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School of English, Communication, and Philosophy

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United Kingdom

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Areas of Specialisation Aesthetics; Ethics; Moral Psychology; Philosophy of Film.

Areas of Competence Political Philosophy; Ancient (Greek) Philosophy.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2019 - **Lecturer in Philosophy (Cardiff University)**
2019 **Associate Lecturer (University of York)**
2018 - 2019 **Associate Tutor (Birkbeck, University of London)**
2017 - 2018 **Research Fellow (Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues, University of Birmingham)**
2013 - 2017 **Teaching Assistant (University of St Andrews)**

EDUCATION

- 2012 - 2017 **PhD, Philosophy, passed with no corrections (University of St Andrews)**
2011 - 2012 **MLitt, Philosophy, with coursework Distinction (University of St Andrews)**
2010 - 2011 **MA, Filmmaking, with Distinction (Goldsmiths, University of London)**
2005 - 2009 **MA (Hons), Philosophy and Film & TV Studies, with First Class Honours (University of Glasgow)**

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 “The Aesthetics of Ethics: Exemplarism, Beauty, and the Psychology of Morality”, *Journal of Value Inquiry* 56, pp. 601-625.
2020 “Functional Beauty, Pleasure, and Experience”, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 98:3, pp. 516-530.
2019 “Moral Beauty and Education”, *Journal of Moral Education* 48:4, pp. 395-411.
2019 “The ‘Moralism’ in Immoralism: A Critique of Immoralism in Aesthetics”, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 59:1, pp. 13-33.
2018 “On Form, and the Possibility of Moral Beauty”, *Metaphilosophy*, 49:5, pp. 711-729.
2018 “The Empirical Case for Moral Beauty”, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 96:4, pp. 642-656.
2017 “The Deformity-Related Conception of Ugliness”, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 57:2, pp. 139-160.

2017 “Scepticism About Virtue and the Five-Factor Model of Personality”, *Utilitas*, 29:4, pp. 423-452.

BOOK CHAPTERS & ARTICLES IN SPECIAL ISSUES

- 2022 “On the Importance of Beauty and Taste”, *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement* 92, pp. 229-252, and as part of volume *Values and Virtues for a Challenging World* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).
- 2022 “Virtue and Vice on TV: The Elenctic Pattern, Televisual Rough-Hero Works, and Ethical Reflection”, in Laura D’Olimpio, Panos Paris, and Aidan Thompson (eds.), *Educating Character Through the Arts* (London: Routledge), pp. 84-108.

CO-AUTHORED PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2019 with C. Darnell, L. Gulliford, and K. Kristjánsson, “*Phronesis* and the Knowledge–Action Gap in Moral Psychology and Education: A New Synthesis?”, *Human Development*, 62:3, pp. 101-129.

EDITED BOOKS

- 2022 *Educating Character Through the Arts*, co-edited with Laura D’Olimpio and Aidan Thompson (London: Routledge).
- 2022 *Values and Virtues for a Challenging World*, co-edited with Anneli Jefferson, S. Orestis Palermos, and Jonathan Webber (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

WRITING FOR A GENERAL AUDIENCE

- 2019 “More than Skin Deep”, *Aeon Magazine* ([link](#) to article).

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2021 “James Harold, “Dangerous Art: On Moral Criticism of Artwork”, *Philosophy in Review*, 41:1, pp. 236-240.
- 2019 “Art, Morality and Human Nature: Writings by Richard W. Beardsmore”, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 59:1, pp. 105-109.

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW & IN PREPARATION

- (*under review*) “On the Concept of Form in the Theory of Beauty”.
- (*under review*) “Beauty” (Invited article for the *Philosophy Compass*).
- (*in preparation*) “Nature and Culture: Rethinking Neo-Aristotelian Ethical Naturalism”.
- (*in preparation*) “The Doctrine of the Mean: Virtue, Practical Guidance, and Psychology”.

AWARDS, PRIZES & GRANTS

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|------|--------------|---|
| 2022 | Grant | Cardiff University, Innovation for All Funding |
| | | Funding for the departmental conferences on “Values and Virtues for a Challenging World” to be run by political |

		consultancy firm Camlas, and be held at the Welsh Government's Pierhead Building (£8,500) [co-applicant].
2020 - 2021	Grant	Royal Institute of Philosophy Funding for a departmental conference on "Values and Virtues in a Changing World", Cardiff University, September 2021 (£5,000) [co-applicant].
2019	Grant	British Society of Aesthetics Funding for "Beauty and Goodness: Exploring the Intersection" conference, University of Southampton, September 2019 (£4,212) [co-applicant].
2018 - 2019	Grant	American Society for Aesthetics Irene H. Chayes Travel Grants awarded on two consecutive years (\$2,500).
2018 - 2019	Grant	Thought Trust Funding for "Beauty and Goodness: Exploring the Intersection" conference, University of Southampton, September 2019 (£4,212) [co-applicant].
2016 - 2019	Grant	British Society of Aesthetics Travel stipends awarded on four consecutive years (£3,480).
2017 - 2018	Grant	The Mind Association Funding for the "Educating Character Through the Arts" conference, University of Birmingham, July 2018 (£1,500).
2017 - 2018	Grant	British Society of Aesthetics Funding for the "Educating Character Through the Arts" conference (£5,000).
2017	Prize	American Society for Aesthetics Prize for outstanding Student/Early-Career paper, for "Functional Beauty, Pleasure, and Experience" (\$250).
2014 - 2017	Grant	British Society of Aesthetics For setting up and running the Scottish Aesthetics Forum, a lecture series aimed at promoting aesthetics in Scotland and the North of the United Kingdom (£4,720) [co-applicant].
2014 - 2017	Grant	Scots Philosophical Association Against losses for the Scottish Aesthetics Forum (£1,000).
2012 - 2016	Award	Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation Scholarship Awarded for four years, towards obtaining the degree of Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of St Andrews (£41,900).
2011 - 2012	Award	Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation Scholarship Awarded for one year, towards obtaining the degree of M.Litt. in Philosophy at the University of St Andrews (£13,100).
2009	Prize	Department of Philosophy, University of Glasgow Prize for distinction in written work in philosophy (£300).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS – EXTERNAL & REFEREED OR INVITED

- TBC Title TBC, *ÆCS* Seminar, Institut Jean-Nicod, date TBC (*invited*). [Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- TBC Title TBC, Uppsala Higher Aesthetics Seminar, date TBC (*invited*). [Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2022 “Artworks, Characters, and Perspectives: Reflections on the Production-Oriented Approach to Ethical Criticism”, 1st Art & Ethics Prague Conference, Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, 25-26 April (*invited*).
- 2021 “The Beautiful and the Good: Moral Beauty and the Importance of Aesthetics for Ethics”, ArC_Art in Conversation Series, University of St Andrews, 12 November (*invited*).
- 2021 “Beauty, Virtue, and Form: Reflections on the Stoic Theory of Beauty”, Dutch Research School for Philosophy (OZSW), ‘Recent Work on Ancient Philosophy Study Group’, 30 March (*invited*). [Online due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2020 “On the Concept of Beauty in the Theory of Beauty”, London Aesthetics Forum, 18 November (*invited*). [Online due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2020 “On Beauty (and Form)”, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 11-14 November. [Online due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2020 “Beauty: Some Reflections on the Broad/Narrow Distinction”, *A Beautiful Summer Online Aesthetics Seminar Series*, Uppsala University, Sweden, 29 July (*invited*).
- 2020 “Theories of Beauty and the Concept of Form”, The Aristotelian and Mind Society 2020 Joint Session, University of Kent, 10-12 July. [Online due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2019 “The Aesthetics and Ethics of the Rough-Hero Work”, as contributor to a panel on ‘Ethical Responses to Fiction’, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, 9-13 October.
- 2019 “The Aesthetics and Ethics of Rough-Hero Works”, as contributor to a symposium on ‘Ethical Responses to Fiction’, British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conference, Oxford, 6-8 September.
- 2019 “Beauty, Admiration, and Exemplarist Moral Theory”, European Society for Aesthetics Annual Conference, Warsaw, Poland, 12-14 June.
- 2019 “Functional Beauty: A Revised Proposal”, Scottish Aesthetics Forum, University of Edinburgh, 16 May (*invited*).
- 2019 “Immorality on Television”, Centre for Aesthetics, University of Leeds, 8 May (*invited*).
- 2018 “Robust (Im)moralism?”, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, 10-13 October.
- 2018 “Beauty and Exemplarist Moral Theory”, British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conference, Oxford, 21-23 September.
- 2018 “Character and Virtue in Acute NHS Practice”, Alumni Impact Fund Conference: Compassion, Character, and the Organisation of Acute NHS Care, University of Birmingham, 16 May (*invited*).
- 2017 “Functional Beauty, Pleasure, and Experience”, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, 15-18 November (**Winner of the Outstanding Student/Early-Career Paper Prize**).

- 2017 “The ‘Moralism’ in Immoralism”, British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conference, Oxford, 8-10 September.
- 2017 “Evaluative Form and the Possibility of Moral Beauty”, American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 28-29 April.
- 2016 “On the Possibility of Moral Beauty”, European Society for Aesthetics Annual Conference, Barcelona, 8-10 June.
- 2016 “Ugliness and Deformity”, American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 15-16 April.
- 2015 “The Empirical Case for Moral Beauty”, British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conference, Cambridge, 18-20 September.
- 2014 “Moral Beauty—An Argument from Empirical Findings”, European Society for Aesthetics Annual Conference, Amsterdam, 29-31 May.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS – INTERNAL & OTHER

- 2021 “On the Concept of Form in the Theory of Beauty”, Philosophy Research Seminar, Cardiff University, 5 May.
- 2018 “Moral Beauty in the Public Sphere”, Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues Annual Conference: Virtues in the Public Sphere, Oriel College, Oxford, 5 January.
- 2014 “Situationism, Character, and the Five-Factor Model of Personality”, Postgraduate Research Seminar, University of St Andrews, 28 November.
- 2014 “Moral Beauty and Experience”, Aesthetics Reflectorium, University of St Andrews, 4 June.
- 2012 “Against a Consequentialist Theory of Virtue”, Postgraduate Research Seminar, University of St Andrews, 22 November.
- 2011 “Can We Make Sense of a Connection Between Beauty and Love?”, Postgraduate Research Seminar, University of St Andrews, 7 December.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS – PUBLIC OUTREACH & SERVICE

- 2022 “On the Importance of Beauty and Taste”, Royal Institute of Philosophy Departmental Philosophy Festival: Values and Virtues for a Challenging World, Pierhead Building, Cardiff, 21 September.
- 2021 “Beauty & Virtue: Moral Beauty and the Importance of Aesthetics for Ethics”, Cardiff Humanists / Dyneiddwyr Caerdydd, 14 June.

TEACHING

- 2021 - **Lecturer (Module Leader, MA Module, Cardiff University)**
- Art, Beauty, and Value
- 2019 - **Lecturer (Module Leader, 2nd-3rd Year Undergraduate Modules, Cardiff University)**
- ‘Beauty & Ethics’
- ‘Aesthetics’

- Lecturer (Module Leader, 1st Year Undergraduate Module, Cardiff University)**
- 'Philosophy Through Fiction and Film'
- 2019 - 2022 **Lecturer (Lecture delivery, 1st Year Undergraduate Modules, Cardiff University)**
- 'Critical Thinking'
- 2019 **Associate Lecturer (Module Leader, 3rd Year Undergraduate and MA Module, University of York)**
- 'Philosophy of Film' (topics covered: representation; realism; style and authorship; genres; narration; learning from film; feminist and ethical criticism).
- Advanced Module (supervision-based independent study module).
- 2018 - 2019 **Associate Tutor (Seminar Leader on 1st - 3rd Year Undergraduate Modules, Birkbeck, University of London)**
- 'Morality and Society' (topics covered: equality; cultural diversity and relativism; identity; discrimination; freedom of speech; poverty; war; capital punishment; non-human animals; environmental ethics).
- 'Art and Value' (topics covered: Hume and Kant's aesthetics; formalism and aesthetic experience; traditional and enlightened empiricism; forgery; conceptual art; cognitive value; ethical criticism; feminist and political critiques of aesthetics).
- 'Social Epistemology' (topics covered: testimony; expertise; peer disagreement; judgement aggregation and epistemic collaboration; freedom of speech; aggregate democracy and public ignorance; deliberative democracy; expert rule).
- 'Philosophy as the Art of Living: Ancient Views' (topics covered: pre-Socratic monism and pluralism; Plato's early dialogues; *Phaedo*; *Republic*; and *Timaeus*; Aristotle's teleology; Epicurus; Pyrrho; Nāgārjuna on emptiness).
- 2018 **Guest Lecturer (3rd Year Undergraduate and MA Module, Birkbeck, University of London)**
- 'Art and Value' (Delivered lecture on the ethical criticism of art).
- 2017 **Guest Lecturer (Undergraduate Sub-Honours Module, University of St Andrews)**
- 'Moral and Aesthetic Value' (Delivered lecture on moral beauty).
- 2013 - 2017 **Teaching Assistant (Tutorial Leader on Undergraduate Sub-Honours Modules, University of St Andrews)**
2016 - 2017 - 'Moral and Aesthetic Value' (topics covered: Hume's and Kant's aesthetics; aesthetic concepts; aesthetic testimony; feminist aesthetics; moral objectivity; moral intuitions; morality and evolution, etc.).

- 'Foundations of Western Philosophy' (topics covered: Plato, Aristotle; Hellenistic Philosophy).
- 2014 - 2015 - 'Aesthetics' (topics covered: definition of art; theories of expression in art; photographic transparency; Kant's, Hume's, Hegel's, Schopenhauer's, and Nietzsche's aesthetics).
- 'Ethical Controversies' (topics covered: key ethical theories, i.e., consequentialism, deontology, virtue ethics; moral problems, e.g., abortion, cloning, euthanasia, eating non-human animals, etc.).
- 2013 - 2014 - 'Aesthetics'
- 'Ancient Philosophy' (topics covered: Plato and Aristotle).
- 'Ethical Controversies'
- 2013 - 'Society, Authority, and Freedom' (topics covered: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau on the State of Nature and the justification of the state; Marx; Rawls, and Nozick).
- 'Aesthetics'

PUBLIC OUTREACH & IMPACT

- 2022 **Interviewed** on whether we can separate artists from their art on BBC News [\[link\]](#).
- 2022 **Interviewed** on moral beauty and art on *The Philosopher's Zone* by Laura D'Olimpio, for Australian ABC radio (3 April) [\[link\]](#).
- 2022 **Interviewed** and **quoted** on article on plastic surgery and beauty standards for TRT World [\[link\]](#).
- 2019 **Interviewed** on moral beauty by Myf Warhurst, for Australian ABC radio (12 June) [\[link\]](#).
- 2019 **Translation** of my *Aeon* article on moral beauty into Turkish for *Bilim ve Üniversite* (issues 169-170, 21 and 28 June, p. 11).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2022 **Co-Chair** of the British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conference (with Karen Simecek).
- 2022 **Programme Committee Member** for the American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting.
- 2021 **Reviewer** for the **South West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership**.
- 2020 **Member** of COVID-19 task & finish groups and services at **Cardiff University** (set up to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic): **University Student Call-Out Volunteer Service; School (English, Communication and Philosophy–ENCAP) Recruitment & Admission Task & Finish Group; ENCAP Online Teaching Task & Finish Group (ENCAP); ENCAP COVID-19 Recovery Group**.
- 2019 - 2021 **Member** of the **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, Cardiff University**.

- 2019 - 2021 **Conference Equality Representative** at the **British Society of Aesthetics Annual Conferences**.
- 2018 - **Trustee** of the **British Society of Aesthetics** (re-elected in 2021).
- 2017 - **Referee** for Publishers: **Oxford University Press, Routledge, Springer**.
Referee for Journals: *Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, British Journal of Aesthetics, Contemporary Aesthetics, Ergo, Erkenntnis, The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy, The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, The Journal of Value Inquiry, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Res Publica, Thought*.
- 2019 **Organiser** of **“Beauty and Goodness: Exploring the Intersection”** conference, **19-20 September, University of Southampton**.
- 2019 - **Referee** for the **American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting**.
- 2018 - **Co-founder and officer** of the **Aesthetics and Ethics Research Group**.
 Research group aimed at promoting work at the intersection of aesthetics and ethics, facilitating discussion and collaboration between aestheticians and ethicists, and organising and supporting events.
- 2018 **Organiser** of **“Educating Character Through the Arts”** conference, **19-21 July, University of Birmingham**.
- 2014 - 2017 **Co-Founder and organiser** of the **‘Scottish Aesthetics Forum’, University of Edinburgh**.
 Public lecture series aimed at disseminating state-of-the-art research on aesthetics to audiences in Scotland and the North of the United Kingdom.
- 2014 **Organiser** of an **Aesthetics Reflectorium, University of St Andrews**.
 A work-in-progress workshop in Aesthetics.
- 2013 **Referee** for the **7th Arché Graduate Conference, University of St Andrews**.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

- 2022 **First Aid Qualification** (British Red Cross).
- 2020 **Fellow** of the *Higher Education Academy* (FHEA).
- 2014 Diversity in the Workplace Online Training Module (University of St Andrews).
- 2012 Tutoring in the Arts: An Introduction (University of St Andrews).
- 2012 Assessment & Academic Misconduct (Arts): An Introduction (University of St Andrews).

REFERENCES

Emily Brady, Susanne M. and Melbern G. Glasscock Director of the Glasscock Center for Humanities Research; Professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University
 (Well-acquainted with my work; collaborated with me on the Scottish Aesthetics Forum.)
 E: ebrody@tamu.edu / T: +1 (979) 845 8329

Berys Gaut, Professor of Philosophy and Director of Impact, University of St Andrews
 (Primary supervisor for my PhD and MLitt theses.)
 E: bng@st-andrews.ac.uk / T: +44 (0) 133 446 2490

Kristján Kristjánsson, Professor of Character Education and Virtue Ethics; Deputy Director of the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues, University of Birmingham

(Former line manager and principal investigator.)

E: k.kristjansson@bham.ac.uk / T: +44 (0) 121 414 4877

Peter Lamarque, Professor of Philosophy, University of York

(External examiner of my doctoral thesis and current colleague.)

E: p.v.lamarque@york.ac.uk / T: +44 (0) 1904 323259

Richard Gray, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Cardiff University

(Current line manager.)

E: grayr@cardiff.ac.uk / T: +44 (0) 29 2087 5416

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Languages	English (excellent); Greek (native); German (basic: reading, speaking); French (basic: reading, speaking); Italian (basic: reading, speaking).
Other	Filmmaking skills (incl. video editing); IT skills (incl. MacOSX; MS Windows; MS Office; MacOS Pages, Numbers, and Keynote; Panopto; VLE, Moodle, etc.); EU driving license.

APPENDIX: MLITT & PHD THESIS DETAILS

2011 - 2012	MLitt, Philosophy, with Distinction in coursework (University of St Andrews) Supervisor: Berys Gaut. Dissertation: <i>A Defence of Context-Sensitive Ethicism</i> .
2012 - 2017	PhD, Philosophy, passed with no corrections (University of St Andrews) Supervisors: Berys Gaut and Sarah Broadie. Examiners: Peter Lamarque and John Haldane. Thesis: <i>Aesthetics, Ethics, and Character: A Defence of the Moral Beauty View</i> . Abstract: In my thesis, I defended the <i>moral beauty view</i> (MBV), whereby <i>if a quality is a moral virtue, then it is a beautiful character trait</i> and, conversely, <i>if a quality is a moral vice, then it is an ugly character trait</i> . First, I argued for the conceptual and metaphysical possibility of MBV, by defending a conception of form possession of which suffices for candidature for beauty or ugliness, and demonstrating that character traits possess such form. Second, I developed an account of ugliness and showed that moral vices fall under its extension. Third, drawing on empirical evidence corroborating an empirically-testable hypothesis implied by MBV, I argued for MBV via an inference to the best explanation.