

# ZACHARY HORTON

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., English, University of California, Santa Barbara; September 2015

M.F.A., Film Directing, American Film Institute Conservatory; June 2005

B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, Philosophy and Visual Arts (with highest departmental honors), University of California, San Diego; June 2003

## PUBLICATIONS

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“Going Rogue or Becoming Salmon?: Geoengineering Narratives in Haida Gwaii” *Cultural Critique*. (Forthcoming)

“Producing a Cosmic View: Four Alternatives for Trans-Scalar Ecology” in *Size and Scale in Literature and Culture*. Edited by Michael Travel Clarke and David Wittenberg. (Accepted, book under review)

“Ant and Empire: Mediating Trans-Scalar Territoriality and the Problem of Reciprocal Becomings” in *Deleuze and the Animal*. Edited by Patricia MacCormack and Colin Gardner. University of Edinburgh Press. (Forthcoming 2017)

“Creative Accounting in Hollywood: Faulkner's Transmedial Ledger” in *Picturing Faulkner: The Visual World of William Faulkner*. Edited by Randall Wilhelm. University of Tennessee Press. (Accepted, book under review)

“Toward a Speculative Nano-Ecology: Trans-Scalar Knowledge, Disciplinary Boundaries, and Ecology's Posthuman Horizon” *Resilience*, Volume 2.3. April 2016

“Collapsing Scale: Nanotechnology and Geoengineering as Speculative Media” in *Shaping Emerging Technologies: Governance, Innovation, Discourse*. October 2013. IOS Press.

“Can You Starve a Body Without Organs? The Hunger Artists of Franz Kafka and Steve McQueen” *Deleuze Studies*, Volume 6.1. February 2012.

## INVITED TALKS

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“Across Modalities and Scales”

*Unflattening and Enacting Visualization; Critical Visualization Event organized by Patrik Svensson, January 2016, CUNY Graduate School, New York, New York*  
(<http://patriksv.net/2016/04/critical-visualization-event-at-gc-cuny-on-june-9-2016/>)

“Swerving to the Future: Collaborative Media Production in an Academic Context.”

*Center for Nanotechnology in Society, Public Lecture Series, July 11, 2012, UCSB*

## SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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“Scaling Laws and Disciplinarization”

*Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts; November 2016, Atlanta, Georgia*

“Powers of Ten as Trans-Scalar Ecology”

*Society for Cinema and Media Studies; Annual Conference, March 2016, Atlanta, Georgia*

“Nineteenth Century Geoengineering: The speculative climatology of John Ruskin and Jules Verne”

*Modern Language Association; Annual Conference, January 2016, Austin, Texas*

“Toxic Cartography and the Trans-Scalar Subject: Geoengineering Conspiracy Theory”

*Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts; Annual Conference, November 2015, Houston, Texas*

“Networking the Cosmic Zoom”

*European Society for Literature, Science and the Arts (SLSAeu); Annual Conference, June 2015, Valletta, Malta*

“Re-Writing and Geoengineering: Haida Salmon Stories as Neoliberal Palimpsest”

*Modern Language Association; Annual Conference, January 2015, Vancouver, Canada*

“Producing a Cosmic View: A Network Reading”

*Modern Language Association; Annual Conference, January 2015, Vancouver, Canada*

“Geoengineering as Particulate Imaginary: Russ George and Haida Narrative”

*Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts; Annual Conference, October 2014, Dallas, Texas*

“Can We Think Nano-Ecology?”

*Society for the Study of Nanoscience and Emerging Technologies, S.NET 2014 Conference, September 2014, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany.*

“Particulate Paranoia: Globalization, Geoengineering, and Nano-Conspiracy Media”

*Society for the Study of Nanoscience and Emerging Technologies, S.NET 2013 Conference, November 2013, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.*

“Scalar Erasure and Speculative Media: The Nanotechnological Imagination Goes Planetary”

*Society for the Study of Nanoscience and Emerging Technologies, S.NET 2012 Conference, October 2012, University of Twente, Netherlands.*

“Existential Risk and Logarithmic Reward: Plotting Humanity's Future in Silicon Valley” *Speculative Futures Conference, Spring 2012, UCSB*

## **SELECT INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECTS (PROJECT LEAD)**

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- 2015-present *Speculative Scale Explorer*. Online tool for aggregating user uploaded, scale-tagged image sets as “speculative ecosystems” that can be explored on several scalar axes as interconnections and dependencies between objects at different scales. Ongoing.
- 2015-present “*Song of Myself*” *Object Ecology Visualization*. Digital humanities study of Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," presenting three views of the poem: as an interactive, categorical set of nested objects presented in an interactive sunburst visualization, as a set of object distributions over the length of the poem (visualized as a series of time-based graphs), and as marked-up text.  
<http://transliterations.english.ucsb.edu/zhorton/whitman/index.htm>
- 2014-present *Vulnerable Earth Media*. Curated, annotated database and media archive of films produced in the United States thematizing the vulnerability of the earth as a system. Future phases will involve large-scale image analytics (Earth imagery) and data visualization of genre, aesthetic, and thematic trends over the history of American media. Ongoing.
- 2012-present *Scanner Praxis*. Collaborative open innovation project to build and help develop the hardware and software for a DIY book scanner, as well as critically evaluate the protocols, assumptions, and practices of print media digitization. Project designer; co-lead with Jeremy Douglass. Currently in Phase Two.  
<http://transcriptions.english.ucsb.edu/scanner-praxis/>
- 2012- 2014 *Humanities Workstation*. Student designed and built open source humanities computing platform, including full suite of student-tested software and pilot image analytics project analyzing the entire corpus of *The Simpsons* episodes in in collaboration with experimental English upper-division course. Co-Lead with Jeremy Douglass.
- 2010-2015 *Swerve*, Collaborative film project. 10 chapters, approx. 22 minutes each, HD; black and white, color. [www.swerveinterface.com](http://www.swerveinterface.com) Project Lead.
- 2009-2015 *Solar Futures*. Ongoing interdisciplinary study of the cultural narratives and global dynamics of next-generation solar technologies and the innovation ecosystems that have attempted (mostly unsuccessfully) to make them available to the public. Includes the production of an academic documentary film on this subject. Project supported by the Center for Nanotechnology in Society, UCSB. Co-lead with Christopher Newfield.

- 2009-2012 [Innovate.ucsb.edu](http://Innovate.ucsb.edu) Site containing extensive overviews, summaries, and reviews of key innovation literature, with a particular focus on emerging nano-solar and other renewable energy technologies. Webmaster and primary content creator.
- 2010-2011 *Collaborative Media Commons*, media pedagogy project. Worked with faculty in the Department of English to develop and implement media production components in undergraduate courses. [www.cmcommons.org](http://www.cmcommons.org) Project Lead.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh:*

“Project Seminar: Micro Macro Reading”

### *Instructor, Department of English, University of California, Santa Barbara:*

“Contemporary American Literature: Encryption”

“Postmodern Detective Fiction”

“Literature and the Environment: Speculative Ecologies” Fall 2015 (cross-listed in Environmental Studies)

“Introduction to Literary Study” Summer 2015

“Science Fiction: Post- Trans- Non-Human” Summer 2014

“Detective Fiction: The Case of the Deadly Signifier” Summer 2013

“Media and Information Culture: Micro / Macro / Reading” Winter 2013 (Co-taught with Jeremy Douglass)

“American Literature from 1789 to 1900” Summer 2012

### *Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, Santa Barbara:*

“Introduction to Literature and the Environment,” “Detective Fiction,” “20<sup>th</sup> Century Anglophone Literature,” “Introduction to Literary Study,” “Women and Representation.”

### *Instructor, New Roads School:*

Film Theory. Taught students at all levels in self-designed film courses that combined history, aesthetics, and theory. 2008-2009

### *Instructor, Idyllwild Arts Academy*

Summer Film Program. Combined filmmaking course with students studying abroad from Dartington Hall, UK. Taught coursework in directing and editing during the filming of a professional short film. Summer 2007.

Filmmaker in Residence, January-May 2007. Taught advanced screenwriting, editing, post sound, and mentored individual projects.

## SELECT FILM DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

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- 2015 *Swerve*, 217 minutes, in 10 chapters, HD; black and white, color. Produced collaboratively as part of the Collaborative Media Commons, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2014 *Whatever Happened to Solar Innovation?*, 84 minutes, HD; color. Produced with Christopher Newfield, Center for Nanotechnology in Society, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2008 *Political Disasters*, 120 minutes, HD; black and white, color. Starring Tim DeKay, Barbara Bain, Paulie Rojas, Laura Ceron.
- 2007 *Natural Disasters*, 105 minutes, HD, 16mm film, 8mm film; black and white, color. Starring Beth Grant, John Diehl, Charlie Robinson.
- 2006 *Airplane Disasters*, 100 minutes, HD; black and white, color. Starring Josh Anderson, Monica Young.
- 2005 *Salamander*, 27 minutes, 35mm, color. American Film Institute, MFA Thesis Film.

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

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- 2013 Mellon-Sawyer Research Grant (Mellon-Sawyer Seminar: Sea Change) (2013-14)
- 2013 Graduate Fellow, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center ([www.ihc.ucsb.edu](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu))
- 2011 Fellow, Center for Nanotechnology in Society, UCSB (through Summer 2012)
- 2010 Princess Grace Special Project Grant (for project, *Collaborative Media Commons*)
- 2010 Dean's Matching Grant, College of Letters and Science, Humanities and Fine Arts Division, UCSB (for project, *Collaborative Media Commons*)
- 2009 Arnhold Graduate Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara (2009-10)
- 2005 Silver Bear (Festival of Nations, Austria, for film *Salamander*)
- 2002 Cary Grant Film Award (Princess Grace Foundation; national award) ([www.pgfusa.com](http://www.pgfusa.com))
- 2002 Princess Grace Undergraduate Scholarship (national award) ([www.pgfusa.com](http://www.pgfusa.com))

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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Peer reviewer, *Applied Geography*, *NanoEthics*

Inaugural Graduate Fellow, Environmental Humanities Center, UCSB (2014-15)

Arnhold Graduate Fellow, Department of English, UCSB (2013-14)

Graduate Fellow, Transcriptions Center, Department of English, UCSB (2012-13)

Project Leader, Undergraduate Video Testimonial Project, Department of English, UCSB, 2014

Student Advisory Board member, Graduate Center for Literary Research, Comparative Literature Department, UCSB, 2013-present. ([www.complit.ucsb.edu/gclr/](http://www.complit.ucsb.edu/gclr/))

Project Leader, Graduate Publicity and Outreach Project, Department of English, UCSB, 2013

Co-organizer, *Mediating the Nonhuman*, conference and Research Slam, March 15-16, 2013, UCSB.  
Keynote: N. Katherine Hayles.

Mentor: Internships in Nanosystems Science, Engineering and Technology, UCSB (Summer 2012)

Representative, Council of Graduate Students, Department of English, UCSB. 2009-2015

Graduate Student Representative to Technology Committee, Department of English, UCSB. 2009-2010

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts

Modern Language Association

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Center for Nanotechnology in Society (Former Fellow and Researcher)