

SAMANTHA N. SHEPPARD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR | CORNELL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING AND MEDIA ARTS
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Cornell University | 2021- Present
Associate Professor, Cinema and Media Studies
Department of Performing and Media Arts
- Graduate Fields: Performing and Media Arts; Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Africana Studies, American Studies
- Cornell University | 2017-2021
Mary Armstrong Meduski '80 Assistant Professor
Department of Performing and Media Arts
- | 2015-2017
Assistant Professor, Cinema and Media Studies
Department of Performing and Media Arts
- Cornell University | 2014-2015
Postdoctoral Associate
Department of Performing and Media Arts

VISTING APPOINTMENTS

- University of Iowa | 2023-2024
Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professorship, American Studies & Journalism and Mass Communications

EDUCATION

- University of California, Los Angeles | MA (2009) & PhD (2014), Cinema and Media Studies
Graduate Certificate, Women Studies, 2009
- Dartmouth College | BA, *cum laude*
Film and Television Studies (High Honors), 2007, Women and Gender Studies, 2007

PUBLICATIONS

monographs |

2020 *Sporting Blackness: Race, Embodiment, and Critical Muscle Memory on Screen*. Berkeley: University of California Press, June 2020.

Reviews of *Sporting Blackness*

- *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies, Black Camera: An International Journal, Critical Inquiry, Contemporary Sociology, Visual Studies, Public Books, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Los Angeles Review of Books, Film Quarterly, Black Agenda Report*

in progress *The Basketball Film: A Cultural and Transmedia History* (under contract with Rutgers University Press)

- Screening Sports Series

in progress *A Black W/whole: Phantom Cinemas and the Reimagining of Black Women's Film Histories*

- Supported by 2021 Academy Film Scholar Grant by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

edited books |

under review *Women, Sisters, and Friends: The Selected Plays and Screenplays of Kathleen Collins*. Eds. Alix Beeston, Hayley O'Malley, and Samantha N. Sheppard

2020 *Sporting Realities: Critical Readings of the Sports Documentary*. Eds. Samantha N. Sheppard and Travis T. Vogan. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, September 2020.

- Sports, Media, and Society Series

Reviews of *Sporting Realities*

- *Critical Studies in Television: The International Journal of Television Studies; Nordic Sports Studies Forum*

2016 *From Madea to Media Mogul: Theorizing Tyler Perry*. Eds. TreaAndrea M. Russworm, Samantha N. Sheppard, and Karen M. Bowdre. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2016.

Reviews of *From Madea to Media Mogul*

- *The Griot: The Journal of African American Studies* Vo. 36, no. 2 (Fall 2017): 267-268.

edited journals |

2019 *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*, "Sport and Failure," guest edited by Samantha N. Sheppard and Roberto R. Sirvent, Vol 43, no. 4 (2019): 267-340.

2018 *Black Camera: An International Journal*, Close-Up on "Mediated Contests: Sports, Race, and the Power of Narrative," guest edited by Samantha N. Sheppard, Vol. 10, no. 1 (Fall 2018): 156-225.

journal articles |

- in progress "Rooming with *The Torkelsons*" for Special Issue: "Four by Four Houses: Television, Theory, Life Writing," edited by Nick Salvato, *Television & New Media*
- 2023 A Profound Edge: Collectivism and The New Negress Film Society, *Film Quarterly* Vol 77, no. 4 (Fall 2023)
- 2022 "Changing the Subject: Lynn Nottage's *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* and the Making of Black Women's Media Histories," *Feminist Media Histories* Vol 8, no. 2 (Spring 2022): 14-42.
- 2021 "*Glorious Bones*: Esmāa Mohamoud's Football Fabulation," *The Velvet Light Trap* #87 (2021): 69-72.
- 2019 "Introduction to Sport and Failure," *Journal of Sport and Social Issues* Vol 43, no. 4 (2019): 267-275.
- 2019 "Boobie Miles: Failure and *Friday Night Lights*," *Journal of Sport and Social Issues* Vol 43, no. 4 (2019): 319-340.
- 2018 "The Exception That Proves the Rule: Race, Place, and Meritocracy in *Rand University*," *Black Camera: An International Journal* Vol 10, no. 1 (Fall 2018): 162-176.
- 2018 "Close-Up: Mediated Contests: Sports, Race, and the Power of Narrative." *Black Camera: An International Journal* Vol 10, no. 1 (Fall 2018): 156-161.
- 2017 "I Love Cinema: Black Film and Speculative Practice in the Era of Online Crowdfunding," *Film Quarterly* Vol 71, no. 2 (Winter 2017): 26-33.
- 2017 "Historical Contestants: African American Documentary Traditions in *On the Shoulders of Giants*," *Journal of Sports & Social Issues* Vol 41, no. 6 (2017): 462-477.
- 2013 "Persistently Displaced: Situated Knowledges and Interrelated Histories in *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*," *Cinema Journal* Vol 52, no. 2 (2013): 71-92.
 - Reprinted in *Race and the Revolutionary Impulse in The Spook Who Sat by the Door* (Indiana University Press, 2018).

book chapters |

- in progress "'Love on Top of Love,'" in *Women, Sisters, and Friends: The Selected Plays and Screenplays of Kathleen Collins*, edited by Alix Beeston, Hayley O'Malley, and Samantha N. Sheppard (in development)
- in progress ""'Just 'Bout that Action, Boss: The Televisual Politics and Pleasures of Marshawn Lynch,'" In forthcoming collection edited by Thomas P. Oates and Travis Vogan.
- 2020 "Introduction," co-written with Travis Vogan. In *Sporting Realities: Critical Readings of the Sports Documentary*, edited by Samantha N. Sheppard and Travis Vogan. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, September 2020. 1-9.
- 2018 "Persistently Displaced: Situated Knowledges and Interrelated Histories in *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*." In *Race and the Revolutionary Impulse in The Spook Who Sat by the Door*, edited by Michael T. Martin, David C. Wall, and Marilyn Yaquinto. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018. 92-120.
- 2016 "'Tyler Perry Presents...': The Cultural Projects and Politics of Tyler Perry's Media Platforms." In *From Madea to Media Mogul: Theorizing Tyler Perry*, edited by TreaAndrea M. Russworm, Samantha N. Sheppard, and Karen M. Bowdre. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2016. 3-29.
- 2015 "Bruising Moments: Affect and the L.A. Rebellion." In *L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema*, edited by Allyson Nadia Field, Jan-Christopher Horak and Jacqueline Stewart, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2015. 225-250.
 - *L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema*, Winner of 2017 Society for Cinema and Media Studies' Best Edited Collection

Reviews, booklet essays, and program notes |

- in progress Book Review. Grant Wiedenfled's *Hollywood Sports Movie and the American Dream* (Oxford University Press, 2022), *Film Philosophy*
- 2021 Book Review. Travis Vogan's *The Boxing Film: A Cultural and Transmedia History* (Rutgers University Press, 2020), *Critical Inquiry*, Vol 49, no. 1 (Autumn 2022): 138-139.
- 2019 Booklet Essay. "The Art of Feeling: The Presence and Performance of Kaycee Moore." DVD of Billy Woodberry's *Bless Their Little Hearts* (1984) for Milestone Film & Video.
- 2018 Book Review. James Naremore's *Charles Burnett: A Cinema of Symbolic Knowledge* (University of California Press, 2017), *Critical Inquiry* Vol 46, no. 1 (Autumn 2019): 256-258.
- 2018 Book Review. Miriam J. Petty's *Stealing the Show: African American Performers and Audiences in 1930s Hollywood* (University of California Press, 2016), *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* Vol 58, no. 1 (Fall 2018).

- 2017 Review of *O.J. Made in America*. "Structuring Absences Revealed," *Journal of Sport History* Vol 44, no. 3 (Fall 2017): 481-483.
- 2011 Review. "L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema—Symposium," CSW Update, UCLA Center for the Study of Women, 11 December 2011.
- 2011 Program Notes. *The Rosa Parks Story* (2002) in *LA Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema, Exhibition Catalogue* (Los Angeles: University of California, 2011), 42.
- 2011 Program Notes. *Selma, Lord, Selma* (1999) in *LA Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema, Exhibition Catalogue* (Los Angeles: University of California, 2011), 43.

Criticism |

- 2024 "Love is At the Center: In Praise of Black Feminist Film Criticism," Samantha N. Sheppard, Terri Frances, Salamishah Tillet, and Melissa Lyde, "Black Film Feminisms" Special Issue, *Film Criticism* (forthcoming Winter/Spring 2024)
- 2023 "On an American Study of Sports: A Conversation" in "The Body Issue: Sports and the Politics of Embodiment," edited by Amira Rose Davis and Joseph Darda, *American Quarterly* Vol 75, no. 3 (September 2023).
- 2022 "Deep Cuts." Tiona McClodden's "Trace of an Implied Presence" exhibition, NYC, co-produced by The Shed in partnership with Nike, Inc., 2022.
- 2022 "Sidney Poitier Gave More Than He Was Given," *The Atlantic*, January 9, 2022.
- 2021 "'Just 'Bout that Action, Boss:' The Televisual Politics of Marshawn Lynch," *Flow: A Critical Forum on Media and Culture*, December 7, 2021.
- 2021 "Thinking About *The Underground Railroad* with Walton M. Muyumba, Samantha N. Sheppard, and Kristen Warner," edited by Michael B. Gillespie. *Film Quarterly* Vol 75, no. 2 (Winter 2021): 19-26.
- 2021 "Looking Back, Thinking Forward: A Digital Humanities Assessment of Equity, Diversity, and Representation in Twenty Years of Publishing in *Cinema Journal* and *JCMS*," *JCMS* 61, no. 5 (2020-2021): 1–30.
- 2020 "Lovecraft Country: Misha Green's Historical Melodrama," *Flash Art* #333 Winter 2020/2021.
- 2020 "A Radically Different Way to Look at Incarceration," *The Atlantic*, October 17, 2020.
- 2020 "Black 14." Black One Shot, 10.1. *ASAP/J*, July 2, 2020.

- 2020 "The Films That Understand Why People Riot," *The Atlantic*, June 9, 2020.
- 2020 "'The Color Purple' Revisited: Why Spielberg's Movie is Still Problematic and Meaningful to Many Black Women." *IndieWire*. April 3, 2020.
- 2019 "How *Hale County This Morning, This Evening* Challenges Oscars Convention." *The Atlantic*, February 20, 2019.
- 2019 "Art and the Idea of Black Film: A Conversation," edited by Michael B. Gillespie. *Flash Art* #324. February-March 2019.
- 2019 "Give and Go: The Double Movement of *Shut Up and Dribble*." *Los Angeles Review of Books*. February 12, 2019.
- 2019 "The Gap Between Participant and Observer." January: *Minding the Gap* (2018). *Docalogue*. January 2019.

JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies Spotlight Interviews |

- 2023 "Spotlight: Critical Media Pedagogies Scholarly Interest Group," edited by Samantha N. Sheppard, *JCMS* 62, no. 2 (Winter 2023): 1-4.
- 2022 "Spotlight: Lakshmi Padmanabhan," *JCMS* 61, no. 3 (Spring 2022): 5-8.
- 2022 Margaret Rhee, "Spotlight: Alexandra Juhasz," edited by Samantha N. Sheppard, *JCMS* 61, no. 2 (Winter 2022): 5-8.
- 2021 "Spotlight: Q&A with Black Caucus Co-Chairs Nsenga Burton and Mark Cunningham," *JCMS* 60, no. 3 (Spring 2021): 1-4.
- 2020 "Scholar Spotlight: Jennifer McClearen," *JCMS* 60, no. 2 (Fall 2020): 1-4.

GRANTS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023-2024 Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professorship, University of Iowa
- 2023 Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Distinguished Service Award (Collective—Editors of *JCMS* from 2018-2022)
- 2023 Harvard Radcliffe Institute's Exploratory Seminar
- 2021 Academy Film Scholars Grant, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
- 2021 Robert and Helen Appel Fellowship for Humanists and Social Scientist, Cornell University
- 2021 Film and Media Studies Wall of Fame, Dartmouth College
- 2020 Merrill Presidential Scholars Faculty Recognition for Excellence in Teaching, Cornell University
- 2019 Hull Memorial Publication Fund, Cornell University
- 2019 Central New York Humanities Corridor Award, Visual Arts and Culture—Global Cinema Working Group

2019 Career Enhancement 6-Month Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation

2018-2020 Galsworthy Criminal Justice Reform Fellowship, The Kings College

2018 Internationalizing the Cornell Curriculum (ICC) Grant, Cornell

2017 Named inaugural Mary Armstrong Meduski '80 Assistant Professor, Cornell University

2016-2017 Society for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Cornell

2015 Office of Faculty Development and Diversity's Professional Development Grant, Cornell

2015 Faculty Seminar in Writing Instruction Participant, Cornell

2014-2015 Mellon Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship, Cornell

2014-2016 University of Chicago Provosts Career Enhancement Postdoctoral Scholarship, University of Chicago (declined)

2013-2014 Mellon Mays University Fellows Dissertation Grant, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation

2013-2014 Collegium of University Teaching Fellowship, UCLA

2009-2013 Eugene V. Cota Robles Fellowship, UCLA

2013 Georgia Frontiere Scholarship in Memory of Aaron Curtis Taylor, UCLA

2013 Dean's Distinguished Service Award, UCLA

2012 Dean's Distinguished Service Award, UCLA

2012 Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council

2011 FilmLAB Fellow, UCLA & Telluride Film Festival

2011 Pre-doctoral Research Development Grant, Social Science Research Council

2011 Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council

2010 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA

2010 UCLA Archive Research & Study Center Student Research Award, UCLA

2008 Nina C. Leibman Fellowship, California Women's Law Center

2008 Leonard Award, UCLA

2008 University Fellowship & Registration Fees Grant, UCLA

2007 Leonard Award, UCLA

2007 University Fellowship & Registration Fees Grant

2007 Paul Robeson Award for Academic Excellence in a Double Major, Dartmouth College

2005-2007 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Dartmouth College

PRESENTATIONS

invited |

2024 Invited Panelist/Special Program Participant. 2024 International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, May 1-6, 2024.

2024 Invited Speaker. Illuminations: the Chancellor's Arts & Culture Initiative. University of California, Irvine, Date TBD.

2023 Invited Speaker. Department of Cinema Studies, New York University.

2023 Invited Keynote. Sports, Power, and Resistance: Legacies and Futures Symposium, Department of American Studies, University of Iowa, September 21, 2023.

2023 Invited Speaker and Post-Screening Q&A for *Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes*,

- Feeling Heart*. Tompkins County Office of Human Rights. Cinemapolis, June 14, 2023.
- 2023 Invited Respondent. *Film Quarterly Webinar: "Black Infinite: New Directions in Black Film and Media."* June 2, 2023.
- 2023 Invited Participant. *Alma's Rainbow* with Ayoka Chenzira in conversation with Samantha N. Sheppard. The Sojourner Truth Festival of the Arts 2023, March 3, 2023.
- 2023 Invited Participant. Tiona Nekkia McClodden's "The Trace of An Implied Presence Book Release," Nike Headquarters, NYC, February 24, 2023.
- 2023 Invited Panelist. *Losing Ground* Panel and Discussion. Skidmore College, February 7, 2023.
- 2023 Invited Panelist. 40th anniversary celebration of Kathleen Collins' *Losing Ground*, California African American Museum, January 28, 2023.
- 2022 Invited Workshop Leader. Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Graduate Writing Collective, University of Rochester, October 21-22, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. New Negress Film Society's Black Women's Film Conference. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, October 1, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. "Deep Focus: *Killer of Sheep*." Renew Theaters, September 26, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Keynote Roundtable. Film-Philosophy Conference, July 13, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. Department of American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California, April 7, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Panelist. SCMS Sports Media SIG Presents: The State of the Field, March 11, 2022.
- 2022 Invited Keynote. Department of Radio, Television, & Film, Rowan University, February 9, 2022
- 2022 Invited Speaker. Comparative Media Studies Colloquium, MIT, February 3, 2022.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Columbia University Seminar on Cinema and Interdisciplinary Interpretation. Columbia University, December 2, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Debating the Black Body in Fashion and Popular Culture Colloquium. UCLA, November 6, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Sondra Perry's IT'S IN THE GAME '17. Wellesley College, November 2, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Gestures of Protest and Piety: Race, Politics, and Faith in the World of Sport. Columbia University, October 13, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Iowa University, Department of Cinematic Arts, September 10, 2021
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Antiracist Pedagogy. Texas A&M University, April 22, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Sue Curry Hansen Honors Lecture. Muhlenberg College, February 18, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Screen Studies Symposium: African American Screen Cultures. Brooklyn College, February 17, 2021.
- 2021 Invited Panelist. Television in the Age of Pandemic. Carsey-Wolf Center, February 9, 2021.
- 2020 Invited Video Lecture. Race Films/Race Matters. Wharton Studio Museum. Live December 1, 2021.

- 2020 Invited Panelist. The Artist, the Athlete, and the Revolutionary. 58th Annual New York Film Festival, October 11, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Featured Speaker. Midwest Popular and American Culture Association, October 3, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Book Talk. Page Views Live: A Conversation with Samantha N. Sheppard. *Film Quarterly*, September 25, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Book Talk. RTF Media Studies Colloquium: *Sporting Blackness*. University of Texas at Austin, September 24, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Book Talk. "Sporting Blackness with Samantha N. Sheppard," Canyon Cinema, September 17, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Book Talk. Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, August 14, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. Television, Politics, and Publics. Carsey-Wolf Center, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 22, 2020.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. Emory Cinematheque, Emory University, February 19, 2020.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. 2nd Annual Chaz & Roger Ebert Symposium: Creating An Inclusive Media & Cinema Ecosystem, September 27, 2019.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. Media & Cinema Studies Lecture. University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, September 26, 2019.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. American Studies Department and the Black Studies Program Lecture Series. Skidmore College, September 24, 2019.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. Film and Media Studies Speaker Series. Lafayette College, September 13, 2018.
- 2018 Invited Panelist. Cinemas on the Periphery: Decentering Media Geographies. Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival (FLEFF), Ithaca College, April 13, 2018.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. *The Brother from Another Planet*: Post-Film Conversation Q&A with Cornell Professor Samantha Sheppard. Wells College, March 7, 2018.
- 2017 Invited Panelist. Dimensions in Black: Perspectives on Black Film and Media. Film Society of Lincoln Center, New York City, December 5, 2017.
- 2017 Invited Speaker and Moderator. The Aesthetics and Style of Race, Gender and Politics: Beyoncé's *Lemonade*. Wells College, April 25, 2017.
- 2017 Invited Speaker. The Haptics of Race. Barnard College's Center for Research on Women's Scholar and Feminist Conference, March 4, 2017.
- 2015 Invited Speaker. #blacklivesmatter, Dartmouth College, April 16, 2015.
- 2015 Invited Speaker. Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Symposium, Dartmouth College, February 27, 2015.
- 2014 Invited Moderator. Images in Blackness Series: Conversation with Lisa Gay Hamilton, Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, UCLA, May 22, 2014.
- 2012 Invited Respondent to Aaron Baker's talk on "Masculinity, Race, and Violence on *Any Given Sunday*." UCLA's Cinema and Media Studies Colloquium, Los Angeles, November 2012.
- 2011 Invited Speaker. L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema—Symposium, UCLA Billy Wilder Theater, November 12, 2011.

- 2023 Panelist. *For the Love of You: The Intimacies and Collectivities of Black Film and Media* (Paper: The Void and its Contents: Black Women's Collections and Collectivities). American Studies Association Conference, Montreal, 2023.
- 2023 Panelist. *Black Feminist Film Festivals as Sites of Media History* (Paper: A Lineage and a Legacy: The New Negro's Film Society's Black Women's Film Conference). Doing Women's Film and TV History VI, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK (virtual).
- 2023 Panelist. *Race, Place, and Industry in Sports Media* (Paper: You are freaking African Americans... plus Mark: Genre and Social Anxieties in Netflix's *Last Chance U: Basketball*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Denver, 2023. Submitted.
- 2022 Panelist. *Rebels Without a Pause: Chronicles of Black Visual and Expressive Culture* (Paper: A Concrete and Poetic Thing: Kaycee Moore and the L.A. Rebellion). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Virtual, 2022.
- 2021 Roundtable Chair. *The Making of Black Art: A Conversation About Kathleen Collins*. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, Virtual, 2021.
- 2021 Workshop Panelist. *Rescue Missions: Black Film Feminisms*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Virtual, 2021.
- 2020 Panelist. *Rethinking the GOAT*. North American Society for Sport History Conference. (Paper: Racial Iconicity and the Transmediation of James "Boobie" Miles) cancelled due to covid-19.
- 2020 Workshop Panelist. *Rescue Missions: Black Film Feminisms*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Denver, 2020. Conference cancelled due to covid-19.
- 2019 Seminar Co-organizer. *Black Film in Theory and Practice*. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Conference, Baltimore Springs, 2019.
- 2019 Panelist. *Entanglements of Black Visual Culture: Blackness, Archives, and Performativities* (Paper: Sporting Blackness and Critical Muscle Memory on Screen). Black Portraiture[s] V: Memory and the Archive, 1619-2019, New York, 2019.
- 2019 Accepted Panelist. *Screening Sports* (Paper: Gendered Play and Black (Fe)male (In)visibility in Sports Films). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Seattle, 2019.
- 2018 Chair. *Emerging Minds, Bodies, and Values: The Concussion Crisis in American Youth Football*. American Studies Association Conference, Atlanta 2018.
- 2018 Panelist. *The Film History of Black Feminism* (Paper: Bodies at/of Work: The Cinematic Archive of Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust*). Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, New Orleans, 2018.
- 2018 Chair and Panelist. *My Name is Peaches: Blackness and Gender in Film and Media* (Co-Paper with Michael B. Gillespie, The City College of New York: Choreographing Black Girl Becoming: Sonic Visuality and Haptic Exercise in *The Fits*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Toronto, 2018.
- 2017 Chair. *#BlackGirlMagic in Sport: Visual and Literary Representations of Black Girls and Women*. American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, 2017.
- 2017 Chair and Panelist. *Mediated Contests: Sports, Race, and the Power of Narrative* (Paper: Bodies, Blackness, and Boobie Miles in and Beyond *Friday Night Lights*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Chicago, 2017.
- 2016 Panelist. *Race in the Sports Documentary* (Paper: Historical Contestants in On

- the Shoulders of Giants*). American Studies Association Conference, Denver, 2016.
- 2016 Forum Participant. *Back to Black: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Media Industries*. Console-ing Passions Conference, Notre Dame, 2016.
- 2016 Event Organizer. *Mediated Rights: The Transformative Power of Images from Selma to Ferguson*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Georgia State University, 2016.
- 2015 Panelist. *Sports on Screen* (Paper: *Overtime: Hank Willis Thomas's Sports Iconography*). American Studies Association, Toronto, 2015.
- 2015 Panelist. *Unruly and Hard-Working Bodies: Embodiment and Resistance, Excess, and Ethics* (Paper: *Performing Dissent in Sports Films: Documentary Impulse, Black Embodied History, and Critical Muscle Memory in Haile Gerima's Hour Glass*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Montreal, 2015.
- 2015 Workshop Panelist. *Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, and Bucks: 40 Years and Counting*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Montreal, 2015.
- 2014 Panelist. *Makes Me Feel Some Kinda Way: Television and Black Women's Affect*. (Paper: *The Sociality of Emotions in Iyanla, Fix My Life*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Seattle, 2014.
- 2013 Panelist. *Mediating Black Embodiment* (Paper: *Any Given Body at Any Given Time: Black Embodiment and Performances of Triumph and Defeat in Oliver Stone's Any Given Sunday*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Chicago, 2013.
- 2012 Workshop Panelist. *Teaching the Negative Image: Blackness and Disreputable Media*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Boston, March 2012.
- 2012 Panelist. *Sports Media* (Paper: *Sports, Courts, and Critical Memory: Documentary, Black Performativity, and Embodied Archives of History*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Boston, 2012.
- 2011 Workshop Panelist. *To Emancipate the Image: The L.A. Rebellion of Black Filmmakers*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, New Orleans, 2011.
- 2010 Panelist. *African American Stars and Auteurs* (Paper: *She Ain't Heavy, She's Madea: The Tyler Perry Discourse and Madea's Family Reunion*). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, New Orleans, 2010.
- 2010 Panelist. *Interactions of Race, Sexuality, and Gender* (Paper: *"Didn't You Get My Message?": Interracial Affairs and Racialized Backlash in Obsessed*). Film & History Conference, Milwaukee, 2010.
- 2009 Panelist. Paper: *The Strong Black Woman Gets Abused: 'Afflictions of Specialness' in Post-Feminist and Post-Civil Rights Film*). Thinking Gender Graduate Student Conference, Los Angeles, 2009.

Cornell keynotes, presentations, moderations, and introductions |

- 2022 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB)–Cornell Comedy Weekend with Ziwe and Patti Harrison, March 25, 2022
- 2022 Invited Keynote. The Harold Seymour Lecture in Sports History, Spring 2022
- 2021 Speaker at Cornell's Media Studies Colloquium, November 19, 2021

- 2021 Introduce *Daughters of the Dust*. Cornell Cinemas, November 10, 2021
- 2021 Moderator post-screening discussion with Ephraim Asili about *The Inheritance*. Cornell Cinema, October 14, 2021
- 2021 Speaker at Cornell University Library Chats in the Stacks Book Talks, February 23, 2021
- 2020 Panelist. Cornell Literary Society's "Antiracism and Literature, November 12, 2020
- 2020 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB)–Q&A with Desus & Mero, May 27, 2020
- 2020 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB)–A Conversation with Stephanie Beatriz, February 12, 2020
- 2020 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB) & Cornell Hillel Event–A Conversation with Vanessa Bayer, January 25, 2020
- 2019 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB) Bailey Hall Event–A Conversation with Spike Lee, September 20, 2019 (sold out)
- 2019 Introduce Alexander G. Weheliye, School of Criticism and Theory, July 8, 2019
- 2019 Moderation for Q&A following #BLACKGIRLHOOD, a short film by Dehanza Rogers, April 16, 2019
- 2019 Workshop Participant for *Blackness and the Visual* Symposium, April 20, 2019.
- 2019 Presenter at the Performing and Media Arts Research Colloquium. "Sporting Blackness: Racial Iconicity and the Transmedia Black Athlete," January 25, 2019
- 2018 Moderator for Cornell University Program Board (CUPB) Bailey Hall Event–A Conversation with Jonathan Van Ness, November 30, 2018 (sold out)
- 2018 Introduce Dave Zirin. 2018 Kops Freedom of the Press Lecture, March 22, 2018
- 2017 Introduce & Lead Discussion. *Daughters of the Dust* for On/By Black Women/Black Girls. Cornell Cinemas, April 22, 2017
- 2017 Moderate & Lead Discussion. *Pariah* and Intersectionality for Lambda, Cornell Law School's LGBTQ+ and BLSA, Cornell Law School's Black Student's Association, April 12, 2017
- 2017 Moderator for *I Am Not Your Negro* Post-Screening Panel, February 8, 2017 (sold out)
- 2016 Panelist. Performing Skin: Society for the Humanities Fall Conference, Cornell University, October 22, 2016
- 2016 Moderator for The Aesthetics and Style of Race, Gender and Politics: Beyoncé's *Lemonade*, Cornell University, September 26, 2016 (sold out)
- 2015 Introduce *Dope* for Voices & Visions in Black Cinema. Cornell Cinema, November 19, 2015
- 2015 Introduce *Just Another Girl on the IRT* for Voices & Visions in Black Cinema. Cornell Cinema, October 28, 2015
- 2015 Introduce *Losing Ground* for Voices & Visions in Black Cinema. Cornell Cinema, October 7, 2015
- 2015 Introduce *Killer of Sheep* for Voices & Visions in Black Cinema. Cornell Cinema, September 23, 2015
- 2015 Introduce *Within Our Gates* for Voices & Visions in Black Cinema, Cornell Cinemas, September 2, 2015
- 2015 Introduce *Portrait of Jason* for IvyQ Conference, Cornell Cinemas, November 13, 2015

2015 Panelist. "Strange Fruit: Hank Willis Thomas's Sports Iconography." Mellon Diversity Fellowship Seminar, Spring 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Cornell University |

Spring 2023 Contemporary Television
Fall 2023 PMA Independent Study: Screenwriting
Fall 2023 Global Cinema I
Spring 2023 Black Media Studies
Spring 2023 PMA Independent Study: Global Black Media Studies
Winter 2023 Playing Out Difference: History and Social Identity in Sports Films
Fall 2022 PMA Independent Study: Nollywood
Fall 2021 Performing and Media Arts Proseminar
Fall 2021 Introduction to African American Cinema
Spring 2021 Independent Study: Performance of Race & Embodiment of the Other
Spring 2021 Contemporary Television
Fall 2020 Introduction to African American Cinema
Spring 2020 ARSC Independent Study: African American Theatrical Productions on Broadway
Spring 2019 Global Cinema II
Fall 2018 Contemporary Television
Fall 2018 Playing Out Difference: History and Social Identity in Sports Films
Spring 2018 PMA Independent Study: Screenwriting
Spring 2018 ARSC Independent Study: Afro-pessimism and Visual Culture
Spring 2018 Global Cinema II
Fall 2017 Contemporary Television
Fall 2017 Introduction to African American Cinema
Summer 2017 Playing Out Difference: History and Social Identity in Sports Films
Spring 2017 Screening Blackness
Fall 2015 Introduction to African American Cinema
Fall 2015 Playing Out Difference: History and Social Identity in Sports Films

Telluride Association Sophomore Seminar (TASS) |

Summer 2018 Mediated Lives: Performing Identities in Contemporary Media (co-taught with Dr. Karen Jaime)

University of California, Los Angeles |

Winter 2014 Race and Gender in Sports Films

guest lecturer |

Spring 2023 Research Methods. Professor Cara Caddoo. Cinema and Media Studies & Department of History, Indiana University Bloomington.

- Spring 2023 Critical Studies in Sport. Professor Rachel Joo. American Studies, *Middlebury College*.
- Fall 2022 Cultural and Critical Theory in Communication. Professor Alyxandra Vesey. The University of Alabama.
- Spring 2022 On "Sport and Failure." Professor. Travis Vogan, School of Journalism & Mass Communication and Department of American Studies, University of Iowa.
- Spring 2022 *Sporting Blackness*. Thinking Media Studies. Professors Nick Salvato and Roger Mosley. Cornell University.
- Fall 2021 "The Art of Feeling." Dust Tracks. Professor Tisa Bryant. Creative Writing Program, Cal Arts
- Spring 2013 "The Politics of Film Form: The L.A. Rebellion." Film and Social Change: The Art of Revolution—Cinema and Politics in the Global Sixties. Professor Greg Cohen. Cinema and Media Studies Program, UCLA
- Summer 2010 "L.A. School of Black Filmmakers." Film and Social Change: Screening South Central Los Angeles. Professor Allyson Nadia Field. Cinema and Media Studies Program, UCLA
- Winter 2010 "The 'Ghetto' Cycle -East/West Coast: Just Another Girl on the IRT & Poetic Justice." Film Genres: African American Cinema. Professor Allyson Nadia Field, Cinema and Media Studies Program, UCLA
- Winter 2010 "History, Memory, Roots: Independent Black Women Filmmakers." Film Genres: African American Cinema. Professor Allyson Nadia Field, Cinema and Media Studies Program, UCLA

teaching assistant |

- Fall 2011 History of the American Motion Picture, UCLA
- Winter 2010 Film Genres: African American Cinema, UCLA
- Winter 2009 Film Authors: Women Filmmakers, UCLA
- Spring 2008 History of the American Motion Picture, UCLA

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

archival researcher |

- 2010-2012 UCLA Film & Television Archive's L.A. Rebellion Preservation Project

CURATORIAL/PROGRAMMING EXPERIENCE

- 2015 Cornell Cinema | Programmed "Voices and Visions in Black Cinema" Screening Series
- 2014 UCLA's James Bridges Theater | Programmed *Juice* and Q&A Discussion with Director Ernest Dickerson
- 2013 UCLA's James Bridges Theater | Programmed: *Black Caesar* and Q&A Discussion with Fred Williamson on "The State of Black Cinema"
- 2012 UCLA & Telluride Film Festival | Co-chair and director of "For the Love of Movies"
- 2012 UCLA's James Bridges Theater | Co-programmed Independent Chinese film series (*No. 89 Shimen Road* and *Old Dog*)

2011

UCLA's James Bridges Theater | Programmed: *The Help* with talk back

PROFESSIONAL/NATIONAL SERVICE

consultant |

WarnerMedia

editor |

2019-2022 Associate Co-Editor of Outreach and Equity, *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*

editorial board |

2023-2028 *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*
2023-present *Journal of Film and Video*
2020-2023 *The Velvet Light Trap*
2018-2023 *Projector: A Journal on Film, Media, and Culture*
2015-present *Journal of Sport & Social Issues*

journal peer reviewer |

Differences
American Quarterly
Quarterly Review of Film and Video
Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture
The Velvet Light Trap
Feminist Media Histories
Communication, Culture and Critique
Journal of Sport & Social Issues
International Journal of Cultural Studies
Projector: A Journal on Film, Media, and Culture
Studies in Documentary Film
Black Camera: An International Film Journal
Communication Theory
Cinema Journal/ Journal of Cinema and Media Studies
New Review of Film and Television Studies
Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies

manuscript reviewer |

University of California Press
Duke University Press
University of Illinois Press
Rutgers University Press
Focal Press/Routledge

Tenure/promotion review |

George Mason University, Film and Video Studies Program
University of New Mexico, Department of English Language & Literature
New York University, Tisch School of the Arts

leadership/committees |

2023-2026 Member, SCMS Nominating Committee
2014-2016 Chair, Black Caucus, Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Advisory board |

- Missing Movies (2022-present)
- Brett Kashmere's *Ghost of Empire* (feature-length documentary)

Book Series Editorial Board |

Brill Publishers *Bodies & Abilities: in Literature, Culture, Arts*

Professional services |

2022 Invited Voter, Sight and Sound's Greatest Films of All Time Poll
2014 Jury Member, Ithaca International Fantastic Film Festival

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Cornell University |

2023-2028 University Appeals Panel, College of Arts & Sciences
2023-2024 Interim Chair, Department of Performing and Media Arts
Spring 2023 Director of Graduate Studies, Field of Performing and Media Arts
2023 Ad-Hoc Committee for Tenure, College of Architecture, Art, and Planning
2017-2022 Faculty Director–Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) Program
2019-present Faculty Advisor–Delta Kappa Alpha Professional Cinematic Society
2022-2023 Search Committee Member–Intermedia Dance/Multidisciplinary Movement
2021 Search Committee Member–Visiting Assistant Professor of Cinema and Media Studies
Fall 2021 Director of Graduate Studies, Performing and Media Arts
2021 Faculty Advisor–African Dance Repertoire (ADR)
2020 Search Committee Member–Visiting Assistant Professor in Film Production/Screenwriting
2018 The College of Arts & Sciences Academic Advising: First year Advising Seminar
2018 Faculty Organizer and Coordinator– “Voices and Visions in Black Media,” Speaker Series, Department of Performing and Media Arts, Fall 2018
2018 Search Committee Member–Visiting Assistant Professor of Cinema and Media Studies

- 2017 Faculty Organizer and Coordinator–Lecture by Aymar Jean Christian “The Scales of Production Value: Intersectionality and the Culture of TV Development,” Co-sponsored by Department of Performing and Media Arts, American Studies Program, Feminist Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, and South Asian Studies Program, Fall 2017
- 2017 Faculty Organizer and Coordinator– “Voices and Visions in Black Media,” Speaker Series, Department of Performing and Media Arts, Fall 2017
- 2017 Organizing Committee Member–On/By Black Women/Black Girls Symposium, Africana Studies Research Center and the Minority, Indigenous and Third World Studies Research Group, Spring 2017
- 2015 Search Committee Member–Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Media/Film Production or Dance/Choreography, 2015-2016
- 2015-2016 Faculty Organizer and Coordinator– “Voices and Visions in Black Cinema” Speaker Series, Department of Performing and Media Arts, 2015-2016
- 2015-2016 Performances & Events Committee Member–Department of Performing and Media Arts, 2015-2016
- 2015 Gertrude Spencer Portfolio Award Committee Member– John S. Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, 2015

University of California, Los Angeles |

- 2011-2014 ELEVATE (organization still active)–Co-founder and former co-chair (<http://www.tft.ucla.edu/programs/special-programs-initiatives/elevate/>)
- 2011 UCLA FILM & TELEVISION ARCHIVE | Symposium Coordinator–L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema, 2011

ADVISING

committee chair |

- Rejoice Abusta, PhD Student, Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University

committee member |

- Nia Whitmal, PhD Student, Department of Anthropology, Cornell University
- Jessica Ness, PhD Student, Comparative Literature, Cornell University
- Brett Kashmere, PhD Candidate, Film & Digital Media, University of California, Santa Cruz
- Victoria Serafini, PhD Candidate, Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University
- Kriszta Pozsonyi, PhD Candidate, Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University
- Sadé Ayorinde, PhD Candidate, Art History and Visual Studies, Cornell University
- Kristen Wright, PhD Africana Studies, Cornell University, PhD granted Spring 2020 (Assistant Professor, New York University)

undergraduate honors thesis committee member |

- Isabella Ogbolumani, Performing and Media Arts, Class of 2022
- Nicki Duval, Africana Studies, Class of 2019 (MFA Student UC Santa Cruz)

MEDIA APPERANCES, PODCAST AND PRESS INTERVIEWS

film |

Bekele Films| *Maxine's Baby: The Tyler Perry Story* (in post-production)

television |

NBC MORNING NEWS NOW (Live) | On-Air Expert on segment to discuss "Asian and Black representation grew in film and television,"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=2606&v=B1p9gRS93Hk&feature=youtu.be>.

ARTE–EUROPE (BRAINWORKS) | Talking head in French documentary *Venus & Serena* (Sonia Dager), Premiered June 22, 2023, <https://www.arte.tv/en/videos/112558-000-A/venus-serena/>

TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES (TCM) | Sunday Night Silents special guest host with Jacqueline Stewart, February 27, 2022,

<https://www.tcm.com/articles/Programming%20Article/021568/black-history-month>

TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES (TCM) | Black History Month Programming special guest host with Jacqueline Stewart, February 7, 2022,

<https://www.tcm.com/articles/Programming%20Article/021568/black-history-month>

podcasts |

THE FILM COMMENT PODCAST "Sam Pollard and Samantha N. Sheppard on *Bill Russell: Legend*," February 7, 2022, <https://www.filmcomment.com/blog/the-film-comment-podcast-sam-pollard-and-samantha-n-sheppard-on-bill-russell-legend/>.

AMERICAN PRODIGIES | Episode 5: "Nobody Has Beyoncé's Weavologist: Gabby Douglas," <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/american-prodigies/id1534964872>

ACA-MEDIA PODCAST | Episode 9: Talking Television in a Time of Crisis: Tactics, December 28, 2020, <http://www.aca-media.org/news/2020/12/28/talking-television-in-a-time-of-crisis-episode-9-tactics>

BURN IT ALL DOWN PODCAST | Episode 168: Alleged Abuse on the Washington NFL Team, and an Interview with Dr. Samantha Sheppard, July 22, 2020,

<https://www.burnitalldownpod.com/episodes/168>

THE END OF SPORT PODCAST | *Hoop Dreams*, *High Flying Bird*, and Sporting Blackness on Screen with Samantha Sheppard, June 24, 2020,

<https://theendofsport.podbean.com/e/episode-21-hoop-dreams-high-flying-bird-and-sporting-blackness-on-screen-with-samantha-sheppard/>

THE BLACK ATHLETE PODCAST | Sporting Blackness: A Conversation with Dr. Samantha N. Sheppard, May 22, 2020, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/sporting-blackness-conversation-dr-samantha-sheppard/id1454162935?i=1000475430126>

press interviews |

BBC News | Quoted in "Blind Side Family Feud Ignites Cultural Debate," August 18, 2023, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-66525890>.

THE WASHINGTON POST | Quoted in "Why we can't look away from the 'Barbie' movie's fever-dream-like Trailer," April 6, 2023, https://www.washingtonpost.com/arts-entertainment/2023/04/05/barbie-movie-trailer-plot-meaning/?utm_campaign=wp_main&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR04mS-6nmGf7VJDZS6git4U5kqfxKsDxIPSmQBre23yUDdUfBrFLaEK9Xc

BUSINESS INSIDER | Quoted in "The Oscars snubs of 'The Woman King' and 'Till' show why #OscarsSoWhite is still trending in Hollywood," January 25, 2023, <https://www.businessinsider.com/woman-king-till-oscar-snubs-viola-davis-failing-black-women-2023-1>.

NBC NEWS | Quoted in "Keke Palmer is launching KeyTV, a digital platform 'spotlighting a new generation of creators,'" October 3, 2022, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/keke-palmer-launching-keytv-digital-platform-spotlighting-new-generati-rcna50445>

NBC NEWS | Quoted in "NYC honors legendary actress Cicely Tyson with street renaming in her former Harlem neighborhood," September 19, 2022, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/nyc-honors-legendary-actress-cicely-tyson-street-renaming-former-harle-rcna48356>

BUSINESS INSIDER | Quoted in "7 movies you can stream right now if you're trying to understand what it means to be an anti-racist," June 19, 2020, <https://www.businessinsider.com/films-that-will-help-you-understand-anti-racism-2020-6>

MIAMI NEW TIMES | Quoted in "How Director Ava DuVernay's South L.A. Roots Helped Her Shatter the Film Industry's Glass Ceiling," December 21, 2016, <http://www.miaminewtimes.com/film/how-director-ava-duvernays-south-la-roots-helped-her-shatter-the-film-industrys-glass-ceiling-9005483>

LA WEEKLY | Quoted in "How Vivica A. Fox Defied Hollywood's Odds," June 22, 2016, <http://www.laweekly.com/arts/how-vivica-a-fox-defied-hollywoods-odds-7056245/>

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association (ASA)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)