

Christofer A. Rodelo
Program in American Studies
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Education/Affiliations

Harvard University (2015-present)

Ph.D. candidate in American Studies (ABD)

A.M. in English (2017)

Secondary Fields in Latinx Studies and Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Teaching Certificate, The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

Dissertation: Exhibiting Black and Brown: Race, Spectacle, and the Archive of
Latinx Performance Culture, 1848-1898

Co-chairs: Robin Bernstein and Lorgia García Peña

Committee members: Glenda Carpio, Brian Herrera (Princeton)

Examination fields:

American literature 19th-20th century (focus: Black and Multi-Ethnic)

Latinx Studies

Theater and Performance Studies/History

Race and Aesthetics: 19th-20th century visual culture

Pomona College (May-September 2017)

Visiting Scholar, Gender & Women's Studies Program

Yale University (2011-2015)

B.A. in American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, & Migration, *cum laude* with distinction
in both majors

Research and Teaching Interests

Theater and performance studies/history; 19th- 20th century U.S. literature, drama, and art;
Latinx, Afro-Latinx, and African-American literary and cultural studies; relational studies of
race and ethnicity; archival theory; feminist and queer of color critique; aesthetic theory and
visual culture; disability studies

Fellowships

2020- Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
2021

2020- University of Pennsylvania Predoctoral Fellowship for Excellence Through Diversity
2021 (declined)

2019 Harry Ransom Center Research Fellowship in the Humanities (Dissertation)

2018 Helen Krich Chinoy Dissertation Fellowship, American Society for Theatre Research

- 2018 “The Archive: Theory, Form, Practice” Graduate Fellowship, Newberry Library and Andrew Mellon Foundation
- 2018 John H. Coatsworth Latin American History Fellowship, Committee on General
-2019 Scholarships, Harvard University
- 2015 Prize Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
-2021
- 2015 Crimson Summer Exchange Teaching Fellowship, Hong Kong (declined)
- 2014 Institute for Recruitment of Teachers Associates Fellowship
- 2014 Richter Fellowship, Yale University Council of Masters
- 2013 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

Grants and Awards

- 2019 Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant, American Studies Association
- 2019 Conference Travel Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
- 2019 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow Travel and Research Grant, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation
- 2018 Jens Aubrey Westengard Summer Research and Travel Grant
- 2018 Short-Term Field Research Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs’ Initiative on Afro-Latin American Studies
- 2018 Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council
- 2018 Conference Travel Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
- 2017 Student Fellowship Award, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (to attend 2017 ATHE conference)
- 2017 Short-Term Field Research Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs’ Initiative on Afro-Latin American Studies
- 2017 Summer Travel Grant for Dissertation Research, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History
- 2017 Research/Travel Grant, Open Gate Fund, Harvard Gender and Sexuality Caucus
- 2017 Conference Travel Grant, Harvard American Studies (to attend 2017 MLA convention)

- 2017 Conference Travel Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
- 2016 LGBTQ Latinx Role Model of the Year, Honor 41
- 2016 Conference Travel Grant, Modern Language Association
- 2016 Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council
- 2016 PAGE (Publicly Active Graduate Education) Fellow, Imagining America Consortium
- 2016 Pre-Dissertation Grant, Open Gate Fund, Harvard Gender and Sexuality Caucus
- 2016 Conference Travel Grant, Harvard American Studies (to attend 2016 Hemi)
- 2016 Conference Travel Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
- 2014 Mellon Senior Research Grant, Jonathan Edwards College, Yale University

Academic Publications

“The Year in Conferences,” *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture* (group-authored, spring 2018)

“More Books,” TDR: The Drama Review (published in issue T235, fall 2017)

Review of *A Taste for Brown Bodies: Gay Modernity and Cosmopolitan Desire*, by Hiram Pérez, *Journal of Homosexuality* (online Oct. 2016, in-print Nov 2016)

Other Publications

2016 Commentary on Kara Walker’s *African/American* (1998), Digital Companion to *Vision and Justice: The Art of Citizenship*, exhibit at Harvard Art Museums

Conference Presentations

- 2021 “Race, Monstrosity, and the Spectacular Legacy of Julia Pastrana,” Revenance—The Monster Always Returns Working Session, American Society for Theatre Research Annual Conference (initially scheduled for 2020 but postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2021 “Black-Brown Relationality and C19 Latinx Performance Studies,” Revolting against Divide and Conquer: Creating Models and Methods for Relational Race Studies roundtable, American Studies Association Annual Meeting (initially scheduled for 2020 but postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2020 “Performing Dissent: C19 Theatre and Performance Studies Histories,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Biennial Conference (roundtable chair and co-organizer)

- 2020 “Black-Brown Relations in the Nineteenth-Century Performance Archive of Maximo and Bartola,” C19 Comparative Race and Indigeneity panel (sponsored by 19th-Century American Forum), Modern Language Association
- 2019 “Black-Brown Relations in the Nineteenth-Century Performance Archive of Maximo and Bartola,” Minoritarian Acts: Performing 19th Century Archives in the Americas panel (sponsored by the Performance Studies Caucus), American Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2018 “Exhibiting Black and Brown: Latinx Performance and Literature in the Transnational Nineteenth Century, New Research in Minoritarian Performance Working Session, American Society for Theatre Research Annual Conference
- 2018 “Spanish Acts: Black-Brown Performances and Aesthetic Production in the 19th-Century Americas,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2018 “Performing While Black and Brown: A Cultural History of Latinx and Afro-Latinx Performance Cultures, 1850-1915,” Dissonant Archives: The History and Writings of Nineteenth Century Afro-Latinas Seminar, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Biennial Conference
- 2018 “Performing Spanish: Strategies of Racial Passing(s) in “The Quadroons,” *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, and *Clotel*,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Biennial Conference
- 2017 “Performing Spanish: Strategies of Racial Passing(s) in “The Quadroons,” *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, and *Clotel*,” Resurrecting the Extraordinary Bodies of Pre-1850 Performance Working Session, American Society for Theatre Research Annual Conference
- 2017 “Exhibiting Brown: Maximo and Bartola, Archival Lingerings, and 19th Century Latinx Performance,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (panel organizer)
- 2017 “Beatriz Escalona, Teatro de Carpa, and the Formation of a Modern Brown Aesthetic,” Latinx, Indigenous, and the Americas Focus Group Graduate Student Panel, Association for Theater in Higher Education Annual Meeting (competitive panel)
- 2017 “On Mess, Performance, and Queer Potentiality,” LGBTQ and Women in Theater Focus Group Debut Panel, Association for Theater in Higher Education Annual Meeting (competitive panel)
- 2017 “Hirsute Surfaces: Race and Animality in the Performance Repertoire of Julia Pastrana, The Nondescript,” Summer Institute in Sexuality Studies, York University, Toronto

- 2017 “Exhibiting Latinx: Maximo and Bartola, Travel Narratives, and the Aesthetic Brown Body,” American Literature in the World Graduate Conference, Yale University
- 2017 “Brown Aesthetics, Textual Performances, and Trans-temporal Latinx Racial Formations,” *Latinx Lives, Matters, and Imaginaries: Theorizing Race in the 21st Century*, 3rd Biennial U.S. Latina/o Literary Theory and Criticism Conference
- 2016 “Towards an Academic Practice of Nothing-ness,” At the Crossroads: 16th Annual Imagining American Conference, Milwaukee, WI
- 2016 “On a Messiness of Queer Performance Studies,” Theater and Erasure: Northwestern University Summer Institute in Performance Studies
- 2016 “Latina/o™: Performing the Authentic in Cardenas Markets” Deliberating Latina/o Studies: Promiscuity, (In)civility, and (Un)Disciplinarity, Latina/o Studies Association Conference
- 2016 “They just see a chicken, rice, beans, and plátanos”: Latina Bodies and the Assemblage of Hemispheric Latinidad,” *Sexualidades Excéntricas: Performance at the Edge* work group; 2016 Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics Encuentro
- 2016 “Nao Bustamante and the Messy Potentials of Queer Performance,” Affect(ive)/Activism: A Graduate Working Session on Theater and Performance Studies, Drama Colloquium, Harvard University.
- 2014 “Scalar, Latina/o History, and the Fun of Digital Pedagogy,” American Studies Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2014 “Consumption and the Latina/o Authenticity Narrative” Imagining Latina/o Studies: Past, Present, and Future Conference, Chicago, IL.

Invited Presentations

At Harvard University:

- 2020 Panelist, “Pursuing the PhD in Humanities & Social Sciences: Myths & Realities,” Office of Career Services
- 2020 Panelist, “Ethnic Studies and Lorgia García Peña's Scholarship,” The Legacy of Dominicanidad: A Symposium on the Work of Lorgia García Peña
- 2019 Panelist, Ph.D. panel, MMUF Graduate Admissions Workshop
- 2018 “Writing a Dissertation Prospectus,” guest speaker for American Studies 314: “Colloquium on Pedagogy and Professional Development”
- 2018 “Fugitivity, Black Performance, and the Possibilities of Freedom,” guest lecture for Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding 26: “Race, Gender and Performance”
- 2016 Panelist, *Building an Online Presence*, Harvard American Studies Professional Development Series

At other institutions:

- 2022 Title TBA, Symposium on Global Blackface, Rutgers University

- 2020 “Relational Racialization and the Performance Archive of Maximo and Bartola, the Aztec Children,” Drama 5101: Introduction to Graduate Study, Master’s Program in Theater and Performance Studies, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019 “Spectacular Acts: Race and Disability in the Performances of Maximo and Bartola, the Aztec Children,” Archival Aesthetics Mellon Graduate Student Workshop, Brown University
- 2017 Panelist, *Finding Voice in the Academy*, MMUF Northeast Regional Conference, Williams College
- 2017 Alumni speaker, ER&M Senior Colloquium, Yale University
- 2016 Panelist, *The First Year PhD Experience*, UCLA MMUF Summer Writing and Research Training Program

Conferences/Symposia Organized

- 2019 “Per(for)mance: A Graduate Symposium on Performance and Form,” Harvard Theater and Performance Colloquium

Teaching and Pedagogy Experience

At Harvard University:

Writing Tutor

2020- Harvard Extension School Writing Center

Pedagogy Fellow/Co-Instructor

2019 American Studies 314: Pedagogy & Professional Development
-2020

Head Teaching Fellow

2018 Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding 26: “Race, Gender and Performance”
Prof. Robin Bernstein (spring)

Teaching Fellow

2018 Romance Studies/History and Literature 130: “Diaspora Artchives: Transnational Stories of Immigration and Citizenship in Historical Perspective”
Prof. Lorgia García Peña (spring)

2017 Spanish/Latinx Studies 75: Introduction to Latino/a Literature in the United States
Prof. Lorgia García Peña (fall)

At Pomona College:

Instructor of Record

2018 “Critical Inquiry” (college-level introductory humanities course) (summer)

Research Experience

2017 Research Associate, Mind the Gap (transnational digital humanities archival project)

2017 Research Assistant to Prof. Lorgia García Peña, Associate Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and History and Literature

Professional Activities

- 2019 Participant, "Migrations," Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research
- 2019 Participant, Futures of American Studies Institute
- 2018 Graduate Fellow, "The Archive: Theory, Form, Practice" seminar, Newberry Library
- 2017 Participant, *Other Languages, Other Americas*: Summer Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture, American Antiquarian Society
- 2017 Participant, Summer Institute in Sexuality Studies, York University, Toronto
- 2017 Reporter, Year in Conferences section, *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture* (covered MLA 2017)
- 2016 Graduate Fellow, Afro-Latin American Research Institute at the Hutchins Center -present for African and African American Research, Harvard University
- 2016 Participant, Digital Humanities Summer Institute, DH@Claremont Colleges
- 2016 Participant, La Pocha Nostra Performance Workshop, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 2016 Pre-Doctoral fellow, Theater and Erasure: Northwestern University Summer Institute in Performance Studies
- 2016 Participant/Discussant, Sexualidades Excéntricas/Eccentric Sexualities: Performance at the Edge Working Group, Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics Encuentro, Santiago, Chile
- 2015 Participant, FemTechNet Summer Workshop, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, Aug 2nd-5th
- 2015 Contributor, Critical Ethnic Studies Journal [Blog](#)

Institutional Service (Harvard University)

- 2019 Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Fellow, Program in American Studies
- 2020
- 2019 Pedagogy Fellow, The Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2020
- 2019 Senior Thesis Research Graduate Mentor, Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, & Rights
- 2018, Member, Harvard MMUF Selection Committee
- 2019
- 2017 Non-Residential Tutor, Pforzheimer House, (student life advisor on Race Relations, BGLTQ, First-Gen issues)
- present
- 2017 Co-coordinator, Theater and Performance Colloquium
- 2019
- 2016 Co-facilitator, American Studies Graduate Workshop
- 2017
- 2015 Graduate Mentor, Harvard Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship
- present
- 2015 Graduate Tutor, Committee on Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- present
- 2016 Graduate Student Coordinator/Founder, Latina/o Studies Working Group,
- 2017 Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, & Rights
- 2015 Co-founder and co-facilitator, Critical Race and Ethnicity Working Group
- 2017

Professional Service

- 2020- Editor in Theater and Performance Studies, *Insurrect!*
(<http://insurrecthistory.org/mission-statement/>)
- 2020- Member, Communications Committee, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists
- 2020- Member, Communications Committee, Latina/o Studies Association
- 2016- Referee, *MELUS*
- 2015 Collaborator, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Committee, FemTechNet
- 2016 [Ethnic Studies Pedagogy Workbook](#)

Media Appearances and Interviews

- 2020 “The Impossibility of the Archive,” Interview with Yvette Borja, Radio Cachimbona podcast, <https://www.radiocachimbona.com/>

Membership

- American Studies Association (ASA)
- American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)
- C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19)
- Latina/o Studies Association (LSA)
- Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)

Languages

- Spanish, advanced reading, speaking, and writing

References

Robin Bernstein (co-chair)
Dillon Professor of American History
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Lorgia García Peña (co-chair)
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