

Kieran Aarons

Department of Philosophy
North Central College
Naperville, IL
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Areas of Research

AOS Social & Political Philosophy • Continental Philosophy (esp. Italian & French)
AOC History of Modern Philosophy • Ethics • Biomedical Ethics • Business Ethics

Employment

2023- • North Central College, Half-Time Assistant Professor of Philosophy
2021-2023 • Governors State University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy & Interdisciplinary Studies
2019-21, 2023- • School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Instructor, Liberal Arts
2018-2021 • Loyola University Chicago, Part-Time Faculty, Department of Philosophy, 2018-2021

Education

2018 • PhD, Philosophy, DePaul University
• Dissertation: *The Political Logic of Destituent Power: Time, Subjectivity, and Revolutionary Violence in the Philosophy of Giorgio Agamben*
• Committee: Kevin Thompson (director), Peg Birmingham (director), Richard A. Lee Jr.
2007 • M.A., Center for Theory and Criticism, University of Western Ontario
• Thesis: "Time and Intensity in Deleuze's *Difference and Repetition*"
• Committee: Alan Pero (director), Thomas Carmichael, Calin Mihalescu, Constantin V. Boundas (reader)
2004 • B.A., Philosophy, *Summa Cum Laude*, University of Oregon

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

2023 [11] Aarons, K., (2023) "Exile and Fragmentation: the New Politics of Place," *Philosophy Today*, 67:2.
[10] Aarons, K. (2023), "Genealogy of Far-Right Accelerationism," *Pólemos. Materials of Philosophy and Social Criticism*. Issue 1.
[9] Aarons, K. (2023), "'A Dance Without a Song': Revolt and Community in Furio Jesi's Late Work," *South Atlantic Quarterly* (122:1).
[8] Aarons, K. & Robinson, I. (2023), "Introduction: Three Registers of Destitution," *South Atlantic Quarterly* (122:1).
• Translated into Spanish as "Introducción: Tres registros de la destitución" *Plebs invicta* (2023).
2022 [7] Aarons, K. & Guercio, F. (2022) "'The willing animal to whom nature must conform,'" afterword to Reiner Schürmann, *Modern Philosophies of the Will* (Zurich: Diaphanes).

- 2020 [6] Aarons, K., (2020) “Destitution and Creation: Agamben’s Messianic Gesture,” *Journal of Italian Philosophy*, Vol. 2.
- Translated into Italian by Francesco Guercio as “Destituzione e Creazione: Il Gesto Messianico di Agamben,” *Laboratorio Archeologia Filosofica* (2021).
- 2019 [5] Aarons, K. (2019) “Myth and Politics in Furio Jesi,” *Theory & Event*, 22.4.
- [4] Aarons, K. (2019) “Cruel Festivals: Furio Jesi and the Critique of Political Autonomy,” *Theory & Event*, 22.4.
- Translated into Italian by Federico Della Sala as “Festa Crudeli: Furio Jesi e la Critica dell’Autonomia Politica,” *Laboratorio Archeologia Filosofica* (2021).
- 2013 [3] Aarons, K. (2013), “Cartographies of Capture,” *Theory & Event*, 16.2.
- 2012 [2] Aarons, K. (2012), “The Involuntarist Image of Thought,” in François Zourabichvili, *Deleuze: A Philosophy of the Event*, (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press).
- 2011 [1] Aarons, K., & Chamayou, G. (2011) “Contradictions,” in Coll., *The Wire. Reconstitution Collectif* (Paris: Capricci éditions / Les Prairies ordinaires).

EDITED BOOKS AND JOURNAL TOPICS

- 2023 [3] Special Issue of *South Atlantic Quarterly* on “Destituent Power,” (122:1), January 2023. Edited by Kieran Aarons and Idris Robinson. Includes articles by Kieran Aarons, Giorgio Agamben, Mikkel Bolt Rasmussen, Philippe Blouin, Luhuna Carvalho, Rodrigo Karmy, Sam Law, Katherine Nelson, Idris Robinson, and Stephanie Wakefield.
- Roundtable panel on the issue featuring Diego Sztulwark, Rodrigo Karmy, Gerardo Muñoz, Sonali Gupta, Francesco Guercio, Kieran Aarons, and Idris Robinson, *Conversaciones a la intemperie*, March 2023. Online: <https://youtu.be/7u8Zge6I2Ko>
- 2022 [2] Reiner Schürmann, *Modern Philosophies of the Will*. Edited, translated, and with an afterword by Kieran Aarons and Francesco Guercio (Zurich: Diaphanes, 2022).
- 2019 [1] “Symposium on Furio Jesi,” edited and introduced by Kieran Aarons, *Theory & Event*, 22.4, October 2019. Includes articles by Kieran Aarons, Giorgio Agamben, Andrea Cavalletti, Enrico Manera, Ricardo Noronha, and Alberto Toscano.

ONLINE

- 2022 [4] Aarons, K. (2022), “The Silos of History: Remarks on Romain Gavras’ *Athena*,” *Hard Crackers*.
- [3] Aarons, K. & Cédrine Michel, “Fighting Dirty,” *Verso Books* blog, August 2022.
- 2016 [2] Aarons, K. (2016), “No Selves to Abolish: Afropessimism, Anti-politics, and the End of the World,” *Mute Magazine*.
- Translated into Danish as “Intet selv at afskaffe: afropessimisme, anti-politik og verdens ende,” *Fredag Aften* (2020).
- 2014 [1] Aarons, K. & Lulu (2014), “Dispatches from the O-platz Eviction,” *Upping the Anti*, Vol. 16.

BOOKS TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH

- 2022 [3] Elsa Dorlin, *Self-Defense. A Philosophy of Violence* (New York: Verso, 2022). Co-translated with Cédrine Michel.
- Winner, French-American Foundation Translation Prize, 2023.
- 2015 [2] Nicholas Nova & Joel Vacheron, *Dadabot: An Introduction to Machinic Creolization* (Morges: ID Pure, 2015).
- 2015 [1] François Zourabichvili, *Deleuze: A Philosophy of the Event, Together with The Vocabulary of Deleuze* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2012). Translated by Kieran Aarons; co-edited with Dan Smith and Gregg Lambert. Includes a translator’s introduction.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH

- 2020 [9] Jérôme Baschet, “History is No Longer on Our Side,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, *Mute Magazine* (2020).
- 2019 [8] Elsa Dorlin, “What a Body Can Do,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, *Radical Philosophy*, February 2019.
- 2018 [7] Mauvaise Troupe, “Cortège de Tête,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, in *Riots and Militant Occupations. Smashing a System, Building a World. A Critical Introduction*, Edited by Alissa Starodub and Andrew Robinson (Rowman & Littlefield), 2018.
- 2017 [6] François Zourabichvili, “Deleuze and the Possible: on Involuntarism in Politics,” Translated by Kieran Aarons and Caitlyn Doyle, *Theory & Event*, 20.1, 2017.
- 2015 [5] Claus Gunti, “The Photograph in the Age of Mechanical Production and Automated Diffusion,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, in Claus Gunti, *60 Nights* (Laurence Kubski /ECAL), 2015.
- [4] Joël Vacheron, “Alpha (Predatory) Vision,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, *Verities*, Vol. 4, January 2015.
- 2014 [3] Grégoire Chamayou, “Patterns of Life: A Very Short History of Schematic Bodies,” Translated by Kieran Aarons and Léopold Lambert, *The Funambulist Papers* (Online), December 2014.
- 2013 [2] Grégoire Chamayou, “Fichte’s Passport: A Philosophy of the Police,” Translated by Kieran Aarons, *Theory & Event*, 16, 2013.
- 2010 [1] Grégoire Chamayou, “Every Move Will Be Recorded: A Machinic Police Utopia of the Eighteenth Century,” Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, October 2010.

Forthcoming & In Progress

- A monograph titled *Furio Jesi: Political Myth and the Phenomenology of Violence* (planned completion Fall/Winter 2024-2025).
- Editing, with Nicholas Schneider, a collection of writing by Reiner Schürmann, under the title *The Place of the Symbolic*. (Zurich: Diaphanes). Includes an extensive afterword co-authored by the editors.
- “Anarchy After Schürmann,” for *Philosophy Today* 68, no. 4 (Fall 2024).
- An interview with Giorgio Agamben for *Philosophy Today* 68, no. 4 (Fall 2024). Conducted with Ian Alexander Moore, Francesco Guercio, and Nicholas Schneider.
- A review of François Zourabichvili’s *Spinoza’s Paradoxical Conservatism*.

Awards & Fellowships

- 2023 • French American Foundation Translation Prize, Winner (Non-fiction).
- 2013-14 • Fulbright Research Scholarship, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.
- 2012-13 • German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Fellowship, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 2012 • German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Summer Language Grant, Berlin.
- 2007-10 • Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship.
- 2005-06 • Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Master’s Fellowship.
- 2009 • Richardson Fellowship to conduct translation in Paris.

Presentations

Ecology and the Philosophy of Place

- 9/2023 • “Constructing the Site of Politics,” Pacific Association for Continental Thought.
- 2/2021 • “Exile and Fragmentation,” Radical Philosophy Association Panel, American Philosophical Association (Central Division), Online.
- 11/2021 • “Defensive Construction and the Place of Politics” Radical Philosophy Association.
• “Infrastructures of Passion: Fourier Today” International Society for the Study of Surrealism (co-authored with Hugh Farrell).
- 2/2020 • “The New Politics of Place,” Radical Philosophy Association Panel, American Philosophical Association (Central Division), Chicago.

Philosophy of Neo-Fascism

- 6/2023 • “The Continuation of War by Religious Means,” Society for Italian Philosophy
- 04/2023 • “What is Fascist Accelerationism?,” Invited talk, University of Texas at Austin.
- 11/2022 • “Spiritual Luxury and Sacrificial Acceleration: Italian Philosophy and the Semiology of Fascism,” Radical Philosophy Association.
- 6/2022 • “From Wordless Language to the Construction of Worlds: Lessons from Furio Jesi’s *Cultura di destra*,” Society for Italian Philosophy.

Political Myth and the Phenomenology of Violence

- 11/2021 • “A Dance Without a Song: Furio Jesi and the Post-Mythological Festival,” Society for Italian Philosophy.
- 10/2018 • “From Insurrection to Destitution: Jesi, Agamben, and the Limits of Suspended Time,” Riot as a Global Political Concept, Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Argentina
- 11/2017 • “Ten Theses for a Post-Mythological Politics,” Invited talk, Transformations of Critical Theory, Northwestern University.
- 10/2017 • “Furio Jesi and the Aporia of Insurrection,” Hospitality and its Other, Southern Illinois University.
- 4/2017 • “The Destituent Pledge,” The Big No, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.
- 3/2017 • “What is an Oath?” Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Graduate Conference, DePaul University.

Populism and New Constructions of Political Subjectivity

- 3/2021 • “Is there a Revolutionary Use of Law? Fanon, Agamben, and Laclau on Insurrection and Civil War,” Closeness in Distance Colloquium, Indiana University.
- 02/2021 • “Reply to Onward Barbarians,” Invited talk, Roundtable on *Endnotes*, Crisis Party Working Group, Berlin.
- 10/2019 • “Elements of Destituent Power in France’s Yellow Vest Movement,” Association for Political Theory Conference, University of California at Irvine.
- 05/2019 • “Ecstatic Populism,” Invited talk, Emergent Horizons (NAASN), Atlanta.
- 01/2019 • “The Construction of Popular Power in the Yellow Vest Protests,” Invited talk, Indiana University Bloomington.

Dialogues between Afropessimism, Feminism, and Marxism

- 4/2016 • “Destituting Humanism,” The Essentialism That is Not One Philosophy Conference, New School for Social Research, NYC.
- 5/2015 • “No Selves to Abolish,” philoSOPHIA Conference, Emory University.
- 4/2014 • “Incommensurable forces, Non-Dialectical Practices: Afropessimism and the Crisis of the Existential Commons,” Futures of Black Studies Conference, Bremen Universität.
- 10/2013 • “Expropriation and Social Death: Class, Race, and the Slave Relation in Theory and Practice,” Marx 2013 Conference, Stockholm.
- 11/2012 • “Primitive Accumulation, Immigration, and the Rights of the Dispossessed,” 9th Annual *Historical Materialism* Conference, London.
- 5/2013 • “Feminism, Afropessimism, and the History of Predatory Power,” Invited talk, Centro de Documentación y Estudios Avanzados de Arte Contemporáneo (CENDEAC), Murcia, Spain.
- 2/2013 • “Afropessimism Contra Marxism? On the Question of Social Death in Politics,” Invited talk, Crisis Party Working Group, Berlin.

The “Right of Necessity” in Kant, Hegel, and Marx

- 10/2011 • “Liberalism and the Question of Theft,” Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, Baltimore.
- 4/2011 • “Hegel, Marx, and the Question of Theft,” ‘The Spirit of Capital’ Conference, the New School for Social Research, New York.
- “Theft, Law, and Liberalism,” 11th Annual Philosophy Conference, University of Toronto.
- 3/2011 • “On the Right of Extreme Necessity and the Concept of Class Struggle,” DePaul University.
- 11/2010 • “‘Necessity Has No Law’: *Notrecht* and the Logic of Exception,” Radical Philosophy Association Meeting, University of Oregon.

Ontology and Politics in the Philosophy of Deleuze

- 2/2012 • “The Economy of Affect and the Category of the ‘Intolerable’ in Political Philosophy,” Invited talk, Radical Philosophy Association Panel, American Philosophical Association (A.P.A.), Central Division, Chicago.
- 6/2012 • “Involuntarism and the Critique of Truth in the Work of François Zourabichvili,” 5th International Deleuze Studies Conference, New Orleans.
- 5/2012 • “After Ontology: François Zourabichvili’s Deleuze,” International Deleuze Conference, Kaifeng, Henan, China.
- 8/2011 • “‘Claws of Absolute Necessity’: Deleuze and the Involuntarist Image of Thought,” Invited talk, Potentiality and Normativity Colloquium, Université de Montréal.
- 4/2011 • “There Is No ‘Ontology of Deleuze’: Irrationalism, Illogicism, and the Order of Reasons,” 16th Annual Philosophy Conference, Villanova University.
- 7/2010 • “Dialectics of Multiplicity,” 3rd International Deleuze Studies Conference, Utrecht University, Amsterdam.
- 4/2010 • “Deleuze, *Tiqqun*, and the Concept of Secession,” 4th Biennial Philosophy and Literature Conference, Purdue University.
- 10/2009 • “Unlivable Milieux,” Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy, London, October 2009.
- 3/2008 • “A More Tortuous Labyrinth: Repetition Beyond Representation,” 10th Annual Graduate Conference at the University of Western Ontario, London.
- 10/2007 • “Synthesis and Paradox in Deleuze’s *Logic of Sense*,” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Chicago.

Violence in/as Communication in Simondon, Sloterdijk, and Bataille

- 6/2009 • “Simondon, Sloterdijk, and the Weaponization of the Pre-Individual,” International Association of Philosophy and Literature, London, UK.
- 3/2006 • “The Other and the Impossible. Bataille on Communication,” American Comparative Literature Association, Princeton.
- 4/2006 • “On the Materialist Concept of Communication in Georges Bataille,” 8th Annual Graduate Conference, University of Western Ontario, London.

Campus Talks, Panels, and Comments

- 5/2013 • “Entrevista sobre ‘Las cazas del hombre,’” Centro de Documentación y Estudios Avanzados de Arte Contemporáneo.
- 2/2012 • “Immigration, Primitive Accumulation, and Occupy,” Casa Atlán, Chicago.
- 4/2010 • “Subjectification in the Metropolis,” Respondent, 17th Annual Graduate Student Conference, DePaul University.
- 4/2009 • “Deleuze & Guattari’s Philosophy of the State,” Liberal Arts and Sciences Conference, DUOS, C. Ford, DePaul University.

Teaching

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

- 2023 • Health Care Ethics (Beauchamp and Childress, Canguilhem)

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

- 2021-23 • Political Philosophy (*Plato, Rousseau, Mill, Habermas, J. Cohen, Wolin, Graeber*)
- Ethics in Healthcare (*Beauchamp and Childress, Canguilhem*)
- Introduction to Ethics (*Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Dostoevsky, Sartre, Beauvoir, Butler*)
- Interdisciplinary Humanities: Nature, Freedom, Survival (*Aristotle, Las Casas, Hobbes, Rousseau, Mill, Pateman, Mills, Chamayou, Federici, O. Butler, Latour*)
- Interdisciplinary Ethics (*Le Guin, Rachels, Kant, Mill, Aristotle, Held, Dorlin, Marx, Crenshaw, Martinot, Alcoff, A. Davis, et al.*)

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

- 2019-23 • Democratic Theories (*Plato, Rousseau, Mill, Habermas, Rancière, Wolin, Young, Hardt/Negri*)
- Anarchism (*Clastres, Scott, Bakunin, Goldman, de Cleyre, Orwell, Kropotkin, Landauer, Voline, Bookchin, Marcuse, Graeber, Milstein, Katsiaficas, etc.*)

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

- 2019-21 • Business Ethics (*Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Marx, Solomon, Bowie, Illich, Graeber*)
- Ethics (*Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Russell, Sartre, Arendt*)
- Social and Political Philosophy: Problems in Democracy (*Plato, Aristotle, Rousseau, Mill, Habermas, Young, Rancière, Wolin, Negri*)
- Social and Political Philosophy: Human Nature and Sovereignty (*Aristotle, Locke, Hobbes, Nietzsche, Foucault*)

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

- 2009-18 • Biomedical Ethics (*Beauchamp and Childress, Canguilhem*)

- Business Ethics (*Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Marx, Solomon, Bowie, Illich, Graeber*)
- Love, Hatred & Resentment (*Plato, Hobbes, Spinoza, Kant, Nietzsche*)
- Existentialism (*Dostoevsky, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, Beauvoir*)
- What is Freedom? (*Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, Tiqqun*)
- Philosophy and its Issues (*Aristotle, Las Casas, Kant, Hegel, Foucault*)
- Philosophy and Multiculturalism: Race, Class, and Gender

Service

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

- 05/2021 • “Reading Reiner Schürmann,” Heidegger/Modernity Conference, University of Chicago. Organizer and panel discussant.
- 11/2020 • *The Undercommons and Destituent Power: Between Pandemic and Revolt*, Indiana University Bloomington. Conference organizer and panel discussant.
- 03/2012 • *Spaces of Capital*, DePaul University, March 2012. Conference organizer and panel discussant.

EDITORSHIP AND MANUSCRIPT REVIEWING

- 2020, 2023 • Manuscript reviewer, *Theory & Event*
- 2012, 2022 • Manuscript reviewer, *Deleuze Studies*
- 2022 • Manuscript editing, *Diaphanes Press*
- 2019 • Manuscript reviewer, *Endnotes*
- 2011-2021 • Advisory Editorial Board, *Upping the Anti: A Journal of Theory and Action*, 2011-2021

UNDERGRADUATE SUPERVISION

- 2008-2017 DePaul Doctoral and Undergraduate Opportunities for Scholarships (DUOS) grant (4x)
 - K. Klein (on Deleuze), 2016-17
 - A. Polich (on Agamben), 2015-16
 - C. Hunton (on Foucault and neoliberalism), 2011-12
 - C. Ford (on Deleuze & Guattari), 2008-09

Languages

English (*native*) • French (*fluent*) • German (*advanced reading*) • Italian (*reading*)

References

- Kevin Thompson
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- Peg Birmingham
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- Grégoire Chamayou
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- Dan Smith

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- Richard A. Lee, Jr.

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- Ben Almassi

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