

# JESSICA BRANTLEY

Yale Department of English  
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## EDUCATION

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### **University of California, Los Angeles**

Ph.D. 2000, English Literature

M.A. 1997, English Literature

Dissertation: "Reading in the Wilderness: A Contextual Study of a Carthusian Miscellany  
(British Library MS Additional 37049)." (V. A. Kolve, director)

### **Princeton, NJ**

Independent Graduate Study, 1995-6, under the direction of James H. Marrow  
(Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University) and Lucy Freeman Sandler  
(Department of Fine Arts, New York University)

### **Cambridge University**

M.Phil. 1994, Medieval and Renaissance Literature

Distinguished performance

Thesis: "Langland and Spenser as Allegorists: the Case of Piers and Arthur"  
(Jill Mann, supervisor)

### **Harvard College**

A.B. 1992, English and American Literature and Language

*magna cum laude* with highest honors in English

Thesis: "Chaucer's 'Femynyne Creatures': Mythology and Allegory Transfigured"  
(Derek Pearsall, advisor)

## EMPLOYMENT

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Associate Professor, Yale University, 2006-present

Assistant Professor, Yale University, 2000-2006

Teaching Fellow, UCLA, Winter 2000

Teaching Associate, UCLA, 1996-98

Teaching Assistant, UCLA, 1994-95

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books and Edited Volumes

*Reading in the Wilderness: Private Devotion and Public Performance in Late Medieval England.*  
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007. [Winner, Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Prize]

*On Translation: A Special Issue*, ed. and intro., with Joseph Luzzi. *Yale Journal of Criticism* 16.2 (2003).

### Articles

"The Pre-History of the Book." *PMLA* (forthcoming 2009).

"Chaucer's Poetry in a Manuscript Culture: Poetic Production in Late Medieval England."  
In *Palgrave Advances in Chaucer Studies*, ed. Larry Scanlon. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (forthcoming 2009).

"Venus and Christ in Chaucer's *Complaint of Mars*: The Fairfax 16 Frontispiece." *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 30 (2008): 171-204.

"The Pilgrim in the Cell: Carthusian Readers and Deguileville." In *Studies in Carthusian Monasticism in the Late Middle Ages*, ed. Julian Luxford, 269-98. *Medieval Church Studies* 14. Turnhout: Brepols, 2008.

"Vision, Image, Text." In *21<sup>st</sup> Century Approaches to Literature: Middle English*, ed. Paul Strohm, 315-34. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.

"Mankind in a Year without Kings." With Thomas Fulton. *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 36.2 (2006): 319-52.

"The Visual Environment of Carthusian Texts: Decoration and Illustration in the Foyle Manuscript." In *The Text in the Community: Essays on Medieval Works, Manuscripts, and Readers*, ed. Jill Mann and Maura Nolan, 173-216. South Bend, IN: Notre Dame University Press, 2006.

"Images of the Vernacular in the Taymouth Hours." *English Manuscript Studies* 10 (2001): 92-125.

"The Iconography of the Utrecht Psalter and the Old English *Descent into Hell*." *Anglo-Saxon England* 28 (1999): 43-63. [Winner, Van Courtlandt Elliott Prize]

## COMMISSIONED BOOK

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*Reading Medieval Manuscripts: Forms and Functions.* London: British Library. (Book manuscript, for submission December 2009.)

This book provides a broad survey of the forms and histories of medieval manuscripts, with illustrative examples from the collection of the British Library. It includes a guide to the physical parts of a medieval book, a history of ways in which different genres were used, and a dozen case-studies in particularly important representatives of medieval reading.

## SOLICITED ARTICLES

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“The Performance of Reading in the Book of Brome.” In *Form and Reform: New Studies in the Long Fifteenth Century*, ed. Kathleen Tonry and Shannon Gayk. (Essay for collected volume, for submission Fall 2008.)

“Modern and Medieval Books.” *Philological Quarterly*. (Review essay on monographs in manuscript studies, for submission Fall 2008.)

“Shakespeare’s *Everyman*: *Measure for Measure* and English Fundamentalism.” With Thomas Fulton. In *Premodern Shakespeares*, ed. James Simpson and Sarah Beckwith. (Essay for special issue of *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, for submission December 2008.)

“Beyond the Cycle Plays.” *Literature Compass*. (Essay for Blackwell’s online journal, for submission August 2009).

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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*The Medieval Imagetext: Writing the Visionary Artifact.* Book manuscript in progress. [Supported by a 2008-09 National Humanities Center Fellowship]

This book considers the place of the artifact in visionary writing, and also the place of the material text in visionary images, to argue for the *imagetext* as a new organizing principle through which to reconsider medieval artworks of both kinds. Although literary works are most often considered to have a close relation to insubstantial images, I argue that their relation to material ones, is, for the Middle Ages, equally important.

“*Sir Thopas* and the Shapes of Tail-Rhyme.” Article in progress.

“Reflections of a Devotional Reader: Images of the Self in the Miscellany of Roger of Waltham.” Article in progress.

“The Medieval Sister Arts and the Period Divide.” Article in progress.

## REVIEWS

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Review of Martha Dana Rust, *Imaginary Worlds in Medieval Books: Exploring the Manuscript Matrix*. *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* 30 (2008): 393-96.

Review of Marleen Cré, *Vernacular Mysticism in the Charterhouse: A Study of London, British Library MS Additional 37790*. *Speculum* 83.3 (2008): 682-83.

Review of Jane Geddes, *The St Albans Psalter: A Book for Christina of Markyate*. *Journal of the Early Book Society* 9 (2006): 180-82.

Review of Martha Driver, *The Image in Print: Book Illustration in Late-Medieval England and its Sources*. *The Medieval Review* (TMR 05.08.09, 2005).

Review of Pamela Sheingorn and Marilyn Desmond, *Myth, Montage, and Visuality in Late-Medieval Manuscript Culture: Christine de Pizan's Epistre Othea*. *The Medieval Review* (TMR 05.02.15, 2005).

“Legendary Spectacles,” Review of Jody Enders, *Death by Drama, and other Medieval Urban Legends*. *Theater* 33.3 (2003): 142-4.

Review of *The Medieval Reader: Reception and Cultural History in the Late Medieval Manuscript*, ed. Kathryn Kerby-Fulton and Maidie Hilmo. *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* (2003): 393-96.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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### National Awards and Honors

Benjamin N. Duke Fellowship of the Research Triangle Foundation, National Humanities Center, 2008-09

Van Courtlandt Elliott Prize for the best First Article in the field of Medieval Studies published in 1999, Medieval Academy of America

Fulbright Grant for Graduate Study and Research Abroad, 1993-94

**Yale Awards and Honors**

Director's Award, The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International Studies at Yale, 2008-09  
 Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Prize for a distinguished book by a junior faculty member in the humanities at Yale, for *Reading in the Wilderness*, Fall 2006  
 Hilles Publication Grant for *Reading in the Wilderness*, Whitney Humanities Center, Spring 2006  
 Griswold Travel Grant, Whitney Humanities Center, Summer 2005  
 Morse Fellowship, 2003-04  
 Griswold Travel Grant, Whitney Humanities Center, Summer 2003  
 Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, 2001-2002

**UCLA Awards and Honors**

Departmental Dissertation Fellowship, 1999-2000  
 Selected to offer a seminar in the Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, 1999-2000  
 Chancellor's Dissertation Fellowship, 1998-99  
 Lenart Travel Fellowship, 1998-99  
 Teaching commendation, Spring 1997  
 University Fellowship, 1995-96  
 Chancellor's Fellowship, 1992-93

**Harvard Awards and Honors**

Phi Beta Kappa, Iota Chapter (Radcliffe College), 1992  
 Highest Honors in English, 1992  
 Radcliffe College Travel Grant, Summer 1991  
 John Harvard Scholarship, 1990-92  
 Harvard College Scholarship, 1988-90  
 Robert Byrd Scholarship, 1988-89

**INVITED PAPERS**

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"The Material Culture of the Medieval Dream," to be presented at the Interdisciplinary Medieval Studies Colloquium, University of Virginia, 12 March 2009.

"Miscellaneous Performances in the Book of Brome," presented at the Michigan Medieval Seminar, University of Michigan, 19 September 2008.

"Private Reading and Public Performance," Faculty Panel of the New York City Doctoral Consortium Colloquium, Fordham University, 25 April 2008. [declined]

- “Reading in the Wilderness: The Drama of Devotion in a Fifteenth-Century Illustrated Miscellany,” Medieval Studies Program, University of Connecticut, 3 February 2006.
- “*Mankind* in a Year Without Kings” (with Thomas Fulton), circulated to the Medieval and Early Modern Colloquium, Columbia University, 16 September 2005.
- “Pictorial Narrative in the Eadwine Psalter,” Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame, 3 October 2002.
- “The Performance of Prayer in a Late-Medieval Illustrated Miscellany,” Medieval Doctoral Conference, Harvard University, 21 March 2002.
- “Public Pageantry in Private Spaces: Reading Devotional Performance in a Fifteenth-Century Illustrated Book,” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2 November 2001.
- “Public Pageantry in Private Spaces: Devotional Performance in a Carthusian Miscellany,” Medieval and Early Modern Colloquium, Yale University, 11 October 2001.
- “The Visual Experience of Carthusian Books: Decoration and Illustration in the Foyle Manuscript,” Middle English Manuscript Symposium, Medieval Institute, University of Notre Dame, 15 September 2001.
- “The Princess in the Prayerbook: Chivalric Images in the Taymouth Hours,” Agnes Scott College, 2 March 2001.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- “Ekphrasis and the Ritual Object.” To be presented at the 43<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), May 2009.
- “Late Medieval Plays for Reading: The Book of Brome.” Sixteenth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society. University of Wales, 18-22 July 2008.
- “Medieval Ways of Seeing.” Medieval Writing Workshop. University of California, Davis, 14-16 September 2007.
- “‘I may nevr fulle telle it’: Image into Word in Julian of Norwich.” Lost in Translation? The Tenth Cardiff Conference on the Theory and Practice of Translation in the Middle Ages. Université de Lausanne, 17-22 July 2007.

- “Anglo-Saxon Imagetext.” 41<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), 11-13 May 2007.
- “Venus and Christ in Chaucer’s *Complaint of Mars*.” Medieval Lunchtime Talks. Yale University, 13 February 2007.
- “Medieval Imagetext.” Medieval Writing Workshop. University of California, Davis, 22-24 September 2006.
- “Roger of Waltham Imagines Himself.” International Association of Word and Image Studies: Elective Affinities. University of Pennsylvania, 23-27 September 2005.
- “Tail-Rhyme in the *Tale of Sir Thopas*.” Medieval Lunchtime Talks. Yale University, 23 March 2005.
- “Dramatizing the Cell: Carthusian Readers of Deguileville.” International Medieval Congress. University of Leeds, 10-13 July 2004.
- “The Shapes of Tail-Rhyme.” Thirteenth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society. University of Glasgow, 14-17 July 2004.
- “Visual Exegesis of the Psalms: The Utrecht Psalter and Old English Poetry.” Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy. University of Washington, 1-3 April 2004.
- “Reading in the Wilderness.” Medieval Writing Workshop. Northwestern University, 15-16 October 2003.
- “The Performance of Devotional Reading: Illustrated Playtexts in British Library MS Additional 37049.” 36<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), 5-8 May 2002.
- “Performing Devotion in British Library MS Additional 37409.” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association. New Orleans, 27-30 December 2001.
- “‘In maner of a dyaloge it wente’: Devotional Performances in a Carthusian Miscellany (BL MS Add. 37049).” 35<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), 4-7 May 2001.
- “Monastic Reading and the Shape of the Book: Devotional Performances in British Library MS Additional 37049.” Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America/Medieval Association of the Pacific. Arizona State University, 15-17 March 2001.

“Liturgical Performances in Vernacular Manuscripts.” E-seminar connected to the Twelfth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society. University of London, 14-17 July 2000.

“Reading in the Wilderness: Empty Spaces in the *Desert of Religion*.” International Medieval Congress. University of Leeds, 10-13 July 2000.

“Public Pageantry in Private Spaces: Liturgical Performance in BL MS Add. 37049.” 34<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), 3-6 May 2000.

“Reading in the Wilderness: a Contextual Study of a Carthusian Miscellany (BL MS Additional 37049).” *Unstable Strategies: Writing the History of Art Now*. Getty Research Institute, 7-8 April 2000.

“‘Als wildernes is wroght this boke’: The Shape of Eremitic Reading in the *Desert of Religion*.” Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of the Pacific. University of Victoria, British Columbia, 25-27 February 2000.

“The Person in the Book: Text and Image in the Miscellany of Roger of Waltham,” International Medieval Congress. University of Leeds, 12-15 July 1999.

“Chivalric Piety and Vernacular Prayer in the Taymouth Hours.” *Ut pictura poesis: Verbal and Visual Images in Manuscripts and Printed Books, 1350-1550*, a Conference of the Early Book Society. University of Glasgow, 8-12 July 1999.

“The Fairfax 16 Miniature and its Continental Inheritance.” Eleventh International Congress of the New Chaucer Society. Université de la Sorbonne, 17-20 July 1998.

“*Pearl* and the Pictures of Cotton Nero A.x.” 33<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo), 7-10 May 1998.

“Images of the Vernacular in the Taymouth Hours.” Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America/Medieval Association of the Pacific. Stanford University, 26-28 March 1998.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Yale University

#### Undergraduate courses

Chaucer: A survey of all stages of the poet’s career, including the early dream-visions, *Troilus and Criseyde*, and selected *Canterbury Tales*.

Medieval Performances—Drama and Lyric: An investigation of two anonymous, popular genres of late-medieval literature, with attention given to generic boundaries, performance history, and manuscript contexts.

Medieval Women Writers and Readers: Study of works written by, for, and about medieval women in a wide variety of social and cultural contexts. Readings include the *Lais* of Marie de France, Chaucer's *Legend of Good Women*, the *Revelations* of Julian of Norwich, *The Book of Margery Kempe*, and the Paston letters.

Introduction to Manuscript Study: A history of late-medieval and early modern books, with special attention to the collections at Beinecke Library.

Medieval Dream-Vision: An examination of one of the most persistent and popular medieval genres, ranging from courtly reverie to prophetic nightmare. Readings include *The Book of the Duchess*, *The Parliament of Fowls*, *The House of Fame*, *Piers Plowman*, and *Pearl*, with special attention to the hermeneutic puzzles that arise from the interpretation of dreams.

Modern British Drama: A study of representative works of twentieth and twenty-first century British drama, based on current productions on the London stage, with attention to the social issues the plays address as well as theatrical conventions developed by playwrights and actors. (Yale-in-London)

Major English Poets: Year-long introductory study of major figures in the English poetic tradition (Chaucer, Spenser, Donne, Milton, Pope, Wordsworth, and Eliot).

Advanced Prose: An intensive workshop in the familiar essay, including detailed analysis of professional essays, and frequent writing and revision of participants' own work.

#### Senior Essays:

Cord Whitaker, "The *Franklin's Tale*: Characterizing Love in the "Gardyn" and in the "Rokkes Blake"

Danielle Tumminio, "Middle English Manuscripts" (independent study)

Emily Breunig, "Narrative Form in Malory and his Interpreters"

Leyla Ertegun, "Lydia Davis's *The End of the Story*: Reminiscence and Rewriting"

Julie Quackenbush, "Chaucerian Alterations to Middle English Aubade Traditions"

#### **Graduate courses**

Chaucer: A reading of the *Canterbury Tales*, with attention to both medieval contexts and modern critical perspectives.

Medieval Visionary Writing: A study of the wide variety of medieval writing that is concerned with images, from courtly fantasies, to spiritual revelations, to prophetic allegories.

Teaching Practicum: An introduction to teaching, including pedagogical issues such as syllabus construction, responding to written work, leading seminar discussion, and lecturing.

Introduction to Manuscript Study: A directed reading focusing on the history of early and late medieval books in England, with special attention to the collections at Beinecke Library. (Jordan Zweck)

Writing Carthusian Spirituality: A directed reading focusing on medieval Carthusian life and theology as expressed through their books. (Laura Miles, Andrew Kraebel, Simon Gatsby)

#### Ph.D. Dissertations:

Co-director, Laura Saetvit Miles, "The Annunciation in Late-Medieval English Literature"

Co-director, Anna Chen, "The Figure of the Child in Late-Medieval English Literature"

Reader, Jennifer Sisk, "Forms of Speculation: Religious Genres and Religious Inquiry in Late Medieval England"

Reader, Morgan Swan, "London as 'Mayster-Town': The Literary Construction of a Capital City"

Reader, George Shuffelton, "The Miscellany and the Monument: Collecting in Chaucer, Gower, and Langland"

Reader, Seeta Chaganti, "Memorial and Metamorphosis: The Image of the Relic in the Literature of Medieval England and France"

- Chapter Committee, Denis Ferhatovic, "A Poetics of the Concrete Fragment: Stronghold, Artifact, Stranger in Old English Verse"
- Chapter Committee, Jordan Zweck, "Epistolary Forms in Early English Literature"
- Chapter Committee, Curtis Perrin, "Langland's Comic Vision"
- Chapter Committee, Michael Wenthe, "Arthurian Outsiders: Heterogeneity and the Cultural Politics of Medieval Arthurian Literature"

## UCLA

- Reading Pictures, Viewing Words: Studies in Text and Image from the Bayeux Tapestry to Art Spiegelman, Winter 2000: An interdisciplinary lower-division honors seminar, offered under the auspices of the University Collegium of Teaching Fellows. A series of case-studies in text/image relations, including the Bayeux Tapestry, Chaucerian manuscripts, sixteenth-century emblem books, the shaped poetry of George Herbert, William Hogarth's engravings, William Blake's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*, Dante Gabriel Rossetti's paintings and poetry, and the illustrated volumes of Stevie Smith, James Thurber, and Art Spiegelman.
- Shakespeare—The Later Plays, Spring 1998: Intensive study of representative problem plays, major tragedies, Roman plays, and romances. Lectured on *Macbeth*.
- Shakespeare—The Poems and Early Plays, Winter 1998: Intensive study of selected poems and representative comedies, histories, and tragedies through *Hamlet*.
- English Literature to 1660, Fall 1996-Fall 1997: A survey of selected works of the period, beginning with selections from Old English poetry and including Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Donne, and Milton. Lectured on *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.
- Critical Reading and Writing, Spring 1995: Designed and taught introduction to literary analysis, with close reading and carefully written exposition of selections from the principal genres: poetry, prose fiction, and drama.
- English Composition, Rhetoric, and Language, Fall 1994-Winter 1995: Designed and taught composition course, required for all first-year students, focusing on rhetorical techniques and skillful argument.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### To the Field

- Member, Program Committee, for the New Chaucer Society Congress. Siena, Italy, 2010.
- Organizer, "Chaucer and the Consolations of Philology," for the Modern Language Association. San Francisco, 27 December 2008.
- Organizer, "Textual Diasporas," for the New Chaucer Society Congress. Swansea, Wales, 20 July 2008.
- Invited Participant, Dartmouth Medieval Colloquium. Hanover, NH, 17 November 2007.
- Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships. Washington DC, 8 August 2007
- Invited Participant, Dartmouth Medieval Colloquium. Hanover, NH, 15 November 2005.

Panelist, Post-Production Discussion of *Midsummer Night's Dream*, Long Wharf Theater. New Haven, CT, 2 October 2005  
 Member, NEH Summer Seminar Admissions Committee. New Haven, CT, 30 March 2005  
 Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships. Washington DC, 13 August 2004  
 Editor, *Yale Journal of Criticism*, 2000-2003; 2005  
 Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships. Washington DC, 8 August 2001  
 Peer Reviewer, *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*, *Leeds Studies in English*, University of Michigan Press

### To the University

Member, Beinecke Library Advisory Committee, 2005-present  
 Member, Advisory Committee on Library Policy, 2004-2006  
 Member, Gender and Women's Studies Faculty Council, 2002-present  
 Representative from the English Department, Silliman College, 2002-present  
 Freshman Advisor, Silliman College, 2001-present  
 Organizer, Medieval Lunchtime Talks, 2001-03  
 Member, Fulbright Fellowships University Committee, 2001-02  
 Member, Gates Fellowships Mock-Interview Committee, 13 April 2001  
 Member *ad hoc*, Yale College Admissions Committee, 16 February 2001

### To the Department

Organizer, Medieval and Renaissance Colloquium, 2004-present  
 Member, Committee on Graduate Studies, 2007-present  
 Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2005-06; 2008-present  
 Specialist Reader, Junior Appointments Committee, 2008-09  
 Member, Junior Appointments Committee, 2007-08  
 Member (elected), Committee on Departmental Aims and Procedures, 2004-06  
 Member, Committee on Graduate Admissions, 2004-06  
 Member, Committee to Evaluate Morse Proposals, 2004-05  
 Panelist, Roundtable on Applying for Jobs, May 2005  
 Member, Lectures and Social Arrangements Committee, 2002-03; 2005-06  
 Course Director, English 125a, Fall 2002, Fall 2004  
 Junior Mentor for the First-Year Graduate Class, 2001-02  
 Member, Graduate Oral Exam Committees, Spring 2001-present  
 Member, Prizes Committee, 2000-02  
 Member, English Department Mock-Interview Committee, 2000-present  
 Panelist, MLA Interview Strategy, November 2000; November 2001  
 Panelist, Applying to Graduate School, October 2000