

TAMAR KATZ

English Department  
Box 1852, Brown University  
Providence, RI 02912  
Tamar\_Katz@brown.edu

### **Current Position**

- Associate Professor of English, Brown University, 1999-present  
Courtesy appointment: Urban Studies Program 2002-present
- Assistant Professor of English, Brown University, 1992-1999

### **Education**

- Ph.D. English, Cornell University, 1992
- M.A. English, Cornell University, 1989
- B.A. English, Yale University, 1983

### **Work in Progress**

- “Urban Retrospective: Remaking Temporality in the Literature and Culture of Modernist New York”

This book revises conventional associations of the modernist city with the new and argues that literary representations of New York City grapple instead with the disruptive persistence of the past. It analyzes twentieth-century representations of the city’s built environment across multiple genres, from the novel to literary journalism, from architectural criticism and photography to immigrant memoirs finding alternatives to progressing time in the city.

### **Book, Book Chapters, and Selected Articles and Reviews**

- *Impressionist Subjects: Gender, Interiority, and Modernist Fiction in England*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000.
- “Woolf’s Malleable Objects: Impressionism and the Material World *CUSP: Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Cultures* vol. 1 no. 2 (Summer 2023): 317-332.
- “Street Scenes” Rev. of Sara Blair, *How the Other Half Looks* and Andrew Thacker, *Modernism, Space and the City*, *Modernism/modernity* 28.3 (2021) 579-583.
- “Impressionism and Post-Impressionism,” *The Oxford Handbook of Virginia Woolf*, ed. Anne Fernald. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2021. 377-390.
- “Woolf’s Urban Rhythms,” *A Companion to Virginia Woolf*, ed. Jessica Berman, Wiley-Blackwell. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016. 397-410.
- “Anecdotal History: The New Yorker, Joseph Mitchell, and Literary Journalism.” *American Literary History*. 27.3 (Fall 2015) 1-26.
- “City Memory, City History: Urban Nostalgia, The Colossus of New York, and Late-Twentieth-Century Historical Fiction.” *Contemporary Literature* 51.4 (Winter 2010) 810-51.
- “Pausing, Waiting, Repeating: Urban Temporality in Mrs. Dalloway and The Years.”

- *Virginia Woolf and the City: Selected Papers from the Nineteenth Annual Conference on Virginia Woolf*. Ed. Elizabeth F. Evans and Sarah E. Cornish. Clemson University Digital Press, 2010. 2-16.
- “Walter Pater,” *Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature*. Ed. David Scott Kastan. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2006.
- “Modernism, Subjectivity, and Narrative Form: Abstraction in *The Waves*,” *Narrative* 3.3 (October 1995): 232-51.
- “‘In the House and Garden of his Dream’: Pater’s Domestic Subjectivity,” *Modern Language Quarterly* 56.22 (June 1995): 167-88.
- “‘Show Me How to Do Like You’: Didacticism and Epistolary Form in Alice Walker’s *The Color Purple*,” *Modern Critical Views: Alice Walker*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New Haven: Chelsea House, 1989. 185-93.

### **Invited Lectures**

- “City Time: Nella Larsen’s Rooms,” Modernism Seminar, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, October 3, 2017; Elizabeth Munves Sherman Lecture in Gender and Sexuality Studies, Brown University, February 15, 2017.
- “Pausing, Waiting, Repeating: Urban Temporality in Mrs. Dalloway and *The Years*,” Plenary Lecture, 18th Annual International Virginia Woolf Conference, Fordham University, Lincoln Center, June 2009.
- “What Maisie Knew, The New Woman, and the Rise of Modernist Fiction,” Harvard Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Seminar on Modernism and Its Contexts, March 1999.

### **Selected Presentations**

- Roundtable participant, “Street Art: Immediate Image, Long History,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Brooklyn, NY, October 2023.
- Lunchtime Presentation: Urban Retrospective: Remaking Temporality in the Literature and Culture of Modernist New York, English Department, Brown University, April, 2022.
- “The Proprioceptive City: Henry Roth’s *Call It Sleep* and Urban Ecologies in New York City” *NEMLA* Baltimore, MD March, 2022.
- “Lewis Mumford: How to See the City Whole,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Toronto, ON, October 2019.
- “Immigrant neighborhoods and the movement of emergence: Roth’s *Call It Sleep*,” American Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, GA, November 2018.
- “Moving, Moving Backward: Nella Larsen’s *Passing*,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Amsterdam, NE, August 2017.
- “Claude McKay and the Historical Trajectories of the New Negro Renaissance,” Co-Organizer: Roundtable: Historical Trajectories of the New Negro Renaissance, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Pasadena, CA, November 2016.
- “History, Plot, and Nightclub: The Temporalities of *Home to Harlem*,” Seminar Paper, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Boston, MA, November 2015.
- “Mobility, Memory, and the Segregated City in Nella Larsen’s *Passing*,” Panel Organizer, Modern Language Association, Vancouver, BC, January, 2015.

- “Remaking the Temporality of Home: McKay’s Home to Harlem,” Modern Language Association, Vancouver, BC, January, 2015.
- “Crossing the City, Crossing into the Nation: Jewish Immigrant Neighborhoods, Mobility, and Americanization,” Crossing the Space Between conference, University of London, July 2014.
- Seminar Organizer: “Modernist Cities,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Sussex University, UK, August 2013.
- “Ordinary Buildings, Exceptional Buildings: The Writing of Lewis Mumford and the Photographs of Berenice Abbott,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Sussex University, UK, August 2013.
- “Seeing History in the City, the City in History: Berenice Abbott and Lewis Mumford,” Cogut Center Seminar, November 2013.
- “City Buildings: Materializing the Past in The New Yorker,” Material Cultures in the Space Between conference, Brown University, June 2012.
- “Narrating the Neighborhood: Joseph Mitchell, the New Yorker Magazine, and South Street History,” Panel Organizer, Modernist Manhattan Conference, NYIT, March 2012.
- “Anecdotal History: Joseph Mitchell, The New Yorker, and the Journalism of Urban Time,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Buffalo, NY, October 2011.
- “The Vanishing City: Berenice Abbott and New York City Buildings,” Panel Organizer, Modern Language Association, Los Angeles, CA, January 2011.
- “‘The Past Jostling the Present’: Berenice Abbott Photographs New York City,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Victoria, BC, November 2010.
- Plenary address, “Pausing, Waiting, Repeating: Urban Temporality in Mrs. Dalloway and The Years,” 18th Annual International Virginia Woolf Conference, Fordham University, Lincoln Center, June 2009.
- “Urban Citizenship and The Colossus of New York,” American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2009.
- “Urban Memory and Historical Fiction,” Congress CATH V: The Afterlife of Memory Conference, University of Leeds, July 2006.
- “Urban Identity, Documentary, and Modernist Fiction: George Orwell and Jean Rhys,” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Simon Fraser University, October 2004.

### **Conferences Organized**

- Co-organizer, Material Cultures in the Space Between. Brown University, June 2012.

### **Selected Grants and Awards**

- Presidential Award for Excellence in Faculty Governance, May 2022
- Cogut Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, Fall 2013
- Brown University Humanities Initiative Grant, 2012.
- Brown University Course Development Grant, 2004.
- Bronson Fellowship, English Department, Brown University, Fall 1996.

### **Selected Professional Service and Memberships**

- Tenure Reviewer, Tel Aviv University
- Reviewer, NEH

- Reader: *ALH: American Literary History, Modernism/Modernity, Journal of Urban Cultural Studies, Journal of Modern Periodical Studies, Studies in American Literature*, Routledge, Palgrave Macmillan,  
Member, Modernist Studies Association
- Member AAUP

### **Research and Teaching Interests**

- Twentieth and twenty-first century literature; modernism; urban literature; temporality, memory, and time; gender and sexuality studies

### **Selected Courses Taught**

- Graduate:
  - “Temporalities,” “Modernism and Theories of Space”
- Undergraduate:
  - “City Spaces, City Memories,” “Modernism and Everyday Life,” “City Novels,” “Modernist Cities,” “Reading New York,” “Independence and Modern Literature” co-taught with Kunle George, “The Roaring Twenties”