

JAMES MATTHEW WILSON

Associate Professor

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POSITIONS HELD

Associate Professor of Religion and Literature in the Department of Humanities and Augustinian Traditions at Villanova University, from September 2014 to the present.

Assistant Professor of Religion and Literature in the Department of Humanities and Augustinian Traditions at Villanova University, from August 2008 to August 2014.

Assistant Professor of English at East Carolina University, from August 2007 to August 2008.

Sorin Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Notre Dame, May 2006 to August 2007.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English Literature and Irish Studies from the University of Notre Dame (2001-2006): Dissertation, *Catholic Modernism and the "Irish Avant-Garde,"* defended April 2006. Committee: Kevin Hart (Director), Seamus Deane, Luke Gibbons, and Ralph McInerny.

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (poetry) from The University of Notre Dame, awarded spring 2005: Creative thesis, *Mythologies from Downriver and Other Poems*, directed by Kevin Hart.

M.A. in English Literature from The University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1999-2001), awarded spring 2001.

B.A. in English Literature with a sub-concentration in Creative Writing from The University of Michigan, (1994-1998), awarded Spring 1998: Honors Creative thesis, *After the Passion: A Novel*, directed by Eileen Pollack.

BOOKS

- 7) *The Vision of the Soul: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty in the Western Tradition* (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2017), pp. 354.
- 6) *The Fortunes of Poetry in an Age of Unmaking*, a monograph (Milwaukee: Wiseblood Books, 2015), pp. 292.
- 5) *The Catholic Imagination in Modern American Poetry*, a monograph (Milwaukee: Wiseblood Books, 2014), pp. 33.
- 4) *Some Permanent Things*, a collection of poems (Milwaukee: Wiseblood Books, 2014), pp. 143.
- 3) *The Violent and the Fallen*, a chapbook of poems (Georgetown, KY: Finishing Line Press, 2013), pp. 29.
- 2) *Timothy Steele: A Critical Introduction*, a monograph (West Chester, PA: Story Line Press, 2012), pp. 99.
- 1) *Four Verse Letters*, a chapbook of poems (Steubenville: Franciscan University at Steubenville Press, 2010), pp. 40.

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 19) **“The Catholicity of Beauty,”** appears in *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture* 20.1 (Spring 2017): 60-83.
- 18) **“Elizabeth Bishop and the Poetry of Meditation,”** appears in *Religions* 8.1 (2017): 1-19.
- 17) **“The Formal and Moral Challenges of T.S. Eliot’s Murder in the Cathedral,”** appears in *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture* 19.1 (Winter 2016): 167-203.
- 16) **“From Plymouth Rock to Palo Alto: The New England Literary Tradition and Its American Critics,”** appears in *Christianity and Literature* 64.1 (Winter 2015): 82-110.
- 15) **“John Paul II’s *Letter to Artists* and the Force of Beauty”** appears in *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture* 18.1 (Winter 2015): 46-70.
- 14) **“Ancient Beauty, Modern Verse: Romanticism and Classicism from Plato to T.S. Eliot and the New Formalism”** appears in *Renascence* 67.1 (Winter 2015): 3-40.
- 13) **“T.S. Eliot: Culture and Anarchy”** appears in *Explorations: The Twentieth-Century (The Levy Humanities Series)* (forthcoming).
- 12) **“From Being to Faith: The Poems of Helen Pinkerton”** appears in *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 64.3 (Spring 2012): 251-274.
- 11) **“The Rock against Shakespeare: Stoicism and Community in T.S. Eliot”** appears in *Religion and Literature* 43.3 (Autumn 2011): 49-81.
- 10) **“Retelling the Story of Reason”** appears in *Anamnesis: A Journal for the Study of Tradition, Place, and “Things Divine”* 1.1: 5-40.
- 9) **“Style and Substance: T.S. Eliot, Jacques Maritain, and Neo-Thomism”** appears in *Religion and Literature* 42.3 (Autumn 2010): 49-81.
- 8) **“Socrates in Hell: Hecht, Humanism, and the Holocaust”** appears in *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 63.2 (Winter 2011): 147-68.
- 7) **“I bought and praised but did not read Aquinas’: T.S. Eliot, Jacques Maritain, and the Ontology of the Sign”** appears in *Yeats/Eliot Review* 27.1/2 (Spring-Summer 2010): 12-22.
- 6) **“The Realism of Helen Pinkerton”** appears in *Christianity and Literature* 58.1 (Fall 2009): 629-652.
- 5) **“Poetic Jansenism: Religious and Political Representation in Denis Devlin’s Poetry”** appears in *Éire-Ireland* 42:3&4 (Fall/Winter 2007): 35-59.
- 4) **“Representing the Limits of Judgment: Yvor Winters, Emily Dickinson and Religious Experience”** appears in *Christianity and Literature* 56.3 (Spring 2007): 397-422.
- 3) **“Thomas MacGreevy Reads T.S. Eliot and Jack B Yeats: Making Modernism Catholic”** appears in *Yeats/Eliot Review* 23.3/4 (Fall/Winter 2006): 14-26.
- 2) **“Doctrinal Development and the Demons of History: The Historiography of John Henry Newman”** appears in *Religion and the Arts* 10.4 (Winter 2006): 497-523.
- 1) **“Louis MacNeice’s Struggle with Aristotelian Ethics”** appears in *New Hibernia Review* 10.4 (Winter 2006): 53-70.

SCHOLARLY BOOK CHAPTERS

- 8) **“Art, Beauty, and Communal Life,”** in *Localism in the Mass Age: A Front Porch Republic Manifesto* (Eds. Mark T. Mitchell and Jason Peters. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2016): 151-160).
- 7) **“Reading Confessionally,”** in *The Cambridge Companion to Literature and Religion* (Ed. Susan Felch. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2016), 35-50.

- 6) **“An ‘Organ for a Frenchified Doctrine’: Jacques Maritain and *The Criterion’s* Neo-Thomism”** in *T.S. Eliot and Christian Tradition* (Ed. Benjamin J. Lockerd. Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 2014): 99-117.
- 5) **“The Augustinian Imagination of Thomas MacGreevy,”** in *The Life and Work of Thomas MacGreevy: A Critical Reappraisal* (Ed. Susan Schreibman. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2013): 79-92.
- 4) **“The Fugitive and the Exile: Theodor W. Adorno, John Crowe Ransom, and *The Kenyon Review*”** in *Rereading the New Criticism* (Eds. Miranda B. Hickman and John D. McIntyre. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2012): 83-101.
- 3) **“Brian Coffey, Jacques Maritain, and the Recovery of the ‘Thing’”** appears in *The Maritain Factor: Taking Religion into Interwar Modernism* (Eds. Rajesh Heynickx and Jan De Maeyer. Leuven: Leuven University Press, Kadoc-Studies on Culture, Religion and Society, 2010): 138-151.
- 2) **“Late Modernism and the Marketplace in Denis Devlin’s *The Heavenly Foreigner*”** appears in *Irish Modernism: Origins, Contexts, Publics* (Eds. Edwina Keown and Carol Taaffe. London: Peter Lang, 2009): 159-175.
- 1) **“Brian Coffey, Jacques Maritain and ‘Missouri Sequence’”** appears in *Other Edens: The Life and Work of Brian Coffey* (Eds. Benjamin Keatinge and Aengus Woods. Dublin: Irish Academic Press, 2009), 121-138.

ARTICLES AND BOOKS UNDER REVIEW

T.S. Eliot, Jacques Maritain, and the Return to the Real (book) is under review with Northwestern University Press (August 2011).

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Catholic Modernism and the Irish “Avant-Garde”: Thomas MacGreevy, Brian Coffey, and Denis Devlin (book).
Art Is a Jealous God: Aesthetic Autonomy and the Claims of the Divine (book).

PUBLISHED POETRY AND TRANSLATIONS

I have published roughly 125 poems in various magazines, some of which have been collected in my published volumes of poetry. Magazines include *Measure*, *The New Criterion*, *Dappled Things*, *The Raintown Review*, *First Things*, *Notre Dame Review*, *Alabama Literary Review*, and *National Review*, among others.

ESSAYS AND ARTICLES

I have published 137 essays and articles on various subjects aesthetic, religious, cultural, and political in such print and online magazines as *The American Conservative*, *Alabama Literary Review*, *Dappled Things*, *First Principles*, and *Front Porch Republic*, among others.

BOOK REVIEWS

I have published 57 book reviews and review essays in various magazines and academic journals. Most of my review writing is now done for *The Weekly Standard* and for *Catholic World Report*.

PROFESSIONAL CITATIONS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITION

My books have been widely reviewed relative to other small press publications. Nearly all of my academic writing has been cited (in some cases several times) by other scholars, which is unusual for articles in the humanities.

INVITED LECTURES

I have delivered more than 30 invited lectures and poetry readings at academic institutions ranging from Columbia University to Christendom College and from Hillsdale to Yale, as well as to scholarly societies and undergraduate student groups at various places.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

I regularly deliver presentations at the scholarly societies appropriate to the disciplines in which I work.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

I have received a number of awards in recognition of my scholarly work and my poetry as well as several grants and residential fellowships in support of my scholarship.

COURSES TAUGHT

I regularly teach courses on subjects ranging from prosody (The Art of Verse) to the philosophy of the human person, aesthetics, and the philosophy of science. My particular interest is in courses that join into a unified inquiry poetry, metaphysics, theology, aesthetics, and political philosophy.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

I serve on the board of a number of learned journals and societies, review manuscripts for scholarly presses and journals, and have served as a consultant for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Philosophy and Letters
American Maritain Association
T.S. Eliot Society
Conference on Christianity and Literature
Phi Beta Kappa

Updated: 13 April 2017