

## **Darla S. Migan**

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<https://linktr.ee/dmigan>

My research takes up an interdisciplinary approach towards thinking at the intersections of ethics and aesthetics. I have applied my academic training in the areas of Critical Philosophy of Race, Black Aesthetics, Modern European Philosophy and critical theory to publish criticism on contemporary art and culture, to teach courses in aesthetic education, and to curate art exhibitions.

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN, May 14, 2021

Dissertation: *Orienting Authentic Judgments: Adrian Piper's Contributions to Black Aesthetics*

Master of Arts in Philosophy (Aesthetics and Arts), SUNY Stonybrook University (Manhattan Campus)  
Stony Brook, NY, May 2012

Thesis: *The Confessions of Augustine's Flesh:*

*Counter-Conducts Overwhelming to Pastoral Power in Christian Conversion*

Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Oberlin College  
Oberlin, OH, May 2005

### **FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

Helena Rubinstein Fellow in Critical Studies  
The Independent Study Program at the Whitney Museum of American Art  
New York, NY, 2021-2022

The Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant, Grantee, Short-Form Writing, December 2021

Graduate Research Fellow, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Freie Universität,  
Berlin, Germany, 2017-2018

### **CONTEMPORARY ART WRITING**

*Julia Haft-Candell: A Soft Grid*, Essay & Press Release, Candice Madey Gallery, October 27, 2022

*Pretty and Strange Man*, Essay on Moritz Krauth: Docks, Artothek Koeln, August 27, 2022

*Spencer Lewis: Jacques (Pink and Purple Paintings for my Dad)*, Press Release, Harper's, June 30, 2022

*Home Grown Ground*, Essay on Ian Mwesiga's 'Breakfast on the Road,' 2021, Flag Art Foundation, May 11, 2022

*Idowu Oluwaseun: A Coloured Story*, Press Release, GNYF Gallery Berlin, March 17, 2022

*A Poetics of the Glaze*, Essay on Ryan Kuo 2022 Knight Arts + Tech Fellow, ShiftSpace, March 2, 2022

*To Make Bare the Shadow*, Essay on Diana Shpungin's *Always Begin at the End*, Smack Mellon, February 2022

*The Girls*, Press Release for RIDIKKULUZ, Chela Mitchell Gallery @ Medium Exchange Gallery, October 22, 2021

*Scott Kahn*, Announcement of representation, Almine Rech Gallery, July 2021

*Entrails: The Guts of Jordan Strafer's Video Art Aesthetics*, Essay for NO BAG, Participant Inc., January 2021

*And in that Sense Annihilated ...*, Essay on Marley Freeman, Karma Gallery, October 2020

*Last Call and Chinatown Paintings*, Press Release and Interview with Izzy Barber, James Fuentes Gallery, June 2020

*Night Pictures*, Press Release on Danny Gordon, James Fuentes Gallery, June 2020

*PFIMBI YEMA SHOKO: Pidgin Sighting Report #2315A-T15A*, Essay on Pyda (Liona) Nyariri

*Every One Hundred Feet, The World Changes*, Braunschweig, Germany, October 23- November 14, 2019

*Thick Roots, Cool Rims*, Essay on Alex Becerra's *Waldeinsamkeit*. Weiss Berlin/Printed Matter, June, 2019

## **CURATED EXHIBITIONS**

*Kinetic Lullaby*, group exhibition, Curated @ VARIABLE TERMS, NYSS Dumbo Gallery, June 9-July 16, 2022  
The eight artists in KINETIC LULLABY work in the mediums of sound, printed word, painting, sculpture, and lens-based practices to dare to remember and dream, to code mytho-logical powers, to acknowledge tortuous labors and spiritual holism

*Just Lie To Me* solo exhibition by Sebastien Pierre, Curated @ VARIABLE TERMS -- As the curator of JLTM  
I developed several iterations of an IRL exhibition with Black Art Sessions' STRAIGHTLICK platform, May 2021-ongoing

*Looks Like That*, CCS Bard First-Year Practicum, Co-Curator responsible for semester-long organization of collection exhibition including selection of artworks, production, installation, and essay; Marieluise Hessel Collection, Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, December 6-14, 2018

*Still Life?* Fifth Annual SUNY Stonybrook Manhattan Philosophy & Art Conference, *Co-Curator/Co-Coordinator*, organized art exhibition and colloquia (fundraising, call for papers/artwork, invitation of keynote philosophy and artist speakers, organization of review committee, selection of papers/artworks, panel scheduling, production, installation, and catalog, A.C. Institute, May-June 2012

## **CONTEMPORARY ART CRITICISM**

*'There's This Illusion That It's an Equalizer': Artist and Director Martine Syms on the Myths of an MFA Education* QnA, Artnet News, PEOPLE, October 24, 2022

*An American Modernist Experiment*, review of Jacob Lawrence's *The American Struggle*, Phillips Collection, *Texte zur Kunst*, 146-9, December 2021

*What Happened in the Art Market During the Real Roaring '20s?*, *Artnet News*, Fall 2021

*Stacy Lynn Waddell: Mettle*, Candice Madey Gallery, review of solo exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, October 2021

*Period Rooms Usually Glorify the Aristocracy*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, *ArtNet News*, November 15, 2021

*The Nine Best Booths at Art Basel 2021: From a Monumental Nari Ward to Pauline Curnier Jardin's Theater of Intimacy*, *Art News*, September 25, 2021

*Restoration*, Liste Discourse Project, Joinery, Liste Art Fair Basel, June-September 2021

*Operation Varsity Blues*, Allouche Gallery, review of group exhibition, *Sugarcane Magazine*, June 2021

*J Stoner Blackwell & Masamitsu Shigeta*, Situations Gallery, review of two-person exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, May 2021

*Participant Observers*, on *Working Together: The Photographers of the Kamoinge Workshop*, Whitney Museum of American Art, review of group exhibition, *Reviews*, *Art in America*, March 17, 2021 (online) and May/June 2021 (print).

*Marking Time: Art in the Age of Mass Incarceration*, MoMA P.S.1, review of group exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, March 2021

*Legacy Russell's Glitch-y Cybersomatics: A Fourth Wave Feminist Manifesto*, book review of *Glitch Feminism: A Manifesto* (2020), *Discourse*, SPIKE MAGAZINE, November 18, 2020

*No Gyal Can Test*, Red Bull Arts (NY), review of Akeem Smith solo exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, November 2020

*Art Dealers are Notorious for Obscuring Prices - But as Market Shifts Online, Many are Finally Embracing Price Transparency*, *Market*, *Artnet News*, October 19, 2020

*Brown's A Color, Black is Not: ecofeminism(s)'s Anti-Intersectional Feminism and the Use and Abuse of Diversity*, Thomas Erben Gallery, review of group exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, July/August 2020

*Things on Walls*, New Discretions, review of group exhibition, *Art Seen*, *Brooklyn Rail*, May 2020

*Julie Mehretu's Seismic Cartographies*, *Art*, *Cultured Magazine*, February 2019

*Looking But Not Seeing: Darla Migan on Faith Ringgold at Weiss Berlin*  
Reviews, *Texte zur Kunst*, 170-177, September 2018

### **CONTEMPORARY ART PRESENTATIONS**

“Hogmawg: Making Home Together,” Lecture and Discussion on Aminah Robinson with Dr. Terrance Dean,  
Columbus Museum of Art (online) June 26, 2022

“On Dana Schutz's "Open Casket": The Hermeneutics of Abstraction, Mimetic Gestures, Memes, and the Networked Politics of  
(Artworld) Representation. (Revised), ISP: Critical Studies Symposium, (online) June 22, 2022

Discussion with artist RIDIKKULUZ, on the occasion of gallery exhibition *The Girls*,  
Chela Mitchell Gallery @ Mediums of Exchange Gallery, Nov. 5, 2021

“How to Become an International Art Critic in a Few Short Years” Lecture, organized by Graham Hamilton and Monika Baer,  
Städelschule (online) July 15, 2021

Guest Lecturer, Visiting Artist Lecture Series (VALS), UCLA, (online) February 26, 2021

“Remote Links #6: Darla Migan on "Untitled note,” in *Remote Links: Celebration of the Life and Work of Maryanne Amacher*,  
Conversation with Bill Dietz on Maryanne Amacher, (online) January 2021

Discussion with artist Jordan Strafer, Participant Inc., (online) December 13, 2020

Guest Lecturer, *Brown's A Color Black is Not*, Die Angewandte, Vienna Austria, (online) Dec 17, 2020

Discussion on Adrian Piper's *Thwarted Projects, Dashed Hopes, A Moment of Embarrassment*, with mani arturo abreu,  
Time-Based Art Festival, Portland Institute of Contemporary Art, (online) September 18, 2020

Discussion with artist Curtis Santiago, *Can't I Alter*, Closing Reception, The Drawing Center, (online) September 16, 2020

Arts Workers Anti-Racism Learning Group, Online Advisor with Haul Gallery  
Session 1: Discussion of Cheryl I. Harris's “Whiteness as Property,” *Harvard Law Review* (1993), June 24, 2020  
Session 2: Discussion of Cheryl I. Harris's “Whiteness as Property: A Twenty-Year Appraisal,” (2014), August 27, 2020

“On Color” A Lecture with Amy Sillman and Darla Migan, The Cheapest University with After 8 Books  
Auditorium du Carreau du Temple, Paris, July 8, 2017

### **SELECT ACADEMIC PAPERS**

“On Dana Schutz's *Open Casket*: The Hermeneutics of Abstraction, Mimetic Gestures, Memes, and the Networked Politics of  
(Artworld) Representation,” 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, American Society for Aesthetics, Oct 9-12, 2019, Phoenix, Arizona.

“Net.Artist Jon Rafman's Ethnography of Virtual World Reality”  
Annual Meeting, 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, American Society for Aesthetics,  
Toronto, Canada, October 10-13, 2018.

“Orienting Imagination: Sensus Communis, Self-Deceit, and Racism”  
Kant and Racism - A One-Day Workshop with Lucy Allais (UC San Diego/University of the Witwatersrand)  
Ludwig-Maximilians Universität Munich, Munich Center for Ethics, June 20, 2018.

“Cosmopolitanism, Cultural Difference, and Kant's Categorical Imperative”  
Lecture and Class Discussion at the John F. Kennedy School  
Berlin, Germany, April 26, 2018.

“Priming Freedom: Kultur and Moral Character in Kant's Lectures on Pedagogy”  
Wits Philosophy Research Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of the Witwatersrand  
Johannesburg, South Africa, October 10, 2016

“Adrian Piper's *Thwarted Projects, Dashed Hopes, A Moment of Embarrassment* (2012):  
Anti-Black Racism as Mistakes in Kantian Aesthetic Reflective Judgment”

Kanthropology: Kant's *Anthropology* and its Legacy, 2016 Graduate Conference  
Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy (CRMEP), Kingston University  
London, May 19-20, 2016.

“On Thinking Distortions between Anthropology and Teleology:  
Reification of Racialism and the Regressive Character of Critical Social Theory of Society”  
Ninth Annual Critical Theory Conference John Felice Rome Center of Loyola University Chicago  
Rome, May 5-7, 2016

“Race in the Turn from De-structuring Ontology to Overcoming Metaphysics: Heidegger's Authenticity and Be-ing Historical  
Thinking in the Artwork of Kara Walker” Modern European Philosophy and its Politics, Joint Conference for the Society for  
European Philosophy/Forum of European Philosophy, Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy (CRMEP),  
Kingston University, London, September 5-6, 2013

“The Limits of Pure Aesthetic Reflective Judgment: Judgments of the Sublime for Occasioning Reflection on Moral  
Feeling” Experience, Intimacy and Authority, IV Research Workshop of Identity, Memory, and Experience  
Carlos III University, Madrid, June 20-22, 2012

Remarks on Dr. Megan Craig's “Wittgenstein: Color and Sense” (Draft)  
*Wittgenstein: Jokes Pain & Color, A half-day conference and discussion*, SBU Manhattan, New York, October 28, 2011

“Co-opting Individuality, Aestheticizing Responsibility: A Poetics of Starbucks”  
GRIDLOCK: 2011 Stony Brook University Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory Conference  
A.C. Institute, New York, October 15, 2011

“The Event of Religious Conversion as Counter-Conducts Overwhelming to Pastoral Power:  
The Secrets of Submission and Salvation in Augustine's *Confessions*” Radical Foucault Conference,  
The Centre for Cultural Studies Research, University of East London, London, September 8-9, 2011

## **TEACHING**

Parsons School of Design, New School for Social Research, New York, NY

Lecturer PUPH 4111, Core Studio I: Tutorials, Fall 2022 (upcoming)  
Lecturer, PUPH 4111, Writing for Professional Practices, Spring 2022  
Lecturer, PUPH 4111, Core Studio II: Thesis Writing, Spring 2022  
Lecturer PUFA 4032, Thesis Writing, Spring 2022  
Lecturer PUPH 4111, Core Studio I: Tutorials, Fall 2021

Philosophy-for-Artists Workshops (online)

Philosophy for Artists: Ways of Knowing, Fall 2022 (upcoming)  
Philosophy for Artists: Philosophy, Criticism, Black Aesthetics, Spring 2022  
Philosophy for Artists: Ways of Knowing, Summer 2021  
Philosophy for Artists: Ways of Knowing, Fall 2021

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Instructor, PHIL 102.01: General Logic, Fall 2014  
Instructor, PHIL 100.10W: Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2014  
Instructor, PHIL 100.07W: Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2013

Research Assistant (Dr. Kelly Oliver) Department of Philosophy, Spring 2017  
Teaching Assistant (Dr. Lisa Guenther) PHIL 3010: Phenomenology (Upper Division), Fall 2016,  
Research Assistant (Dr. Karen Ng) Department of Philosophy, Spring 2015  
Teaching Assistant (Dr. Scott Aikin) PHIL 2100: Ancient (Upper-Division), Fall 2015  
Teaching Assistant (Dr. Emily Nacol) POLI SCI 202: Ancient Political Thought (Upper-Division), Fall 2013  
Teaching Assistant (Dr. John Lachs) PHIL 105: Ethics, (Led 2 weekly sections: “Anarchy and Faith”), Spring 2013

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Interview with Fred Wilson, *Fred Wilson: The Archives*, PACE Gallery, New York, November 2022 (forthcoming)

Moderator, *The White West IV: Whose Universal?*, Haus der Kultern der Welt, Berlin Biennial 12  
Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg, Berlin, Germany, July 2-3, 2022

Invited Discussant, *Love and Rage: A Roundtable on bell hooks*, November Magazine, March 2022

Invited Critic, *Online Doctor's Hours for Visual & Multidisciplinary Artists*, New York Foundation for the Arts, Nov. 22, 2021

Invited Critic, *In Conclusion: A Review of Reviews*, Ep. 27, w/Logan Lockner, Montez Press Radio, (online), July 31, 2021.

Invited Critic, Junior-year BFA exhibition, organized by Shane Aslan Selzer, Parsons School of Design, (online), April 16, 2021.

Invited Critic, Film Programme, organized by Jordan Martin and Gerard Byrne, Städelschule, (online), April 14, 2021.

Co-Moderator, *Once More with Feeling...*, New Wight Biennial 2020, with Luce de Lire, (online), October 17, 2020

International Summer School Critical Theory: Rethinking Ideology  
Selected Participant, Humboldt Universität, Berlin, Germany, July 15-20, 2018

The Institute for Critical Social Inquiry  
“The Cosmopolitan Nationalism of W.E.B. Du Bois” with Dr. Anthony K. Appiah  
Fellow, The New School for Social Research, New York, NY, June 11-17, 2017

Mellon Certificate in Humanities Education, Certificate in College Teaching, Center for Teaching,  
Vanderbilt University Seminar and Practicum, focused on college-level teaching at Historically  
Black colleges & universities (HBCUs) & small liberal arts colleges (SLACs),  
Nashville, TN, May 2016

School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University, “Scenes of Translation”  
with Dr. Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Ithaca, NY, June-July 2015

Middlebury Language School; German and French  
Middlebury, VT, July-August 2016; June-August 2014

Seminar Co-Chair, “Race, Gender and Kinship”: Thomas Piketty’s *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*,  
Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities,  
Nashville, TN, August-December 2014

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Society for Aesthetics (ASA)