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McGill University
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EDUCATION

- 2004–2009 Ph.D., Religious Studies, McGill University, Montreal QC
Dissertation title: “‘Know that we are not good persons’: Pure Land Buddhism and the ethics of exile.” Supervisor: Victor Sōgen Hori.
- Autumn 2006 Research Fellow, Ōtani University, Kyoto Japan
- 2000–2003 M.A., Religious Studies, McGill University, Montreal QC
Thesis title: “Surface tension: Kuki Shūzō’s *iki* as a posture of resignation and resistance.”
- 1993–1997 B.A. (hons.), Religious Studies, McGill University, Montreal QC

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2008–2009 Dean’s Fellowship, Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University
- 2007 McGill Internal SSHRC Research Fellowship
- 2007 AAR (Eastern International Region) Graduate Student Essay Award
- 2005–2007 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship
- 2004–2005 J.W. McConnell Foundation, McGill Major Fellowship
- 2002–2003 Dean’s Fellowship, Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University

LANGUAGES

Modern Japanese

(Currently working on a translation of Hasegawa Susumu’s “The Advancing Crowd,” for inclusion in a Adrienne Hurley’s documentary history of anarchism in Japan.)

Classical Japanese

Classical Chinese

French

PUBLICATIONS

(author) “Shinshū studies and the legacy of liberal thought.” In *The Social Dimension of Shin Buddhism*, ed. Ugo Dessì. Leiden: Brill, forthcoming 2009/2010.

(author) “Dead men don’t lie: sacred texts in Jim Jarmusch’s *Dead Man* and *Ghost Dog: Way of the Samurai*.” *Journal of Religion and Film* (October 2008).

(author and co-editor) “The subject of history in Miki Kiyoshi’s ‘Shinran’.” In *The Kyoto School: Neglected Themes and Hidden Variations*, eds. Victor Sōgen Hori and Melissa Anne-Marie Curley. Nagoya: Nanzan, 2008.

(review) William R. Lindsey. *Fertility and Pleasure: Ritual and Sexual Values in Tokugawa Japan*. Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2006. *ARC* 34, 2007.

(review) Michael F. Marra, ed. *Japanese Hermeneutics: Current Debates on Aesthetics and Interpretation*. Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2002. *ARC* 32, 2004.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

- May 2008 “Real life freaks: grotesquerie in Alejandro Jodorowsky’s *Holy Mountain*.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting. Montreal QC.
- March 2008 “Host body: teaching Japanese religions by teaching American performance art.” 2008 McGill-CREOR Graduate Students’ Conference. Montreal QC.
- May 2007 “Binding commitments: women’s hair donation in Japanese Pure Land Buddhism.” Congress of the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion. Saskatoon SK, and American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting. Waterloo ON.
- March 2007 “The subject of history in Miki Kiyoshi’s ‘Shinran.’” Numata Conference 2007 (The Kyoto School: Neglected Themes and Hidden Variations.) Montreal QC.
- May 2006 “X marks the spot: Japanese tantra and feminist romance.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting. Québec QC.
- May 2005 “‘Read man’: the circulation of sacred texts in two films by Jim Jarmusch.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting. Montreal QC.
- March 2005 “Buddha eye, camera eye: the nuclear in Nishitani Keiji.” 2005 Numata Buddhism Conference. Montreal QC.
- March 2005 “This very body: managing the bodies of Hiroshima survivors.” Concordia GSRS Annual Conference: Embodying the Sacred. Montreal QC.
- April 2004 “Becoming sorry: Shin Buddhist repentance in the postwar context.” American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting. Ithaca NY.

TEACHING (as an instructor in the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University)

- June 2009 Buddhism, Gender, and Sexuality
- May 2009 Interfaith Seminar: Religion and the Body
- Winter 2009 Japanese Esoteric Buddhism
- Winter 2009 Japanese Religions
- Fall 2008 Mahāyāna Buddhism
- June 2008 Buddhism, Gender, and Sexuality
- Winter 2008 Pure Land Buddhism
- June 2007 Topics in Religion and the Arts: Images of Death and the Afterlife on Film
- June 2007 Buddhism, Gender, and Sexuality
- May 2006 Hindu and Buddhist Images of the Feminine
- Winter 2006 Religions of East Asia
- Fall 2005 Pure Land Buddhism
- July 2005 Topics in the Philosophy of Religion: Asian Ascetic Traditions
(team-taught with Meera Kachroo)
- June 2005 Hindu and Buddhist Images of the Feminine
- Fall 2004 Hindu and Buddhist Images of the Feminine
(team-taught with Davesh Soneji)
- Fall 2004 Hinduism and Buddhism
(team-taught with Davesh Soneji)

GUEST LECTURES (selected)

- June 2007 “Practical magic in Japanese religions.”
McGill University, Montreal QC.
- May 2007 “The Hiroshima Peace Memorial and the notion of pilgrimage.”
McGill University, Montreal QC.
- March 2006 “Dragons and good daughters: women in three new Japanese religions.”
Queen’s University, Kingston ON.
- May 2005 “Introduction to Hinduism and the notion of sainthood.”
McGill University, Montreal QC.
- May 2005 “Black nationalism, Islam, and the four elements of hip hop.”
McGill University, Montreal QC.
- June 2004 “Art and aesthetics in postwar Japan.”
McGill University, Montreal QC.
- June 2003 “Do robots have Buddha-nature?”
McGill University, Montreal QC.

PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2008–2009 Organizing committee, 2009 Numata Conference (Buddhism and Islam: Encounters, Histories, Dialogue and Representation).
- May 2008 Invited presenter, Ethnoculture 2008 (roundtable on ‘Our Spiritualities’: Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism in the lives of GLBTQ persons of colour).
- April 2008 Chair, Religious Studies Graduate Students’ Society Professional Development Conference, McGill University.
- Winter 2008 Organizing committee, 2008 McGill-CREOR Graduate Students’ Conference (Breaking out of Subjectivity: Contemporary Challenges in the Study of Religion).
- Spring 2005 Co-chair, American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting, Pre-Conference Workshop (Home/field: Studying Local Religious Communities).
- 2004–2006 Graduate student advisor, *Canons* (Journal of the Religious Studies Undergraduate Society, McGill University).
- 2004–2005 Organizing committee, American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Region.
- 2004–2005 Organizing committee, 2005 Numata Conference (Re-visioning Buddhism: New Methods of Inquiry in the Study of Buddhist Modernity).
- 2003–2005 Book Reviews Editor (Asian Traditions), *ARC*.
- 2003–2004 Graduate Student Representative, Religious Studies Graduate Students’ Society.
- 2003–2004 Graduate Student Representative, Doktorklub Committee.
- 2003–2004 Departmental Delegate, Association of Graduate Students Employed at McGill.
- 2002–2003 Chair, Religious Studies Graduate Students’ Society.
- 2002–2003 Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Council.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2008–2009 Member, Classical Chinese Buddhist Text Translation Society of McGill.
- March 2008 McGill Teaching and Learning Services Workshop, “Learning to Teach: A Professional Development Workshop for Graduate Students at McGill.”
- Fall 2007 Six weeks in residence at the Nihon Bunka Kenkyū Center, Kyoto.
- Summer 2007 Japanese language intensive, Kokusai Kirisutokyō Daigaku, Tokyo.
- 2001–2003 Research Assistant for Dr. Katherine K. Young (assisted in grant application process and served as teaching assistant for seminar in Methods of Studying Religion).