

Jenna M. Gibbs

Assistant Professor of History,
Florida International University
Fellow at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, 2013-2014
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EDUCATION

UCLA: Ph.D. in European History with specialty in British Atlantic, June 2008
UCLA: M.A. in European History, with specialty in British History, 2003, with distinction
UCLA: B.A. in History, 2001. *Summa cum laude*, departmental honors with distinction

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Associate, UCLA, 2002-2004

Courses: Near East History 700 to the present; Western Civilization 1B, Western Civilization 1C; World History 1789 to the present.

Assistant Professor, Florida International University 2009- present

Undergraduate courses: Colonial America; American Revolution; Age of Jefferson; Transatlantic Slavery and Antislavery; Origins of American Civilization

Graduate courses: Race, Gender, and Religion in the Making of Early America; American Revolution in Atlantic Perspective; Transatlantic Slavery and Antislavery; Religion in the 18th and 19th C Atlantic World

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Since 2009: Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Florida International University

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Artist and program coordinator, Inside Out Community Arts, Inc., LA, 1995-2001

Repertory actor and producer, Friends and Artists Theater Ensemble, LA, 1989-1994

Worked in various facets of TV, radio, print, and theater, 1982-1989

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Jenna Gibbs, *Performing the Temple of Liberty: Slavery, Theater, and Popular Culture in London and Philadelphia, 1760s-1850s* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014)

Submitted, **under peer review** at the University of Toronto Press: Jenna Gibbs and Keith Baker, editors, *Life Forms in the Thinking of the Long Eighteenth Century*

Journal articles:

Accepted, forthcoming, "Toussaint, Gabriel, and Three Finger'd Jack: 'Courageous chiefs' and the 'sacred standard of liberty' on the Atlantic Stage" *Journal of Early American Studies*, Spring 2015

"Columbia the Goddess of Liberty and Slave-Trade Abolition," Special Issue, "Staging the Enlightenment," *Sjuttonhundratel (Nordic Eighteenth-Century Studies)*, published by the Swedish, Finnish, and Norwegian Societies for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Uppsala, May 2011, 156-169

“Slavery, Liberty, and Revolution in John Leacock’s Pro-Patriot Tragicomedy, *The Fall of British Tyranny; or, American Liberty Triumphant* (1776).” *Journal For Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Vol. 31 No. 2 (2008), 241-253

Chapters in university press books:

Accepted, forthcoming, “Susanna Rowson’s Anti-slavery and Pro-feminism in Transatlantic Translation: A Tale of Three Cities,” Saree Makdisi and Michael Meranze, eds., *The British Atlantic in the Age of Revolution and Reaction*. The volume has successfully undergone peer review and is projected to appear in 2015, exact date to be determined.

Book reviews:

Ashli White, *Encountering Revolution: Haiti and the Making of the Early Republic* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2010) *Social History*, Fall 2013.

Encyclopedia articles:

“John Leacock,” entry in *American Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment*, Mark Spenser, ed. (Bristol: Thoemmes Press, forthcoming November 2014)

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

May 2014: Organized a two-day conference at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, “Protestant Religion, Missions, and Global Networks in the 18th and 19th Centuries.”

April 2012: Co-organized with Keith Baker, Stanford University, a two-day conference, “Life Forms in the Thinking of the Long Eighteenth Century,” at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, UCLA

INVITED TALKS

June 2014, invited speaker, “Family History as Global History: Evangelicalism, Humanitarianism, and Empire,” Ernst Moritz Arndt Universität Greifswald, Global history Vorlesung at Historisches Institute der Universität Greifswald.

April 2014, invited speaker, “Liberty of Conscience: Transatlantic Evangelicalism, Slavery, and Antislavery,” Humboldt Universität, Frühneuzeit-Kolloquium in the Department of History.

April 2014, invited speaker, “Evangelicalism, Slavery, and Empire: the global Latrobe family,” Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin Fellows’ Kolloquium

March 2014, invited speaker, “The Antislavery Origins of Blackface Performance,” Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Visual Culture Kolloquium.

October 2013, invited speaker, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Kulturwissenschaftliches Zentrum: “Slavery, Race, and Popular Culture in the Early American Republic”

November 2012, invited speaker, Bay Area Early American Seminar, “Performing the Temple of Liberty: Columbia, Slavery, and Citizenship in the Early American Republic.”

February 2012, invited speaker, Southern Intellectual History Circle, William and Mary College: commentator for Laurent Dubois’ keynote address.

September 2011, invited speaker, Swedish Colloquium for Advanced Studies, Uppsala University: "Performing Antislavery, Race, and Citizenship in Blackface Burlesque and Neo-Classical Motifs (1770s-1820s)."

July 2011, invited speaker, Amerika Institute, Ludwig-Maxmillian University, Munich: "Performing the Temple of Liberty: Antislavery, Race, and Citizenship in the Early American Republic."

April 2010, invited speaker, "Transatlantic Antislavery in the British Atlantic," at University of Miami's Atlantic Studies Seminar

February 2009, invited speaker, "By birth a Briton, my heart clings to America: Susanna Rowson's Transatlantic Antislavery," presented at "The British Atlantic in an Age of Revolution and Reaction," a conference organized by Saree Makdisi and Michael Meranze at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, Los Angeles.

October 2008, invited speaker, "Susanna's Rowson's Abolitionism and Feminism in Transatlantic Translation," presented at "The Eighteenth-Century Cosmopolis: Global Cities and Citizens in the Age of Sail," a conference organized by Kathleen Wilson at SUNY-Stonybrook Humanities Institute.

April 2008, invited speaker, "Toussaint, Gabriel, and Three Finger'd Jack: 'Courageous Chiefs' and the 'Sacred Standard of Liberty' on the Atlantic Stage," presented at the Atlantic Emancipations conference, co-sponsored by the Library Company of Philadelphia, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, and the Rochester Institute of Technology.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

June 2014, co-organized panel, "Missionary Men and Women: What Quakers, Moravians, and Anglicans can tell us about Transatlantic Antislavery in an Age of Revolution and Reaction," and will present a paper, "'Liberty of Conscience, Moravian missions, and Slavery: The Case of Christian Ignatius LaTrobe,'" Omohundro Institute of Early American Culture, annual meeting in Nova Scotia.

May 2014, "Global missions and the Case of Christian Ignatius LaTrobe," presented at a two-day conference I organized at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, "Protestant Religion, Missions, and Global Networks."

March 2013, organizer and panel chair for Florida Conference of Historians: "Windows into East Florida: Contact, Conflict, and Rebellion from the Sixteenth through the Eighteenth Centuries."

May 2012, University of Miami Humanities Center, Atlantic Geographies: panel commentator.

July 2011, International Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies, University of Graz, Austria: "Susanna Rowson and William Cobbett: Transatlantic Migrations and Contested National Identities."

June, 2011, Society for Caribbean Studies, International Slavery Museum, Liverpool, United Kingdom: "Toussaint L'Ouverture: Blackface Spartacus and Working Class Hero of the East End London Theatre."

March 2011, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies annual conference, Vancouver, Canada: “The Blackface Slave, Melodrama, and the Anti-Jacobin Backlash in 1790s London.”

January 2011, American Historical Association, Boston: panel organizer and chair, “Religion, War, & Nation: Philadelphian Quakers in the Revolutionary Atlantic.”

February 2010, FIU-University of Miami jointly sponsored Atlantic Narratives conference; panel chair and commentator.

March 2010, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies: organized panel, “Staging the Atlantic Revolutions in the Long Eighteenth Century,” and presented paper, “The Blackface Rebel Slave as an Icon of Universal Resistance”

January 2009, American Historical Association: co-organized panel, “Politics and Culture in the Long Eighteenth Century,” and presented “Columbia the Goddess of Liberty and Slave-Trade Abolition.”

July 2007, International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Congress, Montpellier: “‘Chains or Conquest, Liberty or Death’: Addison’s *Cato*, Republican Rhetoric, and Slavery.”

January 2007, British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies: “Slavery in Pro-Patriot Drama of Revolutionary Philadelphia: John Leacock’s *The Fall of British Tyranny; or, American Liberty Triumphant*.”

March 2006, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies: “Slavery and Liberty on the Philadelphia Stage, 1770s-1790s.”

March 2006, Consortium on the Revolutionary Era: Organized panel, “The Atlantic Reverberations of the Haitian Revolution” and presented “*The Black Spartacus*: Race, Class, and Revolutionary Anti-Slavery.”

July 2003, International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles: “Levantines, Renegades and Refugees: Anglo-Ottoman Migration and Muslim/Christian Conversion in the 17th and 18th C.”

HONORS AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

FIU Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2012-2013

UCLA Laura Kinsey Distinguished Teaching Associate, 2003-2004

NON-ACADEMIC AWARDS

The President’s Volunteer Service Award, 2005. Presented by the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation for work in non-profit theater programs provided by Inside Out Community Arts, Inc. to Los Angeles Unified School District inner-city middle schools.

FELLOWSHIPS

Volkswagen/Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, 2013-2014

John Carter Brown Library Fellowship (declined), 2013-2014

UCLA Ahmanson-Getty Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2008-2009
UCLA Chancellor's Dissertation Fellowship, 2007-2008
McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Research Associate, 2006-2007
Library Company of Philadelphia, Albert Greenfield Dissertation Fellowship, 2006-2007
Mayers Fellow of the Huntington Library, 2005
UCLA Dissertation Fellowship, 2005-2006
UCLA Center for European and Eurasian Studies, Summer Dissertation Fellowship 2006
Sylvia Thayer Fellow at UCLA Special Collections, Summer 2005
American Antiquarian Society (declined), 2005
UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies Research Associate, 2004-2005
Kanner Fellow of the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, Summer 2004
UCLA Center for European/Eurasian Studies, Foreign Language Study Fellowship, 2002

GRANTS

\$30,000 technology fee grant in 2010 from FIU College of Arts and Sciences Technology Information Center to purchase the Gale-Cengage digital database, "Transnational Slavery and Antislavery:"
\$6,000 College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) & Research and University Graduate School (RUGS) grant to fund and organize FIU History Department's Atlantic Symposium 2010-2011.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book:

This year (2013-2014), I have used my research fellowship at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin from 2013 to 2014 to research and begin writing my second monograph, tentatively titled *Evangelicalism, Slavery and Empire: The Global Latrobe Family*. My new project is a global story told through the lens of one particular family: the Latrobes. The Latrobes were a family of French Huguenot descent who, after being expelled from France in the late 17th century, converted to the German evangelical Moravian sect. Multi-generational members of this Moravian family were directly complicit with world-wide imperial ventures as immigrants, missionaries, and British and American governmental officials. In these varied capacities, they travelled and migrated literally across the globe between the mid- 18th and mid- 19th centuries: to Ireland, Great Britain, the West Indies, North America, Labrador, India, South Africa, Egypt, Australia, and beyond. My micro-history of their familial web -- a biography-in-motion of successive generations of the Latrobe family between the 1760s and 1850s in multiple geopolitical sites across the globe -- provides an intimate view of the macro-story of British, American, and German evangelicalism, slavery, and empire between the 1750s and 1850s. Please see brief summary at end of file.

Article:

I am in-progress with writing an article drawn from the materials for my second book project (described above), which will focus on one particular Latrobe family member: Christian Latrobe, who was the head of the British Moravian Church and Secretary of the Moravian Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel for almost 50 years (1788-1834), in which role he was involved in overseeing the missions world-wide, in British antislavery activities in the 1780s, and in overseeing slave emancipation in the British West Indies in

the early 1830s. Tentatively titled: “Liberty of Conscience: Christian Latrobe, Slavery, and Antislavery (1780s-1830s).”

SERVICE

Departmental Service:

2009-2010 Library Representative
2010-2011 Organizer of the Atlantic Symposium outside speaker series
2010-2011 Served on search committee for Modern Afro-Brazilian position
2011-2012 Library Representative
2011-2012 Served on search committee for Colonial American position
2014-2015 Member of the Graduate Committee

University Service:

2009-2010 Member of the University Library Committee
2011-2012 Member of the University Library Committee
2011-2012 Member of the Faculty Senate
2011-2012 Member of the Advisory Board, Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment
2014-2015 Alternate Faculty Senate Representative
2014-2015 Member of the Advisory Board, Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture
American Historical Association
Organization of American Historians
German Studies Association