

Laura T. Di Summa – (Di Summa-Knoop)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, William Paterson University of New Jersey
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Education

2007-2013

Ph.D. in Philosophy: CUNY, The Graduate Center, New York. Thesis: *The Art of Telling About the Self. Memoirs in Literature and Film*. Advisor: Prof. Noël Carroll. Committee: Douglas Lackey, Nickolas Pappas, Mary Wiseman, Anthony Pipolo.

AOSs: Aesthetics (Philosophy of Art, Film & Literature), Ethics, History of Philosophy, Continental Philosophy
AOCs: Applied Ethics, Cognitive Science (Cognitive Psychology), Philosophy of Mind.

2006-2007

MA in Philosophy: Concordia University, Montreal. Thesis: *Naturalizing Artifacts. The Case of Art in Naturalized Epistemology*. Advisor: Prof. Murray Clarke.

2004-2006

MA in History of Philosophy: University of Turin, Italy. Thesis: *The Perception of Virtual Objects* Advisors: Prof. Pietro Kobau and Prof. Maurizio Ferraris.

1999-2003

BA in Philosophy: University of Turin, Italy. Thesis: *Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction. The case of photography* Advisor: Prof. Pietro Kobau.

Language skills

English, Italian (fluent), French (proficient), Spanish (intermediate)
Ancient Greek and Latin (translation)

Books

- Under contract. Co-editor with Noël Carroll & Shawn Loht. *The Palgrave Handbook for the Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2008. *Naturalizing Artifacts. The Case of Art in Naturalized Epistemology*. VDM Verlag, Berlin.

Articles & Book Chapters

- In progress. "The Autobiographical Documentary" (book chapter)
- In progress. "Fashion as Play"
- In progress. "Beauty and Disability in the Movies"
- Invited. "Clouds of Sils Maria: True Selves and Fictional Characters," in *Metacinema: Representations of Filmic Self-Reference*. Ed. David LaRocca. Bloomsbury (book chapter)
- Under review. "Aesthetics and Ethics: On the Power of Aesthetic Features"
- Under review. "*Black Mirror*: The Not So Fearful Consequences of Technology"
- 2017. "Contemporary Lives: On the Nature of Filmic Autobiographies," *Auto/Fiction*, 2:1, 54-65.
- 2017. "Critical Autobiography: A New Subgenre?" *Journal of Aesthetics and Culture* Vol. 9: 1. Published online 08/10/2017 <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/20004214.2017.1358047>
- 2016. "Identity and Strategies of Identification: A Moral and Aesthetic Shift in Architecture and Urbanism," *The Journal of Aesthetics and Phenomenology, Special Issue: Urban Aesthetics* Vol. 3 No.2: 111-123.
- 2016. "Eating Out as Eating in: The Intimate Call of the Contemporary Restaurant Scene," *The Journal of Somaesthetics*, Vol. 2 No.1: 49-58.
- 2016. "Art Today and Philosophical Aesthetics: A Missing Dialogue," *Culture and Dialogue*, Issue 4.2: 246-262.

- 2015. “The Dialogue of Philosophical Aesthetics: A Response to Naturalist Definitions of Art,” in *Naturalizing Aesthetics* (Ewa Chudoba & Krystyna Wilkoszewska eds.), 2015. Krakow: Institute of Philosophy of Jagellonian University: 71-86.
- 2015. “‘It is Like it is Always Right Now: *Boyhood* and the Fiction-Nonfiction Divide’,” *Film and Philosophy*, Vol. 20, No.1: 48-62.
- 2014. “*Casablanca* and Integrity. An Ethical Puzzle,” in *Film and Philosophy*, Vol. 19, No. 1: 115-126
- 2014. “Philosophical Aesthetics: A Naturalist Perspective,” in *The Journal of Aesthetics and Phenomenology*, Vol. 1, No. 2, November: 191-207.
- 2014. “The Decline of Hollywood Narratives. How the Internet is Shaping the Creation and Appreciation of Film,” in *International Conference on Philosophy and Film eProceedings* (Susana Viegas & Maria Teresa Teixeira eds.), Vol. 1: 160-173.
- 2013. “Hegel’s Symbolic Stage. An Old Perspective on Contemporary Art,” *Contemporary Aesthetics*, Volume 11. Online. <http://www.contempaesthetics.org/newvolume/pages/article.php?articleID=665>

Translations

- 2015. “American Food 2.0.” Translation of written, displayed text, web, and event content for the US Pavilion, Expo Milan.
- 2011. With Douglas Lackey. Tommaso Campanella, “Philosophical Poetry”, *The Philosophical Forum*, Vol. XLIV, No. 4, Winter: 264-268.
- 2011. Antonio Rocco, “Alcibiades, The Schoolboy”, *The Philosophical Forum*, Vol. XLIV, No. 4, Winter: 497-506.

Reviews

- 2016. Review of *The Culinary Imagination: From Myth to Modernity*, by Sandra M. Gilbert, *Gastronomica*, Vol. 16, No. 2, Summer: 107-108.
- 2009. Review of *History of Italian Philosophy*, by Eugenio Garin, “Critical Notice of Eugenio Garin”. *The Philosophical Forum*, 40 Vol. XL, No. 4, Winter: 501-506

Literary and Art Publications

2005-2007

Cross Magazine (an independent six-monthly magazine issued in English and Italian, distributed in Europe, on contemporary art and literature) Contributor. Selected Articles:

- “Outdoor Rooms,” co-author: Gianluigi Ricuperati, Creative Director at Domus Academy, Milan.
- “Non-directional biography of external spaces,” co-author: Mauro Sargiani

2005-2006

Cluster <http://www.cluster.eu/> (a quarterly issued in English and Italian, distributed in Europe and U.S on architecture) Contributor. Selected Articles:

- “Becoming Cyborgs,” co-author: Prof. Lucas Intronza, London School of Economics, London
- “Listen to the World Between Your Feet,” co-author: Prof. Achille Varzi, Columbia University, New York; <http://www.cluster.eu/listen-to-the-world-beneath-your-feetascolta-il-mondo-sotto-le-suole/>

2003-2004

L’Indice <http://www.lindiceonline.com/> (A monthly journal on Literature, issued in Italian). Selected Reviews:

- Sybille Bedford, *Jigsaw: An Unsentimental Education*
- Gayatri Spivak, *A Critique of Postcolonial Reason: Towards a History of the Vanishing Present*

Invited Talks and Presentations

- (forthcoming) *Film-Philosophy Conference* in Gothenburg. Paper: “Beauty and Disability: A Motion Pictures Perspective.”

- (forthcoming) *ESA European Society of Aesthetics Meeting* in Maribor. Paper: “Fashion as Play.”
- 2018, May. *Love and Friendship in the Movies*, Princeton University. Paper: “That Old Egyptian Custom (Costume?). Fashion and All That Heaven Allows”
- 2018, April. *ASA American Society of Aesthetics Eastern Division* in Philadelphia. Paper: “Fashion as Play.”
- 2018, March. *Naturalized Aesthetics of Film: A Workshop on Murray Smith’s “Film, Art, and The Third Culture,”* CUNY, The Graduate Center, New York City. Paper “Naturalized Aesthetics and Criticism: On Value Judgments.”
- 2017, December. *Colloquia in New Media: Interdisciplinary Directions*, William Paterson University. Paper: “A Lighter Shade of Black: Philosophy and *Black Mirror*.”
- 2017, July. *International Conference on Moving Image and Philosophy* in Porto. Paper: “Technology and TV series: A Turn in Science Fiction.”
- 2017, May. *ESA European Society of Aesthetics Meeting* in Berlin. Paper: “The Aesthetic of Moral Values.”
- 2017, April. *APA Pacific Division Meeting* in Seattle. Invited Panel: Author Meets Critics. Discussion of Robert Sinnerbrink *Cinematic Ethics* with Amy Coplan and Thomas Wartenberg.
- 2017, March. *Lecture Series, Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus*. Invited Paper: “Cinempathy and Time.”
- 2016, July. *IGEL International Society for the Empirical Study of Literature* in Chicago. Paper: “Critical Autobiography: A New Subgenre?”
- 2016, March. *ASA American Society of Aesthetics Eastern Division* in Philadelphia. Invited Panel in collaboration with SCSMI with Paloma Atencia Linares and Dirk Eitzen: “Fiction, Nonfiction, and Film.”
- 2016, January. *Film-Philosophy: Prospects, Directions, and New Perspectives*. Tel Aviv University. Paper: “Engaging with Fictional Characters: The Case of *Birdman* and *Clouds of Sils Maria*.”
- 2015, June. *SCSMI The Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image Conference* in London. Paper: “It is Like It is Always Right Now” Richard Linklater’s *Boyhood* and the Fiction Nonfiction Divide.”
- 2015, May. *Canadian Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting* in Ottawa. Paper: “Art Today: A Challenge to Philosophical Aesthetics.”
- 2014, July. *ASA American Society for Aesthetics, Rocky Mountains Division Meeting* in Santa Fe. Paper: “Exposing Contemporary Lives. On the Divide Between Literary and Filmic Autobiographies.”
- 2014, May. *Film and Philosophy International Conference* in Lisbon. Paper: “The Decline of Hollywood Narratives. How the Internet is Shaping the Creation and Appreciation of Film.”
- 2014, January. *The Center for Body, Mind, and Culture: Mindful Bodies in the Arts of Eating. International Conference*, Florida Atlantic University. Paper: “Eating Out as Eating In. The Intimate Call of the Contemporary Restaurant Scene.”
- 2013, July. *ESA. International Congress of Aesthetics* in Krakow. Paper: “Is a Naturalist Definition of Art a Challenge to Philosophical Aesthetics?”
- 2013, July. *Beyond Film. International Film and Philosophy Conference* in Amsterdam. Paper: “The Philosophical and Cognitive Achievement of Cult. The Ethical Puzzle of *Casablanca*.”
- 2013, June. *Canadian Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting* in Victoria, BC. Paper: “Memoir: A Nonfictional Narration of Identity.”
- 2013, April. *ASA American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division Meeting* in Philadelphia. Comments on: Louise Hanson “How to Establish the Relevance of Ethical Value to Artistic Value.”
- 2012, *CUNY Comparative Literature Graduate Student Conference “Principles of Uncertainty.”* Paper: “A New Dimension of Authenticity. Finding the Self in Autobiographical Narratives.”
- 2010, *CUNY Philosophy Graduate Student Conference*. Comments on: Sarah Jansen “Plato and Popular Entertainment.”
- 2010, *AAIS XXX Annual Conference*. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Paper: “Federico Fellini: How Many Lies to Life Writing.”

Courses Taught

Philosophy of Art, Philosophy of Literature, Philosophy of Motion Pictures, Philosophy and Biochemistry of Food (with Jill Smith-Carpenter), Art and Public Policy, History of Ancient Philosophy, History of Medieval Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, Modern to Postmodern, Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy, Media Ethics, Critical Thinking.

Teaching Interests: *Autobiography and the Self, Narrative Theories in Literature and Film, Aesthetic Psychology, Feminist Aesthetics, Contemporary Perspectives on the Artworld, History of Continental Philosophy.*

Professional Service

2018-present: Co-organizer of the *ASA Eastern Meeting* in Philadelphia with John Dyck and Michel-Antoine Xignesse.

2017-present: Curriculum Committee, William Paterson University

2014-present: Member of the New York University, *Food and the City Working Group*

2013-present: Referee. *The Philosophical Forum, Film and Philosophy*

2010-present: Managing editor. *The Philosophical Forum*. Blackwell Wiley

2010-2012: Executive Committee, CUNY, The Graduate Center

2010-2011: Graduate Student Council Member. CUNY, The Graduate Center