

Alyssa Manansala

EDUCATION

PhD Brown University, Department of English (expected June 2026)

MA Brown University, Department of American Studies, Program in Public Humanities

MFA California Institute of the Arts, School of Critical Studies, Program in Creative Writing

BA Sarah Lawrence College, Department of Literature and Sociology

PHD FIELD EXAMS & DISSERTATION

Asian American Literature (Daniel Kim)

Postcolonial Literature and Black Studies (Dixa Ramirez D'Oléo)

Visual Culture and Queer of Color Critique (Leticia Alvarado)

Against Care: Deconstructing the Filipina Caregiver in Global Literature and Visual Culture

Committee: Dixa Ramirez D'Oléo (chair), Daniel Kim, Leticia Alvarado

MFA CONCENTRATIONS & THESIS

Nonfiction and Poetry; Writing and Its Publics

Lars in Feathers and *FUTURE CHILDREN*

Thesis readers: Tisa Bryant (first reader), Jon Wagner, Douglas Kearney

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Teaching Fellow, California Institute of the Arts, School of Critical Studies, 2018 - 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles

“‘I Thee Wed’; ‘You Are Road’: The Nonhuman, Nonverbal Filipina Bride and Neocolonial Sentimentality of 90 Day Fiancé,” *Lateral: Journal of Cultural Studies Association*, under review

“The *Aswang*’s Address: Apostrophe, Social Antagonisms, & Postcolonial Melancholy in the Lyric of Barbara Jane Reyes,” *MELUS Journal*, under review

Literary and Arts Publications

“The Moss Laughs at Our Melancholy: Book Review for *Imagine a Death* by Janice Lee,” *Gulf Coast: A Journal of Literature and Fine Arts*, February 2022

“Where Do We Go from Here?: Kularts and Alleluia Panis Set the Stage for Indigeneity and Decolonization in Performance Narratives of the Filipinx Diaspora,” *In Dance, Fall 2021 Issue*

“Filipina Nurses in the Covid-19 Pandemic: Historical and Political Reframing through Art and Performance” (three-part essay), *Kularts Blog*, 2021

“Maggie Nelson, 2016 MacArthur Foundation Fellow: On Autotheory, Autobiographical Rush, and Female Genius” (interview), *The Eye*, Vol. 7, No. 1, 2016

Creative Nonfiction and Cultural Criticism

“Who Are You Eating? What Cares for You? In Response to Anthony Bourdain’s Question, ‘Why Do Filipinos Care So Much?’” *Nat. Brut*, Issue 14, 2020,

"Love Letter to Arjun," *Agape: A Literary Journal of Good Will*, Issue 3, 2019

"Representation, Identity, and Allyship in *Fresh off the Boat* and *Master of None*" *Hyphen Magazine*, 2016

"Courtyards and Squares: Where Separate Lives Come Together in Nepal," *ECS Nepal*, 2012

"Split Skies in Nagarkot," *ECS Nepal*, 2012

"Brothers," "Ma," *Dark Phrases*, Sarah Lawrence College literary journal for writers of color, 2011

Poetry

“Jackfruit,” *Liwanag* 3, edited by Jason Bayani, 2021

“After Isa [a sublimation/deposition],” “After watching 10 hours of starling murmuration at sunset”

water / relic / spices : a persistence&rupture anthology, edited by Sarah Yanni and Christine Imperial, 2021

“After Isa,” *Interdisciplinary Writers Lab Anthology*, Asian Art Museum and Kearny Street Workshop, 2018

"Whiteness study," *TAYO Literary Magazine*, Issue 7, 2017

Lifestyle and Fashion

"The Casual Dandy: Menswear at the International Club," *Living Issue* 69, p. 103–108, 2012,
"United by Lens: Nepali Photographers Abroad," *Living, Issue* 70, p. 88–115, 2012

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

Conference Travel Grant, awarded by the Graduate School of Brown University (Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025)

REEF Artist Residency Fellowship Grant, awarded by CalArts School of Critical Studies and MakerCityLA (2018-2019)

Teaching Fellowship Grant, awarded by CalArts School of Critical Studies (2018-2019)

Interdisciplinary Writers' Workshop for Emerging Writers of Color Fellowship, awarded by Kearney Street Workshop and the Asian Art Museum (2018)

Nick England Intercultural Arts Project (ICAP) Grant, awarded by Diversity and Equity Committee at CalArts for *inter/subject* project (2018)

Nick England Intercultural Arts Project (ICAP) Grant, awarded by Diversity and Equity Committee at CalArts for *inter/subject* project (2017)

Student Travel Grant, awarded by the Office of the Provost at CalArts for attendance to AWP (2018)

Student Project Grant, awarded by Student Union at CalArts for *inter/subject* project (2017)

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

"The Aswang's Address: Apostrophe, Social Antagonisms, & Postcolonial Melancholy in the Lyric of Barbara Jane Reyes," Association for the Study of Arts of the Present Conference, Houston, Texas (accepted, October 24, 2025)

"I Thee Wed; You Are Road: The Nonhuman, Nonverbal Filipina Bride of *90 Day Fiance*," Northeast Modern Literature Association Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (March 6, 2025)

"White Feminist Agency & the Unnamed Filipina: Postcolonial Crisis in Todd Field's *Tár*," Northeast Modern Literature Association Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (March 8, 2025)

"'I'm the Captain': The Un-Caring Filipina as Postcolonial Horror Film Figure," *Making Style Work Graduate Student Conference*, hosted by the Yale Labor and Film Working Group, the Yale Whitney Humanities Center, the Film and Media Studies Department, the Program in Women's,

Gender, & Sexuality Studies, and the Department of English, Yale University, New Haven, CT (April 13, 2024)

“Dancing to Dictatorship: Fascist Aesthetics in Here Lies Love,” American Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland (accepted, November 2024)

“Who Are You Eating? What Cares for You?: In Response to Anthony Bourdain’s Question, “Why Do Filipinos Care So Much?” American Comparative Literature Association, Montreal, Quebec (accepted, March 2023)

“The Limits of Filipina Care,” Bulosan Filipinx Studies Conference, hosted by the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies, UC Davis, Zoom (accepted, June 24-25, 2023)

“Neocolonial Rehab: The Role of the Philippines and Filipina Labor in the Rise of QAnon,” Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Long Beach, CA (panel chair: Professor Summer Kim Lee) (April 6, 2023)

CAMPUS & DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

“On Writing and Publishing,” invited lecture for Professor Grace Talusan’s course: Writing the Asian American Experience, Brown University, Department of English (November 4, 2022)

“‘You’re Road’: The Filipina Performing Body and the Marriage Economy,” invited lecture for Professor Dixa D’Oleo-Ramirez’s course: Bad, Mad, and Sad: Literatures of Misbehaving Femmes, Brown University, Department of English (November 7, 2023)

“The Limits of Brownness in the Poetry of Barbara Jane Reyes,” invited Lecture (Daniel Kim) invited lecture for Professor Daniel Kim’s course: Inventing Asian America, Brown University, Department of English (March 21, 2022)

INVITED LITERARY READINGS

“Selected poems,” Showcase Reading, Interdisciplinary Writers’ Workshop for Emerging Writers of Color, organized by Kearney Street Workshop and the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA (Summer 2018)

“Selected poems,” APAture Festival Literary Showcase, showcase artist, reading organized by Kearny Street Workshop; arts festival to promote the work of emerging Asia Pacific Islander artists, San Francisco, CA (2017)

“Selected poems,” *KSW Presents: Monsters I Have Been*, community reader, poetry reading hosted by Kearny Street Workshop to celebrate the works of poets Kenji C. Liu and MT Vallarta, San Francisco, CA (2019)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brown University

Instructor of Record

Art Writing (American Studies) (Fall 2023)

Ekphrasis & Art Writing (Pre-College Summer Program) (Summer 2023, 2024, and 2025)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Ethnic Studies, Professor Kevin Escudero, Department of American Studies (Fall 2021)

Inventing Asian American Literature, Professor Daniel Kim, Department of English (Spring 2022)

Introduction to U.S. Popular Culture, Professor Rick Baldoz (Fall 2022)

Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies, Professor Wendy Lee (Spring 2023)

“We Have Not Heard Enough, if Anything, About the Female Gaze”: Contemporary Writing Not by Men, taught by Professor Timothy Bewes, Department of English (Spring 2024)

Tutoring

Writing Associate, The Writing Center, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (November 2023-present)

California Institute of the Arts

Instructor of Record (Teaching Fellow)

Asian American Text + Image (Spring 2020)

Desire, Power, Flight: Intimacies of the Political Body in Asian American Text and Image (Spring 2019)

Subaltern Love Letters: A Creative Writing Workshop (Wintersession 2019)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Science as Method, Professor Michael Bryant (Spring 2018)

Introduction to Critical Studies: Capital, Representation, and Resistance, Professors Andrea Fontenot and Douglas Kearney (Fall 2017)

Co-Lead Instructor for Community Arts Partnership Summer Program

Creative Writing Workshop (Summers 2019–2021)

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Instructor of Record (Adjunct)

English Language Skills (Fall 2024)
English 1 (Fall 2024)

Rhode Island School of Design

Instructor of Record (Adjunct)

Ekphrasis and Art Writing (Fall 2025)

SERVICE

Service to the Profession

Intern, writer, KULARTS, San Francisco, CA (Summer 2021)

First-Round Reader, Louise Meriwether First Book Prize, The Feminist Press (2017–2020)

Service to the Department of English, Brown University

Graduate Student Lead for Poetry & Poetics Working Group (2024–present)

Lecture and workshop with Professor Muriel Leung (CalArts), October 2024

Lecture and workshop with Professor Wayne Koestenbaum (CUNY Graduate Center),
October 2025

Class Representative (2025-2026)

Service to the Department of American Studies, Brown University

Graduate Student Representative for Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan (2021-2022)

Service to the School of Critical Studies, California Institute of the Arts

Co-curator and Organizer, Next Words Events Committee (Spring 2018)

Founder and Co-curator, *inter/subject* (2017–2019) (Student group/workshop series highlighting the work of artists, writers, and activists exploring intersectional feminist tactics)

News Editor, *The Eye*, Student Newspaper at CalArts, Valencia, CA (2016-2017)

Editorial Assistant to Editors Janice Lee and Maggie Nelson, *Sublevel Magazine*, Valencia, CA (2016–2017) (Issue 1: *Contagion*)

Curated events:

Lecture & Workshop with Muriel Leung, Brown University, Zoom event (December 9, 2024)

Mini lecture and poetry writing workshop with poet Muriel Leung (CalArts) in celebration of her novel, *How to Fall in Love in a Time of Unnameable Disaster* (W. W. Norton, 2024)

REFILL: A Reading in Decolonial Ekphrasis (REEF Fellowship Mid-Residency Show),
MakerCityLA, Los Angeles, CA, (August 28, 2019)

A reading and art exhibition; featuring writers Angel Dominguez, B.A. Williams, Christine Imperial, Maryam Kazeem, and Cynthia Velasquez.

Femme in Public with Alok Vaid-Menon, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (May 8, 2018)

Collaboration between *inter/subject*, SPRAWL, Asian Student Alliance, and Queer Arts Collective; workshop and performance by Alok Vaid-Menon, gender non-conforming performance artist, writer, educator, and entertainer.

Chiwan Choi and Janice Lee of The Accomplices: Publishing, Literary Organizations, and Community, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (April 27, 2018)

Presentation and panel with writers and publishers Chiwan Choi (Writ Large Press, 90X90LA) and Janice Lee (Entropy, Civil Coping Mechanisms) of *The Accomplices*.

'AFRAID OF NOTHING': Art, Activism & Writing, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, (January 30, 2018)

Workshop on poetry and political activism, led by poets and activists Jen Hofer, Kenji Liu, and Vickie Vertiz

#VigilantLOVE: A Workshop on Community Organizing and Intersectional Care, inter/subject at PAM Studios, Los Angeles, CA (May 21, 2017)

Collaboration between *inter/subject* and Asian Student Alliance; workshop by activist group and LAX protest organizers Vigilant Love on Islamophobia and intersectional solidarity

Cross-Gender and Queer Performance in Asian and Asian American Communities: Didik Nini Thowok and Panda Dulce in Conversation, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (April 28, 2017)

Collaboration between *inter/subject*, Asian Student Alliance, and Queer Arts Collective; presentation by multidisciplinary artists/activists on queer, trans, POC identity and dance

workshop three: HIPHOP4CHANGE + DOUGLAS KEARNEY, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (April 13, 2017)

Presentation and panel by Hip Hop for Change Executive Director Khafre Jay and poet/Critical Studies professor Douglas Kearney

workshop two: PRIVATE IS POLITICAL, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (March 19, 2017)

inter/subject reading/screening of POC and queer writers and filmmakers from MFA programs of CalArts and Otis College of Art and Design

workshop one: CORTEZ + SERRANO, inter/subject at California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA (February 9, 2017)

Workshop on art, activism, and place-making, led by artists Evelyn Serrano and Beatriz Cortez

EDITING & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Editorial Project Lead II, Academy of Art University, Online Education Department, San Francisco, CA (2015–2019)

Editorial Associate/Contributor, *Hyphen Magazine*, San Francisco, CA (2015–2016)

Content Editor/Course Writer I, Academy of Art University, Online Education Department, San Francisco, CA (2014–2015)

Online Course Closed Captioning Transcriber, Academy of Art University, Online Education Department, San Francisco, CA (2013–2014)

Contributing Writer, Stylist, and Photoshoot Director, *ECS Nepal* (2012)

LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS

French (advanced), Kapampangan (Filipino language, basic), English (native speaker); APA and Chicago Style Manuals; Microsoft Office Suite, G-Suite, Wordpress, Squarespace, Wix, Canva; grant writing; figure drawing, comic booking, watercolors

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association
Association for the Study of Arts of the Present
Northeast Modern Literature Association
Association for Asian American Studies
American Comparative Literature Association
Modern Language Association