

David Friedell
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
Union College
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2020-present Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Union College
2019-2020 Lecturer of Philosophy, University of British Columbia
2017-2019 Postdoctoral Fellow of Philosophy, University of British Columbia
2015-2017 Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Barnard College, Columbia University.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, Philosophy, 2014
M.A. University of California, Los Angeles, Philosophy, 2009
M.A. University of the West Indies, Mona, Philosophy, 2007 (Distinction)
B.A. University of California, Berkeley, Philosophy, 2006 (High Distinction)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Metaphysics, Aesthetics, Philosophy of Language

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Gender, Philosophy of Race

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming "How to Change an Artwork" in *Art and Philosophy*, ed. Alex King. Oxford University Press.
Forthcoming "Becoming non-Jewish" in *New Perspectives on the Ontology of Social Identities*, eds. Alejandro Arango and Adam Burgos. Routledge.
2022 "How Statues Speak" with Shen-yi Liao, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 80, 444-452.
2021 "Creating Abstract Objects." *Philosophy Compass* 16.
2020 "Medicalization and Linguistic Agency," with Ashley Feinsinger, *Ratio* 33, 232-242.
2020 "Fiction and Indeterminate Identity," *Analysis* 80, 221-229.

- 2020 “Abstracta are Causal,” *Philosophia* 48, 133-142.
- 2020 “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s *Eighth Symphony*?” *Philosophical Studies* 177, 805–82.
- 2018 “A Problem for All of Creation,” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 76, 98-101.
- 2017 “Music and Vague Existence,” *Res Philosophica*. 94, 437-449.
- 2017 “Abstract and Concrete Products: A Response to Cray,” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 75, 292-296.
- 2016 “Abstract Creationism and Authorial Intention,” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 74, 129-37.
- 2013 “Salmon on Hob and Nob,” *Philosophical Studies* 165, 213-20.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The Philosophy of Ted Chiang (Editor and contributor, under contract at Palgrave Macmillan.)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 “Becoming non-Jewish,” Kansas PRISM Workshop, University of Kansas, May 26.
- 2021 “Against Treating People Like Sunsets,” American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC, November 17. (with Madeleine Ransom).
- 2021 “How Statues Speak,” Southern Aesthetics Workshop, Auburn University, October 15. (with Shen-yi Liao).
- 2020 “Against Treating People Like Sunsets.” Southern Aesthetics Workshop, University of Georgia, September 18. (with Madeleine Ransom).
- 2019 “Fiction and Indeterminate Identity,” Canadian Philosophical Association. Vancouver, BC, June 4.
- 2019 “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s *Eighth Symphony*?” American Philosophical Association, Central Division. Denver, CO, February 20.
- 2017 “Music and Vague Existence,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division. Kansas City, MO, March 2.
- 2016 “What Corporations Can Teach Us About Music,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division. Philadelphia, PA, April 15.
- 2016 “What Corporations Can Teach Us About Music,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA, April 1.
- 2016 “Abstract Creationism and Authorial Intention,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL, March 5.

- 2013 “Abstract Objects are Causally Efficacious,” Graduate Conference in Aesthetics, Temple University, April 21.
- 2013 “A Theory of Abstract Artifacts,” Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Philosophy Conference, UC Berkeley, April 6.
- 2012 “Parked in a Loading Zone,” The 5th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference, UC San Diego, October 28.
- 2009 “Salmon on Hob and Nob,” Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Philosophy Conference, Stanford University, April 18.

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Are People Abstract?” Northeastern University, September 23.
- 2022 “Are People Abstract?” Queen’s University, April 7.
- 2020 “The Power of Abstract Objects,” Union College, February 26.
- 2020 “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s *Eighth Symphony*?” University of Victoria, February 7.
- 2019 “The Power of Abstract Objects,” University of Manchester, August 19.
- 2019 “The Power of Abstract Objects,” California State University, San Bernardino, June 6.
- 2019 “Oracles and Time Machines,” Lehigh University, April 29.
- 2018 “Becoming non-Jewish,” Kwantlen Polytechnic University, October 19.
- 2018 “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s *Eighth Symphony*?” Beauty and Why It Matters Summer Seminar, University of British Columbia, July 8.
- 2016 “Abstract Artifacts and Vague Existence,” New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, NYU, February 8.

COMMENTS

- 2021 On Caterina Moruzzi’s “Everyone can Change a Musical Work.” American Society for Aesthetics, Pacific Division. March 20.
- 2019 On Michalle Gal’s “Visual Hybrids, Visual Metaphors, and Non-Conceptual Aesthetic Perception,” American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. October 12.
- 2018 On William Seeley’s “Locating Art,” American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON. October 11.
- 2018 On Miguel Dos Santos’s “Vague Art,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division, Philadelphia, PA. April 20.

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2018 “Becoming non-Jewish,” University of British Columbia, November 14.
2018 “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s Eighth Symphony?” University of British Columbia, November 9.
2017 “Novels,” University of British Columbia, October 31.
2013 “Abstract Objects are Causally Efficacious,” Occidental College, November 6.
2012 “An Intersection Between Philosophy and Linguistics,” Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy Research Day. University of the West Indies, Mona, May 10.

GUEST LECTURES

- 2020 On “Why Can’t I Change Bruckner’s Eighth Symphony?” for Daniel Star’s graduate seminar in Aesthetics, Boston University, October 20.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020-present **Union College**

Art, Media and Society
Philosophy of Sports and Games
Introduction to Philosophy
Philosophy of Gender and Race
Knowledge and Reality (SRS)
Biomedical Ethics
Metaphysics Seminar
Introduction to Metaphysics

2017-2020 **University of British Columbia**

Biomedical Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy
Epistemology
Philosophy of Gender
Environmental Ethics
Philosophy of Art

- 2015-2017 **Barnard College, Columbia University**
 Introduction to Philosophy
 Philosophy of Language
 Epistemology
 Graduate Seminar: Abstract Objects
 Graduate Seminar: Metametaphysics
- 2013 **Occidental College**
 Theory of Knowledge
- 2011-2012 **University of the West Indies, Mona.**
 Graduate Seminar: Metaphysics
 Philosophy of Religion
 Theory of Knowledge
 Philosophy of Law
- 2011-2015 **UCLA**
 Film and Philosophy
 Topics in Metaphysics
 Philosophy of Language
 Topics in Aesthetics
 Theory of Knowledge
- 2007-2011 **UCLA (Teaching Assistant)**
 Early Modern Philosophy
 Introduction to Ethical Theory
 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind
 Introduction to Philosophy of Science
 Skepticism and Rationality
 Theory of Knowledge
 Introduction to Logic
- 2006 **University of the West Indies, Mona (Teaching Assistant)**
 Philosophy of Language
 Philosophy of Mind

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 Visiting Fellow in Philosophy, Yale University.
2020 Participant, Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, University of Wyoming.
2019 Participant, Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University.
2017 Participant, Ontology and Metaontology Summer Program, Central European University.
2014 Carnap Prize (best philosophy essay by a UCLA grad student) for “Abstracta and Vague Existence”
2013-2014 Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division
2007, 2012 Pauley Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division
2008, 2009 Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review

Referee for *Acta Analytica*, *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis*, *Inquiry*, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, *Metaphysics*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophies*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Synthese*.

College or University Service

Organizer of Q&A with Ted Chiang, Union College. May 14, 2022.
Referee for Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, UBC. 2018-2020.
Mentor to undergraduate students for MAP (Minorities and Philosophy), UCLA. 2014-15
Faculty liaison for undergraduate philosophy club, University of the West Indies, Mona 2011-12

Community Talks

“Metaphysics and Objectivity,” Guest of Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of the West Indies, Mona. February 20, 2014.
“Religion and Normativity,” Guest of Philosophy Club, New Community Jewish High School. January 27, 2014.
“Defeating Homophobia,” Guest of Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of the West Indies, Mona. March 15, 2012.

Conference Organizing

- Organizer for American Society for Aesthetics sessions at the American Philosophical Association, Eastern. 2018-present. Sessions:
- 2024 Contributors-Meet-Contributors, *Art and Philosophy* (ed. Alex King). New York, NY.
 - 2023 Readers-Meet-Readers: Bernard Bolzano, *Essays on Beauty and the Arts* (ed. Dom Lopes). Montreal, QB.
 - 2022 Author-Meets-Critics: Matt Strohl's *Why it's OK to Like Bad Movies*. Baltimore, MD.
 - 2021 Author-Meets-Critics: Julian Dodd's *Being True to Works of Music*. Online.
 - 2020 Author-Meets-Critics: Thi Nguyen's *Games: Agency as Art*. Philadelphia, PA.
 - 2019 Arthur Danto/American Society for Aesthetics Prize: Kenneth Walden's "Art and Moral Revolution." New York, NY.
 - 2018 Author Meets Critics: Nick Riggle's *On Being Awesome*. Savannah, GA.
- Organizer for Ted Chiang and Philosophy, a workshop for philosophers and Union College students to discuss with author Ted Chiang the philosophical significance of Chiang's work. Union College, May 13-14, 2022.
- Organizer for Salish Sea Aesthetics, a regional conference for scholars located in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. University of Victoria, May 10-11, 2019.

REFERENCES

Sam Cumming (University of California, Los Angeles)
Katrina Elliott (Brandeis University)
Simon Evnine (University of Miami)
Dominic Lopes (University of British Columbia)
Dan Korman (University of California, Santa Barbara)
Elliot Paul (Queen's University) [teaching]