

# JAMES HAROLD

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**Areas of Specialization:** Aesthetics and Meta-Ethics

**Areas of Competence:** Normative Ethics and Biomedical Ethics

## Positions Held

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*Professor.* Mount Holyoke College. South Hadley, MA. Since 2014. Previously Associate and Assistant Professor.

*Visiting Instructor.* Washington University. St. Louis, Missouri. 2001-02.

*Instructor.* St. Olaf College. Northfield, MN. 1998-99.

## Education

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*University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.* Minneapolis, MN. Ph.D. in Philosophy, August 2001.

*Oberlin College.* Oberlin, OH. B.A. in Philosophy and Politics, with high honors in Philosophy, May 1993.

## Publications

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*Articles:*

Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art. Chapter 5 of *Introduction to Philosophy*, ed. by Catherine Thompson (Bridgepoint Education, forthcoming).

Literary Cognitivism. In Noël Carroll and John Gibson (eds.), *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Literature* (forthcoming).

Music. With Eric Hutton. In Eric Hutton (ed.), *The Dao Companion to Xunzi* (forthcoming).

On the Ancient Idea that Music Shapes Character. *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* (forthcoming).

El Anatsui: New Worlds as New Forms of Art. Catalog entry for *El Anatsui: New Worlds*. Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, 2015.

Aesthetic and Artistic Value. With Sondra Bacharach. In Anna Christina Ribeiro (ed.), *Continuum Companion to Aesthetics* (Continuum Press: New York, 2012), pp. 98-111.

Cognitivism, Non-Cognitivism, and Skepticism about Folk Psychology. *Philosophical Psychology* 25.2 (April 2012): 165-185.

Literature, Genre Fiction, and Standards of Criticism. *nonsite.org* Issue #4 (October 14, 2011).

<<http://nonsite.org/issues/issue-3/literature-genre-fiction-and-standards-of-criticism>>

Is Xunzi's Virtue Ethics Susceptible to the Problem of Alienation? *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 10.1 (Spring 2011): 71-84.

Autonomism Reconsidered. *The British Journal of Aesthetics* 51.2 (April 2011): 137-147.

Sans goût : l'art et le psychopathe. [Without Taste: Psychopaths and the Appreciation of Art.] With Heidi Maibom. *La Nouvelle Revue Française d'Esthétique* 6 (2010) : 151-163.

Mixed Feelings: Conflicts in Emotional Responses to Film. *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* XXXIV (2010): 278-292.

The Value of Fictional Worlds (or, Why *The Lord of the Rings* is Worth Reading). *Contemporary Aesthetics* 8 (2010).

<<http://www.contempaesthetics.org/newvolume/pages/article.php?articleID=584>>

Can Expressivists Tell the Difference Between Beauty and Moral Goodness? *American Philosophical Quarterly* 45:3 (July 2008): 289-300.

Immoralism and the Valence Constraint. *The British Journal of Aesthetics* 48.1 (January 2008): 45-64.

The Ethics of Non-Realist Fiction: Morality's Catch-22. *Philosophia* 35:2 (June 2007): 145-159.

Imagining Evil (Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love *The Sopranos*). In Kuçuradi, Ioanna (ed.) *The Proceedings of the Twenty-First World Congress of Philosophy* (Philosophical Society of Turkey: Ankara, Turkey, 2007), pp. 7-14.

On Judging the Moral Value of Narrative Artworks. *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 64.2 (Spring 2006): 259-270.

- Translated into French [as *De la valeur morale des œuvres narratives*] and published in Carole Talon-Hugon (ed.), *Art et éthique: Perspectives anglo-saxonnes* (Presses Universitaires France, 2011), pp. 223-248.

Infected by Evil. *Philosophical Explorations* 8.2 (June 2005): 173-187.

Narrative Engagement with *Atonement* and *The Blind Assassin*. *Philosophy and Literature* 29.1 (April 2005): 130-145.

Between Intrinsic and Extrinsic Value. *Journal of Social Philosophy* XXXVI.1 (Spring 2005): 85-105.

A Moral Never-Never Land: Identifying with Tony Soprano. In Richard Greene and Peter Vernezze (eds.), *The Sopranos and Philosophy: I Kill Therefore I Am* (Open Court Press: Chicago and LaSalle, IL, 2004), pp. 137-146.

- Reprinted in Sonia Maasik and Jack Solomon (eds.), *Signs of Life in the USA: Readings on Popular Culture for Writers*, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> eds. (Bedford/St. Martin's Press: New York, NY, 2006).

Flexing the Imagination. *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 61.3 (Summer 2003): 247-257.

Practical Reasons and 'Companions in Guilt.' *Philosophical Investigations* 26.4 (October 2003): 311-331.

Narrative vs. Theory. *American Journal of Bioethics* 1 (January 2001): 48-49. A peer comment on Tod Chambers' "The Fiction of Bioethics: A Precis."

Empathy with Fictions. *The British Journal of Aesthetics* 40 (July 2000): 340-355.

Travelers, Mercenaries, and Psychopaths. With Carl Elliott. *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology* 6 (1999): 45-48. A reply to Piers Benn's "Freedom, Resentment, and the Psychopath."

#### Book reviews:

Peter Lamarque, *The Opacity of Narrative*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (July 31, 2015).

<<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/59593-the-opacity-of-narrative/>>

Noël Carroll and John Gibson (eds.), *Narrative, Emotion, and Insight*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (June 19, 2012). <<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/31354-narrative-emotion-and-insight>>

- Gregory Currie, *Narratives & Narrators: A Philosophy of Stories*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (October 18, 2010). <<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=21710>>
- John Gibson, *Fiction and the Weave of Life*. *The British Journal of Aesthetics* 49.1 (January 2009): 88-91.
- Elisabeth Schellekens, *Aesthetics and Morality*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (July 13, 2008). <<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=13625>>
- Jenefer Robinson, *Deeper than Reason: Emotion and Its Role in Literature, Music, and Art*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (June 3, 2007). <<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=9903>>
- Matthew Kieran and Dominic McIver Lopes (eds.), *Imagination, Philosophy, and the Arts*. In *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 63 (Winter 2005): pp. 86-89.
- Christopher New, *Philosophy of Literature: an Introduction*. In *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 61 (Winter 2003): pp. 89-90.
- Paul Thom, *Making Sense: A Theory of Interpretation*. In *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 60 (Winter 2002): pp. 93-94.
- Alcohol, Freedom, and Responsibility. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law* 25 (August 2000): pp. 760-769. A review essay of Mariana Valverde's *Diseases of the Will: Alcohol and the Dilemmas of Freedom* and Judith Rungay's *Crime, Punishment, and the Drinking Offender*.

*Opinion pieces:*

- Distinguishing Wars from Metaphors. *Hampshire Gazette* (September 5, 2004): p. A6.
- Ruling Raises Questions about States' Role in Marriage. *Hartford Courant* (November 19, 2003).
- State Should Get Out of Marriage Business. *Hartford Courant* (August 10, 2003).
- This piece also ran in the *San Francisco Chronicle* as "Separation of Church and State: Let Religion Define Matrimony" (August 6, 2003).
- Here's Why the War against Iraq Is Fundamentally Flawed. *Chicago Tribune* (March 25, 2003): p. 21.

## **Presentations**

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*Peer-reviewed:*

- Consequentialism for Aesthetics.  
*National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Savannah, GA. November 2015.  
*Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Vancouver, BC. April 2015.
- Two Aims in Artistic Interpretation: Thesis and Theme.  
*Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. St. Louis, MO. March 2015.  
*National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. San Antonio, Texas. October 2014.
- Moral Particularism and the Aesthetics Analogy.  
*Eastern Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Philadelphia, PA. April 2014.  
*Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Vancouver, BC. April 2009.
- Music's Value in Classical Confucian Thought: Lessons for Contemporary Aesthetics. *National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. St. Louis, MO. October 2012.
- Relativism and Expressivism in Ethics and Aesthetics. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 2012.
- On the Idea that Music Shapes Moral Character.  
*Eastern Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Philadelphia, PA. April 2011.

- Art on the Brain*. South Hadley, MA. June 2010.
- Autonomism Reconsidered. *Annual Meeting of the British Society of Aesthetics*. Oxford, UK. September 2009.
- Can Expressivists Tell the Difference Between Beauty and Moral Goodness? Symposium session at the *Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Philadelphia, PA. December 2008.
- Without Taste: Psychopaths and the Appreciation of Art. With Heidi Maibom. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 2008.
- The Value of Fictional Worlds. *National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Los Angeles, CA. November 2007.
- Meta-metaethics: Moderate Skepticism about Some Concepts of Metaethical Inquiry. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. San Francisco, CA. April 2007.
- Aesthetic and Moral Judgments, Cognitivism and Non-Cognitivism. *Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association*. Toronto, ON. May/June 2006.
- What Makes a Narrative Work of Art Morally Good or Bad? *The Ethics of Fiction in Contemporary Narrative in English*. Jaca, Spain. March/April 2006.
- On Judging the Moral Value of Narrative Artworks. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Portland, OR. March 2006.
- Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 2005.
- Warrant in Aesthetics. *Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2004.
- Deception and Self-Conscious Narration in "Atonement" and "The Blind Assassin." *National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. San Francisco, CA. October 2003.
- Sympathy with the Devil. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 2003.
- Imagining Evil, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love "The Sopranos." *Society for the Philosophic Study of the Contemporary Visual Arts*. In conjunction with the *American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting*. San Francisco, CA. March 2003.
- What Can Narratives Contribute to Bioethics? *American Society for Bioethics and Humanities*. Baltimore, MD. October 2002.
- Flexing the Imagination. *National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Minneapolis, MN. October 2001.
- Eastern Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Philadelphia, PA. April 2001.
- Moralism and Autonomism. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 2000.
- Derivative and Inherited Value. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Albuquerque, NM. April 2000.
- Moralism and Autonomism. *Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Chicago, IL. April 2000.
- Utilitarianism as Foundationalism. *Utilitarianism 2000 Conference*. Winston-Salem, NC. March 2000.
- Environmental Ethics and Environmental Aesthetics. *Environmental Aesthetics Conference*. Logan, UT. October 1999.
- Two Kinds of Aesthetic Reasons. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Pacific Grove, CA. April 1999.

- Giving Practical Reasons. *Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Washington, D.C. December 1998.
- Empathy for Fictions. *Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Chicago, IL. May 1998.
- Understanding the Value of Wilderness. *Conference on Value Inquiry*. Montevallo, AL. April 1998.
- Empathy and Sympathy in Hume's *Enquiry*. *Minnesota Philosophical Association*. Northfield, MN. October 1997.

*Invited:*

- Aesthetes and Psychopaths in Classical Confucianism. Lecture at City University of Hong Kong. Hong Kong, SAR, China. February 2014.
- Two Aims in Artistic Interpretation: Thesis and Theme. Lecture at Lingnan University. Hong Kong, SAR, China. February 2014.
- Literature, Genre Fiction, and Standards of Criticism. *No Quarrels: Literature and Philosophy Today*. Boston University. Boston, MA. March 2011.
- On the Idea that Music Shapes Moral Character. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. San Francisco, CA. April 2010.
- Alienation and Ritual. As part of a panel: "Confucian Rituals: Pro and Con." Sponsored by the International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy. *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Vancouver, BC. April 2009.
- The Cognitive Link between Moral and Aesthetic Value. *Dartmouth College Philosophy Department Lecture Series*. Hanover, NH. June 2007.
- On the Distinction between Moral and Aesthetic Judgments. *Aesthetics Anarchy Conference*. Indiana University. Bloomington, IN. May 2005.
- Measuring the Moral Merit of Artworks. *University of Canterbury Philosophy Lecture Series*. Christchurch, NZ. July 2004.
- Deception and Self-Conscious Narration in 'Atonement' and 'The Blind Assassin'. *American Society for Aesthetics National Meeting*. San Francisco, CA. October 2003.
- Coherent Criticism. *Knowing Art Conference*. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC. August 2003.
- Infected by Evil. *York University Lecture Series*. Toronto, ON. March 2003.
- Imagining Evil. *University of Memphis Philosophy Lecture Series*. Memphis, TN. March 2002.
- Simulation and Spillover. *Appalachian State University Philosophy and Religion Colloquia*. Boone, NC. November 2001.

*Comments and Replies:*

- National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Comments on Vid Simoniti's "Why Works of Art Don't Matter (That Much)." October 2013.
- Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Comments on Sarah Jansen's "Plato and Movie Violence." April 2012.
- National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*. Comments on papers by Sarah Worth, Ira Newman, and Alessandro Giovannelli. Northampton, MA. November 2008.
- Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. Comments on Skolnik, Goodstein, and Bloom's "The Creation of Fictional Worlds." St. Louis, MO. June 2006.

*National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics.* Comments on Jenefer Robinson's "Deeper Than Reason: Emotion and Its Role in Music, Literature, and Art." Providence, RI. October 2005.

*Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association.* Comments on John Bender's "Exemplification and Expression in Painting: Goodman's Theories are Wrong." March 2005.

*National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics.* Comments on Susan Herrington's "Framed Again: The Contemporary Picturesque." Houston, TX. October 2004.

*National Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics.* Comments on Alessandro Giovannelli's "In & Out: The Dynamics of Imagination in Narrative Participation." Coral Gables, FL. October 2002.

*Society for the Philosophic Study of the Contemporary Visual Arts.* In conjunction with the *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association.* "Film and Philosophical Arguments." Comments on two papers. Seattle, WA. March 2002.

### **Awards and Honors**

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*Visiting Scholar.* City University of Hong Kong. February 2014.

*National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar on Traditions into Dialogue: Confucianism and Contemporary Virtue Ethics.* Wesleyan University. Participant. Summer 2008.

*Mount Holyoke College Faculty Fellowship.* Fall 2006 and again (separate award) in Fall 2009.

*National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on Art, Mind, and Cognitive Science.* University of Maryland, College Park. Participant. Summer 2002.

*University of Minnesota Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship.* University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Academic Year 1999-2000.

*Preparing Future Faculty Certificate.* University of Minnesota. Spring 1999. Completed a program that includes coursework in pedagogy and a mentorship in college teaching.

*Graduate Student Travel Stipend Award.* American Philosophical Association Eastern Division. December 1998. For "Giving Practical Reasons."

*Graduate Student Travel Stipend Award.* American Philosophical Association Central Division. May 1998. For "Empathy for Fictions."

*Philosophy Department Fellowship.* University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Winter 1998 and Spring 1998.

### **Memberships and Service**

*Trustee.* American Society for Aesthetics. 2013-16.

*Director.* Weissman Center for Leadership and the Liberal Arts. Mount Holyoke College. July 2009 – June 2012.

*Book Review Editor.* *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism.* Since June 2009.

*Program Chair.* American Society for Aesthetics annual group meetings at the Eastern Division American Philosophical Association meetings. 2006-2009.

*Newsletter of the American Society for Aesthetics.* Co-editor. October 2000-April 2005. This is the official newsletter of the Society.

*Program Committee Member.* American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting 2005 and 2011.

*Program Chair.* Society for the Philosophic Study of the Contemporary Visual Arts annual group meetings at the Eastern Division American Philosophical Association meetings. 2003-2007.

*Referee.* For the following publications: *Ethics: An International Journal of Social, Political, and Legal Philosophy*; *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*; *Philosophical Quarterly*; *American Philosophical Quarterly*; *Social Theory and Practice*; *Dao*; *British Journal of Aesthetics*; *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*; and various meetings of the American Society for Aesthetics.

*Memberships:* American Philosophical Association (since 1997); American Society for Aesthetics (since 1997)