

# Eli Cohen

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Department of Spanish  
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## **Education**

**Princeton University**, Department of Comparative Literature

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (September 2011)

Dissertation: "A Poetics of Paradox: Images of Discourse in Early Modern Novelistic Fiction"

Advisor: Marina S. Brownlee; Readers: April Alliston, Claudia Brodsky

M.A. in Comparative Literature (2007)

**St. John's College**, The Graduate Institute

M.A. in Liberal Arts (2004)

**Middlebury College**

M.A. in Spanish (2001)

**The George Washington University, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences**

B.A. *cum laude* (1999) Major: Anthropology; Minor: Creative Writing

## **Professional Appointments**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish, Swarthmore College (2015-present)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Hispanic Studies, Oberlin College (2012-2015)

College Fellow, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University (2011-2012)

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Rider University (2010)

Assistant Instructor, Departments of English, Comparative Literature, and Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, Princeton University (2005-2006, 2008-2011)

## **Research**

### **Research Interests**

Cervantes and early modern Spanish literature and culture; Transatlantic and Latin American colonial literature and culture; Classical influences on early modern Hispanic culture, early modern visual culture; affect and humor in early modern culture; the picaresque novel; gender representations in early modern and modern Spain; Arabic culture in early modern Spain; comparative literature and literary theory; digital humanities and early modern culture; modern peninsular literature and culture; Hispanic visual and literary studies; philosophy and literature; translation studies; literature and transgression; monsters and monstrosity in visual and verbal art.

## **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

- “Emblematic Narrative: On the Interplay of Word and Image in *Don Quijote*,” under review.
- “No Laughing Matter: Aristotle, Sancho Panza, and the Limits of the Risible in *Don Quijote II*,” under review.
- “(In)Decorous Mirth: Phillips’s 1687 Translation of *Don Quijote* and the Social Function of Humor,” *Trans. Revista de traductología* 21 (2017), pp. 75-90.
- “Variaciones novelísticas: la recepción del *Quijote* en la «Introducción» de las *Cartas marruecas* de Cadalso,” *Cuadernos de Estudios del Siglo XVIII* 26 (2016), pp. 137-154.
- “The World as Text: Visual and Verbal Dialectics in *Don Quijote Part II*,” *eHumanista/Cervantes* 4 (2015), pp. 209-224.

## **Book Chapter**

- “Love and the Laws of Literature: The Ethics and Poetics of Affect in Cervantes's 'The Little Gypsy Girl,’” *Goodbye Eros: Recasting Forms and Norms of Love in the Age of Cervantes*, edited by Ana Maria Laguna and John Beusterien, University of Toronto Press, 2020, pp. 117-135.

## **Articles in Refereed Conference Proceedings**

- “El *Quijote* visto por Cadalso: la construcción de una tradición de ficción crítica en las *Cartas Marruecas*,” *Aspectos actuales del hispanismo mundial. Literatura – Cultura – Lengua*, edited by Christoph Strozetski, De Gruyter, 2019, pp. 620-627.
- “El engaño literario de las *Novelas ejemplares*,” *Comentarios a Cervantes. Actas del VIII Congreso Internacional de la Asociación de Cervantistas*, edited by Emilio Martínez Mata, Asturias: Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson, 2014, pp. 894-905.

## **Book Reviews**

- “Review: *Beyond Sight: Engaging the Senses in Iberian Literatures and Cultures 1200-1750*, Ryan D. Giles and Steven Wagschal, eds.,” *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*, Volume 21, No. 1 (2020), pp. 123-125.
- “Review: *Cultural Capital, Language and National Identity in Imperial Spain*, Lucia Binotti,” *Hispanic Review*, Volume 82 (Autumn 2014), pp. 511-514.

## **Selected Conference Papers**

- “Voiced Texts: The Concealment of Authorial Presence in Early Modern Spanish Fiction,” to be presented at the Renaissance of Society of America Annual Meeting, TBD.
- “Seeing the Unseeable: Illusion and Imagination in *Don Quijote*,” presented at the 2018 North American Conference of the Cervantes Society of America, Calgary, Canada (September 2018).
- “Rectifying Ridicule: The Ethics of Laughter in Cervantes's *Don Quixote*,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (March 2018).
- “What Will be Seen There”: The Science of Sight in Cervantes and Ibn Al-Haythem,” presented at the Cervantes Society of America Special Session, MLA Convention, New York, NY (January 2018).

“Novel Hesitation: Rethinking the Temporality of the Baroque Labyrinth through Cervantes’s *Don Quixote*,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (March 2017).

“‘Infinite Wonder’: The Baroque Aesthetics of Captivation in *Don Quijote*,” presented at the MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA (January 2017).

“Severing Ariadne’s Thread: The Labyrinth as Constructive Paradigm in Cervantes’s *Don Quijote*,” presented at the American Comparative Literature Association 2016 Conference, Cambridge, MA (March 2016).

“(In)Decorous Mirth: Phillips’s 1687 Translation of *Don Quixote* and the Social Function of Humor,” presented at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY (April 2015).

“Rethinking the Modernity of the Early Modern Novel,” presented at the MLA Convention, Vancouver, BC, Canada (January 2015).

“Cervantes’s Phantasmagoric Fiction: On the use of the terms “Fantasma” and “Fantasía” in *Don Quijote*,” presented at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY (April 2014).

“Stories for Sale: Discourse as Commodity in the Spanish Picaresque,” presented at the American Comparative Literature Association 2014 Conference (March 2014).

“Sense and Sensibility in *La gitanilla*,” presented at the Cervantes Society of America Special Session, MLA Convention, Chicago, IL (January 2014).

“El engaño literario de las *Novelas ejemplares*,” presented at the VIII Congreso Internacional de la Asociación de Cervantistas, Oviedo, Spain (June 2012).

“The Narrative Emblem in *Don Quijote*,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (March 2012).

### **Invited Lectures**

“Architectures of Ambivalence: Interpretive Constraint and Freedom in the *Conde Lucanor* and the *Novelas ejemplares*,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (February 15, 2019).

### **Work in Progress**

*Structures of Wonder: Transatlantic Reappropriations of the Classical Labyrinth in the Hispanic Baroque.* This book-length project explores the reappropriation of the classical labyrinth in works produced on both sides of the Atlantic (Alemán, Cervantes, María de Zayas, Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz), identifying the recuperation of the labyrinth, both metaphor and architectural model, as a contestatory strategy aimed at subverting the very dominant cultural paradigms to which classical culture gave rise in the early modern period.

*Discordant Discourse: On the Modernity of the Early Modern Novel.* This project examines the relationship between the formal experimentation of early modern narrative fiction, the rise of marginalized voices in literary texts, the role of literature as critical discourse, and the modernity of the early modern novel in Spain and England.

“Extromission, Intromission, Transmission: Ibn al-Haytham, Cervantes, and the Science of Sight”

“‘Como un perro vagabundo’: Narrative Homelessness in Spanish women authors of the *posguerra*”

## **Teaching**

### **Teaching Interests**

Early modern and modern Hispanic literature and culture; Spanish language acquisition and pedagogy; *Don Quijote*; the picaresque novel; transgression and literature in early modern culture; gender in early modern and modern Spain; early modern Transatlantic and colonial culture; visual studies and Hispanic culture.

### **Courses Taught**

#### **Swarthmore College**

##### Advanced Courses

- *Don Quijote*
- Colonial Latin America and its New World
- The Triumph of the Antihero: The Spanish Picaresque Novel
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish Women Authors

##### Intermediate Courses

- Introduction to Spanish Literature
- Hispanic Images and Texts
- Cultures of Spain

##### Language Courses

- Intensive Intermediate Spanish
- Intensive Advanced Spanish
- Conversation and Composition
- Spanish for the Professions

#### **Oberlin College**

##### Advanced Courses

- Pre-1700 Survey of Spanish Literature and Culture (topics included gender and transgression)
- Laughing in/at *Don Quijote*
- Rise of the Antihero: The Picaresque Tradition in Spain and Beyond
- Reading Books Like Don Quixote

##### Intermediate Courses

- Introduction to Literary Analysis: Text and Context in Hispanic Literature

##### Language Courses

- Intermediate Spanish I
- Intermediate Spanish II
- Advanced Grammar and Composition

#### **Harvard University**

##### Advanced Courses

- Transgression in Early Modern Spanish Fiction
- The Novella Tradition
- Pícaros and the Picaresque

## **Rider University**

### Advanced Courses

- Medieval Spanish Literature

### Language Courses

- Spanish I

## **Princeton University**

### Graduate Assistant

- Masterworks of European Literature: The Novel
- Reading Literature: Drama
- The Gothic Tradition

### Language Courses

- Beginner's Spanish I and II
- Intensive Beginner's Spanish
- Intermediate Spanish

## **Service**

### **Swarthmore College:**

- Public Safety Advisory Committee, 2020-2021
- Richard Rubin Mentor for Underrepresented Students, Swarthmore College, 2016-present.
- Co-leader, Study Abroad Course Attachment, Spain, June 2018; March 2020.
- Spanish Major and Minor Advisor, Swarthmore College, 2016-2018.
- Undergraduate Student Advisor, Swarthmore College, 2016-2017.
- Dorothy Ditter Gondos Prize in Comparative Literature Committee, 2016-2017.
- Assessment Committee, Spanish Department, Swarthmore College, 2015-present.
- Majors and Minors Committee, Spanish Department, Swarthmore College, 2015-present.
- Textbook Committee, Spanish Department, Swarthmore College, 2015-present.

### **Oberlin College:**

- Director, Senior Capstone Projects, Department of Hispanic Studies, Oberlin College, 2012-2013.

### **Harvard University:**

- Director, Junior Honors Tutorial, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, 2012.

### **Service to the Profession:**

#### Manuscript and Book Reviewer

- *Cervantes: Bulletin of the Cervantes Society of America*
- *Cuadernos de Estudios del Siglo XVIII*
- *Hispanic Review*
- *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*

#### Symposium Organized

- *Convergencias figuradas: Popular Culture and Power from Pre-Modern to Modern Spain*, Swarthmore College, March, 2017.
- *Libro Errante: 400 Años Leyendo el Quijote/Book Errant: 400 Years Reading Don Quixote*, academic colloquium, Princeton University, 2005.

### Conference Panels Organized and Chaired

- Chair, “Mimesis and Fantasy in Early Modern Spanish Art,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (March 2018).
- Chair, “Cervantes: Recepción,” XI Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Internacional Siglo de Oro, Madrid, Spain (July 2018).
- Organizer and Chair, “Scenes of Reading in the Early Modern Iberian World,” Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (March 2017).

### **Additional Professional Experience**

- Research Assistant, Professor April Alliston, Princeton University, 2009-2010.
- Research Assistant, Professor Sandra Bermann, Princeton University, 2010.
- Bilingual Assistant, Middlebury College, The Spanish School, 2001 and 2003.
- Spanish Teacher, The Governor’s Academy, Byfield, MA, 2001-2002.
- Diploma de Estudios Hispánicos, Centro de Lenguas Modernas, Universidad de Granada, Granada, Spain, 2000.
- College Semester Abroad, The School for International Training, Granada, Spain, 1997.

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Member, Grupo de Estudios Cervantinos, “Recepción e Interpretación del Quijote (1605-1830). Traducciones, opiniones, recreaciones” (<https://grec.grupos.uniovi.es>).
- Organizer and member, *Los Tempranillos*: Early Modern Spain and Colonial Latin America Seminar of Greater Philadelphia.
- Member, Modern Language Association.
- Member, Cervantes Society of America.
- Member, Renaissance Society of America.
- Member, International Society for the Study of Narrative.
- Member, Asociación de Cervantistas.
- Member, Asociación Internacional de Hispanistas.
- Member, Asociación Internacional Siglo de Oro.
- Member, American Comparative Literature Association.

### **Fellowships, Honors, and Awards**

- Mellon Tri-College Seed Grants, Swarthmore College, 2016-2019.
- Digital Humanities Course Development Grants, Swarthmore College, 2016-2018.
- Faculty Research Support Award, Swarthmore College, 2015-2019.
- College Fellowship, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, 2011-2012.
- Princeton University Graduate School Fellowship, 2004-2009.
- Armstrong Grant, Princeton University, 2004-2006.
- A.P.U.N.E. Concurso Literario Honorable Mention, 2001.
- Association of American Poets College Prize, The George Washington University, 1999.
- Mount Vernon Poetry Prize, 1999.

**Languages:** English (native), Spanish (near native fluency), French (reading knowledge), Latin (reading knowledge)

## **References**

**María Luisa Guardiola**, Professor of Spanish, Swarthmore College

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**Marina Brownlee** (thesis advisor), Robert Schirmer Professor of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures and Comparative Literature, Princeton University

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**April Alliston**, Professor of Comparative Literature, Princeton University

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**Mary Gaylord**, Sosland Family Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University

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