

Colin Benert
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Education

- **Northwestern University** (Evanston, IL), PhD Program in German Literature and Critical Thought (1996-2002)
- **Yale University** (New Haven, CT); B.A. in Philosophy (1989-1992)
- **Eastman School of Music** (Rochester, NY); work toward a B.A. in music performance (violin) (1987-1989)

Dissertation “Coming to Terms with Music: Music, Memory, Language, and the Crucible of Interiority in Germany in the 1790’s”

Dissertation Committee members: Samuel Weber, Helmut Müller-Sievers, Peter Fenves

Scholarly Interests

- German literature, criticism, and philosophy: 18th to 20th century
- aesthetics, music in literature, word and music relations, media studies
- temporality, philosophy of time, narratology
- critical theory, theories of community

Teaching Experience

- **Lecturer of German**, University of Chicago Fall 2013-
 - First- and second-year German
 - *Berlin in Fragments* (in German)
 - *Music in the German Imagination* (in German)
 - German Drama and Film (in German)
- **Adjunct Lecturer of German**, University of Chicago Fall 2011-
Spring 2013
 - First- and second-year German
 - *German for Research Purposes*
- **Adjunct Lecturer of German**, DePaul University Fall 2010-
Spring 2013
 - Basic German
 - Intermediate German
 - *Music in the German Imagination* (in German)
 - *Goethe’s Faust*
- **Visiting Assistant Professor of German**, University of Iowa 2008-2010
 - *Introduction to German Literature* Spring 2010
 - *Composition and Conversation II*
 - *German Cultural History*

- *Introduction to German Literature* Fall 2009
- *Composition and Conversation I*
- *Advanced Composition and Conversation*
- *Self and Other in German Short Fiction* Spring 2009
- *Berlin: Visions of Modernity* (graduate seminar)
- *Composition and Conversation II*
- *Introduction to German Literature* Fall 2008
- *German Cultural History*
- *Music in the German Imagination* (in English)

- **Visiting Assistant Professor of German**, Lafayette College 2006-2007
 - *German 101*: first-year German language 2006-2007
 - *German 111*: second-year German language
 - *Music in German Literature*: in German Spring 2007

- **Visiting Assistant Professor of German and Humanities**, Reed College 2004-2006
 - *Authors and Authority*, self-designed seminar in German Spring 2006
 - *German Theory I: The Frankfurt School*, self-designed seminar Fall 2005
 - First-year German language
 - Spring 2005-
 - Spring 2006
 - *Music in the German Social Imagination*, self-designed seminar Fall 2004
 - *Humanities 110*: introduction to the history, literature, arts, politics, and philosophy of Greek and Roman antiquity
 - *Independent Study*: Heidegger's *Sein und Zeit*
 - Fall 2004-
 - Spring 2005
 - Spring 2005

- **Woodrow Wilson Postdoctoral Fellow**, Yale University 2002-2004
 - *Music and Meaning in the German Social Imagination*, self-designed seminar for Whitney Humanities Center (cross-listed with Music and German studies) Fall 2003
 - section of the literature track in the Directed Studies program: survey of ancient and modern classics Spring 2004, 2002-2003

Publications

- "The Theater of Anamnesis: The Spaces of Memory and the Exteriority of Time in *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*" (*Goethe Yearbook*, Vol. 24, Spring 2017)
- "Notlagen: Kafka's Intervention in Wagner's Musical Politics" (Winter 2009, *The Germanic Review*)
- Co-translator of *Hannah Arendt: Reflections on Literature and Culture*, Susannah Gottlieb, ed. (Stanford University Press, 2006)
- "Dividing Time: Musical Memory and the Dis-closure of Fate in E. T. A. Hoffmann's *Die Automate*" (*Studies in Romanticism*, Winter 2006)
- "Joseph Berglinger's Musical Crucifixion: Harmony, Alterity, and the Theater of the Passions in the Writings of Wilhelm H. Wackenroder" (*Deutsche Vierteljahrsschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte*, March 2004)

book review:

- James H. Donelan, *Poetry and the Romantic Musical Aesthetic* (for *Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net*)

current projects:

- *Distensions: Literature, Music, and the Mediality of Ecstasy in German Romanticism* (book manuscript)
- “*Das widerliche Wie: Anti-Semitism and the Aesthetics of Disgust in Wagner’s Critical Writings*“

Academic Presentations and Lectures

- “The Space of Memory in the *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*,” German Studies Association (September 18-21, 2014, Kansas City)
- “Wagner’s Re-Invention of Greek Tragedy,” lecture for a summer seminar at the Universität Leipzig (July 8, 2014, Leipzig)
- “Of Breath and World-Breath: Friedrich Kittler and the Romantic Metaphysics of Music,” American Comparative Literature Association (March 20-23, 2014, New York)
- “Penitential Sentiment: The Aesthetics of Alterity in Wilhelm H. Wackenroder,” German Studies Association (October 4-7, 2012, Milwaukee)
- “The Theater of Anamnesis: *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre* and the Exteriority of Romantic Temporality,” Women in German Studies Conference: “About Time” (June 27-30, 2012, Dublin)
- “Tremors in Language: Esoteric Cosmopolitanism in Fontane’s *Der Stechlin*,” American Comparative Literature Association (April 1-4, 2010)
- “Hardenberg’s Associationalism,” German Studies Association (October 2-5, 2008, St. Paul)
- Commentator, “Music and Idioms of National Identity,” German Studies Association (September 29, 2006, Pittsburgh)
- “Immanence and Ecstasy in Goethe’s *Wilhelm Meister*,” American Comparative Literature Association (March 24-26, 2006, Princeton)
- “*Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt: the Wilhelm Meister Songs and the Recodification of Intimacy*,” MLA Annual Convention (Lyrica Society) (December 29, 2005, Washington DC)
- “The Mathematical Double: Music and the Temporalization of the Soul in Germany around 1800,” American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies (March 31-April 3, 2005, Las Vegas)
- “Renaissance Art and Modern Music in Wilhelm Wackenroder,” Providence College, Northeast Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (November 6-9, 2003, Providence)
- “The Mathematics of Music in German Romanticism,” Whitney Humanities Center Fellows-talk (October 8, 2003, New Haven)
- “The Mus-ic Uncanny in E. T. A. Hoffmann,” CongressCATH 2003: *warp:woof-aurality/musicality/textuality*, University of Leeds (Leeds, England, July 10-12, 2003)
- “The Question of Time in Shakespeare’s Sonnets,” lecture in Yale’s Directed Studies Program (January 18, 2003, New Haven)

Academic Awards

- Pembroke Postdoctoral Fellowship, Pembroke Center (seminar on “The Orders of Time”), Brown University, 2004-2005 (declined)
- Woodrow Wilson Postdoctoral Fellowship, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2002-2004.
- Helen O. Piros Fellowship for dissertations on music, Northwestern University, 2001-2002

Professional Organizations

- International Association for Word and Music Studies (2003-)
- American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (2004-)
- Modern Language Association (2001-)
- American Comparative Literature Association (2006-)

Other Academic Experience and Skills

- editorial assistant for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* (2001, vol. 35, 1 and 2)
- languages: German (fluent); Latin, French, Italian (reading comprehension)