

NICK RIGGLE – CV

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, New York University, 2013

B.A., Philosophy, Highest Honors, University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2006

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, University of San Diego, 2021-

Assistant Professor, University of San Diego, 2015-2021

Visiting Assistant Professor, Lafayette College, 2014-15

Lecturer, New York University, 2013-14

ACADEMIC POSITIONS—VISITING

University of Leeds, Resident at the Center for Aesthetics, March 4-8, 2019

INTERESTS

Aesthetics, Value Theory, Philosophy of Language, Social Philosophy, History of Philosophy (especially Kant and Post-Kantian Philosophy)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

University of San Diego Strategic Initiative Grant, *Food Studies Initiative*, with Aaron Gross and Christopher Carter (\$70k)

Summer Seminar: *Beauty and Why it Matters*, University of British Columbia, July 2018

Faculty Research Grants, University of San Diego, 2017-18, 2019-20, 2020-21—supported work on *Aesthetic Life and Why It Matters*, “Connecting Beauty and Love,” and *Understanding Aesthetic Life: Essays*

International Opportunity Grant, University of San Diego, 2016

Non-Residential Fellowship with The Experience Project, led by Laurie Paul (Yale) Fall 2016 (\$49k)

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 2012-2013

Graduate Fellow, New York Institute of Philosophy, Project on the Nature of Taste, 2009-2012

MacCracken Fellowship, New York University, 2007-2012

Departmental Citation Award, Department of Philosophy, UC Berkeley, 2006

BOOKS

This Beauty: A Philosophy of Being Alive, Basic Books, 2022

Aesthetic Life and Why It Matters: Three Views, with Dom Lopes and Bence Nanay, Oxford

University Press, 2022

On Being Awesome: A Unified Theory of How Not to Suck, Penguin Books, 2017

BOOKS IN CONTRACT

Understanding Aesthetic Life: Essays (a collection of some of my published articles, under contract with OUP, 2024)

This is Aesthetics, with C. Thi Nguyen, in contract with Wiley-Blackwell, in progress

CURRENT WORK

Art Beyond the Individual: Foundations for Aesthetic Communitarianism, book detailing my theory of aesthetic value and applying it to a range of problems in aesthetics (in progress)

"Aesthetic Acquaintance in Practice," R&R at *Philosophical Quarterly*

"Aesthetic Value as the Highest Good," with Clinton Tolley (UCSD) (in progress)

ARTICLES

"Can't Kill the Vibe: Against Hope in Aesthetic Discourse," forthcoming, *Mind*

"Aesthetic Ranking: Tomatoes, Parker Points, and Pitchforks," forthcoming, *Philosophical Topics*

"Autonomy and Aesthetic Valuing," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 109: 1, pp 391-409, 2024

"Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing," *The Philosophical Review* 133: 2, pp 113-149, 2024

"Connecting Beauty and Love," in *Art and Philosophy: New Essays at the Intersection*, eds. Alex King and Christy Mag Uidhir, Oxford University Press, forthcoming

"Toward a Communitarian Theory of Aesthetic Value," *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 80:1, pp. 16–30, 2022

"Convergence, Community, and Force in Aesthetic Discourse," *Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy*, 8: 47, 2022

"Artistic Style as the Expression of Ideals," with Robert Hopkins, *Philosophers' Imprint*, 21 (NO. 8), pp. 1-18, 2021

"Schiller on Freedom and Aesthetic Value, Part II," with Samantha Matherne, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, Volume 61, Issue 1, pp. 17-40, 2021

"Schiller on Freedom and Aesthetic Value, Part I," with Samantha Matherne, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 60:4, pp. 375-402, 2020

"Transformative Expression," in *Becoming Someone New: Essays on Transformative Experience, Choice and Change*, eds. John Schwenkler and Enoch Lambert, Oxford University Press, 2020

"Personal Ideals as Metaphors," *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, 3(3): 265-283, 2018 [selected for an author-meets-critics session at the 2019 Pacific APA meeting]

"On the Interest in Beauty and Disinterest," *Philosophers' Imprint*, Vol. 16, No. 9, 2016

"Using the Street for Art: A Reply to Baldini," *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, vol. 74, no. 2, 2016

"On the Aesthetic Ideal," *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 55 (4):433-447, 2015 [voted one of the five best aesthetics articles of 2015 by Aesthetics for Birds]

"Personal Style and Artistic Style," *The Philosophical Quarterly*, 65 (261):711-731, 2015

"Levinson on the Aesthetic Ideal," *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, vol. 71, no. 3, 2013

"Street Art: The Transfiguration of the Commonplaces," *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, vol. 68, no. 3, 2010

SELECT WORK: BOOK REVIEWS, INTERNET, RADIO, PODCAST, ETC.

"How Matisse and I Got a Beautiful Body," *New York Times*, 2022

"Beauty is Not an Ornament to the Good Life," *Psyche*, 2022

"The Ethics of Awesomeness," Philosophy Talk Radio, August 2021

Discussion of Juzo Itami's *Tampopo on Cows in the Field*, with Justin Khoo and Laura Khoo, June 2021

On painter Eva Struble for *HereIn Journal*, "The Shaping of a Place," January 2021

Contributor to "YOLO Apologetics," Season 3, Episode 10 of *Hi-Phi Nation*, a *Slate* philosophy podcast by Barry Lam, June 2019

"The Art of Turning," in *Opposite: Poems, Philosophy and Coffee*, Aaron Meskin and Helen Mort, Valley Press, 2019

Contributor to "Freedom and Hostile Design," Season 2, Episode 4 of *Hi-Phi Nation* by Barry Lam (a *Slate* philosophy podcast), January 2018

"How to Be Awesome," interview with *Scientific American*, 2017:
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-to-be-awesome/>

"High five! Awesomeness as the Imperative of Our Time," *Aeon Magazine*, aeon.co/magazine, February 2016

Review of *Explaining Beauty in Mathematics: An Aesthetic Theory of Mathematics*, by Ulianov Montano, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 2016

Review of *Acts: Theater, Philosophy, and the Performing Self*, by Tzachi Zamir, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, September 2015

"Beauty and Love," and "Street Art and Graffiti" in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Aesthetics*, ed. Michael Kelly, 2014

CONFERENCES, TALKS, PANELS, ETC. (* = refereed; † = invited)

UPCOMING

† Comments on Alva Noe's *The Entanglement* for Author-Meets-Critics, Pacific APA, San Francisco, 2025

† “Aesthetic Ranking,” University of Manitoba Philosophy Colloquium, March 2025

PAST

† Author-Meets-Critics for *This Beauty: A Philosophy of Being Alive*, with critics James Ryerson (New York Times) and Jonathan Fine (Georgetown), APA Eastern Division Meeting, NYC, January 2025

† Conference on Aesthetic Discourse, Umeå, Sweden, December 2024

† Comments on Sherri Irvin’s *Immaterial: Rules in Contemporary Art*, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Chicago, October 2024

† Series of talks, Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Budapest, Hungary, May 2024

† Theories of Aesthetic Discourse, with Zed Adams and Nat Hansen, New School for Social Research, NYC, April 2024

† “Aesthetic Acquaintance in Practice,” Tulane University Center for Ethics and Public Affairs, January 2024

† Panel on Social Theories of Aesthetic Value, with C. Thi Nguyen, Samantha Matherne, and Anthony Cross, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Arlington VA, November 2023

† “Aesthetic Acquaintance in Practice,” UCLA Philosophy Department Colloquium, October 2023

† “Putting Aesthetic Communitarianism to Work,” Keynote Speaker, American Society for Aesthetics Rocky Mountain Division Meeting, July 2023

† “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing,” University of Pennsylvania Philosophy Department Colloquium, December 2022

† “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing,” University of Southern California Philosophy Department Colloquium, November 2022

† “Aesthetic Value as the Highest Good,” with Clinton Tolley (UCSD), American Society for Aesthetics Summer Virtual Seminar, August 2022

† Comments on Richard Moran “Swann’s Medical Philosophy,” *NYU Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy*, May 2022

† Pacific APA Panel on Fitting Attitudes and Aesthetic Value, with Louise Hanson (Oxford) and Alex King (Simon Fraser), April 2022

† “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing”, University of Victoria Philosophy Colloquium, April 2022

† “This Beauty: A Philosophy of Being Alive,” UNC Chapel Hill, Parr Center for Ethics, March 2022

† “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing”, Kansas State Philosophy Colloquium, February 2022

† Comments on C. Thi Nguyen’s *Games: The Art of Agency*, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Montreal, November 2021

† “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing”, CUNY Graduate Center Philosophy Colloquium, November 2021

- † “Aesthetic Value and the Practice of Aesthetic Valuing”, UT Austin Philosophy Colloquium, October 2021
- † “Convergence, Community, and Force in Aesthetic Discourse,” New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, Spring 2021
- † “Artistic Style as the Expression of Ideals,” with Rob Hopkins (NYU), Aesthetics Permanent Seminar (Aresmur), Universidad de Murcia, 2020
- † Panel on Aesthetic Discourse, with Quill Kukla (Georgetown) and Tim Sundell (Kentucky), *American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting*, November 2020
- † “Invitation and Aesthetic Discourse,” UC Santa Cruz Philosophy Colloquium Series, May 2020
- * Panel on *Aesthetic Life and Why It Matters: Three Views*, with Dominic McIver Lopes (UBC), Bence Nanay (Antwerp), and comments by Mary Beth Willard, *American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division Meeting*, Berkeley, California, March 2020
- † “Murals in the Aesthetic State,” Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama, March 2020
- † “Invitation and Aesthetic Discourse,” Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, November 2019
- * “Invitation and Aesthetic Communication,” *American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting*, Phoenix, October 2019
- † “Aesthetic Value and Community: Comments on Dominic McIver Lopes’s *Being for Beauty: Aesthetic Agency and Value*,” British Society of Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- † “Roles and Rules in the Ethics of Style,” Rubinoff Sculpture Garden, Horby Island, BC, June 2019
- † “Artistic Style as the Expression of Ideals,” with Robert Hopkins (NYU), Harvard Workshop on Aesthetic Normativity, Harvard, May 2019
- † “Schiller on Freedom and Aesthetic Value,” UCSD History of Philosophy Roundtable, May 2019
- † “Personal Ideals as Metaphors,” Response to Critics, Pacific APA, Vancouver, April 2019
- † Uppsala University, Sweden, March 2019: Colloquium on “Aesthetic Judgments as Invitations” & Workshop on “Invitation and Aesthetic Communication”
- † Leeds University, Leeds, March 2019: Colloquium on “Aesthetic Judgments as Invitations” & *On Being Awesome* book talk & Workshop on “Schiller on Freedom and Aesthetic Value”
- † “Aesthetic Judgments as Invitations,” London Aesthetics Forum, London, March 2019
- † “Schiller on Freedom and Aesthetic Value,” with Samantha Matherne (Harvard), *Harvard European Philosophy Workshop*, Harvard, December 2018
- † Transformative Expression,” Yale Workshop on Experience and Transformation, New Haven, November 2018
- † Participant in the *Aesthetics Reborn* conference in Florence, Italy, June 2018
- † Keynote Address, “Transformative Expression and Social Art,” Philosophy & Representation, San Diego State University, April 2018

- † Author Meets Critics Session for *On Being Awesome: A Unified Theory of How Not to Suck*, with comments from Laura Gillespie (unaffiliated), Erich Hatala Matthes (Wellesley), and C. Thi Nguyen (Utah Valley), Savannah, January 2018 [Canceled due to weather and rescheduled for San Diego, April 2018]
- † “You Only Live Once,” Hunter College, December 2017
- † “Personal Ideals as Metaphors,” Wayne State University Colloquium Series, October 2017
- † “Aesthetic Necessity,” Conference on Aesthetic Normativity, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City, May, 2017
- † “Transformative Expression,” UNC Chapel Hill Conference on Transformative Experience, Chapel Hill, May 2017
- † “Transformative Expression,” Themes in Transformative Experience: metaphysics, aesthetics, epistemology, and philosophy of mind, Seattle, 2017
- † “The Normative Structure of Self-Presentation,” Bled Conference on Ethics, Bled, Slovenia, June 2016
- † “The Normative Structure of Self-Presentation,” Moral and Political Philosophy Seminar, UC San Diego, May 2016
- † “Using the Street for Art,” Workshop: From City Streets to Museum Galleries, NYU Abu Dhabi (via Skype), November 2015
- * “Poetic Self-Conceptions,” American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA, November 2015
- † “Beauty and Love,” University of British Columbia, Colloquium Series, September 2015
- † “On Being Awesome and Not Sucking,” Lafayette College, April 2015
- * “Aesthetic Properties and Mathematical Beauty,” Conference on Aesthetics in Mathematic University of East Anglia, December 2014
- † Individual Artistic Style: Three Views,” with Robert Hopkins, Aesthetics Reading Group, Columbia University, November 2014
- * “Individual Artistic Style: Three Views,” with Robert Hopkins (NYU), American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2014
- † Panel Discussion, “Art and Illegality,” Columbia Law School, October 2014
- † “The Street in Street Art,” Brooklyn Public Philosophers, Brooklyn, September 2014
- † Keynote Speaker, Melbourne Art Fair, Melbourne, Australia: “The Street in Street Art,” August 2014
- * “Ideals as Metaphors,” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME), Boulder, CO, August 2014, with comments from Julia Staffel
- * “Kant and Cogito,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego, April 2014, with comments from Lucy Allais
- * “Sibley on the Unity of Narrow Aesthetic Properties,” American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, San Diego, October 2013, with comments from Alan Goldman

* “Personal and Artistic Style,” British Society of Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Cambridge University, September 2013

† Commentator on “Imagination and Film,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, February 2013

† “Aesthetic Perfection,” Conference on the Nature of Taste: Scepticism about the Aesthetic and Connoisseurship, Paris, October 2011, with comments from Jerrold Levinson

† “Street Art and Public Space” and Panel Discussant, Pseudo-Public Space, Parsons The New School for Design, October, 2011

* “Aesthetic Perfection,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, April 2011, with comments from Anthony Cross

† “Kant and Cogito,” Amiens Université de Picardie workshop on Kant on the Identity of Persons, Amiens, France, May 2008

SELECT SERVICE

Aesthetics Area Editor for *Philosophy Compass*

Director and Co-founder, USD Food Studies Minor

Co-lead, USD Food Studies Initiative

Health Sciences Committee Member, University of San Diego, 2017-current

Member of the Dean’s Advisory Council on the Arts, University of San Diego, 2019-current

Founder and Director of the *Southern California Aesthetics Forum*

Co-organizer with C. Thi Nguyen, *Camp Aesthetics* Retreat, Capitol Reef Field Station, Utah, July 2019

Co-organizer with Clinton Tolley, Southern California Student Conference in Aesthetics, University of San Diego, November 2018

Co-organizer with C. Thi Nguyen, *Camp Aesthetics* Retreat, Capitol Reef Field Station, Utah, August 2018

Organizer, *Notes on the Aesthetics of Grunge*, a public, multi-participant presentation and public discussion as part of the American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Seattle, 2016

Program Committee Member, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Seattle, 2016

Consulting Editor for the Journal of the American Philosophical Association

Editor for PhilPapers.org: Art and Artworks, Philosophy of Visual Art

Conference co-organizer for Philosophy of Street Art: Art in and of the Streets with Christy Mag Uidhir (University of Houston) and Gregg Horowitz (Pratt) and support from a Major Projects Initiative Grant from the American Society for Aesthetics, The Pratt Institute, and The New York Institute of Philosophy. March 5-7, 2015

Referee for The Journal of Philosophy, Oxford University Press, The Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Ergo, The Philosophical Quarterly, The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, British Journal of Aesthetics, Estetika, Philosophical Papers, The American Society for

Aesthetics, and others

REFERENCES

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Robert Hopkins
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Béatrice Longuenesse
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dom.lopes@icloud.com

Richard Moran
moran@fas.harvard.edu

J. David Velleman
jdvelleman@nyu.edu