

Rhetoric, Violence & Evil: Connections, Reflections, Responses
University of Redlands, CA
Centre for Rhetorics & Hermeneutics
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Conference Participants

L. Greg Bloomquist

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L. Gregory Bloomquist (BA [Philosophy and Comparative Literature] Beloit College, MA [Medieval Studies] University of Toronto, MRel [New Testament] Wycliffe College, and Th.D. [New Testament] Toronto School of Theology, Wycliffe College, and the University of Toronto) is an associate professor in the Faculty of Theology at Saint Paul University (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada), a member of the Faculty of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Studies of the University of Ottawa, and a founding member of Augustine College (Ottawa). He is currently the chair of the Rhetoric and New Testament section of the Society of Biblical Literature and a member of the team organizing the commentary series, the Religious Rhetoric of Antiquity. An ordained Anglican priest, Professor Bloomquist is also the scholar-in-residence at Saint Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church (in the Diocese of Ottawa) and assists in the Episcopal Diocese of Albany.

Kathleen Kennedy

Associate Professor of History
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Kathleen Kennedy is an associate professor of history at Western Washington University. Her publications include, *Disloyal Mothers, Scurrilous Citizens: Women and Subversion During World War I* (Indiana Univ press) and *Athena's Daughters: Television's New Woman Warriors* (Syracuse Univ. Press) which she co-edited with Frances Early. She is currently researching gendered and racial violence in early America.

Joe Marchal

ABD, Biblical Studies
Graduate theological Union

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I am currently finishing work on my dissertation, tentatively titled "Reading for Many Rhetorics: A Feminist Analysis of the Letter to the Philippians." A former Newhall Fellow, I have taught at GTU's member schools and St. Mary's College of California in

Moraga and facilitated workshops on a pacifist's guide to the Bible. I have also had the good fortune of either working or studying with several feminist biblical scholars, including Anne Wire, Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, Mary Ann Tolbert, Bernadette Brooten, and Mary Rose D'Angelo. Long term, my work will hopefully continue engaging issues of feminist praxis, identity, boundaries and the role of imitation, especially as they are relevant for biblical interpretation and our increasingly neocolonial situation.

I remain active in the local chapters of the National Organization of Women and Code Pink, and is Oakland/East Bay NOW's representative to California NOW. Like thousands of others on March 20th and 21st, 2002, I was illegally detained by the San Francisco Police Department for exercising a constitutionally-protected right to assemble and protest (and on a public sidewalk, no less!).

Publications (forthcoming):

Contribution, *The Encyclopedia of Homosexuality, Religion and American Culture* (in progress)

Contribution, "The Rhetorics of Body, Politics, and Scripture" Conference (in progress).

Barry Mauer

Associate Professor of English, Media, Texts & Technology
University of Central Florida in Orlando

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Barry Jason Mauer earned his doctorate in Cultural Studies in May 1999 from the University of Florida in Gainesville. His dissertation, which was directed by Gregory Ulmer, is entitled *Cindy Sherman: The Rhetoric of Writing with the Star*, and is an argument for an arts model of pedagogy for the humanities.

Dr. Mauer was hired by the English Department at UCF as a "generalist," which he understands as a free license to do research about anything. He has devoted much of his time to interdisciplinary work with Cultural Studies, Computers and Writing, Film and Television studies, Rhetoric, Digital Media, Simulation, Drama, Scriptwriting, Post-Structuralist Theory, and Sociology/Anthropology. His areas of concentration include film theory and history, cultural studies, rhetoric and composition, computers and writing, pedagogy, and post-structuralist theory. He also has digital media, film, and video production experience. He teaches literature, screenwriting, film history, theory, digital rhetoric, and visual culture.

Pablo Muchnik

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
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Dr. Muchnik received a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina), and an MA and PhD in philosophy from the New School University (New York). His areas of specialization include Kant's critical system, ethics, modern and political philosophy. He also has a strong interest in aesthetics and social philosophy. His dissertation was on the doctrine of radical evil. Muchnik spent two years in Germany with a DAAD scholarship and was awarded several international and national awards. His publications include articles on Kant, Hobbes, and Rousseau.

Publications:

"The Fragmented Will –Kant on Evil", to be published in a volume on Value Theory edited by James Sasso, *Review Journal of Philosophy and Social Science*, Anu Books, 2004.

"Substance and the Emergence of the Cogito in Meditation II," *Review Journal of Philosophy and Social Science*, Vol. XXVIII, 2003.

"Radical Evil: Between the Trivial and the Diabolical," *Contemporary Philosophy*, Volume XXIII, No. 3 & 4, May/June & July/August, 2001.

"On the Possibility of the Language of 'Radical Evil'," *Academic Forum*, Volume X, Number 1, 2001.

"An Essay on the Principles of Rousseau's Anthropology", *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, Vol. 26, 2000.

"La Ficción Antropológica. El enigma del Otro" (*Primer Congreso de Americanistas*, Noviembre 1992. Actas del Congreso, 1994).

"Público y Privado. La Representación en Hobbes" (*Segundas Jornadas de Filosofía de la Fundación Origen*, El Pensamiento en los Umbrales del siglo XXI, Noviembre de 1992).

"El Problema de Dios en el Leviatán de Hobbes" (*Boletín de la Asociación de Estudios Hobbesianos*, N. 3, invierno, 1992).

Todd Penner

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I did my Ph.D at Emory University in New Testament and Christian Origins, completing a dissertation on ancient historiography and Acts ("In Praise of Christian Origins: Stephen and the Hellenists in Lukan Apologetic Historiography). I currently focus on analyzing early Christian texts in terms of their ancient gendered contexts. I am also developed an interested in cultural reception of the Bible in contemporary visual media, and have most recently been working with Caroline Vander Stichele on the films of Lars von Trier.

Publications:

"Early Christian Heroes and Lukan Narrative: Stephen and the Hellenists in Ancient Historiographical Perspective," in W. Braun (ed.), *Persuasion and Performance: Rhetoric and Reality in Early Christian Discourses* (Studies in Christianity and Judaism; Wilfrid Laurier Press, forthcoming).

"Civilizing Discourse: Acts, Declamation, and the Rhetoric of the Polis," in *Contextualizing Acts: Lukan Narrative and Greco-Roman Discourse* (SBLSymS 20; Atlanta: Scholars Press, 2003), 65-104.

"Madness in the Method?: The Acts of the Apostles in Current Study," *Currents in Research: Biblical Studies*, forthcoming, CBR 2.2 (2004).

"Reconfiguring the Rhetorical Study of Acts: Reflections on the Method in and Learning of a Progyrnastic Poetics," *Perspectives in Religious Studies*, forthcoming, Winter 2003.

"Res Gestae Divi Christi: Miracles, Early Christian Heroes, and the Discourse of Power in Acts," in *The Role of Miracle Discourse in the Argumentation of the New Testament* (ed. Duane F. Watson; Atlanta: SBL and Leiden: Brill, forthcoming, 2004).

Gerrie Snyman

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I studied at a lot of places: Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg, Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education (where the 2004 Rhetoric and Religion conference will be held), University of Constance at the Bodensee in Germany and the University of South Africa in Pretoria. I am currently at the University of South Africa. It is an open learning institution, meaning that the students are not taught on campus, but by means of distance education (email, books, tutorials, assignments and telephone contact). My doctoral dissertation was supervised by the late Prof. Ferdinand Deist. The dissertation title was *Biblical Hermeneutics and Reception Theory: The Authority of Biblical Texts and the Chronicler's Interpretation of the Sacred Story of the Ark*. My research interests can be broken into two areas: 1) Hermeneutics - Post-colonial criticism, African Hermeneutics, Reception criticism, Rhetorical criticism, Narratology, socio-historical criticism, Feminism; 2) Old Testament Studies - Historiography, History of Ancient Israel, Early Second Temple Period, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, The Book of Esther.

Publications:

*Telling women to be like men? Some theoretical aspects regarding the interpretation of the Bible on gender issues. *Koers* 67(1): 1-26.

*Eurocentrism and Africentrism: What is Western / African research? In C. W. du Toit (ed) *Research, identity and rationalism: Thinking about theological research in Africa*.

RITR: Pretoria. pp. 1-28.

*Rhetoric and ethics: Looking at the marks of our reading / speaking in society.

Communicatio 28(1): 39-48.

*Playing the role of perpetrator in the world of academia in South Africa. *Bulletin for Old Testament Studies in Africa*, May (Vol 12): 8-20.

*Narrative rationality, morality and readers' identification. *Old Testament Essays* 15(1): 179-199.

*The body, rhetoric and postcolonial criticism. *Religion & Theology* 9(1):63-88.

*'Who has the moral right to speak?' A reflection on a discourse within Old Testament Studies. *Old Testament Essays* 15(3).

*Who am I? The body and post-colonial criticism. *Queen, an electronic journal for rhetoric and power*. Volume 1.1. (Sex and Power: Subjection and subjectivation)

Queen/Volume11/Articles/Snyman.html

Peter Steeves

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I specialize in ethics, social/political philosophy, and phenomenology. I have been a Presidential Scholar (Ohio, 1984), a recipient of the National Society of Arts and Letters' award for literature (Indiana, 1990), a Princeton Historical Center Seminar Fellow (1998), a Fulbright Fellow (Venezuela, 1998-99), a DePaul Humanities Center Fellow (2001-02), and a recipient of the DePaul University Excellence in Teaching Award (2002). I hold the position of permanent Visiting Professor of Philosophy and Law at the University of Zulia (Venezuela), staff writer for *PopMatters: The Magazine of Global Culture*, am a regular contributor to such non-academic journals as *Conscious Choice*, and sit on the editorial board of several academic journals. Outside the university, I have been an international election observer attached to the Jimmy Carter Center, am a member of and a consultant to various bioethics hospital committees in California and the Midwest, and have been interviewed as a philosophy and/or ethics specialist by the BBC, Australian Radio National, NPR, *The Toronto Star*, *The Daily Herald*, *The Catholic New World*, *The Management Report*, *The L.A. Times* and several other newspapers and media outlets in North (and South) America. I am currently working on issues in philosophy of science and am part of a workshop group based at NASA Ames Research Center in the Astrobiology Program where the team is investigating ways in which quantum mechanics might have played a nontrivial role in the origin of life on Earth. I am presently working on a book on this topic and am engaged in developing models and experiments to test theories in this direction.

Publications:

Founding Community: A Phenomenological-Ethical Inquiry (Kluwer, 1998)

The Things Themselves: Essays in Applied Phenomenology (SUNY Press, forthcoming 2004)

Animal Others: On Ethics, Ontology, and Animal Life (SUNY Press, 1999)

The Proceedings of the Eighth Annual International Conference Promoting Business Ethics (DPG Press, 2001)

I have also published thirty book chapters and journal articles, and have presented seventy public lectures.

Caroline Vander Stichele

Biblical Studies

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I received my PhD in New Testament Studies at the University of Leuven (Belgium). My research focuses on the cultural reception of the bible in modern media and on the rhetoric of gender in biblical texts. Together with Todd Penner (Austin College, Sherman, TX) I has recently been working on the films of Lars von Trier and editing a book on Acts.

Publications:

"Gender and Genre: Acts in/of Interpretation" in *Contextualizing Acts: Lukan Narrative and Greco-Roman Discourse* (ed. T. Penner and C. Vander Stichele; SBLSymS; Atlanta: Scholars Press, 2003), 311-329.

"Blinded By Science? The Relation of Exegesis and Dogmatics: A Critical Exploration of the Issues" in *Theology Between Church, University, and Society* (ed. M.E. Brinkman, e.a.; Studies in Theology and Religion, 6; Assen: Royal Van Gorcum, 2003), 106-120.

"Murder She Wrote or Why Translation Matters. A Response to Mary Phil Korsak's 'Translating the Bible'" in *Bible Translation on the Threshold of the Twenty-First Century. Authority, Reception, Culture and Religion* (ed. A. Brenner, J.W. van Henten, JSOT.SS 353; BTC 1; London/New York: Sheffield/Continuum, 2002), 147-155.

"Murderous Mother, Ditto Daughter? Herodias and Salome According to the Bible, Massenet, Flaubert and Strauss" in *lectio difficilior* nr.4, 2001 (www.lectio.unibe.ch)

"Apocalypse, Art and Abjection. Images of the Great Whore" in *Culture, Entertainment and the Bible* (ed. G. Aichele; JSOT. Suppl. Series 309; Sheffield, 2000), 214-138.