

# CHRIS GORTMAKER

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Teaching Fellow in the Department of English Language and Literatures and in the College,  
University of Chicago, 2024-

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., English Language and Literature, University of Chicago, June 2024

B.A. (Honors), English Major, Wesleyan University, 2017

## DISSERTATION

“The Market Architecture of Modernist Fiction”

Dissertation Committee: Kenneth Warren (University of Chicago) and Nicholas Brown  
(University of Illinois at Chicago)

“The Market Architecture of Modernist Fiction” explores how a modernist principle of aesthetic autonomy emerges in antagonism to fin-de-siècle processes of marketization and persists today within cultural forms subsumed by the market.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Now in 4-D: The Art of Genre Fiction,” revised and resubmitted to *Modernism/modernity*.

“Mary Ellen Solt: Concretizing 1968,” *nonsite*, no. 39 (2022).

## BOOK REVIEWS

“Totality Beyond Class: The Limits of Value Criticism,” with Jake Burchard, review of *Totality Inside Out: Rethinking Crisis and Conflict Under Capital*, ed. Kevin Floyd, Jen Hedler Phillis, and Sarika Chandra, *Mediations* 36, (forthcoming).

Review of *The South: Jim Crow and its Afterlives*, by Adolph L. Reed Jr., *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association* 55, no. 1 (forthcoming).

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Two Bullfights: Race and Aesthetic Judgement in Ernest Hemingway and Claude McKay,” paper to be presented at panel “100 Years of *Three Stories and Ten Poems* (1923) and *In Our Time* (1924),” *American Literature Association*, Chicago. May 23-26, 2024.

“Primitive Color: Claude McKay and the Roots of Aesthetically Sociological Autonomy,” paper to be presented at the seminar “Uprootings: Autochthony, Race, and the Literature of Place,” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Montreal. March 14-17, 2024.

“‘Like Art vanishing into architecture:’ Barbara Stauffacher Solomon’s Wall-Text Modernism,” paper presented at panel “21st Century (Ir)realisms,” *Modern Language Association*, Philadelphia. January 7, 2024.

“McKay, Modernism, Blackness, Autonomy,” paper presented at seminar “The Legacies and Afterlives of Black Modernism,” *Modernist Studies Association*, Brooklyn. October 27, 2023.

“Barbara Stauffacher Solomon’s Supergraphics and the Contemporaneity of Modernism,” paper presented at panel “Precarious Forms,” *Modernist Studies Association*, Brooklyn. October 29, 2023.

“Jennifer Egan’s Modernist Sequel,” paper presented at the 20th and 21st Century Cultures Workshop, University of Chicago, October 10, 2023.

“The Art of Genre Fiction,” paper presented at panel “‘The Social Hieroglyphic:’ Modernist Reading Practices and their Afterlives,” *Northeast Modern Language Association*, Niagara Falls. March 25, 2023.

“The Autographic: On the Fin-de-Siècle Emergence of the ‘Genre Turn,’” paper presented at panel “Genre Theory Today,” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Chicago. March 19, 2023.

“The House of Sequels: Architectures of Modernist Fiction from Henry James to Jennifer Egan,” paper presented at panel “The Modernist Artwork, Then and Now,” *Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture*, University of Louisville. February 23, 2023.

“Premise, Sequel, History: On the Novelistic Art of the ‘Genre Turn,’” paper presented at seminar on “Periodization, the Present, and Literary Form,” *Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers*, Yale University. October 22, 2022.

Invited response paper to “The Reader’s Share,” paper presented by Davis Smith-Brecheisen at the Newberry Library Seminar in American Literature, Chicago. October 20, 2021.

“Mary Ellen Solt, Concretizing 1968,” paper presented at the 20th & 21st Century Cultures Workshop, University of Chicago. October 19, 2020.

#### CONFERENCES AND PANELS CONVENED

“The Modernist Artwork, Then and Now,” panel convened at *The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture*, Louisville. February 23, 2023.

*What is Left? Class Analysis and the Present Crisis*, conference convened at the University of Chicago. May 7-8, 2021.

## TEACHING

Instructor, *Hypnotic Modernism: Literature, Psychology, Automaticity*

Department of English, University of Chicago, Winter 2023

Course Assistant, *Fundamentals of Literary Criticism*

Department of English, University of Chicago, Spring 2022

Course Assistant, *History of the Novel*

Department of English, University of Chicago, Fall 2021

Course Assistant, *Inventing Consciousness: Literature, Philosophy, Psychology*

Department of English, University of Chicago, Spring 2021

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Coordinator, 20th & 21st Century Cultures Workshop, University of Chicago. 2021 - 2023.

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Affiliated Doctoral Fellow at the Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago, 2023-24.

Provost Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2023-24.

Tillotson Travel Award, Department of English, University of Chicago, Fall 2022 & 2023.

Laboratory Schools Co-Teaching Fellowship, Department of English, University of Chicago, Fall 2022.

Division of the Humanities Conference Travel Grant, University of Chicago, Fall 2022 & 2023.

Research Travel Grant, Department of English, University of Chicago, Summer 2022.

Council on Advanced Studies Workshop Grant, University of Chicago, 2021, 2022.

Graduate Council Conference Grant, University of Chicago, 2021.

Doctoral Fellowship, Department of English, University of Chicago, 2018 - Present.

## PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Co-Teaching Fellowship: Literary Analysis and Writing Pedagogy, University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, Fall 2022.

Course: *Principles of Writing Pedagogy*, University of Chicago Writing Program, Spring 2021.

Course: *Teaching Undergraduate English*, University of Chicago, Fall 2020.

Formal Teaching Observations by Kenneth Warren, Maud Ellmann, and Sianne Ngai.