner and Shane Weller (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), 195-212, ISBN: 9781137030290

Downing, Lisa, 'Eros and Thanatos in European and American Sexology' in *Bodies, Sex and Desire from the Renaissance to the Present*, ed. Kate Fisher and Sarah Toulalan (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), 201-220, ISBN: 9780230283688

Downing, Lisa, 'Sexual Variations' in *Sexuality in the Age of Empire*, ed. Chiara Beccalossi and Ivan Crozier, vol. 5 of *The Cultural History of Sexuality*, general ed. Julie Peakman (Oxford: Berg, 2011), 62-81, ISBN: 9781845207021

Downing, Lisa, 'Criminality, Sexuality, Abnormality: Nineteenth-Century Scientific Constructions' in *New Approaches to Crime in French Literature, Culture and Film*, ed. Louise Hardwick (Bern: Peter Lang, 2009), 19-33, ISBN: 9783039118502

Downing, Lisa, 'Beyond Safety: Erotic Asphyxiation and the Limits of S/M Discourse' in *Safe, Sane and Consensual: Contemporary Perspectives on Sadomasochism* ed. Darren Langdrige and Meg Barker (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 119-32, ISBN: 0230517749

Downing, Lisa, 'Polanski's Deneuve: Frigidity and Feminism' in *From Perversion to Purity: The Stardom of Catherine Deneuve*, ed. Lisa Downing and Sue Harris (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2007), 14-28, ISBN: 0719073383

Downing, Lisa, 'Perversion, Historicity, Ethics' in *Perversion: Psychoanalytic Perspectives/Perspectives on Psychoanalysis*, ed. Dany Nobus and Lisa Downing (London: Karnac Books, 2006), 149-63, ISBN: 1855759179

Downing, Lisa, 'Ecstasies and Agonies: The "Oceanic Feeling", God and Sexuality in Baudelaire and Villiers de l'Isle-Adam', *(Un)Faithful Texts in French and Francophone Literature from the 1780s to the 1980s*, ed. Paul Cooke and Jane Lee (New Orleans: University Press of the South, 2000), 53-66, ISBN: 1889431524

Review articles (over 1000 words – a selection)

Downing, Lisa, Review of Sandra Boehringer and Daniele Lorenzini (eds.) *Foucault, Sexuality, Antiquity* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2022), in *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 2024, 33:2, 289-291, ISSN: 10434070

Downing, Lisa, Review of Alison Moore, *Sexual Myths of Modernity: Sadism, Masochism and Historical Teleology* (Lanham MD: Lexington Books, 2016), in *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 2017, 26:3, 534-536, ISSN: 10434070

Downing, Lisa, 'Power for Pleasure', review of Margot Weiss, *Techniques of Pleasure: BDSM and the Circuits of Sexuality* (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2011) in *New Formations*, 2013, 80-81, 218-220, ISSN: 09502378

Downing, Lisa and Robert Gillett, Review of Robert Kulpa and Joanna Mizielińska (eds.), *De-Centring Western Sexualities: Central and Eastern European Perspectives* (Farnham: Ashgate: 2011) in *Psychology and Sexuality*, 4:3, 2013, 325-328, ISSN: 19419899

Downing, Lisa, Review of Tim Dean, *Unlimited Intimacy: Reflections on the Subculture of Barebacking* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009) in *South Atlantic Review*, 75:2, 2010, 173-176, ISSN: 0277335X

Downing, Lisa, Review of Mandy Merck and Stella Sandford (eds.), *Further Adventures of The Dialectic of Sex: Critical Essays on Shulamith Firestone* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010) in *Studies in the Maternal*, 4:1, 2012, ISSN: 17590434

Downing, Lisa, 'Object-Become-Subject: When Femmes Look Back', review of Del LaGrace Volcano and Ulrika Dahl, *Femmes of Power: Exploding Queer Femininities* (London: Serpent's Tale, 2008) in *SQS: Journal of Queer Studies in Finland*, 5:1, 2011, 63-65, ISSN: 17965551

Downing, Lisa, Review of Rothenberg, Foster, and Žižek (eds.), *Perversion and the Social Relation* (Durham: NC: Duke University Press, 2003) in *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 36:1, 2007, 127-28, ISSN: 00040002

Downing, Lisa, Review of Tim Dean, *Beyond Sexuality* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000) in *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 34: 2, 2005, 255-57, ISSN: 00040002

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

2025

'Female Rage/ Female Reason: A Paradox for 21st-Century Feminism', keynote lecture given at a conference on 'All the Rage: The Challenges of Female Anger', Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften (IFK) and the Sigmund Freud Museum, Vienna, Austria, April 2025

2024

'Against Affect', guest lecture given at Central European University, Vienna, Austria, September 2024

Invited to act as discussant at Prof. Eric Heinze's lecture 'From Knowledge to Power: Revisiting LGBTQ+ Epistemologies', University of Westminster/ Juris North, London, May 2024

'Against Affect', invited talk at UVA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 2024

'The Rejection of Reason in an Age of Feeling: Queer Theory's Bad Object Choice', invited talk given at an event of the AHRC-funded network 'Beyond Radical', UCL, April 2024

2023

'Against Affect: For a Feminist Neo-Enlightenment', guest lecture given at University of Glasgow, March 2023

2022

'Strategic Self-fulness: Beyond the Neoliberal Co-option of Self-Care', invited talk given at a Seminar on 'Care and Neoliberalism', Institute of Modern Languages Research, University of London (by Zoom, owing to Covid-19), March 2022

2021

'Against Affect: Towards a Feminist Neo-Enlightenment', invited lecture given in the Interdisciplinary French Studies Seminar Series, University of Warwick (by Teams, owing to Covid-19), May 2021

'An Unimagined Encounter: Ayn Rand with Michel Foucault', paper delivered as part of an invited panel on Ayn Rand at the British Society for the History of Philosophy conference on 'Women in the History of Philosophy' (by Zoom, owing to Covid-19), April 2021

Invited to participate, as author, in a roundtable reading group about *Selfish Women*, organized by Dr Loïc Bourdeau and Dr Julie Rodgers at the Twentieth and Twenty-First-Century French and Francophone Studies International Symposium (by Zoom, owing to Covid-19), March 2021

2020

'On *Selfish Women*', invited lecture delivered (by Zoom owing to Covid-19) for the Gender Institute of the State University of New York at Buffalo, USA, September 2020

'“(S)extremism”: Imagining Violent Women in the 21st Century', invited lecture given at the Centre for Visual Cultures Lecture Series, Royal Holloway, University of London, February 2020

2019

Selfish Women UK and Ireland 2019 book tour:

St Bart's Pathology Museum, QMUL, London, July 2019
University College, Dublin, and the Gutter Bookshop, Dublin, Ireland, September 2019
University of Strathclyde, October 2019
University of Edinburgh, October 2019
University of Dundee, October 2019
University of Stirling, October 2019
St Cross College, University of Oxford, November 2019
Nottingham Trent University, December 2019

2018

'“(S)extremism”: Imagining Violent Women in the 21st Century’, invited paper given under the joint auspices of the Nationalisms and Identities Research Group and the Modern French Research Seminar series, University of Cambridge, November 2018

'Gender, the Right Wing, and the Body Politic', invited paper given in the Geography Department Seminar Series, Maynooth University, Ireland, April 2018

'Gender, the Right Wing, and the Body Politic', keynote paper given at a postgraduate-organized conference on 'Imagining the Body in France & the Francophone World', University of Birmingham, January 2018

2017

'How Do I Love Me? Let Me Count the Ways.... On Female Narcissism, a Problem in the Psy Sciences', invited paper given at the Sexual Cultures Research Group Seminar Series, Queen Mary University of London, November 2017

'How To Do the Gendered History of Narcissism', keynote paper given at the French Studies and the Medical Humanities Symposium organized by University of Kent and the Society for French Studies, IGRS, London, November 2017

'Antisocial Feminism? Monique Wittig, Shulamith Firestone, and Proto-Queer Theory', invited seminar paper given at the Amsterdam Research Centre for Sexuality and Gender, UVA, The Netherlands, November 2017

'*Echo Chamber*: Navine G. Khan-Dossos and Lisa Downing in Conversation, moderated by Annie Fletcher', Invited Q&A/ interview to accompany Navine G. Khan-Dossos's art installation *Echo Chamber* at Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, October 2017

'Selfish Cinema: Questions of Gender and Control in Adaptations of Ayn Rand for the Screen', invited lecture delivered for the Film Studies Research Seminar, University of Exeter, March 2017.

'Niska in Love: On Consciousness, Embodied Cognition, and Sexual Politics in *Humans*', paper given at the Lesbian Lives Conference, University of Brighton, February 2017.

'Feminist Philosophy and Selfishness', invited seminar paper given in the CAPPE seminar series, University of Brighton, February 2017

2016

'How Do I Love Me? Let Me Count the Ways.... On Female Narcissism, a Problem in the Psy Sciences', invited lecture given at the Centre for Medical Humanities, University of Exeter, July 2016

2015

'Feminist Philosophy and Selfishness', invited seminar paper given in the School of Modern Languages seminar series, University of Aberdeen, October 2015

'Selfish Cinema: Questions of Gender and Control in Adaptations of Ayn Rand for the Screen', invited lecture delivered at the Centre for Creative and Critical Cultures, University of Dundee, October 2015

'Selfish Cinema: Questions of Gender and Control in Adaptations of Ayn Rand for the Screen', invited lecture delivered at the Edinburgh Film Seminar series, University of Edinburgh, October 2015

'Feminist Philosophy and Selfishness', invited seminar paper given in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures seminar series, University of Glasgow, October 2015

'Forms of Control/ The Control of Form: Ayn Rand and King Vidor's *The Fountainhead* (1949)', paper given in a panel (with Dr Lucy Bolton and Dr Libby Saxton) on 'Female Philosophers and Form: Rand, Murdoch and Mondzain' at the Film-Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford, July 2015

'Shadow Sisters: Monique Wittig, Shulamith Firestone, and Proto-Antisocial Queer', paper given in a panel (with Dr Lara Cox and Kayte Stokoe) on 'Anglo-French Proto-Queer Feminisms' at the Lesbian Lives Conference, University of Brighton, February 2015

2014

Invited to be the respondent at a workshop on 'A Critical Genealogy of Normality', organized by Prof. Peter Cryle, University of Queensland, Australia and Dr Elizabeth Stephens, Southern Cross University, Australia, held at the Wellcome Trust, London, December 2014

'Selfish Women and Other Inconvenient Deviants', Professorial Inaugural Lecture delivered at the University of Birmingham, November 2014

2013

'Queering Feminist Consent: Is It a Matter of "Borrowing from the Boys?"', working paper given at a two-day workshop on 'Consent: A capacious and contentious concept in feminist, legal, philosophical, and queer contexts', organized by Lisa Downing and Tim Dean at the Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Birmingham, November 2013

'Loving Life: From Fromm's Biophilia to Money's Normophilia', invited paper given at a conference on 'Making Love, Making Gender, Making Babies in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s', CRASH, University of Cambridge, September 2013

'Sorting the Acceptable from the Unacceptable: Defining the Pathological in Classic Sexological Perversion Theory and the DSM-5's Paraphilia Diagnoses', invited paper given at a conference on 'Classifying Sex', CRASH, University of Cambridge, July 2013

'Romancing the Cannibal: Genre and Gender Trouble in Thomas Harris's *Hannibal* (1999)', keynote lecture given at the International Crime Genre Research Group's conference on 'Gender and Sexuality in the Crime Genre', the National University of Ireland, Galway, June 2013

Invited to speak and chair a roundtable discussion on 'The Future of Sexuality and Gender Studies', at a student-led event of the Brunel Gender and Sexuality Research Centre, Brunel University, London, May 2013

Invited to be the respondent to Prof. Tim Dean's keynote lecture at a day workshop on 'Queer Theorizations of Bareback in Three National Contexts', part of the AHRC-funded project on 'Queer Theory in France', University of Warwick, May 2013

'Re-assessing Agency and Consent in Queer and Feminist Theory', invited paper given at the Centre for Gender Studies, University of Hull, April 2013

"*Souvent dans l'être obscur habite un dieu caché*": Hybrid Theosophy and Anti-Psychiatry in Nerval's *Les Chimères*', conference paper given at the Society of Dix-Neuviémiste's 11th Annual Conference, University of Exeter, April 2013

'A Radical Feminist Serial Killer?: Aileen Wuornos and Lesbophobic Panic in the USA', keynote lecture given at the Lesbian Lives conference, University of Brighton, February 2013

2012

'Normophilia and Biophilia in John Money's Sexology', invited lecture given at the Amsterdam Research Centre for Sexuality and Gender, UVA, The Netherlands, October 2012

'Feminism, the Female Killer, and the Threat to the Phallic Order', invited paper given at 'Cinema, Sexualities, Theory', a conference to commemorate the retirement of Professor Keith Reader, IGRS, University of London, June 2012

'Safewording!: The Reassuring Function of *Fifty Shades of Grey*', invited paper given at a conference on 'Bodies: Flesh, Performance, Media, Disgust and Desire', organized by the Onscenity Network, Birkbeck, University of London, June 2012

'Aileen Wuornos: The Spectre of the Radical Feminist Serial Killer', keynote lecture given at a day workshop on 'The Female Other: Subversive Women in 19th- and 20th-Century Literary and Cultural Production', University of Warwick, May 2012

'On "Infanticidal" Femininity: The Case of Myra Hindley', keynote lecture given at the 'Roles' Interdisciplinary Gender and Sexuality Studies Colloquium, University of Birmingham, May 2012

2011

'Tracing A Proto-Queer Feminist Genealogy: Rachilde, Wittig, Butler', invited lecture given in the 'Literature and Sexuality' Lecture Series, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Kent, November 2011

'A Genealogy of the Perversions in Sexual Science', invited public lecture given in the Humanities and Science Lecture Series, Humanities Institute, SUNY Buffalo, USA, April 2011

'From Acts to Identity: Gender Norms, Trans*, and Misogyny in the History of the "Paraphilia" Diagnosis', invited paper given at a conference on "'Post-Posttranssexual": Transgender Studies and Feminism', University of Indiana, USA, April 2011

2010

'Perversion, Fixity and Fluidity in the History of the Psy Disciplines and in Queer Theory', paper presented at a conference on 'Transgression and Discipline', Monash Centre, Prato, Italy, September 2010

"Monochrome Man": Representing Dennis Nilsen' invited research paper presented at the IGRS Visual Cultures Seminar series on 'The Art of Murder', University of London, May 2010
'John Money's Contribution to the Sexological Theory of Paraphilia', paper presented at the international ESSHC (European Social Science History Conference), Ghent, Belgium, April 2010

'On the Fantasy of Childlessness as Death in Psychoanalysis and in *Don't Look Now* (Roeg, 1973) and *Antichrist* (von Trier, 2009)', invited paper presented at a conference on 'The Moving Image: Reconfiguring Spaces of Loss and Mourning in the 21st Century', at CRASSH, University of Cambridge, February 2010

2009

'Doing Interdisciplinary Research on the Cusp of French Studies and Sexuality Studies', invited paper presented at the Modern French Research Seminar, University of Oxford, October 2009

'Doing Interdisciplinary Research on the Cusp of French Studies and Sexuality Studies', invited paper presented at the Modern French Research Seminar, University of Cambridge, May 2009

2008

'*Mal du siècle/ maladie du siècle*: Gendered Constructions of Sexual Sickness in/of the Nineteenth Century', keynote lecture given at the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes Postgraduate Conference, IGRS, London, September 2008

'"Normophilia": Diagnosing Sexual Normality in Late-Twentieth-Century Anglo-American Sexology', paper presented at a conference on 'Nature and Normality in the History of Sexuality', Monash Centre, Prato, Italy, September 2008

2007

'Between Psychoanalysis and the Screen: Some Thoughts on Lacan, Ethics and Film', invited paper presented at The Queen Mary Malcolm Bowie Memorial Conference, 'Across the Arts', Queen Mary, University of London, December 2007

'Criminality, Sexuality, Abnormality: Nineteenth-Century Scientific Constructions', keynote lecture given at the Oxford University French Graduate Conference on 'Crime', University of Oxford, September 2007

'Between Radical Ethics and Horror: Visualizing Sexual Otherness in Claire Denis's *Trouble Every Day*', invited paper presented at a Conference on 'Alienation and Alterity', University of Exeter, September 2007

'Eros and Thanatos in European and American Sexology', keynote lecture given at 'Sexual Histories: Bodies and Desires Uncovered', an international conference organized by the Department of History, University of Exeter, July 2007

'Michel Foucault and the Queer Self/Other', invited paper presented in a panel on 'Queer Theory' at Society of French Studies Conference, Birmingham, July 2007

'Acts without a Future: Erasing the Subject of Edelman', paper presented at 'No Future Together: A Symposium on the Work of Lee Edelman', Kings College London, June 2007

'Frigidity and Feminism: Catherine Deneuve in Polanski's *Repulsion*', invited visiting lecture given at the Humanities Research Seminar, London Metropolitan University, April, 2007

'Madame Lafarge and the Problem of Guilt in the Feminine', keynote lecture given at the Cambridge French Graduate Conference on 'Shame and Guilt', April 2007

'Institutionalizing Unreason: The Nightmare, Alienism, and Masculinity', paper presented at 'Institutions and Power', the Fifth Annual Conference of the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes, University of Cambridge, March-April 2007

'Queering Perversion: Erotic Asphyxiation and the Bodily Politics of the Death Drive', invited paper presented at 'Subverting What? Perversion, Transgression and Normalization in Queer Studies' (part of the 'The(e)ories' Seminar Series), University College Dublin, Ireland, March 2007

'Beyond Safety: Erotic Asphyxiation and the Limits of S/M Discourse', paper presented at 'Sexual Subcultures and Discourses of Health and Harm', Critical Sexology Seminar, Queen Mary, University of London, February 2007

2006

'Doing and Undoing Gender at the French *fin de siècle*: Sexology, Decadent Authorship and Rachilde', keynote lecture given at: 'The European *fin de siècle*: Gender, Nation, Race', two-day conference at IGRS, University of London, December 2006

'Murder in the Feminine', paper presented at a conference on 'Femininity and the Construction of Sexual Pathologies', Monash Centre, Prato, Italy, September-October 2006

'Re-viewing the Sexual Relation: Levinas and Film', invited paper presented at 'Levinas and Cinema', Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies, University of London, May 2006

'Perversion - Which Version?: History, Ideology, Ethics', invited paper presented at 'Reviewing Perversion: Clinical Enquiry 5', Confer, Royal College of GPs, London, February 2006

2005

'Murderous Female Sexuality in the Contemporary Queer Road Movie', paper presented at 'Designs for Living: Space and Place in the Cinema', a conference organized by the Centre for Film Studies, Queen Mary, University of London, June 2005

'The Birth of the Beast: Death-Driven Masculinity in Monneret, Zola and Freud', plenary lecture given at 'Birth and Death', the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes Third Annual Conference, Queen's University Belfast, April 2005

'Nocturnal Visions: Imagining the Nightmare in French Nineteenth-Century Literary, Scientific and Visual Cultures', invited lecture given at the 'Ideas in Progress' forum, Department of Art, Philosophy and Visual Culture, Middlesex University, March 2005

2004

'Narrating the Nightmare: Literary and Scientific Accounts of Night Terrors in Nineteenth-Century France', research paper presented at the 'Psy Studies' (History of Psychoanalysis, Psychiatry and Related Disciplines) Seminar, University of Cambridge, November 2004

'The Cultural Practices of Eros and Thanatos', presentation of research project to inaugurate the London French Research Seminar, London, February 2004

2003

'*Baise-moi* or the Pluralization of the Desiring Gaze', paper presented at the Institute of Romance Studies conference on 'Focalizing the Body: Contemporary Women's Filmmaking and Writing in France', London, October, 2003

'Perversion, Frigidity and Feminism: Polanski's *Deneuve*', paper presented at the Popular European Cinema Conference on 'Methods and Stars', University of Stockholm, Sweden, July 2003

Invited, with Dany Nobus, to co-present a session entitled 'Autassassinophilia: From Sexology to Phenomenology' at the Critical Sexology Seminar, St Pancras Hospital, London, May 2003

One of four invited discussants (alongside two clinical psychologists and a researcher in gynaecology) on the topic: 'Is There Such a Thing as Sexual Dysfunction?' at the Critical Sexology Seminar, St Pancras Hospital, London, February 2003

2002

'*Corpus Delecti* of the Other', keynote lecture given at the 'Foreign Bodies' conference, at the Institute of Romance Studies, University of London, September 2002

"'*Vrai meurtrier et faux poète*": From Murder, Through Text, To Heroism. The Cases of Lacenaire and Pierre Rivière', paper presented at Society of French Studies Conference, Bristol, July 2002

'Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Aesthetic Violence and Motiveless Murder in French Decadent Fiction', invited paper presented in the Modern French Research Seminar Series, University of Cambridge, March 2002

2001

'Between Men and Women; Beyond Heterosexuality: Limits and Possibilities of the Erotic in Lynne Stopkewich's *Kissed* and Patrice Leconte's *La Fille sur le Pont*', paper presented at the Romance Studies conference on 'New Sexual/Textual Perceptions: The Portrayal of Gender at the Dawn of the New Millennium', Gregynog, September 2001

2000

'Rachilde's *actes gratuits*: Establishing the Gender of Violence', paper presented at the Nineteenth-Century French Studies Conference, University of Urbana, Illinois, USA, October 2000

'Beautiful Murders: Aestheticizing Violence in the French *fin de siècle*', invited paper presented at The Modern French Research Seminar, All Souls College, University of Oxford, June 2000