

Dr. Helen Palmer

Writer and theorist

Born 1983, Blackpool, UK

Represented by Jennifer Bernstein at The Wylie Agency

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AGENT EMAIL jbernstein@wylieagency.co.uk

2012	PhD (awarded September 2012) 'A Manifesto for Nonsense: The Futurist Drive in Deleuze's Poetics'	
2007	Masters, Contemporary Approaches to English Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London	Distinction
2006	MA (Hons), English University of Glasgow	First Class

ACADEMIC CAREER

2024 – present	Senior Research Associate, Artistic Research in Literary Studies, Department of Modern English Literature, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany
2023 – 2024	Tutor, Writing at Doctoral Level, Fine Art Academy Vienna
2020 – 2022	Senior Scientist, Department for Architecture Theory and Philosophy of Technics (ATTP), Technical University Vienna
2020 – 2022	Senior Lecturer, Chair for Digital Architectonics, ETH, Zürich
2015 – 2020	Senior Lecturer in English Literature and Creative Writing, Kingston University London, UK
2009 – 2015	Lecturer in English and Comparative Literature Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

RESIDENCIES, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

2027	Interdisciplinary Residency, Bundanon Art Museum, NSW, Australia	
2025	Interdisciplinary Residency plus stipend, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Virginia, USA	\$2000
2023	Interdisciplinary Residency plus stipend, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Virginia, USA	\$2000
2023	Arts Council England – Funding for Prototype Publishing, for promotional activities around debut novel <i>Pleasure Beach</i>	£2000
2020	FFG Relocation Grant: Confirmation of taking up a post in research, development and innovation	1500 EUR
2019	AHRC Research Grant (with Sara Upstone and Daniel Tong) Music Making Thought: Transdisciplinary Dialogues on Critical Theory's Musical Intertexts (unsuccessful)	£343, 683.12

2015-2018	Funded UK member of IS1307 Networking European Scholarship on New Materialism: How Matter Comes to Matter	60 million EUR
2017	Visiting Scholar, Department of Gender and Cultural Studies, University of Sydney	
2016	Research Support, QR Funding, Kingston University London	£1500
2010	Departmental Teaching Bursary, Goldsmiths, University of London	£15,000
2006	Bradley Medal for most distinguished candidate in English Literature Elizabeth M. Yearling Prize for highest distinction in Shakespeare paper Alexander Waddel Prize for female student with most distinguished tutorial work	
2005	University of Glasgow Carnegie Vacation Scholarship	£800

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS: monographs

- 2020 *Queer Defamiliarisation: Writing, Mattering, Making Strange*, New Materialisms book series ed. Rosi Braidotti and Iris van der Tuin (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press) <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-queer-defamiliarisation.html>
- 2014 *Deleuze and Futurism: A Manifesto for Nonsense* (London and New York: Bloomsbury) <https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/deleuze-and-futurism-9781472534286/>

BOOKS: novels

- 2025 *Playa Placer* trans. Lara Alonso Corona (Barcelona: Cielo Santo) <https://www.cielosanto.org/playaplacer/>
- 2023 *Pleasure Beach* (London: Prototype) <https://prototypepublishing.co.uk/product/pleasure-beach/>
- 2023 *Pleasure Beach* (audiobook: Prototype / Spiracle) <https://www.spiracleaudiobooks.com/audiobooks/pleasure-beach>

ACADEMIC JOURNAL ARTICLES, LITERARY ARTICLES AND EXHIBITION TEXTS

- 2025 'Editor's Introduction', and 'Marine Lover, Machine Lover, Endocrine Lover: The Sea that Splashes in the Cave', *The Sea: A Literary-Philosophical Immersion*, special issue of *Angelaki: Journal of the Theoretical Humanities*. Print and digital. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0969725X.2025.2454820>.
- 2023 PLEASURE BEACH: OFFCUTS AND NOTES, *La Piccioletta Barca*. Digital. <https://www.picciolettabarca.com/posts/pleasure-beach-offcuts-notes>
- 2023 'Our House', Exhibition Text for Sophie Pölzl, English and German translation, Bildrecht Vienna.
- 2023 'A Queer Reimagining of James Joyce's *Ulysses* in Northern England: Helen Palmer on Why She Chose 1990s Blackpool for the Setting of *Pleasure Beach*', *Literary Hub*. Digital. <https://lithub.com/a-queer-reimagining-of-james-joyces-ulysses-in-northern-england/>
- 2023 'The light of which it speaks: creativity, modality, perception', *Mobilizing Creativity*, special issue of *Minnesota Review* ed. Kiene Brillenburg Wurth, Iris van der Tuin and Nanna Verhoeff. Print and digital. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/900955>
- 2021 'Synaesthesia', *Matter: Journal of New Materialist Research*: Vol. 2 No. 2. Fourth Issue. <https://doi.org/10.1344/inmr.v2i2.35896>

- 2020 'Speculative Taxonomies', *Philosophy Today*, Special Issue on New Materialist Concepts ed. Iris van der Tuin and Adam Nocek.
<http://doi.org/10.5840/philtoday2020128314>
- 2020 (with Beatriz Revelles) 'Decomposing Matter: From Literary Critique to Language Creation', *Matter: Journal of New Materialist Critique*: Vol. 1 No 1.
<https://doi.org/10.1344/jnmr.v1i1.29299>
- 2019 (with Vikki Chalklin) 'Bodies ad Absurdum: Queer Clowning as Method', *Feminist New Materialist Practice*, Special Issue of *MAI Journal of Feminism and Visual Culture*, ed. Rebecca Coleman, Tara Page and Helen Palmer.
<https://www.maifeminism.com/bodies-ad-absurdum-and-the-queer-clownifesto/>
- 2018 (with Jessica Foley, Vicky Hunter and Karolina Kucia) 'Situated Knowledge, Transmissions of Practice and Parasitic Endeavours', *Ruukku: Studies in Artistic Research* No. 9 Special Issue *Aesthetic Intra-Actions*, ed. Katve-Kaisa Kontturi, Milla Tiainen, Tero Nauha and Marie-Luise Angerer.
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/371804/371805>
- 2016 'Rewritings / Refoldings / Refleshings', *Sexuality, Culture and Creativity: Commodification and Contemporary Publics*: Themed Edition of *Continuum: Journal of Media and Cultural Studies* ed. Anne Harris and Yvette Taylor (Taylor & Francis).
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10304312.2016.1210724>
- 2016 (with Anna Hickey-Moody and Esther Sayers) 'Diffractive Pedagogies: Dancing Across New Materialist Imaginaries', *Shifting Education's Philosophical Imaginaries: Relations, Affects, Bodies, Materialities*, Special Issue of *Gender and Education*. ed. Aislinn O'Donnell, Sharon Todd and Rachel Jones (Taylor & Francis).
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09540253.2016.1140723>
- 2011 'Dynamic Nonsense: Deleuze, Futurism and Linguistic Materiality', *glits-e* 2 (2010), peer-reviewed electronic journal of literary and cultural criticism.
<https://www.gold.ac.uk/glits-e/glits-e2011-2012/dynamicnonsensedeleuzefuturismandlinguisticmateriality/>

JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUES (EDITOR)

- 2025 *The Sea: A Literary-Philosophical Immersion*. Special Issue of *Angelaki: Journal of the Theoretical Humanities* (Taylor & Francis).
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0969725X.2025.2454822>
- 2019 (with Rebecca Coleman and Tara Page) *Feminist New Materialist Practice: The Mattering of Method*, Special Issue of *MAI Journal of Feminism and Visual Culture*.
<https://www.maifeminism.com/feminist-new-materialisms-the-mattering-of-methods-editors-note/>

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming (2027) 'The Work of Speculative Gardening in the Age of Sloppy Propagation: Writing the Thing Itself' (text plus video essay), *Feminist Literacies: Enfleshing Material Texts* ed. Beatriz Revelles and Adelina Sanchez (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press)
- Forthcoming (2027) 'A Field of Heteronyms and Homonyms', in *By A Woman* ed. Marjolein van der Loo (Eindhoven: Onomatopée)
- 2022 'Defamiliarisation', in *More Posthuman Glossary*, ed. Rosi Braidotti, Emily Jones and Goda Klumbyte (London/NY/Sydney: Bloomsbury)
- 2020 'Sensorium', 'Scales as Spectra', and 'Sirens and Organs', *Architecture and Naturing Affairs* ed. Mihye An and Ludger Hovestadt (Birkhäuser)
- 2019 'A Field of Heteronyms: New Materialism, Speculative Fabulation and Wor(l)ding', *New Directions in Literature and Philosophy* ed. Ridvan Askin, Frida Beckman and David Rudrun (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press)

- 2018 'Beyond Surface Articulation: Deleuze's Alice and the Hermunculus', *Deleuze and Children* ed. Markus Bohlmann and Anna Hickey-Moody (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press)
- 2017 "'What Happened Next?": Hjelmslev's net, Arachne's web and the figure of the line in Plateau 8', *A Thousand Plateaus and Philosophy* ed. Henry Somers-Hall (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press)

PUBLISHED POEMS

- 2017 'Gertrude Stein Does Proteus at Sunset on Blackpool Promenade', 'RAWR', 'Jellyfish', 'Break', *The Minnesota Review: a journal of creative and critical writing*, Issue 88 (2017), Special Focus Section: New Materialist Genealogies (Duke University Press)
- 2015 'Play', 'Bank Holiday Swim', 'Red Light Jam', 'Alice and Leibniz (a love song)', *We Are A Website: New Literary Journal*, Issue 1 (2015)

PODCASTS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2023 Reading from *Pleasure Beach* and interview, Clyde Built Radio, Glasgow
<https://soundcloud.com/clydebuiltradio/helen-palmers-pleasure-beach-4>
- 2023 Rippling Pages interview
<https://ripplingpages.podbean.com/e/bloomsday-special-with-helen-palmer/>
- 2020 "To be we to be": Conversation with Anna Barham, Quote-Unquote
https://soundcloud.com/quote_unquote/podcast-anna-barham-helen-palmer

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 (with Vicky Hunter) 'Worlding', *New Materialism Almanac*
<https://newmaterialism.eu/almanac/w/worlding.html>
- 2016 (with Stanimir Panayotov) 'Transversality', *New Materialism Almanac*
<https://newmaterialism.eu/almanac/t/transversality.html>
- 2016 Review of Marie-Luise Angerer, *Desire After Affect*, *Radical Philosophy* 198 (Jul/Aug 2016)

SELECTED INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS & COLLOQUIA

- June 2026 Keynote: The work of speculative gardening in the ages of sloppy propagation, 13th International Feminist New Materialisms Conference, University of Granada, Spain
- April 2026 Queer Writing Workshop with Ambika Thompson and The Reader Berlin, Lettrétage, Berlin
- February 2026 Liquid history sung backwards: a reverse chronology of London voices mapped by the Thames, KAP1, Lost and Found Exhibition Launch, Düsseldorf
- November 2025 Creative Writing As Artistic Research: Xenogenetic Writing Practices, Jagellonian University, Poland
- June 2025 Blackpool in Bloom: Bloomsday Reading of *Pleasure Beach*, International English Library, Düsseldorf
- March 2025 Accelerating analogies and talking slippers: mobilising literary epochs for creative-critical writing, University of Łódź, Poland
- August 2024 Reading from *Pleasure Beach*, North Faces, Edinburgh Book Festival, Scotland

August 2024	Marine Lover, Machine Lover, Endocrine Lover: The Sea that Splashes in the Cave, New Materialism Conference, Maynooth University, Ireland
January – March 2024	It comes in Waves: Pleasure Writing Workshops, Kunsthalle, Vienna
December 2023 Italy	Playing with the Material of Language, Workshop, Free University of Bozen / Bolzano, Italy
June 2023	Academic Writing in English at Doctoral Level, Fine Art Academy, Vienna
June-November 2023	<i>Pleasure Beach</i> Book Launch Tour: Grand Theatre Blackpool, Burley Fisher Bookshop London, Lighthouse Books Edinburgh, York St John University, Glasgow University, Flucc Vienna, Austria
February 2023	Writings Made from the Ashes: Creative Writing Workshop, The Office, Vienna
July 2022	Worte Freisetzen: Workshop zum kreativen Schreiben, Seminarhaus Seiber, Wachau
February 2021 (online)	'Queer Materialisms', <i>techne</i> Doctoral Training Day, Kingston University London
November 2020	Keynote: 'From whorl to world: composition as kaleidoscope', 'Re-Thinking Methodologies at the Intersections of the Arts and Humanities', University of Linköping, Sweden (online)
January 2020	'Ineluctable diffractability of the multisensory manifold: towards a topology of the senses', invited talk, Architecture and Naturing Affairs, ETH Zürich
November 2020	'Queer defamiliarization and the axes of language', Indeterminacies conference, University of Dundee (online)
May 2019	'Sensory entanglement as affective collaboration', AtGender Conference, Gijón, Spain
March 2019	'Sensorium: Between Synaesthesia and Topology', Theory Now Symposium, University of Glasgow
July 2017	(with Iris van der Tuin and Stacey Moran) Diffractive Pedagogies Seminar stream, American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Utrecht University
June 2017	Tutor at Deleuze Camp, Taking Flight: Assembling, Becoming, Queering: 10 th International Deleuze Studies Conference and Camp, Toronto
June 2017	'Landslides of Literality and the Affirmative Politics of Worlding: Science Fiction as New Materialist Method', 8 th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms, Paris
March 2017	'The Politics of Diffractive Poetics', Gender and Cultural Studies Departmental Seminar, University of Sydney, Australia
February 2017	'Queer Defamiliarisation', invited talk, Philosophy Departmental Seminar, University of Western Sydney, Australia
September 2016	Invited Response to Keynote Arun Saldanha, Performing Situated Knowledges: Space, Time, Vulnerability. 7 th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms, University of Warsaw
July 2016	'Borders and Surfaces: Deleuze's Alice', International Deleuze Studies Conference, Rome
May 2016	'Prefixing as performance; rewriting as revolution', International Congress on Gender Studies, University of Lisbon
May 2016	(with Anke Hennig) Writing Workshop, and (with Rebecca Coleman and Tara Page) Workshop on Material Methods, New Materialism Training School, Tate Modern, London (COST Action IS1307: Networking European Scholarship on 'How Matter Comes To Matter')

February 2016	'Material Interventions: Diffraction and Transversality in Practice', invited talk at Marxism, Materialism and the Nature/Culture Divide, University of Westminster
January 2016	'Diffractive Pedagogies', invited talk at Gender Without Borders lecture series (Kingston / Central Saint Martins)
September 2015	(with Vikki Chalklin) 'Perverts, Queers, Foodstuffs and Clowns: Anarchic objects, nonsensical personae and the fetishization of the philosophical subject' TaPRA 2015, University of Worcester
September 2015	'Profundity and Strangeness, Touching and Skin: Queer Formalism at the Borders', SEP FEP Joint Annual Conference 2015: New Frontiers, University of Dundee
June 2015	'Queering Defamiliarization: Marx, Manifestos and Matter,' Invited talk at Retroformalisms workshop 'Marx-Form-Isms', UCL Marxism in Culture Series, University of London

READINGS

October 2026	Reading and discussion with Elena Castro, Central del Raval, Barcelona
October 2026	Reading and discussion with translator Lara Alonso Corona, Depserate Literature, Madrid
September 2026	Reading at Julia Frank exhibition opening Hot Lesbians, Last Little Haven, Vienna
June 2026	Reading and discussion with Judith Vives, Libreria Rayuela, Malaga
June 2025	Reading of <i>Pleasure Beach</i> with Jane Flett, author of <i>Freakslaw</i> , Ivallans Second-Hand and Exceptional Books, Berlin
June-November 2023	<i>Pleasure Beach</i> Book Launch Tour: Grand Theatre Blackpool, Burley Fisher London, Lighthouse Books Edinburgh, York St John University, Glasgow University
September 2022	Reading from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Shakespeare & Co Bookshop, Vienna
September 2021	Reading from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Gnomonics week, TU Wien, Vienna
January 2020	Reading for Galal El-Behairy, English PEN Modern Literature Festival, The Bishop, Kingston-upon-Thames
November 2019	Readings and discussion from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Australasian Association of Writing Programs, 24 th Annual Conference, University of Technology Sydney
October 2019	'Biomythography: breathing life into older texts' (and readings from <i>Pleasure Beach</i>), invited talk, Ayr Writers Club, Scotland
August 2018	'Speculate: A Spatiotemporal Journey', Crossroads in Cultural Studies, Shanghai
June 2018	'Sensorium: From Cephalopods to Whorls', 9 th Annual Conference on the New Materialisms, Utrecht University
March 2018	Reading for Me Nam, English PEN Modern Literature Festival, Writers Centre Kingston, All Saints Church, Kingston-upon-Thames
November 2017	'The Matter of Hoping', Writers Centre Kingston, Minima Yacht club, Kingston-upon-Thames
May 2017	Readings from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Torque Symposium 3: Manifestos for Relearning to Read, Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool
April 2017	Readings from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , University of Sydney, Australia
April 2017	Readings from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

April 2017	Readings from <i>Pleasure Beach</i> , Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Australia
June 2015	'Be- Contra-: A Prefix Femifesta', Invited Response to Natalya Lusty, Centre for Feminist Research, Goldsmiths, University of London
March 2015	'Speculate/Accelerate/Coagulate: Fetishising the Analogical Procedure'. Invited talk at Literature Research Seminar Series, University of Westminster, London

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND COURSES

2019	Research and Impact course attended, Kingston University London
2017	Grant-writing and Research Capture course attended, Kingston University London
2016	PhD Supervision course attended, Kingston University London
2015	Unconscious Bias course attended, Kingston University London

ACADEMIC FACULTY SERVICE

2019 – 2020	Member of Athena SWAN working group, Department of Humanities, Kingston University London
2017 – 2020	Founding member and organiser, Race / Gender Matters Research Cluster, Kingston University London
2015 – 2018	Research Business and Innovation Committee, Early Career Member, Kingston University London
2015 – 2017	Module Review Committee, Kingston University London
2015 – 2017	Founding and Steering Group Member, MA Gender Without Borders, Kingston University London

PHD SUPERVISION

2018 – 2026	Katie Hall, Kingston University London. Writing as Knowing – a creative critical investigation of research by practice through the production of 'Queer as Friends: a theoretical memoir charting unconventional friendships as feminist activism'. Awarded with no corrections
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ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC AND CREATIVE ROLES

2019 – present	Section editor, Language and Literature, <i>Matter: a new materialist journal</i> .
2018 – present	Contributing editor, <i>Angelaki: journal of the theoretical humanities</i> .
2019 – 2020	Tutor and member, Antiuniversity Now collective
2017 – 2020	Writer / contributor and member, English PEN
2016 – 2020	Founding member and organiser of Race/Gender Matters research cluster, Kingston University < https://www.racegendermatters.com >
2014 –present	(with Vikki Chalklin) Performer in Le Tomatique, queer avant-garde clowning duo (performances include Bar Wotever, Royal Vauxhall Tavern November 2014; Queer Experiments, Hackney Attic April 2015; Queerest of the Queer festival September 2015, The Coronet; Diffractional Pedagogies Seminar, ACLA, Utrecht University July 2017; Performativity Symposium, Swedenborg Hall, March 2018)