

C U R R I C U L U M V I T A E

CHLOE ANNE VELJI MARTINEZ

Department of Religious Studies
Claremont McKenna College
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EMPLOYMENT

- 2016-2019 **Claremont McKenna College**, Department of Religious Studies
Visiting Assistant Professor and Fellow in Sikh Studies
- 2012-2015 **Haverford College**, Department of Religion
Visiting Assistant Professor, 2013-2015
Visiting Instructor, 2012-2013
- Spring 2014 **Swarthmore College**, Department of Religion
Visiting Assistant Professor
- 2010 **University of California, Santa Barbara**, Dept. of Asian American Studies
Teaching Associate
- Spring 2005 **Boston University**, Department of English
Instructor
- 2002-2009 **University of California, Santa Barbara**, Depts. of Religious Studies, Asian
American Studies, Film Studies, Black Studies, and Law and Society
Teaching Assistant

EDUCATION

- 2013 Ph.D. Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
Dissertation: *The Searching Self: Religious Autobiography in Pre-Colonial South
Asia*.
Committee: Vesna A. Wallace (chair), Rudy V. Busto, Gurinder S. Mann, David
G. White
- 2009 M.F.A. The M.F.A. for Writers, Warren Wilson College
Advisors: Michael Collier, Brooks Haxton, James Longenbach, Heather McHugh
- 2007 M.A. Creative Writing, Boston University
Advisors: Louise Glück, Robert Pinsky, Derek Walcott

- 2005 M.A. Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
Advisor: David G. White
- 2001 B.A. Religion and English, Barnard College, *Cum Laude*
Advisors: John S. Hawley (Religion), Timea Szell (English)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

South Asian Studies; Asian American Studies; North India from the Mughal to the Colonial periods; Religious Histories of South Asia (Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, Jain, and Buddhist); Diaspora and Transnational Studies; Bhakti Traditions; Sufi Traditions; Religious Autobiography; Poetry and Religion; Creative Writing.

PUBLICATIONS

A. Book Manuscript in Progress

Arguing Autobiography: Religion, Authority and Polemic in South Asia

B. Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

“The Autobiographical Pose: Life Narrative and Religious Transformation in the Mirabai Tradition,” *South Asia: The Journal of South Asian Studies* 41:2 (June 2018): 418-434.

“Gathering the Threads: Religious Autobiography in Pre-Colonial South Asia,” *The Medieval History Journal* 18.2 (2015): 250-277.

C. Articles in Progress

“Two Accounts of the Death of Guru Gobind Singh,” in Gurinder Singh Mann, ed., *Guru Gobind Singh and His Times* (submitted; under review).

“The *Apani Katha* of the *Dasam Granth*: Autobiography of the Tenth Sikh Guru,” for *The Journal of Punjab Studies* (translation, with Gurinder Singh Mann; in progress).

“Mira at Merta: the Charbhuj Temple in the 20th and 21st centuries,” for a forthcoming volume on Mirabai, ed. Nancy Martin (invited submission; in progress).

D. Encyclopedia Entry

“Jainism: History, Beliefs, and Practices,” for *Gale Researcher: World History* (online).

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2016-2019 Fellowship in Sikh Studies, Global Institute for Sikh Studies
- 2018 Spring Faculty Research Grant, Claremont McKenna College
- 2017 Conference Travel Grant, EnviroLab Asia
- 2017 Fall Faculty Research Grant, Claremont McKenna College
- 2017 Career Enhancement Adjunct Faculty Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
- 2016 Fall Faculty Research Grant, Claremont McKenna College
- 2016 Course Development Grant, Global Institute for Sikh Studies
- 2012-2013 Mellon Mays University Fellows Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
- 2008 Mellon Mays University Fellows Dissertation Completion Grant, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
- 2008 Research Grant, The Spalding Trust
- 2007-2008 Junior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies (declined)
- 2004-2005 Predoctoral Research Grant, SSRC-Mellon Mays University Fellows
- 2003-2004 Hindi Language Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies
- 2003 Foreign Language Area Study Award, Columbia University
- 2004-2005 Central Opportunity Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara
- 2001-2004 Rowny Fellowship, UC Santa Barbara
- 1998-2001 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Barnard College

PRESENTATIONS

“Making Race, Making Space: Bhagat Singh Thind beyond the Supreme Court Case.” (Invited speaker). Study of Religion as an Analytical Discipline (SORAAAD) Workshop, Denver, CO, November 16th, 2018.

“Experiments with Autobiography: Gandhi, Yogananda, and the 14th Dalai Lama.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., March 24th, 2018.

“ ‘An eminent Mohammedan moulvie’: Autobiography and Conversion in Colonial Punjab” (Religion in South Asia Group). Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November 21st, 2017.

“Against Authenticity: What Fake Autobiography Can Tell Us About Real Religion in South Asia” (New Directions in the Study of Religion in South Asia Panel). Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November 19th, 2016.

“Improvisation, Authority and Polemic: Religious Autobiography in Pre-Colonial South Asia.” Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 19th, 2014.

“‘Let me make my story known to all’: Religious Autobiography in South Asia.” Mellon Mays Fellows Professional Network Biennial Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, February 6th, 2014.

“Mira’s *puja*: Images of Temple Worship in the Poetry of Mirabai.” International Conference on Meerabai, Jodhpur, India, January 7th, 2001.

COURSES TAUGHT

Claremont McKenna College, 2016-2018

Devotional Worlds of South Asia
Hinduism and South Asian Cultures
Sikhism

Haverford College, Spring 2012-Spring 2015

Introduction to Hinduism
South Asian Religious Cultures
Religion and Poetry
Poetics of Religious Experience in South Asia
Totally Epic: Ramayana as Literature, Discourse, and Performance
Seminar in Religious Autobiography

Independent studies: South Asian Communalism (Summer 2013)
Gender in South Asia (Summer 2014)

Swarthmore College, Spring 2014

The History, Religion and Culture of India II: Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Dalit in North

India
Religion and Poetry

UC Santa Barbara, Spring-Summer 2010

Introduction to Asian American Literature
Introduction to Asian American Poetry

Boston University, Fall 2005

Introduction to Creative Writing

UC Santa Barbara, Fall 2002-Fall 2009

Teaching Assistant for various courses in Religious Studies; Asian American Studies;
Film Studies; Black Studies; and Law and Society.

RESEARCH AND STUDY IN INDIA

Archival research (Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Delhi, Mumbai), Fall 2008

Course in manuscript conservation, Mahavira Digambara Jain Pandulipi Sanrakshan
Kendra (Jaina Vidya Sansthan), Jaipur, Rajasthan, January-February 2004

American Institute of Indian Studies Hindi Language Program, Jaipur, Rajasthan, 2003-2004

Co-founder/-editor of *Chaya*, a literary journal in Hindi/English, Jaipur, Rajasthan, 2003-
2004

UCSB/Columbia Summer Program in Punjab Studies, Chandigarh, Punjab, Summer 2003

Research on Mirabai in Delhi, Jodhpur, Bangalore and Mumbai, Winter 2001

Fieldwork at Charbhuj Temple, Merta, Rajasthan, Fall 1998

University of Virginia/Emory University Semester-in-India, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Fall 1998

LANGUAGES

Proficient: Hindi, Sanskrit, Braj Bhasa
Reading knowledge: French, Latin, Spanish, Punjabi, Urdu

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religions
Association for Asian Studies
International Auto/Biography Association
Hagiography Society

SERVICE

Guest speaker, MMUF Seminar. Mellon Mays Fellows of the Claremont Colleges, Honnold/Mudd Library, March 28th, 2018.

Panel co-organizer, *Constructing Powerful Selves: Autobiography in South Asia* (Religion in South Asia Group). Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November 21st, 2017.

Workshop facilitator, “Comparative Hagiology: Cross-cultural Approaches to Religious Life Writings.” Pre-conference workshop at the AAR Annual Meeting, November 17th, 2017.

Presentation, “‘A high-caste Hindu’?: Bhagat Singh Thind, Race and Religion,” for Dr. Venit-Shelton’s Asian American History class, Claremont McKenna College, February 23rd, 2017.

Board Member, *Journal of Sikh and Punjab Studies*, Fall 2016-present.

Speaker, Current/Prospective Mellon Mays Fellows Dinner, Haverford College, November 13th, 2014.

Panel Chair, *Texts and Literature in History*. Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 19th, 2014.

Panel Chair, *Improvising Religion in South Asia*. Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, October 17th, 2014.

Workshop participant, American Institute of Indian Studies Dissertation-to-Book Workshop. Madison, WI, October 15-16th, 2014.

Speaker, “Recent Ph.D. Panel.” Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Barnard College, New York, NY, April 25th, 2014.

Speaker, “Mentoring: Best Practices for Supporting and Supervising Students.” Spring Break Skills-Sharing Workshop for Staff and Faculty, Haverford College, Haverford, PA, March 10th, 2014.

Graduate Student Mentor, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Summer Orientation Program, Barnard College, New York, NY, August 20-25th, 2007.

Graduate Student Mentor, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Summer Orientation Program, Barnard College, New York, NY, August 22-26th, 2005.

PUBLICATIONS (Poetry)

Day One No. 36 (July 2nd, 2014): “Syllabus”

236 Magazine Vol. 4, Spring 2012: “Apollo”

Crab Orchard Review Vol. 17, No. 2, Fall 2012: “Sheep Meadow, Central Park, 1999,” “First Night, New Bedford, MA”

Another & Another: An Anthology from the Grind Daily Writing Series, ed. Matthew Olzmann and Ross White (Durham, NC: Bull City Press, 2012): “Fable #6,” “Fable #7”

The Rumpus, November 23rd, 2011, “You Tell Me Its Underpinnings” (book review)

The Collagist No. 26, September 2011: “Zoomorphic”

The Cortland Review No. 47, May 2010: “Babur at Agra”

The Normal School Vol. 3, No. 1, Spring 2010: “Fable,” “Apollo”

Slush Pile 4, Fall 2009, “Midwest Landscape,” “Snorkel Holiday”

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS (Poetry)

Nominee, Pushcart Prize, 2010

Finalist, Willis Barnstone Translation Prize, 2010

Holden Minority Scholarship, Warren Wilson College, 2007-2009

Writing Residency, Vermont Studio Center, August 2008

Robert Fitzgerald Prize in Literary Translation, Boston University, 2006

Teaching Fellowship, Boston University, 2005-2006

POETRY READINGS

RHINO Reads! West, Los Angeles, CA, April 21st, 2018.

- Featured reader, Shadab Hashmi's poetry *mushaira*, Carlsbad, CA, February 4th, 2018.
- Feats of Poetic Strength: Five Women Poets. Philadelphia, PA, November 29th, 2014.
- Red Sofa Reading Series. Indy Hall, Philadelphia, PA, October 10th, 2014.
- Friends of Writers Gala (Benefit for the Holden Fund). New York, NY, April 28th, 2014.
- Creative Writing Program Annual Faculty Reading. Boston University, Boston, MA, February 22nd, 2012.
- Voices in Contemporary Poetry. Swarthmore Public Library, Swarthmore, PA, April 28th, 2011.
- Graduate Reading, M.F.A. for Writers, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC, July 10th, 2009.
- M.F.A. Poets and Painters in Collaboration. Boston University, Boston, MA, May 28th, 2006.
- B.U. Basement Series. Boston University, Boston, MA, February 9th, 2006.

REFERENCES

Religious Studies:

Vesna A. Wallace, Professor of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara
Tel.: (805) 679-1097 E-mail: vwallace@religion.ucsb.edu

Rudy V. Busto, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara
Tel: (415) 519-0257 E-mail: rude@religion.ucsb.edu

Steven Hopkins, Professor of Religion, Swarthmore College
Tel: (610) 328-8035 E-mail: shopkin1@swarthmore.edu

Poetry:

Robert Pinsky, Professor of English and Creative Writing, Boston University
Tel: (617) 353-2510 E-mail: rpinsky@bu.edu

Heather McHugh, Millman Distinguished Writer in Residence and Professor of English,
University of Washington; Warren Wilson MFA faculty; MacArthur Fellow
Tel.: (206) 543-2622 E-mail: postcocious@gmail.com

James Longenbach, Joseph Henry Gilmore Professor of English, University of Rochester;
Warren Wilson MFA faculty
Tel: (585) 275-4587 E-mail: jlgb@mail.rochester.edu