

Dylan Lackey

PhD Candidate / Instructor

Media, Art, & Text

Virginia Commonwealth University | Richmond, Virginia, USA

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

psychoanalysis, critical theory, queer & trans* theory, neo/liberal political theory, contemporary/modern art history, literary modernism, visual & material culture, Black study, histories of enslavement, new media theory

EDUCATION

2022 — **PhD Candidate, Media, Art, & Text**

present **Virginia Commonwealth University**

Dissertation: "Language, Ruin: *Finnegans Wake* & the Aporias of Black *Lalangue*"

Supervisor: Oliver Speck / Committee: Adin Lears, Massa Lemu, Jennifer Rhee

2020 — **MA, Critical & Cultural Studies, Department of Philosophy**

2021 **Global Centre for Advanced Studies**

Thesis: "On the Reproduction of Anti-Blackness: Regarding the Absent-Presence of Blackness in Althusserian Interpellation"

Supervisor: Creston Davis / Committee: Lewis Gordon (University of Connecticut); Banu Bargu (UC Santa Cruz); Andrew Culp (California Institute of the Arts)

2016 — **BA, Political Theory / Women, Gender, & Sexuality / Bioethics (Minor)**

2020 **University of Virginia**

Thesis: "Necropolitics, Interpellation, & Archival Possibility: Regarding the (Un)making of Death-Worlds" (with distinction)

Supervisor: Douglas Meyer

TEACHING & RESEARCH

Graduate Assistant, VCU

Humanities Research Center / Spring 2026

Instructor, VCU

ENGL 317: Body & Culture (Psychoanalysis & Cinema) / Spring 2025

ENGL 250: Reading Film / Spring 2023 + Fall 2023 + Spring 2024 + Fall 2024 + Fall 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant, VCU

ENGL 250: Reading Film with A. Harry Jones / Fall 2022

ENGL 215: Reading Literature with John Brinegar / Fall 2022

Seminar Instructor, Morning Star Research Center for the Afterlife of Slavery

Corrosive Sublimation: Art & Ab-sense / Spring 2026 / Invited respondents: Jamieson Webster, Derek Hook, Marcus Coelen, Fred Moten, Eric Alliez, Lee Edelman, Jack Halberstam, Luke Thurston, Rizvana Bradley, Patrice Douglass, David S. Marriott

Guest Lecturer, VCU

WRLD 491: Super Hero Movies with Oliver Speck / Spring 2024 / Lecture: "Afropessimism & Afrofuturism"

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Works

- Forthcoming "Corrosive Sublimation: Art and the Late Lacan" Special Issue, *Art Journal*
Contributions by Robert Hobbs, David S. Marriott, Luke Thurston, Patrick Teed, Robert Buck & Elizabeth Rogers, Patricia Ekpo & Eri Linsker, Jamieson Webster & Marcus Coelen, Emiliano Battista & Dora Garcia
- Forthcoming "Art, Anti-Blackness, and Psychoanalysis," Edited Series, publisher unfinalized

Chapters

- Oct 2025 "Trauma Theory: An Introduction to Historical Memory, Psychoanalysis, & Sublimation," Chapter 15, *Contemporary Literary and Cultural Theory: Concepts and Applications* (ed. Puspa Damai), Routledge, ISBN 9781032993775

Scholarly Articles

- Forthcoming "Anselm Kiefer's *Finnegans Wake* and the Whiteness of *Lalangue*." *Art Journal*, Special Issue: Corrosive Sublimation: Art, Culture, Psychoanalysis
- Oct 2025 "Joyce's Masochistic *Lalangue*: Deleuze and Lacan at *Finnegans Wake*." *Culture and Dialogue*, Volume 13, Special Issue 1: The Philosophy and Influence of Gilles Deleuze, DOI 10.1163/24683949-bja10015
- May 2025 "For the Love of Guilt: Interpellation & Black *Lalangue*." *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, Issue 49: Care & Cure, DOI 10.3138/TOPIA-2024.0008
- Dec 2023 "Guilty Machines: On *Ab-sens* in the Age of AI." *Critical Humanities*, Volume 2, Special Issue 1: Humanities in the Time of ChatGPT & Other Forms of Artificial Intelligence, co-written with Katherine Weinschenk, DOI 10.33470/2836-3140.1038
- Aug 2023 "Against Declination: Blackness, Subjectivation, & Parabasis." *Chiasma: A Site for Thought*, Issue #7: Non/Non-Being/Negativity

Reviews

- Feb 2026 Book Review: "Strategic Coldness," Henrike Kohpeiß' *Bourgeois Coldness* (2025) for *Radical Philosophy*
- Dec 2025 Exhibition Review: "Lacan's *Sinthome*: On Lacan, *L'Exposition: Quand l'art rencontre la psychanalyse*, Centre Pompidou-Metz, 31 Dec 2023 to 27 May 2024" for *Exhibition Reviews Annual* (年度展览评论), Issue 10: 2024-2025
- Apr 2023 Book Review: Lee Edelman's *Bad Education: Why Queer Theory Teaches Us Nothing* (2023) for *InVisible Culture: A Journal for Visual Culture*
- Nov 2020 Book Review: Jack Halberstam's *Wild Things: The Disorder of Desire* (2020) for *InVisible Culture: A Journal for Visual Culture*

Public Writing

- Forthcoming "On What Does Not Cease Being Written." *Art Journal*, Introduction to edited Special Issue

PRESENTATIONS / SEMINARS / ROUNDTABLES

- Jun 2026 "Against the *Sinthome*: Theorizing Art Beyond Self-Naming"
The International Society for Theoretical Psychology – 'Theorizing in Dark Times – Art, Narrative, Politics'
- Apr 2026 "Study After Discipline: New Humanities Research Methods"
Humanities Symposium, Humanities Research Center at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Mar 2026 "From Subl(im)ation to Sinthome in Contemporary Art"
Graduate Research Colloquium in Contemporary Critical Thought, Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought – 'Hegel 13/13'
- Nov 2025 "Anselm Kiefer the *Alchemist*: Anti-Blackness and 'Corrosive Sublimation'"
London Arts-Based Research Centre, University of Oxford – 'Alchemy: Exploring Metaphorical Transformations and Arts-Based Research'
- Sep 2025 "Blackness and Anti-Hermeneutics"
Invited Commenter: "Oneself as not Another: A New Hermeneutics of Blackness" by James Henry Harris – Virginia Philosophical Association Annual Conference
- May 2025 "Joyce's *Lalangue*: On Masochism, Anti-Blackness, & *écriture féminine*"
Freudian Research Seminar Series, Freud Museum London – 'Freud & Women'
- Mar 2025 "Queer Desublimation & Blackness *N'est Pas* in Věra Chytilová's *Daisies* (1966)"
NeMLA Annual Convention – Panel: 'Beyond the Binary: Narratives of Queer Experience in Literature & Film' (Session Chair)
- Jan 2025 "*Exoneratus*: Blackness & Lacan's *Finnegans Wake*"
MLA Annual Convention – Panel: 'Black Psychoanalyses?' with Anthony Paul Farley & Jordan Taliha McDonald, moderated by Linette Park
- Dec 2024 "Blackness *N'est Pas* in the Rubble of Bermondsey's White Cube"
London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research & Department of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures, University of Madeira – 'The Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction'
- Sep 2024 "Anti-Blackness & Creative Self-Destruction in Lacan, Joyce, & Kiefer"
Strategies of Critique, York University – 'Study & Dissent'
- Sep 2024 School of Materialist Research, Summer Institute
'The Feminine in the Age of Anthropological Transformation' with Julia Kristeva, Miglena Nikolchina, & Katarina Kolozova
- May 2024 "Panopticism's Black *Poché*: Reading Foucault with Jefferson"
World Congress, Foucault: 40 Years After, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales & Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought – 'Reading *Discipline & Punish*'
- Apr 2024 "There is No *Lalangue* of AI: Machine Learning, Blackness, & the Late Lacan"
Parren J. Mitchell Symposium, Critical Race Initiative, University of Maryland
- Nov 2023 "Interpellating Architectures Between Bentham, Jefferson, & Wright"
Centre for Humanities Research, University of the Western Cape – 'Black Radical Thought & Neoliberalism'
- Sep 2023 "Notes on Queer Nothingness & Black *Lalangue*"
Political Theology Network, Villanova University – 'Willing Slaves?: Theology, Race, Law'
- Aug 2023 "Contemporary Art, Interpellation, & Racialized Gentrification: A Case Study on Hudson Valley Displacement as a Matter of Perpetual War"
Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication – Cultural & Critical Studies Division
- May 2023 "For the Love of Guilt: Interpellation & Black *Lalangue*"
Strategies of Critique, York University – 'Care & Cure'
- Mar 2023 "Plantation & Panopticon: Revisiting Bio/Necropolitics"
Q Symposium, Virginia Commonwealth University – 'Policing Bodies'

FELLOWSHIPS / TEAMS / RESEARCH LABS

NYU Faculty First Look Scholar, 2025

Office of Inclusive Excellence / Arts & Sciences at New York University

Health Humanities Minor Curriculum Development, Graduate Fellow, 2024 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Health Humanities Lab / Supervision by Dr. Chris Cynn

Data Ecologies, Graduate Research Assistant, 2024 – 2025

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Jennifer Rhee & Jesse Goldstein

Body & Culture: Myth & Death, Graduate Research Assistant, 2024

VCU English & Health Humanities / Supervision by Dr. Sachi Shimomura

Spirituality, Care and Culture Lab, Team Member, 2025 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Andrew Crislip, Adin Lears, & Mimi Winick

AI Futures Lab, Team Member, 2024 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Jennifer Rhee & Caddie Alford

Research Center for Arts & Humanities in Healthcare, Graduate Member, 2022–2024

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Dr. Oliver Speck

EVENT FACILITATION

Apr 2025 – Claire Denis' *No Fear, No Die* (1996, restored 2022)

Film screening at VCU followed by Q&A with Shawn Utsey (VCU AAS/Psychology), Brandon Shillingford (Exposure Cinema), Lewis Peterson (HardLight Cinema), Oliver Speck, & myself on anti-Blackness, Frantz Fanon, colonialism, & Third Cinema

Sep 2023 – Apichatpong Weerasethakul's *Memoria* (2021)

Film screening at the Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU followed by Q&A with Oliver Speck, Josh M. Tyree (VCUarts), & myself on slow cinema, colonialism, memory, & fantasy

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

SPRING 2024	SPRING 2023
GSWS 624: Gender & Cultural Reproduction (Dawn Johnson) MATX 690: Critical Artificial Intelligence Studies (Jennifer Rhee) MATX 791: Lacan / <i>Père-version</i> / Slavery; IS (Oliver Speck)	MATX 603: Mass Media (Mariam Alkazemi) MATX 604: Interdisciplinary Workshop (Oliver Speck) ENGL 606: Literary Criticism – Minor Affects (Adin Lears)
FALL 2023	FALL 2022
SCPT 510: Contemporary Visual Cultures (Massa Lemu) ARTH 690: Art Historiography & Methodology (Eric Garberson) MATX 791: Critical Perspectives in Art; IS (Sasha Waters-Freyer)	MATX 601: Texts & Textuality (Oliver Speck) MATX 602: History of Media, Art, & Text (Joshua Eckhardt) GSWS 620: Theorizing Sexuality (Eli Coston)

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Graduate Student Travel Grant, MLA Convention, 2025

Graduate Winner, VCU Book Collecting Contest, 2024

Finalist, International Awards for Art Criticism, 2024

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

<u>Modern Language Association</u>	<u>College Art Association</u>	<u>Association for Philosophy & Literature</u>	<u>American Philosophical Association</u>	<u>Society for Cinema & Media Studies</u>	<u>Modernist Studies Association</u>
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