

## **Suzanne E. Smith**

Department of History and Art History  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
E-mail: smisuze@gmu.edu

### **Education**

Yale University  
Ph.D. in American Studies, 1996.

Carnegie Mellon University  
M.A. in English, 1988.

University of California, Los Angeles  
B.A. in Communication Studies, Magna Cum Laude, 1986.

### **Employment**

#### **George Mason University**

Professor, Department of History and Art History, August 2011 to Present

Associate Professor, Department of History and Art History, August 2001 to July 2011

Assistant Professor, Department of History and Art History, August 1996-July 2001.

Instructor, Department of History, August 1995-July 1996.

#### **Wesleyan University**

Instructor, "The Civil Rights Movement and the Culture Industry," Spring 1993

#### **Yale University**

Instructor, "The Civil Rights Movement and the Culture Industry," Fall 1994/Fall 1992

Teaching Fellow, "Formation of Modern American Culture: 1920-1980," Spring 1992

Teaching Fellow, "Introduction to Film Studies," Fall 1990

#### **Carnegie Mellon University**

Instructor, "Introduction to Drama, Fiction, and Poetry," Fall 1988/Spring 1989

### **Publications**

#### **Books**

*To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*,  
(Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2010).

*"Dancing in the Street": Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*,  
(Harvard University Press, 1999).

#### **Articles, Essays, Blog Posts**

"African American Religious Identities in the Twentieth Century," [\*The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Race in American History\*](#), Paul Harvey and Kathryn Gin Lum, Editors  
(Oxford University Press, 2018).

"Tuning into the 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Researching the Radio Career of Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux," *Sounding Out! Sounds Studies Blog*, March 5, 2015.  
<http://soundstudiesblog.com/2015/03/05/tuning-into-the-happy-am-i-preacher-researching-the-radio-career-of-elder-lightfoot-solomon-michaux/>

"Where Did Our Love Go?': Contemplating the Life and Death of Motown and the Motor City," *Michigan Quarterly Review*, (Vol. XLIX, No. 4, Fall 2010).

"To Serve the Living: The Public and Civic Identity of African-American Funeral Directors" in *Public Culture: Diversity, Democracy, and Community in the United States*. Marguerite S. Schaffer, Editor (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008).

"Laid Out in Big Mama's Kitchen': African Americans and the Personalized Theme Funeral," in *American Behavioral History*. Peter N. Stearns, Editor (New York University Press, 2005).

"Boogie Chillen': Uncovering Detroit's African American Cultural History." *Michigan Historical Review* 27:1 (Spring 2001): 93-107.

"Motown" in *Africana: The Encyclopedia of the African and African-American Experience*. Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates, Editors (Basic Civitas Books, 1999).

"The Civil Rights Era" in *The African American Experience*. Part of *The American Journey on CD ROM Series*. Michele Stepto, General Editor. (Research Publications International, 1995).

"Please Correct Me, If I'm Wrong': Teaching Civil Rights and Race Relations in the Age of the Politically Correct" in *Teaching a New Canon*, James Hall and Bruce Goebel, Editors. (National Council of the Teachers of English, 1995).

### **Book Excerpts**

"The Political Culture of Detroit" in *Major Problems in African American History*, Volume II. Thomas C. Holt and Elsa Barkley Brown, Editors (Houghton Mifflin, 2000).

### **Reviews**

"Review of Lara Leigh Kelland's *Clio's Foot Soldiers: Twentieth-Century U.S. Social Movements and Collective Memory*," *Journal of American History*, Volume 106, Issue 2, September 2019: 530-531.

"Review of Craig Thompson Friend's and Lorri Glover's, *Death and the American South*," *American Historical Review*, Vol. 121, No. 2, April 2016: 553-555.

"Review of Keith A. Mayes's *Kwanzaa: Black Power and the Making of the African-American Holiday Tradition*." *American Historical Review*, Vol. 116, No. 2, April 2011: 485-486.

"Review of Derek Valliant's *Sounds of Reform: Progressivism and Music in Chicago, 1873-1935*." *Social History*, Vol. 30, No. 4, November 2005.

"Review of Jerma A. Jackson's *Singing in My Soul: Black Music in a Secular Age*." *Journal of American History*, Vol. 92, No. 2, September 2005.

"Review of Randy D. McBee's *Dance Hall Days: Intimacy and Leisure among Working-Class Immigrants in the United States*." *Journal of Social History*, Vol. 38, No. 1, Fall 2004: 244-246.

"Review of Alice Echols's *Scars of Sweet Paradise: The Life and Times of Janis Joplin*." *Journal of American History*, Vol. 88, No. 3, December 2001.

"Review of William Van Deburg's *Black Camelot: African American Culture Heroes in Their Times, 1960-1980*." *Journal of American History*, Vol. 87, No. 1, June 2000.

"'Purchase Power'?: The False Promise of African American Consumerism." *H-Net Reviews*, [www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews](http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews), January 1999.

"Discovering Difference: Contemporary Essays In American Culture." *Criticism*, Vol. 37, No. 1, Winter 1995.

"Beyond Blackface: Three Books by Donald Bogle." *Off-Hollywood Report: The Magazine of the Independent Feature Project*, Vol. 5/No. 6, Winter 1990/1991.

### **Fellowships, Honors, and Awards**

#### **Fellowships and Grants**

National Endowment for the Humanities, Research Fellowship, July 2013-July 2014

Faculty Study Leave, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, George Mason University, January 2012-July 2012

National Endowment for the Humanities, Research Fellowship, July 2006-July 2007

Faculty Study Leave, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, George Mason University, July 2003-December 2003

Spencer Library Travel Grant, University of Kansas, October 2002

Mathy Junior Faculty Award, George Mason University, Fall 1998

Participant, NEH Summer Institute on the History of Death in America,  
Columbia University, 1998

Pew Foundation Summer Fellowship, Yale University, 1994

Bentley Library Travel Fellowship, University of Michigan, 1993

Henry P. Kaiser Travel Fellowship, Wayne State University, 1993

John P. Enders Travel Grant, Yale University, 1993

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, 1987-1991

#### **Honors and Prizes**

Finalist, *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, Virginia Literary Awards, Non-Fiction, Library of Virginia, October 2011

Organization of American Historians, Distinguished Lecturer, 2011 to present

Martin Luther King Jr., César Chavez, Rosa Parks Visiting Professorship, University of Michigan, October 2001

Teaching Excellence Award, George Mason University, Spring 2001

Finalist, *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, Association for Recorded Sound Collections: Awards for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research, Category: Best Research in Record Labels or Manufacturers, June 2001

Honorable Mention, *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, 1999-2000 John Hope Franklin Publication Prize, sponsored by the American Studies Association

Ralph Gleason Music Book Award, *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, sponsored by *Rolling Stone* magazine, BMI, and New York University, Third Prize, August 2000

Finalist, Sonneck Society for American Music Dissertation Prize, 1997

Phi Alpha Theta, Yale University, 1990

Phi Beta Kappa, University of California, Los Angeles, 1986

Alpha Lambda Delta, University of California, Los Angeles, 1983

### **Public History**

Consultant, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Digitization Division, Gospel Spreading Church of God Project, January 2017 to present.

Research Associate, Radio Preservation Task Force, Recorded Sound Preservation Board, Library of Congress, July 2014 - Present  
Working to identify and preserve non-commercial radio broadcasts with a particular emphasis on African American religious broadcasts.

Consultant, *History Detectives* television program, PBS, Season 10, Episode 2, "Motown Amp" segment, first aired July 24, 2012.

NEH Adviser, *American Routes* radio program, National Public Radio, July 2009-January 2011  
Consultant to the program including suggestions for topics and artists, musical selections, script review and other questions of historical context.

Consultant, ARO/Rockwell Group Architects, February 2003  
Consulted with ARO/Rockwell Group Architects to design their winning entry in the architectural competition to design a Motown Center and Museum in Detroit, Michigan.

Consultant, Library of Congress, Music Division, July 1998-July 2001.  
Coordinated a "Motown Evening" at the Library of Congress, November 20, 1998;  
assisted with the creation of an oral history archive of rhythm and blues music in the Library's Music Division.

Academic Adviser, Blackside Productions, 1996-1997.  
Consultant for the PBS series, *I'll Make Me A World*, which premiered in February 1999.  
The series presents the history of African American arts and music in the twentieth century.

Research Assistant for Peace River Films, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1991-1992.  
Research and academic consultant for the film, *Rachel Carson's Silent Spring*, for the PBS "American Experience" Series, which premiered in February 1993

## Presentations

### Invited Talks

“Discussion of *To Serve The Living* during the COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter,” Caribbean Book Club, Pittsburgh, PA, ZOOM meeting, July 11, 2020.

Moderator, “Grief, Mourning, Race and National Memorial: A Conversation with the Editors of *Till Death Do Us Part*,” University of Mississippi Press 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book Series, [Online Meeting](#), June 30, 2020.

“1619-1919-2019: Reflections on the Historical Legacy of Elder Michaux,” Gospel Spreading Church of God Centennial Homecoming Celebration, Newport News, Virginia, November 23, 2019.

“Everybody Welcome!: Elder Michaux’s Ministry in Jim Crow Virginia,” Gospel Spreading Church of God Centennial Convocation, Newport News, Virginia, August 9, 2019.

“Spirit in the Digital: Audio and Film Conservancy and African American Religion,” Spirit in the Dark: A Symposium to Commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of James Cone’s Groundbreaking Publication, *Black Theology and Black Power*, University of Virginia, March 30, 2019.

“To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death,” Black History Month Symposium, University of the District of Columbia, February 23, 2015.

“Dancing in the Street: The Politics of Motown Music,” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, George Mason University, February 12, 2014.

“To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death,” New Jersey State Funeral Directors Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, September 18-19, 2012

“To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death,” Black History Month Lecture, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Washington, D.C., Feb. 11, 2012.

“To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death,” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, George Mason University, January 27, 2012.

“My Man’s an Undertaker: Funeral Directors in the African American Cultural Imagination,” *Lost and Found Stories: 100 Years of Leadership and Courage in Black Northern Virginia Symposium*, George Mason University, November 12, 2011.

“The ‘Happy Am I’ Preacher: The Entrepreneurial Vision of Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux,” Religion and the Marketplace in the United States Conference, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, The University of Heidelberg, October 6, 2011.

“My Man’s an Undertaker: Funeral Directors in the African American Cultural Imagination,” Russell B. Nye Distinguished Lecture, American Studies Program, Michigan State University, March 16, 2011.

“Money, That’s What I Want: Motown and the History of Black Capitalism in the Music Industry,” Temple University, American Studies Program, February 22, 2011.

- "My Man's an Undertaker': Funeral Directors in the African American Cultural Imagination," GMU Vision Series Lecture, Hylton Performing Arts Center, November 9, 2010.
- "To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death," National Funeral Directors Association Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana, October 10, 2010.
- "The Role of History in African American Funeral Service," National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association Convention, Keynote Address, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, August 2, 2010.
- "My Man's an Undertaker': Funeral Directors in the African American Cultural Imagination," History Workshop, Department of History, University of Delaware, March 23, 2010.
- "Where Did Our Love Go?': Contemplating the Life and Death of Motown and the Motor City," Public lecture, Motown Symposium: "Growing Up Motown: Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson and the Making of Motown," University of Michigan, February 19, 2010.
- "My Man's an Undertaker," Lawrence W. Levine Faculty Seminar, Department of History and Art History, George Mason University, December 4, 2009.
- "Dancing in the Street: The Politics of Motown Music," Public lecture, Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts, October 23, 2009.
- "Can't Forget the Motor City': Remembering Detroit's Past Through Its Music," National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington D.C., October 4, 2006.
- "The Happening': the Supremes and Civil Disorder," Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland, Ohio, May 26, 2004.
- "To Serve the Living: A Cultural History of African American Funeral Directors," Black Cultural Studies Faculty Lecture Series, Tufts University, March 26, 2003.
- "Recording Memories, Making History: Motown and Detroit," Cranbrook Art Institute, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, January 18, 2002.
- "The Happening': The Supremes and Civil Disorder," Detroit's Tricentennial Lecture Series, University of Michigan, October 12, 2001.
- "Motown and Detroit: An Overview," Carter G. Woodson Center, University of Virginia, April 21, 2001.
- "Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit," Detroit's Tricentennial Celebration/Defining Detroit Lecture Series, Marygrove College, Detroit, Michigan, October 11, 2000.
- "Motown and Detroit: The Urban Struggle for Civil Rights," NEH Summer Seminar: The Civil Rights Movement: History and Consequences, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University, July 24, 2000.
- "A Cultural History of Death in America," Smithsonian Associates Program, Washington, D.C., April 9, 2000.
- "The Happening': The Supremes and Civil Disorder," The New Afro-Americanists Lecture Series, Center for the Study of Black Literature and Culture, University of Pennsylvania, April 5, 2000.

"Motown and the Motor City: The Urban Origins of the Motown Sound," *Detroit Free Press* Staff Seminar, Detroit, Michigan, March 13, 2000.

"Motown and Detroit's Role in the Civil Rights Struggle," NEH Summer Seminar: The Civil Rights Movement: History and Consequences, co-presentation with Thomas Sugrue, University of Pennsylvania, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University, July 23, 1999.

"'Money That's What I Want': Motown Records, Black Capitalism, and Black Freedom in Detroit," Hagley Research Seminar, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Delaware, Feb. 12, 1998.

"Motown and the Motor City: The Urban Origins of the Motown Sound," Public Lecture, Library of Congress and the Association of Recorded Sound Collectors, Nov. 19, 1997.

"Taking It to the Streets: African American Studies and Community Service," African American Studies Faculty Lecture Series, George Mason University, Sept. 1997.

"Without a Song: The Reverend C.L. Franklin, Motown Records and Detroit's 'Great March To Freedom'," American Religious History Luncheon, Yale University, March 27, 1995.

### **Conference Papers**

"Blessed at the Ballpark: Elder Michaux's Griffith Stadium Big Baptizing Service," DC History Conference, University of the District of Columbia, November 22, 2019.

Commentator, "Session 4.1: African American Digital Projects," Current Research in Digital History 2019 Conference, George Mason University, Arlington Campus, March 9, 2019.

"The Future is Now: Lessons Learned from Three Digital Dissertations in History," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, January 3, 2019.

"Digital Preservation and the 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux's Radio Church of God Archive," Intentionally Digital, Intentionally Black, African American Digital Humanities Initiative Conference, University of Maryland, October 19, 2018.

Participant, "The Spirit Travels: Understanding Race, Ethnicity, and Nationhood through Religious Biography Roundtable," American Society of Church History Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 5, 2018.

"Preserving the Audio History of the 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux's Radio Church of God Digital Archive," Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, Library of Congress, November 4, 2017.

Participant, "On Writing Religious Leadership: A Roundtable Discussion on Religious Biography," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island, April 10, 2016.

"The 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux, the First International Radio Evangelist," Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, Library of Congress, February 26, 2016.

"The National Memorial to the Progress of the Colored Race in America Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux and the Commemoration of Slavery in Virginia," Virginia Forum, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, March 13, 2015.

- Commentator, "Till Death Do Us Part: Ethnic Cemeteries as Borders Uncrossed in Nineteenth Century America," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 11, 2014.
- "The 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux and the Birth of Radio Evangelism," DC Historical Studies Conference, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., November 16, 2013.
- Commentator, "Theorizing Debt, Theorizing Resistance," American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., November 22, 2013.
- "The Global Mission of Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux's Radio Church of God," Organization of American Historians Conference, San Francisco, California, April 12, 2013.
- "The 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux and the Birth of Radio Evangelism," Religion and American Life Conference, King's College, London, England, February 23, 2013.
- Commentator, "Men of Sorrow: Science, Sympathy, and the Creation of the Death-Care Professional, 1880-1930," presented by Kelly Arehart, Hagley Research Seminar Series, March 15, 2012.
- "The Global Vision of Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux's Radio Church of God," The Globalization of African American Business and Consumer Culture Workshop, German Historical Institute, February 24-25, 2012
- "The 'Happy Am I' Preacher: Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux—Evangelist and Entrepreneur," American Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, October 21, 2011.
- "The 'Happy Am I' Preacher: The Entrepreneurial Vision of Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux," Religion and the U.S. Marketplace Conference, University of Heidelberg, October 5, 2011.
- Commentator, "Racial Construction of Death in the Twentieth Century South," "Death, 'tis a Melancholy Day": Dying, Mourning, and Memory in the American South, An Interdisciplinary Conference, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 1, 2011.
- Commentator, "A Most Southern Way to Die": The Meaning of Mortality in a Haunted Region," Southern Historical Association Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina November 7, 2010.
- "My Man's an Undertaker': Funeral Directors in African American Life," Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina, October 2, 2010.
- "An Undertaker Like Him: Dan Young and the 1946 Moore's Ford Lynching," American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., November 6, 2009
- "My Man's an Undertaker': Funeral Directors in African American Life," Southern American Studies Association Conference, George Mason University, February 13, 2009.
- "Laid Out in 'Big Mama's Kitchen': African Americans and the Personalized Theme Funeral," American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., November 4, 2005.
- Commentator, "Travel and the Remaking of African American Culture," African American Identity Travels Conference, University of Maryland, September 17, 2004.



- "To Serve the Living: The Public and Civic Identity of African-American Funeral Directors,"  
Miami University of Ohio, The Transformation of Public Culture: Assessing the Politics of  
Diversity, Democracy, and Community in the United States Conference, March 6, 2004.
- Commentator, "The Resonance of Chicago Music," American Historical Association Conference,  
Chicago, Illinois, January 3, 2003.
- Commentator, "Civic Voices of the Air: Nation, Immigration and Labor in American and  
Mexican Radio, 1925-1955," American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.,  
November 2001.
- "Can't Forget the Motor City': Reading and Hearing Detroit, A Bus Tour," American Studies  
Association Conference, Detroit, Michigan, October, 2000.
- "Popular Culture and Urban Struggle: Locating Sites of Possibility," American Studies  
Association Conference, Detroit, Michigan, October, 2000.
- "Recording Memories, Making History: Motown and Detroit's Great March to Freedom,"  
Association for the Study of African-American Life and History Conference, Detroit,  
Michigan, October 8, 1999.
- "The Happening': the Supremes and Civil Disorder." Organization of American Historians  
Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 21, 1999.
- Chair and Commentator, "Taking It To The Streets: American Studies and the Wider World,"  
American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., October 30, 1997.
- Chair and Commentator, "Urban Geographies" panel, North American Labor History  
Conference, Wayne State University, October 18, 1997.
- "The Happening: The Supremes and Civil Disorder," Feminist Theory and Music Conference,  
University of Virginia, June 7, 1997.
- "Motown and the Motor City," Works in Progress Conference, Washington Women Historians,  
American University, April 12, 1997.
- "Recording Memories, Making History: Motown and Detroit's Great March to Freedom," North  
American Labor History Conference, Wayne State University, October 19, 1996.
- "Without a Song: The Reverend C.L. Franklin, Motown Records and Detroit's 'Great March To  
Freedom'," Soul: Black Power, Politics and Pleasure Conference, New York University,  
April 8, 1995.
- "Urban Religion and the Cultural Politics of Detroit," Pew Foundation Fellows Conference,  
Yale University, April 7, 1995.
- "What's Going On?': Transformations in Motown Music from Pop to Protest," American Studies  
Association Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, November 1993.
- "Motown and the Motor City: Exploring the Sounds and Technologies of an Industrial City," New  
England American Studies Association, Rutgers University, May 1993.
- "Disney's Land: Tourism and the Pseudo-destination," Popular Culture Association Conference,  
St. Louis, Missouri, April 1989.

## Media

Press interview, [“We are the last responders’: Black funeral homes see the heavy toll of COVID-19 on their communities.”](#) *Washington Post*, June 25, 2020.

Press interview, [“George Floyd’s Homegoing: A Black Funeral Inspiring Change.”](#) NBC News, June 9, 2020.

Film interview, *The Black Church*, McGee Media, Henry Louis Gates Jr. Producer, Forthcoming on PBS, Fall 2020.

Film interview, *Hitsville: The Making of Motown*, Fulwell 73 Productions, Berry Gordy Producer, Premiered on Showtime, August 24, 2019.

Film interview, *BOSS: The Black Experience in Business*, Firelight Films, Stanley Nelson Producer, Premiered on PBS, April 23, 2019.

Press interview, “The Disappearance of a Distinctively Black Way to Mourn,” *Atlantic*, January 26, 2016.

Press interview, “African-American woman Hopes to Break Down Racial Barrier in Funeral Home Business,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, February 15, 2015.

Radio interview, “Black-owned Funeral Homes Face Existential Challenge,” *Marketplace Morning Report*, National Public Radio, November 4, 2014.

Radio interview, “Motown: Speaking in the Streets,” BBC Radio 4, January 9, 2014.

Television appearance, *Lectures in History* series, C-Span 3, August 23, 2013.

Television appearance, Discussion of *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, *BookTV*, C-Span, September 16, 2011.

Radio interview, “A.G. Gaston: From Log Cabin to Funeral Home Mogul,” *Morning Edition*, National Public Radio, December 21, 2010.

Radio interview, Discussion of *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*, WAMU 88.5 FM, March 24, 2010.

Radio interview, Discussion of *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, *Midday with Dan Rodricks*, WYPR 88.1 FM, Baltimore Public Radio, March 9, 2010.

Radio interview, Discussion of *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, *With Good Reason*, Virginia Public Radio, February 6-11, 2010.

Radio interview, “Motown’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special,” *Talking History*, Ireland Public Radio, October 4, 2009.

Press interview, “Honoring the Dead is Disturbed at Burr Oak,” *Chicago Tribune*, July 19, 2009.

Press interview, “GM’s Powerful History Still a Source of Pride,” *Detroit Free Press*, May 31, 2009.

Radio interview, “Motown’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,” *Midmorning Show*, Minnesota Public Radio, March 18, 2009.

Radio interview, Discussion of *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, *Public Interest with Kojo Nnamdi*, WAMU 88.5, April 3, 2000.

Television appearance, *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit* at the Library of Congress, *BookTV*, C-Span, March 18, 2000.

Radio interview, Discussion of *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, *Airtalk*, KPCC 89.3, January 11, 2000.

Radio interview, Discussion of *Dancing in the Street: Motown and the Cultural Politics of Detroit*, *Night Waves*, BBC Radio, January 7, 2000.

### **Dissertations Supervised**

Jessica Dauterive, "Imagining Acadiana: Cajun Identity in Modern Louisiana," In progress.

Eric Gonzaba, "Because the Night: Nightlife and Remaking the Gay Male World, 1970-2000," May 2019.

Celeste Tường Vy Sharpe, "They Need You: Disability, Visual Culture, and the Poster Child, 1945-1980," December 2016.

Jennifer Lansbury, "Champions Indeed: The Emergence of African American Women Athletes in American society, 1930-1960," May 2008.

### **Courses Taught**

African American History Survey, Transatlantic Slave Trade to Present

African American Visual Culture

Medical Ethics in Twentieth Century America

The History of Death in America

American Roots Music

American Popular Music

Race, Criminal Justice, and Memory in Twentieth Century America

Grassroots Politics in Twentieth Century America

Civil Rights and Citizenship in Twentieth Century America

African Americans in Sports

Radio in American Society

U.S. History Survey, Colonial era to Present

The Civil Rights Movement and the Culture Industry

The History and Culture of New Zealand and Australia

## **Departmental and University Service**

### **Job Search Committee Chair**

Department of History and Art History, 2017-2018

### **Faculty Activities Committee**

Department of History and Art History, August 2014-present

### **Internship Director**

Department of History and Art History, August 2012-present

### **Associate Chair**

Department of History and Art History, July 2010-August 2011

### **Student Appeals Committee**

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, July 2010-August 2013

### **Teaching Effectiveness Committee**

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, July 2009-August 2012

### **Teaching Excellence Awards Selection Committee**

GMU Center for Teaching Excellence, July 2009-July 2010

### **Phi Beta Kappa Committee**

January 2010-present

### **Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee**

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, July 2012-July 2013, July 2009 – June 2010  
Department of History and Art History, July 2007 – June 2010, July 2011-July 2012

### **Ph.D. Coordinator and Director of Admissions**

Dept. of History and Art History, July 2000 - July 2008

### **Graduate Committee**

Dept. of History and Art History, July 2005 - June 2008

### **Job Search Committee**

Dept. of History and Art History, 1996-1997; 2000-2001; 2005-2006; 2009-2010

### **African and African American Studies Faculty**

August 1995 – present

### **Cultural Studies Affiliate Faculty**

August 1995 – present

## **Professional Service**

Grant Reviewer, NEH Public Programs, CARE Emergency Grants, May 2020

Reviewed grant proposals for emergency funding to public humanities organizations across the country in response to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Applicants included historic sites, documentary film companies, local museums, and humanities centers. Responsible for assessing proposed budgets for each proposal, which ranged from \$75,000 to over \$1,000,000.

Co-Chair, Local Resources Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2020 Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2020

Served as Co-Chair of the OAH Local Resources Committee for its 2020 Annual Meeting scheduled for April 2020. The job involved approximately 18-months of planning local events and tours for OAH Conference attendees. Organized panels on Go-Go music at the D.C. Historical Society, Women's History and Centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment at the National Museum of American History, as well as tours of the National Cathedral, Congressional Cemetery, and the U.S. Capitol. Worked with OAH President and Program Committee Co-Chairs to integrate local events and tours into larger themes of the conference. Unfortunately, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown, the OAH 2020 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC was cancelled.

Grant Reviewer, NEH Media Proposals, November 2017

Reviewed media proposals for film documentaries and public radio projects that addressed topics in twentieth century American cultural history. Proposals were multifaceted including: scripts, video clips, and historical research. Responsible for assessing proposed budgets for each proposal, which ranged from \$75,000 to over \$1,000,000.

Lawrence W. Levine Book Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2016

Reviewed approximately 175 books under consideration for the Lawrence W. Levine Book Prize in Cultural History.

Grant Reviewer, NEH Media Proposals, November 2014

Reviewed media proposals for film documentaries and public radio projects that addressed topics in twentieth century American cultural history. Proposals were multifaceted including: scripts, video clips, and historical research. Responsible for assessing proposed budgets for each proposal, which ranged from \$75,000 to over \$1,000,000.

Grant Reviewer, NEH Media Proposals, October 2012

Reviewed media and new media proposals for film documentaries and websites that focused on African American history and, specifically, popular music. Proposals were multifaceted including: scripts, video clips, and historical research. Responsible for assessing proposed budgets for each proposal, which ranged from \$75,000 to over \$1,000,000.

Committee on Graduate Education, American Studies Association,  
September 2009 to September 2012

Board of Directors, Chesapeake American Studies Association,  
September 2009 to September 2011.

Grant Reviewer, NEH Research Fellowships, June-July 2009

Reviewed forty research fellowship grant applications for a panel that focused on American Arts including projects on the history of American popular music, dance, and painting.

John Hope Franklin Book Prize Committee, American Studies Association, 2003.

Reviewed approximately 175 books under consideration for the John Hope Franklin Book Prize for best first book in American Studies.

Grant Reviewer, NEH Media Proposals, March 2000

Reviewed media proposals for film documentaries that focused on American history and, specifically, popular music. Proposals were multifaceted including: scripts, video clips, and historical research. Responsible for assessing proposed budgets for each proposal, which ranged from \$75,000 to over \$1,000,000.

Grant Reviewer, *Project on Death in America*, January 1999-December 2000.

Acted as a grant reviewer for the Project on Death in America's Arts and Humanities Initiative, part of the George Soros Open Society Institute, Directors: Dr. Kathleen Foley and Professor David Rothman.

### **Professional Memberships**

Organization of American Historians

American Historical Association

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Biographers International Organization

### **References**

#### **Jon Butler**

Howard R Lamar Emeritus Professor of American Studies, History & Religious Studies

Yale University

148 Malcolm Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

(612) 331-3236

E-mail: jon.butler@yale.edu

#### **Kevin Gaines**

W.E.B. DuBois Professor of Africana Studies

Africana Studies and Research Center

Cornell University

E-mail: kkg37@cornell.edu

#### **Paul Harvey**

Professor and Department Chair

Department of History and Art History

University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy

Colorado Springs, CO 80918

E-mail: pharvey@uccs.edu