

Emily Wing Rohrbach

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Present Appointment

September 2020- Assistant Professor of English Literature, 1660-1832
Department of English Studies, Durham University

Previous Employment and Appointments

Jan. 2016-Aug. 2020 Lecturer in British Literature, 1750-1820 (permanent)
Department of English, American Studies, and Creative Writing,
University of Manchester, UK

Sep. 2009-Dec. 2015 Assistant Professor of English
Department of English, Northwestern University

July 2006-Aug. 2009 Visiting Assistant Professor of English
Department of English, Hamilton College (NY)

Sep. 1996-June 1997 Spanish Teacher
Largo High School, Prince George's County, Maryland

Education and Qualifications

2007 PhD in English and American Literature, Boston University
Dissertation: *Historiography of the Subject in Austen, Keats, and Byron*
Language qualifications: French and Spanish

1996 MA in English and American Literature, Boston University

1995 BA in English Literature and Spanish with Departmental Honors, University
of Miami, Florida

PUBLICATIONS: Monographs

Modernity's Mist: British Romanticism and the Poetics of Anticipation (Lit Z Series of
Fordham University Press, 2016). 188 pages.

Modernity's Mist has been cited widely and by leading scholars in the field (full list of
citations available upon request). It has also been reviewed widely and positively,

including in *Studies in Romanticism*; *European Romantic Review*; *the Charles Lamb Bulletin*; *Romanticism*; *Byron Journal*; *Romantic Circles Praxis*; *Review 19*; *BARS Bulletin*; *Keats-Shelley Journal*; and *SEL: Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900*.

From reviews of *Modernity's Mist*:

‘Rohrbach’s argument articulates both historical-intellectual contexts and existential-temporal horizons in a distinctive series of readings that underline the role of aesthetic form in responding to and reshaping Romanticism’s historical present along with its attendant ethical and political possibilities.’—Deborah Elise White (Emory University) in *Studies in Romanticism*

‘subtle and carefully argued’ [...] ‘[Rohrbach’s critical methodology] is a strategy that scholars will be able to bring to different texts, including those that Rohrbach herself sets to the side. *Modernity's Mist* is well positioned for this purpose, too: it is one of the inaugural volumes of Fordham University Press's new series, Lit Z, edited by Sara Guyer and Brian McGrath, which understands "romanticism" not in period terms but “as a way of thinking that compels another relation to the present” (ii). This is Emily Rohrbach's topic, of course, but also part of her critical method.’—Kevis Goodman (University of California, Berkeley) in *Review 19*
http://www.review19.org/view_doc.php?index=461

‘In this book Emily Rohrbach makes a bracingly original intervention in one of the longest standing debates in Romantic studies: the conversation surrounding what Alan Liu, writing in 1989, called Romanticism’s “sense of history” [. . .] [*Modernity's Mist*] includes some of the best extended close readings of poetic rhythm and syntax to have appeared in recent years.’—Miranda Burgess (University of British Columbia) in *Romanticism*

***Codex Poetics: Romantic Books and the Politics of Reading* (in progress).**

4 sections, including 8 chapters of ~10,000 words each, plus an introduction and a coda. Section titles: 1) Slavery, Abolition, and the Politics of the Book; 2) Wayward Readers; 3) Page Limits; 4) Codex Attachments.

Edited Volume: Peer-Reviewed Academic Journal

Reading Keats, Thinking Politics—the 50th-anniversary special issue of the leading journal in the field, *Studies in Romanticism*, co-edited with Emily Sun (Barnard College/Columbia University). The volume includes essays by Jacques Rancière, Rei Terada, Noel Jackson, Brian McGrath, Jonathan Mulrooney, and Magdalena Ostas, plus an introductory essay authored by the guest editors (Sun/Rohrbach). *SiR* 50:2 (Summer 2011) 229-372.

Peer-Reviewed Academic Journal Articles

“Romantic Futurities: Onwards!” *Romanticism on the Net* (forthcoming, August 2021)

“Keats’s Vanishing Books.” *Romanticism* (forthcoming/in press, 2021).

“In London and Louvain: Bookish Materiality and Social Equality” in *The Keats Letters Project*. Online-only publication: <http://keatslettersproject.com> (April 2019).

“‘Without you, I am nothing’: On the Counterfactual Imagination in *Emma*.” *Textual Practice* 32.3 (May 2018): 471-488.

“To ‘lean upon a closed book’: Keats’s Sonnets, Formal Closure, and the Codex.” *European Romantic Review* 29.2 (April 2018): 229-245.

“Reading the Heart, Reading the World: Keats’s Historiographical Aesthetic.” *European Romantic Review* 25.3 (June 2014): 275-288.

“‘Must the event decide?’: Byron and Austen in Search of the Present.” *Keats-Shelley Journal* 61.1 (Autumn 2012): 122-132.

“Reading Keats, Thinking Politics: An Introduction.” With Emily Sun. *Studies in Romanticism* 50.2 (Summer 2011): 229-238.

“Anna Barbauld’s History of the Future.” *European Romantic Review* 17.2 (Spring 2006): 179-187. (Winner of the Outstanding Graduate Student Essay Prize at NASSR 2005 in Montréal.)

“Representing Time and Gender: Keats’s Prose, Keats’s Poetics” in *E-REA: Revue électronique d’études sur le monde anglophone* 2.2 (2004).

“Austen’s Later Subjects.” *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900* 44.4 (Autumn 2004): 737-752.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

“The Novelty of *Mansfield Park*.” *Routledge Companion to Jane Austen*. Eds. Maria Frawley and Cheryl A. Wilson. Routledge (September 2021).

“‘uncertainties, Mysteries, doubts’: Pluralities and the Historical Present in Keats and Hazlitt.” In *Keats’s Negative Capability: New Origins and Afterlives*. Eds. Brian Rejack and Michael Theune. Liverpool University Press (March 2019).

“‘Without you, I am nothing’: On the Counterfactual Imagination in *Emma*.” (Reprinted from 2018 *Textual Practice* journal article.) In *Literature and Contingency*, Ed. Christina Lupton. Routledge (March 2019).

“The Lake Poets” in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (Princeton University Press, 2012).

“Negative Capability” in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (Princeton University Press, 2012).

Translation

Jacques Rancière, “The Politics of the Spider,” solicited and co-translated with Emily Sun (Barnard College) from French to English. *Studies in Romanticism* 50.2 (Summer 2011): 239-250.

Review Articles (selected)

Review of Susan Wolfson's *Reading John Keats*, in *BARS Newsletter* (Autumn 2016).

Review of Jacques Khalip's *Anonymous Life: Romanticism and Dispossession*, in *Studies in Romanticism* 49.2 (Summer 2010): 340-345.

Review of Heather Glen and Paul Hamilton's *Repossessing the Romantic Past*, in *Nineteenth-Century Contexts* 31.4 (December 2009): 399-402.

Review of Peter Fritzsche's *Stranded in the Present: Modern Time and the Melancholy of History*, in *Studies in Romanticism* 45.3 (Autumn 2006): 486-490.

Review of Kevis Goodman's *Georgic Modernity and British Romanticism: Poetry and the Mediation of History*, in *Revue d'Etudes Anglophones* 3.2 (Autumn 2005).

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards (Research, selected)

John Rylands Research Institute, Pilot Grant (£5,000) for the project *Codex Poetics*, to do research in the antislavery collections of the John Rylands Library, Manchester (Spring 2020)

Research Support Open Access Fund, University of Manchester (£600) to make my journal article "Without you I am nothing": On the Counterfactual Imagination in *Emma* available open access (2019)

Publication Subvention Grant, Faculty Research Fund, Northwestern University (\$5,000) to enable simultaneous publication of paperback and hardback copies of *Modernity's Mist* (Fordham University Press, December 2015)

Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, one year of research leave, to complete *Modernity's Mist: British Romanticism and the Poetics of Anticipation*, publ. December 2015 by Fordham University Press (September 2012-August 2013)

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Prize, North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference, Montréal, for 'Anna Barbauld's History of the Future' (2005)

Institute for Human Sciences (Vienna, Austria), Junior Visiting Research Fellowship (\$14,000) to do research and write-up PhD dissertation *Historiography of the Subject in Austen, Byron, and Keats* (January-July 2005)

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards (Teaching)

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) Award (2019)

Innovation in the Teaching of Romanticism Award (Prize Finalist), North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference, Washington DC, for my module design: 'Teaching Theories of the Sublime, Longinus to Ngai' (2014)

Searle Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning (Northwestern University), Faculty Fellowship (\$1,000) for the project 'Engaging Students in a Large Lecture Class' (September 2011-2012)

Keynote Lectures

- 2020 "Open Books." British Association of Romantic Studies (BARS) Conference on "Romantic Futurities." 13 June 2020, London. (Delivered online via Zoom.) <https://romanticfutures.wordpress.com/keynotes/>
- 2019 "Vanishing Books, Cockney Poetics." The Keats Foundation Conference. 17-19 May 2019 in London.

Invited Lectures and Conference Papers (since 2011, selected)

- 2022 Invited Talk. [On Historicity and Futurity.] July 2022, Ascona, Switzerland.
- 2022 "Repeat Reading as the Unforeseeable." Panel sponsored by the MLA Prose Fiction Forum. MLA conference, January 2022 in Washington DC.
- 2022 (Invited) Contribution to "Byron's Stanzas: A Roundtable on the 1822 Cantos of *Don Juan*," sponsored by the Byron Society of America. MLA Conference, January 2022 in Washington DC.
- 2021 Invited Seminar. "A Theory of Aesthetic Attachment: Hazlitt and his Books." Inventions of the Text. 2 June 2021, Durham University.
- 2021 Invited Seminar. "On Forms of Beauty and Old Books: Hazlitt, Wordsworth, and the Politics of Durability" in the "Politics of Literature" seminar series. April 2021 (originally scheduled for April 2020 in Lille; rescheduled for 2021, due to Covid, as an online seminar), University of Lille, France.
- 2019 Invited Seminar. "Codex Poetics: Letitia Landon and the Politics of the Page." Part of a two-day symposium, "Literature and its Formats," Nov. 15-16, 2019 at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
<https://engerom.ku.dk/english/calendar/2019/literature-and-formats-programme/>
- 2019 Invited Seminar. "Forms of Beauty and Old Books: Wordsworth, Hazlitt, and the Question of Durability." Hazlitt Day School. September 2019 in London (UCL).
- 2019 Invited Seminar. "Reading Keats with Rancière." London-Paris Romanticism Seminar. University of London, Senate House. 15 March 2019.
- 2019 "Reading as Uprising: Landon, Keats, and Rancière." Modern Language Association (MLA), 4-6 January 2019 in Chicago.

- 2018 “Romantic Contingency and the Time of Not Reading.” Romanticism and Time Conference, 9-11 November 2018 in Lille, France.
- 2018 “The Materiality of the Book and the Time of Reading in *The Prelude*, Book 5.” NASSR, June 2018 at Brown University, USA.
- 2018 “‘I’ll cavern you, and grotto you’: Keats, Austen, Radcliffe, and the Conventions of Gothic Writing in 1818.” The Keats Foundation Conference, May 2018 at the Keats House in Hampstead, London.
- 2017 Invited Seminar. “Romanticism, Contingency, and the Counterfactual Imagination.” November 2, 2017 at Boston-Area Romanticist Colloquium (BARC), Boston, USA. Honorarium: \$500.
<http://sites.bu.edu/barc/emily-rohrbach/>
- 2017 Invited Seminar. “Gothic Dispossession and the Politics of Voice.” May 2, 2017 at King’s College London, UK.
- 2017 Invited Seminar. “‘in argosy transferr’d’: Voice and Dispossession in Keats and Radcliffe.” February 28, 2017 at University of Leeds, UK.
- 2017 “Gothic Dispossession and the Politics of Voice: From Horace Walpole to Alejandro Tapia y Rivera.” American Comparative Literature Association, July 2017 in Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 2017 “Ideas of Improvement and the Counterfactual Imagination in *Emma*.” British Association for Romantic Studies, July 2017 in York, UK.
- 2017 “Keats, Contingency, the Codex.” The Keats Foundation, May 2017 at the Keats House in Hampstead, London.
- 2016 Invited Seminar. “Literary Voice and Gothic Dispossession: A Comparative Poetics.” November 22, 2016 at University of Sussex, UK.
- 2016 Invited Seminar. “Voice and Dispossession: A Comparative Poetics.” November 8, 2016 at Cardiff University, UK.
- 2016 Invited Pre-Circulated Paper and Seminar. “Contingencies of the Future Anterior: Austen, Dickens, Nabokov.” Literature and Contingency Symposium, Warwick in Venice. May 2-4, 2016 in Venice, Italy.
- 2016 Invited Lecture. “The Time of Reading.” Nineteenth Century Seminar. March 1, 2016 at University of Cambridge.
<https://www.english.cam.ac.uk/research/nineteenth/19thc-graduate-seminar-emily-rohrbach-the-time-of-reading/>
- 2016 “Sonic Subjects in Early Gothic Writing.” NASSR (North American Society for the Study of Romanticism) Conference, August 11-14, 2016 in Berkeley, CA.

- 2015 Invited Seminar. "Transatlantic Romantic Gothic." 18th/19th-c. Atlantic Cultures Workshop. May 21, 2015 at the University of Chicago, USA. Honorarium: \$200.
- 2015 "Romantic Temporality and the Imprint of Voice." British Association for Romantic Studies Conference, July 2015 in Cardiff, Wales.
- 2015 "Irruptions of the Gothic in *Emma* and *Persuasion*." Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, April 2015 in Atlanta.
- 2014 Invited Lecture. "Gothic Encounters: Estranging the Global Imagination." Visiting Speaker Series, University of Edinburgh. November 14, 2014 in Edinburgh, UK.
- 2014 Invited Presentation. "Teaching the Sublime: From Longinus to Ngai." Finalist Presentation for the NASSR/Romantic Circles Pedagogy Contest. July 2014 in Washington, DC.
- 2014 "The Novelist as Comparatist: Nationalism and Narrative Estrangement in *Emma*." International Conference on Romanticism, September 2014 in Minneapolis.
- 2014 "The Poetics of Foreign Delicacies: Keats's Transnational Gothic Sensibility." NASSR Conference, July 2014 in Washington, DC.
- 2014 "'Between Schiller and Godwin': Keats Reading *Wieland*." The Keats Foundation Conference in May 2014 at the Keats House, London.
- 2014 "Historiographical Prolepsis in Helen Maria Williams' *Letters Written in France*." International Society for the Study of Narrative (ISSN) Conference, March 2014 at MIT, Cambridge, MA.
- 2013 (Invited.) "Modernity's Mist: Keats and the Poetics of Anticipation." Seminar on Work-in-Progress (Pre-Circulated Paper). Respondent: Marjorie Levinson (University of Michigan) at North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) conference, August 2013 in Boston.
- 2013 (Invited.) Roundtable on "Austen Over Time" with Devoney Looser and Jill Heydt Stevenson. NASSR, August 2013 in Boston.
- 2013 "Romanticism as Reading Practice: Seeing Austen Through the Keatsian Mist." Fellow's Lecture at the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University, January 2013 in Evanston.
- 2013 "From the French Revolution to the 'Spirit of the Age': Anticipating Future Memories in Non-Fiction Prose Writing." ISSN, June 2013 in Manchester, UK.
- 2012 "Modernity, Historiography, and the 'Time of Reading' in *Don Juan*." International Byron Society Conference, July 2012 in Beirut, Lebanon.

- 2012 “Altering the Present: Austen’s Anticipations.” ISSN Conference, March 2012 in Las Vegas.
- 2011 “To Wander Thoughtlessly: Encountering the ‘Foreign’ in Adam Smith, Mungo Park, and John Keats.” Presented twice: NASSR conference, August 2011 in Park City, Utah, and the British Association for Romantic Studies (BARS) conference, July 2011 in Glasgow, UK.

Teaching, Assessment, and Advising at Durham

L1: Introduction to the Novel

2020/21: 1 lecture; 4 tutorial groups with formative assessments
2021/22: 1 lecture

L1: Introduction to Poetry

2020/21: 50 summative exams marked
2021/22: 2 lectures

L2: American Poetry

2021/22: 1 lecture

L3: Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature

2021/22: 1 lecture

L3: Literature of the Romantic Period

2020/21: 3 lectures; 2 tutorial groups with formatives; 24 exams marked
2021/22: Co-convener; 4 lectures; 2 tutorial groups

L3: Dissertation

2020/21: 6 supervisions; 3 diss. first marked; 11 diss. second marked

MA Seminar: ‘Adventures in Reading: Romantic Books and Political Possibilities’

2021/22: New module designed and taught

MA Dissertation

2020/21: 2 supervisions

UG Advising

2020/21: 25 L1 advisees

Professional Service

Member of Editorial Board (permanent): *Keats-Shelley Journal* (appointed January 2019)

Chair, 2019 Lore Metzger Prize Committee: The *Lore Metzger Prize* is awarded annually for the Best Postgraduate Student Paper presented at the International Conference on Romanticism. Papers were submitted prior to the conference for consideration. The award consists of a cash prize and publication of the essay, once revised, in the journal *Essays in Romanticism*. Award announced 2 August 2019.

Referee for journal articles: *PMLA* (2014-present), *European Romantic Review* (2014-present), *Criticism* (2021-present) *Keats-Shelley Journal* (2012-present), *Modern Philology* (2020-present), *Studies in Romanticism* (2016-present).

External reviewer for grants: City University of New York (CUNY) Internal Research Grants Program (2010).

Review of book manuscript (pre-publication) for Cambridge University Press (2021).

Conferences/Seminar Series Organised

2022 ***Books and Freedom in the Nineteenth Century: A Transatlantic Symposium***
Co-organised with Ivy Wilson (Northwestern University, USA)

A two-day symposium with 12-14 presenters to be held at Durham University (St. Chad's College) 27-28 July 2022, including scholars from the US, Europe, and the UK. An edited volume, co-edited with Ivy Wilson, will be produced from a selection of revised seminar papers.

2020-2021 ***Romanticism in the Meantime, Co-organiser***

A fortnightly, US-UK series of twenty seminar sessions on topics in Romanticism, initiated online to fill the space left by all the occasions for scholarly exchange cancelled due to Covid-19. Co-organised with Jonathan Mulrooney (College of the Holy Cross). Guest speakers included Emily Sun (Barnard College), Anahid Nersessian (UCLA), Andrew Stauffer (UVA), Amanda Blake Davis (Sheffield), Ian Balfour (York), Alexandra Gillespie (U Toronto), Deidre Lynch (Harvard), Julie Camarda (Rutgers), Maureen McLane (NYU), Charles Mahoney (U Connecticut), Padma Rangarajan (UC Riverside), Matthew Sangster (Glasgow), Dennis Duncan (UCL), Luisa Calè (Birkbeck), Jon Mee (York), Lenora Hanson (NYU), Jonathan Sachs (Concordia), and Nora Crook (Anglia Ruskin), among others. Attendance has averaged around 40 people per session. (July 2020-June 2021)

2019 ***International Conference on Romanticism***
Principal Organiser

A 4-day conference drawing approximately 200 international scholars as participants. Keynote speakers: Marlene Daut (UVA) and Anne-Lise François (UC Berkeley). The conference in Manchester marked the 200th anniversary of Peterloo; it is the first time that ICR took place in the UK.

I initiated the bid in January 2016 and oversaw from that time every aspect of conference organisation—from building the website to submitting funding applications, booking venues, vetting abstracts, selecting and introducing keynote speakers, and having a short film made of the event. In October 2018, I gave a planning report at the ICR Board Meeting in the U.S, and I hosted the ICR Board Meeting in Manchester during the summer 2019 conference. For

the conference, I secured a \$2,600 grant from the academic journal *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900* (based at Rice University, published by Johns Hopkins University Press); £1,000 from the Byron Society; £300 from the journal *Essays in Romanticism*; £200 from the journal *Romanticism on the Net*; £1,000 from the John Rylands Research Institute; £300 from CIDRAL; £5,000 from SALC/Creative Manchester; and £500 from SALC Social Responsibility Fund. Conference website:
<https://icrmcr2019.wordpress.com>

2014 ***Timing is Everything: A Multidisciplinary Symposium on Non-Linear Temporalities. Co-organised with Michelle M. Wright (Augustus Baldwin Longstreet Professor of English at Emory University)***

A two-day symposium with 14 participants: from Karen Barad (theoretical particle physics/feminist studies, UC Santa Cruz) to On Barak (history, Tel Aviv University) and Nana Adusei-Poku (visual culture, University of Rotterdam), among others. Northwestern University provided \$12,000 in support of this event held in Evanston, IL, October 24-25, 2014.
<https://timingiseverythingsymposium.wordpress.com>

University/Departmental Service at Durham (2020-)

2021/22 Committee Coordinator, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion for English Studies
2020/21 Member, Research Committee, Department of English Studies
2021 Departmental representative to Preliminary Board for Social Sciences, 22 June
2021 Member, Decolonising Group in English Studies
2021 Member of longlisting/shortlisting committee for Assistant Professor post in literary medical humanities (Epiphany term, 2021)

Faculty and Departmental Service at the University of Manchester (2016-2020) included:
Faculty of Humanities: Academic Lead for FHEA/Humanities New Academics Programme (appointed by Associate Dean Linda Evans)
Departmental Representative to the School Committee on Equality and Diversity
Departmental Representative to Centre for Interdisciplinary Research
Departmental Research Seminar Coordinator
Departmental Web Officer