

# AARON T. PRATT

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## CURRENT APPOINTMENT

University of Texas at Austin, 2017 to present  
Carl & Lily Pforzheimer Curator of Early Books & Manuscripts, Harry Ransom Center  
Lecturer, Department of English

## PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT

Trinity University, 2015–2017  
Assistant Professor, Department of English

## EDUCATION

Yale University, 2010–2016  
Doctor of Philosophy, English Literature  
Dissertation: “**The Status of Printed Playbooks in Early Modern England**”  
Committee: David Scott Kastan (Director), Lawrence Manley, & Keith Wrightson

The Ohio State University, 2008–2010  
Master of Arts, English Literature

The Ohio State University, 2001–2005  
Bachelor of Arts, English & Philosophy  
Minor in Women's Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

Coauthor w/ Kathryn James. *Collated & Perfect*. New Haven, CT & Austin, TX: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library & Harry Ransom Center, 2019

“**The Trouble with Translation: Paratexts & England’s Bestselling New Testament.**” In *The Bible on the Shakespearean Stage: Cultures of Interpretation in Reformation England*, edited by Thomas Fulton & Kristen Poole, 33–48. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018

“**Printed Playbooks, Performance, & the 1580s Lag.**” *Shakespeare Studies* 45 (2017): 51–59

“**Horror & Exploitation on VHS: The History of Home Video Comes to Yale.**” *Journal of Visual Culture* 14.3 (2015): 332–335

“**Stab-Stitching & the Status of Early English Playbooks as Literature.**” *The Library*, 7<sup>th</sup> ser., 16.3 (2015): 304–328

Coauthor w/ David Scott Kastan. “**Printers, Publishers, & the *Chronicles* as Artefact.**” In *The Oxford Handbook to Holinsbed’s Chronicles*, edited by Paulina Kewes, Ian W. Archer, & Felicity Heal, 21–42. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013

**UPDATED MARCH 11, 2019**

“**Latimer, Hugh.**” In *Encyclopedia of English Renaissance Literature*, edited by Garrett A. Sullivan, Jr. & Alan Stewart, 582–583. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012

Coauthor w/ John N. King. “**Bibles as Books: The Materiality of English Printed Bibles from the Tyndale New Testament to the King James Bible.**” In *The King James Bible after 400 Years: Literary, Linguistic & Cultural Influences*, edited by Hannibal Hamlin & Norman W. Jones, 61–99. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010

## REVIEWS

Review of *The Complete Works of Gerrard Winstanley*, ed. Thomas N. Corns, Ann Hughes, & David Loewenstein. *Prose Studies* 33.1 (2011): 79–82

## DIGITAL PROJECTS

**BEME: Bibles of Early Modern England.** *Project Lead*, 2010 to present

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

**Faculty Summer Research Stipend.** Trinity University, 2016

**Yale Graduate Student Assembly Conference Travel Fellowship.** For presentation at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of The Shakespeare Association of America, 2015

**Katharine F. Pantzer New Scholar.** Bibliographical Society of America, 2015

**The Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in Critical Bibliography.** Rare Book School, 2014–2017

**Folger Institute Grant-in-aid.** For participation in the seminar, *Researching the Archive*, led by Jean E. Howard & Pamela H. Smith, 2014–2015

**James M. Osborn Fellowship in English Literature & History.** Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, 2013

**Yale Graduate Student Assembly Conference Travel Fellowship.** For presentation at “New Bownde”: New Scholarship in Early Modern Binding, 2013

**Folger Institute Grant-in-aid.** For attendance at the conference, *An Anglo-American History of the KJV*, 2011

**Folger Institute Grant-in-aid.** For participation in the seminar, *The History of the Stationers' Company*, led by Ian Gadd, 2011

**Folger Institute Grant-in-aid.** For participation in the seminar, *Mastering Research at the Folger*, led by Zachary Lesser, 2009

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“**Shakespeare's Books.**” Lecture at West Texas A&M University, Canyon, TX, November 6, 2018 \*

“**Perfect Books.**” Presentation at *Books and Their Use[r]s*, Columbus, OH, October 19, 2018 \*

“**Sophisticated Books.**” Keynote lecture at the *Book History Workshop*, College Station, TX, June 4, 2018 \*

**“Conway’s Taste for Playbooks.”** Pre-circulated paper for Early Modern Cultures of Taste, a seminar at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America, Los Angeles, CA, March 29, 2018

**“Where Was Luther in the English Bible, 1525-1611?”** Presentation at Nailing Down the Protestant Reformation: A Symposium on the Martin Luther Quincentennial, Fayetteville, AR, November 10, 2017 \*

**“Playbooks & Their Authors Before the Playhouses.”** Pre-circulated paper for Shakespearean Distortions of Early Modern Drama, a seminar at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America, Atlanta, GA, April 6, 2017

**“The Trouble with Translation.”** Presentation & roundtable discussant at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL, March 31, 2017 \*

**“Stabbed then Stab-Stitched: Marlowe’s Death & the Transmission of Dramatic Manuscripts.”** Presentation at Old Books/New Approaches, San Antonio, TX, February 17, 2017

**“Marlowe’s Playbooks & Manuscript Transmission.”** Presentation at the annual convention of the Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 6, 2017

**“Quod Auctor’: Rethinking the History of Dramatic Authorship in Print.”** Presentation at Shakespeare, the Book, San Antonio, TX, September 30, 2016

**“Too Gory for the Silver Screen: Horror as Video.”** Presentation at Terror on Tape: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on the History of Horror on Video, New Haven, CT, May 7, 2016

**“Infinite Riches in a Little ROM.”** Presentation at the annual convention of the Modern Language Association, Austin, TX, January 7, 2016

**“Communities of the Book: Academics, Booksellers, Curators, & Collectors.”** Roundtable discussion at the Orientation & Opening Colloquium for the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in Critical Bibliography, Charlottesville, VA, May 30, 2015 \*

**“Cheap Print, Playbooks, & the Advent of English Literature.”** Presentation at the annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America, New York, NY, January 23, 2015

**“A Review of DEEP & Updating McKerrow’s Dictionary.”** Pre-circulated responses for Digital Resources for the Early Modern Book Trade, a workshop at the 42<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America, St. Louis, MO, April 12, 2014

**“Reading Unmarked Bibles in Elizabethan & Jacobean England.”** Presentation at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, New York, NY, March 29, 2014 \*

**“Stab-Stitching & the Status of Playbooks as Literature.”** Presentation at “New Bownde”: New Scholarship in Early Modern Binding, Washington, DC, August 15, 2013

**“Buying Playbooks in Early Modern England.”** Pre-circulated paper for a seminar of the Yale Program in the History of the Book, New Haven, CT, January 17, 2013

**“Buying & Reading the Bible in Shakespeare’s England: A Polemic.”** Pre-circulated paper for Reading Shakespeare & the Bible, a seminar at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America, Boston, MA, May 5, 2012

**“Radical Soteriology & Winstanley’s Antinomian Hermeneutic.”** Pre-circulated paper for The Bible & Early Modern Radicals, a seminar at The King James Bible & its Cultural Afterlife, Columbus, OH, May 6, 2011

“**The Materiality of English Bibles from the Tyndale New Testament to the King James Bible.**” Pre-circulated paper for the Seminar for the History of the Book, The Ohio State University, April 16, 2010 \*

“**Sorry, Bale: Revisiting Tudor Apocalypticism.**” Presentation at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Tudor Symposium, Sheffield, UK, September 15, 2009

“**Yet is the text a light to the cronicles’: Bale, Foxe, & Apocalyptic Historiography.**” Presentation at the 44<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Western Michigan, May 8, 2009

\* Invited presentation

## SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

“**Frankenbooks.**” Interview with Caroline Barta and Amy Vidor. *Archival Fever*. Podcast audio. February 15, 2019.

“**How the VCR Began America’s Love of On-Demand Content.**” Interview with Alexi Horowitz-Ghazi. *All Things Considered*. National Public Radio, August 6, 2016.

“**Yale Is Starting a VHS Archive & It’s Full of Horror Movies.**” Interview with Jeremy Hobson. *Here & Now*. WBUR 90.9, March 27, 2015.

“**Yale Library Acquires Blockbuster Collection of ‘70s & ‘80s VHS Tapes.**” Interview with Ed Stannard. *New Haven Register*, March 11, 2015.

“**Yale Is Building an Incredible Collection of VHS Tapes.**” Interview with Natalie Kitroeff. *Bloomberg*, March 5, 2015.

## TEACHING

### University of Texas at Austin

*Professor*

BEME: Bibles of Early Modern England, Fall 2018 (Conference Course)

### Trinity University

*Professor*

Great Books of the Ancient World, Fall 2015

British Literature to 1800, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, & Fall 2016

Shakespeare, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

Introduction to Shakespeare, Fall 2016

Great Books of Western Modernity, Spring 2017

Revenge in Renaissance Drama, Spring 2017

### Yale University

*Acting Instructor*

English for Freshmen / Terror, Horror, & the Literary Imagination, Spring 2014

*Teaching Assistant*

John Milton (John Rogers), Fall 2013

American Literature, Colonial to Civil War (Michael Warner), Spring 2012

Shakespeare’s Histories & Tragedies (David Scott Kastan), Fall 2012

*Teaching Associate / Tutor*

Daily Themes (Richard Deming), Spring 2012

Daily Themes (Langdon Hammer), Spring 2011

## **The Ohio State University**

*Acting Instructor*

First-Year Writing / The Rhetoric of Trucks: F150s, Bigfoot, & American Identity, Spring 2010

First-Year Writing / Media Madness: Sensationalism in Our Culture, Winter 2009

First-Year Writing / Arguing Religion & Politics: The Rhetoric of Controversy, 3 terms, 2008 & 2009

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Harry Ransom Center Pforzheimer Lecture.** *Organizer*, 2018 to present

**Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography at Rare Book School.** *Cofounder & Co-organizer*, 2016 to present

*Shakespeare.* Submission Referee, 2017

*Literature Compass.* Submission Referee, 2016

**Shakespeare, the Book.** *Organizer*, September 30–October 1, 2016

**Cambridge University Press.** Press Reviewer, 2016

**Terror on Tape: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on the History of Horror on Video.** *Co-organizer*, May 6–7, 2016

**The Futures of Historicism: A Symposium in Honor of David Scott Kastan.** *Co-organizer*, October 2–3, 2015

*Reformation.* Submission Referee, 2015

**The Yale Program in the History of the Book.** *Cofounder & Co-organizer*, 2012–2015

**Pomerium Renaissance Working Group.** *Convener*, 2012–2015

*The Library: Transactions of the Bibliographical Society.* Submission Referee, 2013

**Tudor Books & Readers, 1485-1603, an NEH Summer Seminar for College & University Teachers.** *Project Assistant*, 2012

*Reformation & Literature & History.* *Editorial Assistant*, 2009–2010

## **RELEVANT NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

**Aaron T. Pratt Antiquarian Books.** *Owner*, 2011–2016

**Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library.** *Curatorial Assistant*, 2011

**Stream Right / Engauge.** *Lead Systems Administrator*, 2007–2008

**MyTriggers.** *Lead Systems Administrator*, 2006–2007

**Qwest Communications.** *Senior Systems Engineer*, 2000–2001

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography**, 2017 to present

**Bibliographical Society**, 2011 to present

**Bibliographical Society of America**, 2018 to present

**Modern Language Association**, 2008 to present

**Shakespeare Association of America**, 2011 to present