
MICHEL-ANTOINE XHIGNESSE

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AOS AND AOC

- ❖ **Specializations:** Philosophy of Art/Aesthetics, Philosophy of Literature, Metaphysics
- ❖ **Competencies:** 18th-Century French Philosophy, 19th-Century German Philosophy, Epistemology, Ethics, Philosophy of Language

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- ❖ 2019-present: Instructor, Capilano University
- ❖ 2017-19: SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow, University of British Columbia

EDUCATION

- 2017 **McGill University, PhD in Philosophy**
Supervisors: David Davies, Michael Blome-Tillmann
- 2009 **Queen's University, M.A. in Philosophy**
Supervisor: Deborah Knight
- 2008 **Mount Allison University, BA Honours in Philosophy**
Honours first class with distinction. Minors in English and Art History.
Supervisor: Bryan Alan Smyth

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

- 2023 *[Aesthetics: 50 Puzzles, Paradoxes, and Thought Experiments](#)*. New York: Routledge.

TRANSLATIONS

- Under Contract *On the Ideal in the Pictorial Arts, by Antoine Chrysostome Quatremère de Quincy* (1805)
(Lexington Press)
- Forthcoming *Of the Causes of the Corruption of Taste, by Anne Le Fèvre Dacier* (1714) (OUP, with [James O. Young](#))

ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming "Distant Dinosaurs and the Aesthetics of Remote Art," *British Journal of Aesthetics*.
DOI: 10.1093/aesthj/ayad036
- Forthcoming "The Transparency of War Photography," *Parrhesia*.

- Forthcoming “[Imagining Dinosaurs](#),” *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*
- 2023 “Schopenhauer’s Aesthetic Ideology,” *The Schopenhauerian Mind*. David Bather Woods and Tim Stoll (Eds.). New York: Routledge, 127-40.
- 2023 “[In Defence of Tourists](#),” *Estetika: The European Journal of Aesthetics* 60.2, 176-92.
- 2023 “[A Garden of One's Own—or, why are there no great lady detectives?](#)” *Feminist Philosophy Quarterly* 9 (1), 1-20. (with Shelby Moser)
- 2022 “[A Trip to the Zoo](#),” *Aesthetic Literacy: a book for everyone*. Valery Vino (Ed.). vol. 1, 52-5; v.2-3 (forthcoming), Melbourne: Mont Publishing
- 2021 “[Retitling, Cultural Appropriation, and Aboriginal Title](#),” *British Journal of Aesthetics* 61 (3), 317-33.
- 2021 “[Exploding Stories and the Limits of Fiction](#),” *Philosophical Studies* 178 (3), 675-92.
- 2020 “[Imagining Fictional Contradictions](#),” *Synthese*. 199 (1-2), 3169-88.
- 2020 “[Failures of Intention and Failed-Art](#),” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 50 (7), 905-17.
- 2020 “[What Makes a Kind an Art-Kind?](#),” *British Journal of Aesthetics* 60 (4), 471-88.
- **Winner, 2018 British Society for Aesthetics Essay Prize.**
 - **Honourable mention, 2022 APA/ASA Danto Prize in Aesthetics**
- 2020 “[Schopenhauer’s Perceptive Invective](#),” in Jens Lemanski (Ed.), *Language, Logic, and Mathematics in Schopenhauer*. Basel, Schweiz: Birkhäuser, 95-107.
- 2020 “[Inheriting the World](#),” *Journal of Applied Logics*, special issue on John Woods’s “Truth in Fiction: Rethinking its Logic” 7 (2), 163-70.
- 2019 “[Entitled Art: what makes titles names?](#),” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 97 (3), 437-50.
- 2019 “[Social Kinds, Reference, and Meta-Ontological Revisionism](#),” *Journal of Social Ontology* 4 (2), 137-56.
- **Runner-up, 2018 Journal of Social Ontology Essay Prize.**
- 2018 “[Fake Views—or why concepts are bad guides to art’s ontology](#),” *British Journal of Aesthetics* 58 (2), 193-207.
- 2016 “[The Trouble with Poetic Licence](#),” *British Journal of Aesthetics* 56 (2), 149-61.
- 2013 “[Willingly disinterested: altruism in Schopenhauer’s ethics](#),” in *Kant und die Philosophie in weltbürgerlicher Absicht. Akten des XI Kant-Kongresses 2010 (Kant and Philosophy in a Cosmopolitan Sense: Proceedings of the XI International Kant Congress 2010)*. Stefano Bacin (Ed.), Alfredo Ferrarin (Ed.), Claudio La Rocca (Ed.) and Margit Ruffing (Ed.). Boston: De Gruyter.

BOOK REVIEWS

- Forthcoming “[Thinking Through Illustration: Review of Thomas E. Wartenberg, *Thoughtful Images: Illustrating Philosophy Through Art*](#) (OUP 2023), *Metascience*.
- 2023 “[Brains, ectobrains, and the construction of a subgenre](#)”: [Review of Fernando Vidal, *Performing Brains on Screen*](#) (Amsterdam 2022), *Metascience* 32.1 (March 2023), p. 87-90.
- 2022 [Review of Louis A. Ruprecht, Jr. \(trans.\), *Quatremère de Quincy's Moral Considerations on the Place and Purpose of Works of Art*](#) (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021), *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 80.4 (Fall 2022), p. 520-3.
- 2021 [Review of James Young, *Radically Rethinking Copyright in the Arts: A Philosophical Approach*](#) (Routledge, 2020), *Philosophy in Review* 41.1 (February 2021), p. 49-51.
- 2016 [Review of Tiziana Andina, *The Philosophy of Art: The Question of Definition*](#) (Bloomsbury, 2013), *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 74.1 (Winter 2016), p. 106-8.
- 2015 [Review of Christy Mag Uidhir, *Art & Art-Attempts*](#) (Oxford University Press, 2013), *Philosophy in Review* 35.3 (June 2015), p. 182-4.

OTHER

- 2023 “[Blood and Phlegm: Deflating Fiction](#),” invited blog post for a book symposium on English and Lankau’s “*The Philosophy of Fiction: Imagination and Cognition*” at *The Junkyard of the Mind*.
- 2021 “[Junk Fiction and the Junkyard of the Imagination](#),” invited blog post at *The Junkyard of the Mind*.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & PRIZES

- 2019 ASA Small Grant, for the Salish Sea Aesthetics workshop (\$2314)
- 2018 British Society for Aesthetics Essay Prize (£1500)
- 2017-2019 [SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) (\$81 000) (A competitive national-level postdoctoral research fellowship awarded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to the most promising new scholars in the social sciences and humanities in Canada)
- 2015-2016 David Fate Norton Dissertation Fellowship (McGill University, \$7000)
Alma Mater Fellowship (McGill University, \$10 000)
- 2014-2015 Graduate Excellence Award (McGill University, \$4600)
- 2012-2013 Reverend Domenico Roberto Gualtieri Prize for academic excellence and involvement in community or university affairs (McGill University, \$1000).
- 2011-2014 FRQSC doctoral research fellowship (A competitive provincial-level doctoral fellowship awarded by the Fonds de Recherche Québécois sur la Société et la Culture to the best doctoral students conducting research in the arts, humanities, literature, and social sciences in Québec) (\$60 000)
- 2010-2011 Dow Hickson Fellowship (McGill University, \$3000)
GERI and Principal’s Graduate Fellowships (McGill University, \$11 000)
- 2008-2009 Senator Frank Carrel Fellowship (Queen’s University, \$10 000)

PRESENTATIONS (48)

REFEREED

1. “What if Dinosaurs are Imaginary?,” ASA – Annual, Portland, OR, November 2022
2. “False Interpretive Frameworks,” *Salish Sea Aesthetics Workshop II*, Victoria, November 2021.
3. “In Defence of Tourists,” Canadian Society for Aesthetics, Vancouver, June 2019.
4. “What makes a kind an *art-kind*?,” British Society for Aesthetics, Oxford University, September 2018.
5. “Exploding Stories and the Limits of Fiction,” ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, April 2018.
6. “Exploding Stories and the Limits of Fiction,” ASA – Pacific, Pacific Grove, April 2018.
7. “Three problems for art-ontological descriptivism,” APA – Pacific, San Diego, April 2018.
8. “Social kinds and meta-ontological revisionism,” ASA – Annual, New Orleans, November 2017.
9. “Three Problems for Art-Ontological Descriptivism,” American Society for Aesthetics – Eastern, Philadelphia, April 2017.
10. “The Conventional Nature of Art-Kinds,” ASA – Pacific, Pacific Grove, April 2017.
11. “The Trouble with Failed-Art,” ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, April 2016.
12. “Art’s Intention-Dependence,” ASA – Annual, Savannah, November 2015.
13. “Suspending (Poetic) Licenses,” *Frontiers in the Philosophy of Literature*, University of Southern Denmark, September 2015.
14. “Titles Unnamed,” British Society for Aesthetics, Cambridge University, September 2015.

15. "Titles Unnamed," European Society for Aesthetics, Dublin Institute of Technology, June 2015.
16. "Titles Unnamed," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, University of Ottawa, June 2015.
17. "Titles Unnamed," APA – Pacific, Vancouver, April 2015.
18. "Suspending (Poetic) Licenses," ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, USA, March 2015.
19. "Titles Unnamed," Canadian Philosophical Association, Brock University, May 2014.
20. "Suspending (poetic) licenses," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, Brock University, May 2014.
21. "Titles Unnamed," ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, April 2014.
22. "Instances, Artworks, and Coincidence," ASA – Annual, San Diego, USA, October-November 2013.
23. "(Non-) Counting Statues," Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association (postgraduate section), University of Exeter, July 2013.
24. "Fictions and Contradictions," Canadian Society for Aesthetics, University of Victoria, June 2013.
25. "Fictions and Contradictions," ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, USA, April 2013.
26. "*Ethics* in the fast lane: Spinoza on natural right and highway robbery," Graduate Conference in Philosophy of the University of Waterloo, University of Waterloo, March 2013
27. "(Non-) Counting Statues," Indiana Philosophical Association, University of Indianapolis, November 2012.
28. "Willingly disinterested: altruism in Schopenhauer's ethics," XI International Kant Congress, University of Pisa, May 2010.
29. "Stuff and coincident objects," Society for Exact Philosophy, University of Alberta, May 2009.

INVITED

30. "Anne Dacier and the Origins of Modern Aesthetics," APA-Pacific, Portland, March 2024.
31. "Imitation and the Grumpy Old Man Theory of Musical Evaluation," for a symposium on James O. Young's *A History of Western Philosophy of Music*, WCPA, Vancouver, October 2023.
32. "Keeping it Real?," for a symposium on the work of Stacie Friend at the 2023 Pacific APA, San Francisco, April 2023
33. "A Garden of One's Own," with Shelby Moser, Philosophy Colloquium, Marist College, November 2020.
34. "Schopenhauer's Perceptive Invective," North American Division of the Schopenhauer Society, panel on Schopenhauer at the American Philosophical Association – Central Division, Chicago, February 2020.
35. "What makes a kind an *art*-kind?," Philosophy Colloquium, University of Victoria, Canada, November 2019
36. "Exploding Stories and the Limits of Fiction," Canadian Philosophical Association, panel on the ontology of fiction, Vancouver, June 2019.
37. "What makes a kind an *art*-kind?," as part of the *Aesthetics Lecture Series*, University of Padova, Italy, February 2019.
38. "Art's Intention-Dependence," Dubrovnik Conference on the Philosophy of Art, Dubrovnik Inter-University Centre, April 2015.
39. "Un-named," Dubrovnik Conference on the Philosophy of Art, Dubrovnik Inter-University Centre, April 2013.
40. "Finding a Holmes for Fiction," Dubrovnik Conference on the Philosophy of Art, Dubrovnik Inter-University Centre, April 2012.

COMMENTARIES

41. Commentary on Nicolas Michieli's "Bradford's CCC: 'The Unexamined Life [with Art] is not Worth Living,'" Salish Sea Aesthetics Workshop II, Victoria, November 2021.
42. Commentary on Patrick Grafton-Cardwell's "How to be Super Strict About Story Existence and Story Identity," ASA – Annual, Washington, D.C., November 2020.
43. Commentary on Nick Riggle's "Invitation and Aesthetic Communication," ASA – Annual, Phoenix, Arizona, October 2019.
44. Commentary on Patrick Grafton-Cardwell's "Fictions are Fabrications," CPA, Vancouver, June 2019.
45. Commentary on Kari Hanson-Park's "The Relationship Between Literary Works and the World," ASA – Eastern, Philadelphia, April 2019.
46. Commentary on Judith Norman's "Schopenhauer's Music Lessons," ASA – Annual, San Antonio, Texas, October-November 2014.
47. Commentary on Jeff Dale's "Shoemaker's Three Types: Analysis of Moral Responsibility," twentieth annual Graduate Conference in Philosophy, University of Waterloo, March 2013.

OTHER

48. "Exploding Stories and the Limits of Fiction," guest lecture in the graduate seminar on the philosophy of literature, University of California, Santa Cruz, April 2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Capilano University (~8 courses a year)

2019-present

- PHIL 110 [Critical Thinking](#), 35-40 students
- PHIL 101 [Introductory Philosophy: Ethics](#), 30-39 students
- PHIL 102 [Knowledge and Reality](#), 32-35 students
- PHIL 208 [Environmental Ethics](#), 35-48 students
- PHIL 240 [Philosophy of Gender Relations](#)
- PHIL 302 [Knowledge and Truth](#) 31 students

University of British Columbia

- 2018 PHIL 375 [Philosophy and Literature](#), 80 students

McGill University

- 2014 PHIL 336 [Aesthetics](#), 48 students

LANGUAGES

English (native), French (native), Spanish (beginner)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2011 Learning to Teach Day, McGill University
 2012 TA Training Day, McGill University
 2015 SEDE (Social Equity and Diversity Education) teaching workshop, McGill University

SERVICE

REFEREEING

Journals *Analysis* (x3), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (x2), *British Journal of Aesthetics* (x10), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (x4), *Debates in Aesthetics* (x2), *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* (x3), *Ergo* (x2), *Estetika: The Central European Journal of Aesthetics* (x3), *Evental Aesthetics, Inquiry* (x3), *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* (x2), *Moral Philosophy and Politics* (x2), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophers' Imprint* (x2), *Philosophy Compass* (x2), *Philosophical Studies*, *Rivista di estetica* (x2), *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese* (x5), *University of Toronto Quarterly*, and one edited collection.

Presses Bloomsbury Press, Broadview Press, Vernon Press

Conferences American Society for Aesthetics Annual (2018, 2021), American Society for Aesthetics Eastern (2019-21), Canadian Philosophical Association (2019, 2022-3), Philosopher's Cocoon Annual Conference (2015-17), Salish Sea Aesthetics (2019)

EXTERNAL EXAMINER (Ph.D.)

- 2023 Mehdi Shams (University of Waikato), "A Study of the Adequacy of the Post-Functional Definitions of Art"

PROFESSIONAL

- 2021-4 Program Committee, annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association
 2021 Program Committee, annual meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics (Montréal)
 2020 Compiler, [Graduate Guide to Aesthetics in North America](#) (an ASA project)
 2019-22 Advisory Committee, [ASAGE](#) (American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-Journal)
 2019-21 Co-organizer, Eastern division meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics
 2019 Co-organizer, Salish Sea Aesthetics conference
 2018 Program Committee, annual meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics (Toronto)

EDITORIAL

- 2019-present Copy editor/translator (traducteur/réviser linguistique), Université de Sherbrooke
 2018-present Co-Editor, [American Society for Aesthetics Newsletter](#)
 2014-6 Managing Editor for [ASAGE](#) (American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-Journal), 6.2-8.2

UNIVERSITY

- 2020-4 Research Ethics Board, Capilano University

DEPARTMENTAL

2021 Hiring Committee, Capilano University

REFERENCES

Available upon request.