

Anna Ziajka Stanton

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The Pennsylvania State University	
Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature	2016-
Caroline D. Eckhardt Early Career Professor of Comparative Literature	2020-2023
The University of Texas at Austin	
Assistant Instructor of Arabic	2013-2014

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, The University of Texas at Austin	2016
M.A., Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, The University of Texas at Austin	2013
B.A., Arabic and English, <i>magna cum laude</i> , Georgetown University	2007
Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA), Cairo	2010-2011
The American University in Cairo, semester abroad	2006

PUBLICATIONS

Books

<i>The Worlding of Arabic Literature: Language, Affect, and the Ethics of Translatability</i> (Fordham University Press)	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipient of an ACLA Helen Tartar First Book Subvention - \$3,500• Recipient of a Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) Subvention - \$15,000	
Novel translated from Arabic: <i>Limbo Beirut</i> by Hilal Chouman (Center for Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Texas at Austin)	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Longlisted for the 2017 PEN Translation Prize• Shortlisted for the 2017 Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation	

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

“Introduction: An Arabic Theoretical Lexicon,” <i>PMLA</i> 139.1	forthcoming
“Eyes on the Prize: The Global Readability of an IPAF-Winning Modern Arabic Novel,” <i>Middle Eastern Literatures</i> 24.1: 20-39	2021
“Spatial Attractions: The Literary Aesthetics of Female Erotic Experience in the Colony,” <i>Cambridge Journal of Postcolonial Literary Inquiry</i> 8.2: 253-269	2021
“Vulgar Pleasures: The Scandalous Worldliness of Burton’s ‘Arabian Nights,’” <i>Journal of World Literature</i> 6.1: 45-64	2021

- “Feeling the Grammar: Literary Translations of the Dual Inflection in Arabic,”
Philological Encounters 4.1-2: 26-54 2019
- “A Whole Imaginary World: The Incomparable Fiction of Waguih Ghali,” *Journal of Arabic Literature* 46.2-3: 244-267 2015

Chapters in Edited Volumes

- “Translation,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Arabic Literature*, ed. Michael Allan and Zeina Halabi (Invited) forthcoming

Book Reviews

- Review of *Modern Arabic Literature: A Theoretical Framework* by Reuven Snir,
Modernism/modernity 26.3: 681-683 (Invited) 2019
- Review of *The Diaries of Waguih Ghali: An Egyptian Writer in the Swinging Sixties*,
 ed. May Hawas, *Banipal* 62: 188-191 (Invited) 2018

Translations

- “A Postman Who Gets the Addresses Wrong” and “Daytime Makes Me Fretful...” by
 Abdulrahman Alshihri, in *Translating the World: Contemporary Poetry from Saudi Arabia*, ed. Moneera Al-Ghadeer forthcoming
- “Make-Believe Biography” and “Assyrian Tablet” by Abdullah Almohsin, in
Translating the World: Contemporary Poetry from Saudi Arabia, ed. Moneera Al-Ghadeer forthcoming
- “A Voice Crying in the Wilderness” by Hoda Barakat, in *The Derivative*, iss.
 01_10/20_20/21, thederivative.org/a-voice-crying-in-the-wilderness 2021
- “Mama Aicha: Jemaa el-Fnaa” by Halima Zine El Abidine, in *Marrakech Noir*, ed.
 Yassin Adnan (Akashic Books): 183-209 2018
- “A Brief Statement about Al al-Bayt University” by Fahmi al-Mudarris, in *The Arab Renaissance: A Bilingual Anthology of the Nahda*, ed. Tarek El-Ariss (The Modern Language Association of America): 20-30 2018
- “For the Sake of Marriage” by Mahmud Ahmad al-Sayyid, in *The Arab Renaissance: A Bilingual Anthology of the Nahda*, ed. Tarek El-Ariss (The Modern Language Association of America): 287-299 2018
- “From *Limbo Beirut*” by Hilal Chouman, *The Common* 11: 145-155 2016
- “On Motherhood and Violence” by Iman Mersal, *Makhzin* 2,
www.makhzin.org/issues/feminisms/on-motherhood-and-violence 2015

Other Essays

- In Arabic: “al-Zamkāniyyah fī al-adabayn al-miṣrī wa-al-filistīnī” [“Chronotopicity in Egyptian and Palestinian Literatures”], *al-Thaqāah al-Jadīdah* 252: 94-97 2011

In Progress

- “The Geophenomenology of Extinction in the Arabic Sci-Fi Novel *Ajwān* by Nūrah al-Nūmān” (revising to resubmit)

EDITORIAL WORK

Lead Editor for the <i>PMLA</i> Special Feature “An Arabic Theoretical Lexicon” (co-edited with Lara Harb and Jeannie Miller)	2022-
Associate Editor, <i>Journal of Arabic Literature</i>	2018-
Assistant Editor for <i>The Arab Renaissance: A Bilingual Anthology of the Nahda</i> , ed. Tarek El-Ariss (The Modern Language Association of America)	2018
Editorial Board Member for the Modern Middle East Literatures in Translation Series, Center for Middle Eastern Studies - The University of Texas at Austin	2017-2022

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

External Awards

ACLA Helen Tartar First Book Subvention (to support publication of <i>The Worlding of Arabic Literature</i>) - \$3,500	2022
Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) Subvention (to support publication of an open-access edition of <i>The Worlding of Arabic Literature</i>) - \$15,000	2021
PEN Translation Prize (for <i>Limbo Beirut</i>), longlist	2017
Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation (for <i>Limbo Beirut</i>), shortlist	2017

Fellowships

Penn State Center for Humanities & Information (CHI) faculty fellow	2021
Penn State Humanities Institute faculty fellow	2019
Huntington Library Mayers Fellowship for summer research	2018
Institute for World Literature summer fellowship, Harvard University	2013
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship	2011-2012
Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA) Full-Year Fellowship	2010-2011

Teaching Awards

Sydney Aboul-Hosn Award for Excellence in Teaching and Student Mentoring, Penn State Department of Comparative Literature	2019
Faculty Teaching Award, Penn State Department of Comparative Literature	2018

LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND CONFERENCES

Invited Talks

Class discussion of <i>The Worlding of Arabic Literature: Language, Affect, and the Ethics of Translatability</i> , University of British Columbia (virtual), May 24	2023
Class discussion of <i>The Worlding of Arabic Literature: Language, Affect, and the Ethics of Translatability</i> , Dartmouth College (virtual), January 24	2023
“ <i>Limbo Beirut</i> : Readings and Discussion of Literature and Translation,” American University of Beirut, November 24	2017
“Beyond Untranslatability: Translation Ethics and the Pragmatics of Affective Language Practices in the Translation of Contemporary Arabic Literature,” The Ohio State University, April 21	2017

Conference Papers

- “The Worldliness of *Lafz*: Translating the Aesthetic Form of Literary Arabic,” ACLA Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 17 2023
- “The Geophenomenology of Extinction in Nūrah al-Nūmān’s *Ajwān*,” MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, January 8 2023
- “Richard Francis Burton and the Translation of Ṭarab,” ACLA Annual Meeting, virtual, April 9 2021
- “After the Embargo: Translating Arabic Literature for a Post-Orientalist U.S. Anglophone Market,” MESA Annual Meeting, virtual, October 15 2020
- “Ambivalent Canonicity of Burton’s Translation of the Nights,” Columbia Global Center Workshop on Conceptions and Configurations of the Arabic Literary Canon, Paris, June 18 2019
- “Labors of Love: Philological Translations of Arabic Literature,” MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, January 5 2019
- “The Affective Orientalist Imaginary of Burton’s *Arabian Nights*,” ACLA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, March 31 2018
- “Arabic Writing in a Translatable Present,” ASAP/9: The Arts of the Present, Oakland, CA, October 26 2017
- “Adab as Theory: Toward a Corporeal Ethos of Reading,” Conference on *Adab* as an Interdisciplinary Pursuit, Columbia University, April 13 2017
- “Precarious Bodies: Self-Translating Iraq in America,” MLA Annual Convention, Philadelphia, January 7 2017
- “Arabic Prize-Winning Novels and the Problematic Ethics of World Literature,” 12th EURAMAL Conference, University of Oslo, June 4 2016
- “Getting the Picture: Affects and Ethics in the Translation of Hilal Chouman’s *Limbo Beirut*,” MESA Annual Meeting, Denver, November 22 2015
- “Dwelling Among the Ruins: A Move Toward Happiness, Perhaps, in Solidere’s Beirut,” ACLA Annual Meeting, Seattle, March 27 2015
- “Ritual Spaces, Uncanny Places: Cinematic Representations of Loss in Ḥusayn Kamāl’s *Chitchat on the Nile*,” MESA Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 24 2014
- “Before the Funeral: A Levantine Reading of Waguih Ghali’s *Beer in the Snooker Club*,” Conference in Arabic Literature: Migration, Diaspora, Exile, Estrangement, Columbia University, November 9 2013
- “Too Close for Comfort: Translating the Other in Colonial Egyptian Novels of Europe,” MESA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, October 13 2013
- “Economics of Arabic Translation,” MLA Annual Convention, Boston, January 3 2013

Local Talks

- “The Ambivalent Worldliness of Arabic Literature in Translation: Philology, Ethics, and the ‘Arabian Nights,’” Penn State Humanities Institute, March 26 2019

Conference Organizing

- Panel organizer (for the CLCS Global Arab and Arab American Forum), “Migrants as Working Subjects,” MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, January 7 2023

Panel co-organizer, “Orientalist Networks and Their Afterlives,” MESA Annual Meeting, virtual, October 15	2020
Conference co-organizer, The Cultural Turn in Arabic Literary Production, Columbia University, April 19-21	2019
Panel co-organizer (for the LLC Arabic Forum), “Arabic Literature in Translation / Arabic Literature and Translation,” MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, January 5	2019
Panel co-organizer, “Globe, Planet, World: Comparison and the Problem of Disciplinary Scale,” ACL(x): Extra-Disciplinarity, Penn State, September 23	2016

SERVICE

Chair of the CLCS Global Arab and Arab American Forum of the MLA	2023-
Executive Committee Member for the CLCS Global Arab and Arab American Forum of the MLA	2021-
Delegate for the CLCS Global Arab and Arab American Forum to the MLA Delegate Assembly	2021-
Judge for literary submissions for the American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA) Translation Contest	2018

ADVISING

Chair, Ph.D. Committee

Hanan Al-Alawi, Comparative Literature and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (co-chair)	2019-
Dina Mahmoud, Comparative Literature and Visual Studies (co-chair)	2019-

Member, Ph.D. Committee

Elena Quiñones, Comparative Literature	2022-
Ege Altan, Comparative Literature and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	2022-
Tembi Charles, Comparative Literature and African Studies	2018-
Merve Tabur, Comparative Literature	2018-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissertation: “Ends of Language in the Anthropocene: Narrating Environmental Destruction in Turkish, Arabic, and Arab-Anglophone Speculative Fiction” (defended Feb. 2021) Currently appointed as Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo 	
Rhett McNeil, Comparative Literature	2016-
Rebekah Zwanzig, Comparative Literature	2016-2018

M.A. Supervision

Samantha Landmesser, M.A./B.A. with Honors in Comparative Literature	2021-2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M.A. paper: “Living and Perceived: Depictions of the Gnawa Boy in Charif Shanahan’s Poetry” (submitted Mar. 2022) Honors Thesis: “Living and Perceived: Depictions of Gnawa Culture in American Literature” (submitted Apr. 2022) 	

TEACHING

The Pennsylvania State University

Undergraduate

CMLIT 010 Introduction to World Literature (fall 2016, spring 2017, fall 2017, fall 2020, fall 2021)

CMLIT 83S First-Year Seminar in Comparative Literature (fall 2022)

CMLIT 107 Exploration, Travel, Migration, and Exile (fall 2019)

CMLIT 153 International Cultures: Film and Literature (spring 2018)

CMLIT 410 Literary Translation: Theory and Practice (spring 2023)

CMLIT 449 Literary Cultures of Islam (fall 2017, fall 2022)

CMLIT 455 Ethics, Justice, and Rights in World Literature (spring 2023)

CMLIT 470 The Modern Novel (spring 2017)

Graduate

CMLIT 503 Comparative Criticism II: Romantic to Contemporary (spring 2018)

CMLIT 524 Comparative Arab/ic Literature and Criticism (fall 2019, spring 2023)

CMLIT 580 The Body in Comparative Literary Contexts (fall 2020)

The University of Texas at Austin

Undergraduate

ARA 601C “Intensive Arabic I” (fall 2013)

ARA 611C “Intensive Arabic II” (spring 2014)

LANGUAGES

English (native)

Modern Standard Arabic (Superior Proficiency–ACTFL scale)

Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (advanced speaking)

French (advanced reading)

Spanish (advanced reading)