



4-15-2006

Editor's Preface and Acknowledgements

Sean Dummitt
University of Kentucky

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.13023/disclosure.15.01>

Follow this and additional works at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/disclosure>



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#), and the [Social and Behavioral Sciences Commons](#)

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License](#).



Recommended Citation

Dummitt, Sean (2006) "Editor's Preface and Acknowledgements," *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory*. Vol. 15 , Article 1.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.13023/disclosure.15.01>

Available at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/disclosure/vol15/iss1/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Social Theory at UKnowledge. It has been accepted for inclusion in *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory* by an authorized editor of UKnowledge. For more information, please contact UKnowledge@lsv.uky.edu.

thresholds



disClosure
a journal of social theory

editorial collective

no. 15

Brandon Absher
Steve Buttes
Beth Connors-Manke
Larry Erickson
Jorge González del Pozo
Garrett Graddy
John Andrew Moreman
J. Michael Tilley

issue editor

Sean Dummitt

copyediting and layout

Anna Laura Bennett

funding

University of Kentucky Executive
Vice President for Research,
Graduate School, College of Arts
and Sciences, Student
Government Association, and
Committee on Social Theory

printing

Meridian Communications
Lexington, KY

on the cover

Matt Weir, *The Death Drive*,
2004. Detail of *Reproduction*,
Stress, and the Death Drive: Go
With the Flow. Photographed by
Brian Bohannon. Used by
permission.

disClosure

Arts and Sciences
213 Patterson Office Tower
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0027
dc-editor@lsv.uky.edu
[http://www.uky.edu/AS/
SocTheo/disClosure/](http://www.uky.edu/AS/SocTheo/disClosure/)

editorial board

Benjamin Agger, Sociology,
University of Texas, Arlington
James Boon, Anthropology,
Princeton University
Matthew Edney, Geography,
University of South Maine
Nancy Fraser, Political Science,
New School for Social Research
Cynthia Freeland, Philosophy,
University of Houston
Sander Gilman, German/
Philosophy, University of
Chicago
Derek Gregory, Geography,
University of British Columbia
Peter-Uwe Hohendahl, German,
Cornell University
Anton Kaes, German, UC Berkeley
Douglas Kellner, Philosophy of
Education, UCLA
Dominick LaCapra, History, Cornell
University
Maggie McFadden, Women's
Studies, Appalachian State
University
Michael Palmer, Poet, San
Francisco
Marjorie Perloff, Comparative
Literature, Stanford University
Nancy Scheper-Hughes,
Anthropology, UC Berkeley
Barney Warf, Geography, Florida
State University
Samuel Weber, German,
Northwestern University
James A. Winders, History,
Appalachian State University
Irving Zeitlin, Sociology, University
of Toronto

© 2006 by *disClosure* and the
Committee on Social Theory
ISSN 1055-6133

Artists may retain copyright over
contributions. No part of this
work may be reproduced or
reprinted without written consent
of both the *disClosure* editorial
collective and the author or
artist.

disClosure

a journal of social theory

no. 15

thresholds

contents

Contributors	3
Matt Weir <i>Reproduction, Stress, and the Death Drive: Go With the Flow</i>	6
Editor's Introduction	7
Jennifer Wilkinson <i>From the Bedroom to the Streets: Intimacy and the New Public Order</i>	9
Jena Sher <i>snow white</i>	27
Jay Ladin <i>Souls</i>	28
Diagnosis:	29
Modou Dieng <i>Charlie Parker-Bird #1</i>	30
<i>Charlie Parker-Bird #2</i>	31
<i>disClosure</i> Interviews Marianne Hirsch <i>Intimacy across the Generations: Memory, Postmemory, and Representation</i>	32
Brian Connors-Manke <i>Downtime</i>	39
Louis Cancelmi <i>Clelia</i>	40
Garrett Enters	40
Elisabeth	41
Elisabeth on the Roof	41
Jennifer Moon <i>Cruising John Rechy's City of Night: Queer Subjectivity, Intimacy, and Counterpublicity</i>	42
Jena Sher <i>panty hose: masking to reveal</i>	60
<i>disClosure</i> Interviews Ida Susser <i>Women's Autonomy and the Political Contours of HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa</i>	61
William S. Haney II <i>Artistic Expression, Intimacy, and the Primal Holon: Sam Shepard's Suicide in B-Flat and The Tooth of Crime</i>	71

Matt Weir	The Mind	93
	Reproduction, Stress, and the Death Drive: Go With the Flow (detail)	94
<i>disClosure</i> Interviews	Evolutionary Psychology and Intimacy: The David Buss Science of Violence, Competition, and Sex	95
David Nutt	The Corporate Body	107
Virginia Poundstone	Lovers	126
	Books	127

Contributors

Brandon Absher is an MA/PhD student in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Kentucky. His research focuses on the origins and nature of language and community as these themes are developed in the work of Martin Heidegger and Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Steve Buttes is a PhD candidate in the Department of Spanish, French, Italian, and Portuguese at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His focus is nineteenth- and twentieth-century Latin American literature with emphasis in narratives of the Southern Cone.

Louis Cancelmi is a writer and actor. Current projects include *Human/Voice* and *Im Gleichnis hast du verloren*. He lives and works in New York.

Beth Connors-Manke is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Kentucky. Her current research project considers the relationship of modernity to practices of witness and dissent in the Americas in the twentieth century.

Brian Connors-Manke recently had a dream in which the world wasn't hell-bent on destruction, but then he woke up, and needed to take some pictures for therapy.

Modou Dieng, born in Saint-Louis, Senegal, articulates his work around questions of multiple identities as related to nation, race, and culture.

Sean Dummitt is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Kentucky. His research interests include twentieth-century American literature as it intersects with issues of intimacy, sexuality, gender, and space. He is editor of *disClosure* 15.

Larry Erickson is a PhD student in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Kentucky. His dissertation research is coalescing somewhere in the shadowy borderlands between the political philosophy of deliberative democracy, environmental ethics, and social ontology.

Jorge González del Pozo is a graduate student from Spain in the Department of Hispanic Studies at the University of Kentucky. He became interested in writing and reading by studying English and North American litera-

ture, especially Brett Easton Ellis, though his current field of study is Spanish and Hispanic American literature.

Garrett Graddy is a PhD student in the Department of Geography at the University of Kentucky. She is currently beginning doctoral work on sustainable agriculture, the theology of ecology, and seed-saving collectives in Appalachian Kentucky and the Peruvian Andes.

William S. Haney II received his PhD from the University of California, Davis. He has taught at universities in the United States and abroad and is currently professor of English at the American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. His most recent book, *Cybercultures, Cyborgs, and Science Fiction: Consciousness and the Posthuman* (Rodopi, 2006), argues that the first-person experience of pure consciousness may soon be under threat from posthuman biotechnology.

Jay Ladin holds the David and Ruth Gottesman Chair in English at Stern College of Yeshiva University. His first collection of poems, *Alternatives to History*, was published in 2003 by Sheep Meadow Press; Sheep Meadow will bring out his second collection, *The Book of Anna*, in spring 2007. With the assistance of an American Council of Learned Societies fellowship, he is currently completing a critical study of the emergence of American modernism and a third book of poetry.

Susan Larson is an assistant professor of Spanish at the University of Kentucky. Her current project, a book coauthored with Malcolm Compitello on the politics and social consequences of the urban policies of the Partido Socialista Obrero Español between 1982 and 2000, is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Jennifer Moon received her PhD in American culture from the University of Michigan. Her dissertation examined literary and popular representations of cruising for sex, and her interests center on queer social theory and public culture. She lives in New York City.

John Andrew Moreman is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Kentucky. His current research interests are focused on early American literature. He is from Texas.

David Nutt lives in southern New Jersey. His fiction has appeared in *Open City*.

George Micajah Phillips is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Kentucky and is co-art editor (with Mathias Dettmore) of

disClosure 16. He is interested in the collateral development of social theories and literature during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Virginia Poundstone is an artist and designer who was born and raised in Lexington, Kentucky, schooled in Manhattan, and now lives in Brooklyn.

Jena Sher is a graphic designer. At Princeton she double majored in visual arts with a concentration in photography. She pursued an MFA in graphic design from Yale and is now working for a design firm in New York.

J. Michael Tilley is a PhD student in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Kentucky. He specializes in both nineteenth-century philosophy and social and political philosophy. His dissertation addresses the relationship between the individual and the community in Kierkegaard's social philosophy.

Matt Weir is a visual artist who lives and works in Louisville, Kentucky.

Jennifer Wilkinson teaches in the Department of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Sydney. Her interest in intimacy has grown out of her PhD study of the public sphere and her postgraduate teaching concerns, ethics, and private life.

Editor's Introduction

Intimacy studies has, in recent years, become an interesting and extremely productive interdisciplinary site of inquiry in the humanities and social sciences. This issue of *disClosure*, "Thresholds," has somewhat of a privileged vantage point from which to judge recent developments, simply because some of the canonical texts of intimacy studies have been around long enough for numerous other scholars to comment on these works and redeploy many of the original theories of intimacy.

While positioning itself within intimacy studies, however, "Thresholds" also seeks to expand this mode of intellectual engagement by publishing new works that not only rely on classic theories of intimacy but also challenge them, while incorporating new theories into the overall investigation of intimacy.

When we began this endeavor, we were quite curious to see what submissions we would receive, wondering to what degree intimacy had become a solidified field of study and in what ways this quasi-discipline was still forming, still unaware of itself and the seemingly always expanding implications of its questions and positions. What we have found is that much is still up for grabs in intimacy studies and that, while certain texts do indeed find their ways into countless bibliographies, there is certainly little in this discipline that produces an overarching theory or pretends to set an unimpeachable agenda. It is clear, however, that intimacy studies has at its center people, individuals and groups, who are both enlivened and troubled by their quests for and rejections of love, sex, friendship, family, and community. Intimacy studies thus reveals the complications of these interconnections by highlighting the agents of intimacy and the intersubjective dynamics of our relations to one another.

We have chosen "Thresholds" as the issue title for a number of reasons. The obvious connotation is of newlyweds' crossing into their first matrimonial dwelling. More than this, however, thresholds are the spaces through which the boundaries that accompany any individual or collective pursuit or negotiation of intimacy can be traversed. Thresholds are also limits—limits we may choose never to cross and limits from which there may be no return; these are limits that intimacy bespeaks and tests at all times. In intimacy, then, the idea of thresholds points up that we are, in many ways, simultaneously solitary, dyadic, and collective beings, always on the verge

of new possibilities of friendship, love, and community, and yet inevitably facing circumstances that would jeopardize these moments.

It is our hope that "Thresholds" provides a thorough sense of the exciting depth and breadth intimacy studies has come to offer as a mode of social theory. With these new possibilities of social-theoretical engagement in mind, I welcome you to "Thresholds," the fifteenth issue of *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory*.

Acknowledgements

I would like first to thank this editorial collective's faculty advisors, Andy Doolen and John Erickson, for their time and expertise in all matters we have faced in the production of this issue. Thank you also to Committee on Social Theory Director Virginia Blum for her endless support of *disClosure*. Without her mentorship and advocacy, *disClosure* would not be possible. I thank the faculty members who, along with Virginia Blum, co-taught Social Theory 600 in spring 2005: Mary Anglin, Suzanne Pucci, and Richard Smith. For continued funding of *disClosure*, I thank the Executive Vice President for Research, the Graduate School, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Student Government Association, and the Committee on Social Theory, all at the University of Kentucky. Their financial support is vital to *disClosure*, and I am grateful for their contributions.

Sincere thanks to Marcia England, editor of *disClosure* 14, "Incarnations," for promptly and generously answering all questions about journal publication. Her support has been integral to the entire production of this issue, and she is owed endless gratitude.

Thanks also to the editorial collective of this issue, including my assistant editor Brandon Absher, who at all times has been available to help. I look forward to helping him, in turn, should he need any assistance with his issue of *disClosure*, which will appear next year. Collective members Steve Buttes, Beth Connors-Manke, Larry Erickson, Jorge González del Pozo, Garrett Graddy, Andrew Moreman, and Michael Tilley have all been a pleasure to work with, and their dedication to this issue is a testament to the success of interdisciplinary scholarship and cooperation.

disClosure also owes a world of gratitude to copyeditor and layout editor Anna Laura Bennett, who has invested limitless energy and countless hours of her time to ensure that this issue of *disClosure* is the very best that we can produce.

Lastly, thanks to all of the "Thresholds" contributors. We value the opportunity to present their intriguing and important work in this issue.

—SEAN DUMMITT