

## Curriculum vitæ

**Yannick Michel BLEC**  
Université Paris 8 Vincennes–Saint-Denis

Contact information:  
1 rue de la petite Prusse  
93500 Pantin, France  
[yannick.blec@univ-paris8.fr](mailto:yannick.blec@univ-paris8.fr)  
<https://blecyannick.com>

### Academic background

- 2016**     **Doctorate in Foreign Languages and Literatures.** *Université Paris-Est.*  
The “Blafringo-Arumerican” in the Work of William Melvin Kelley: African  
Americanness between Concept and Lived Experience.  
Defense committee members:  
William DOW, Professor (UPEM)  
Monica MICHLIN, Professor (Montpellier 3)  
Claudine RAYNAUD, Professor (Montpellier 3)  
Jean-Paul ROCCHI, Professor (UPEM, Supervisor)  
Frédéric SYLVANISE, Assistant Professor (Paris 13)
- 2007**     **Master or Arts, Languages, Humanities and Social Science, majoring in American  
Studies.** *Université Paris 7 Denis Diderot.*
- 2006**     **Master’s degree in Foreign Languages, Literatures and Civilizations, specializing in  
English.** *Université des Antilles et de la Guyane (UAG).*

## Professional teaching experience

As of September 2018

Lecturer in Applied Foreign languages– *Université Paris 8 Vincennes–Saint-Denis*.

## Scientific responsibilities & affiliations

### Scientific responsibilities:

- Co-responsible for the “Conference Proceedings” section of the online journal *Quaderna* (<http://quaderna.org/>) (Since 2017)
  - Member of the Editorial Board of the journal;
- Member of the scientific committee of the conference « YST – *Young Scholars Transfers* » (2016) ;
- Member of the Editorial Board of the online journal *Black Studies Papers* (<https://media.suub.uni-bremen.de/cris/journals/journals00120>) (2014–2016) ;
- Article reviews for the journals *Miranda* et *RFEA*.

### Affiliations :

- French Association for American Studies (AFAA);
- The Collegium of African American Research (CAAR);
- Society of Higher Education Anglicists (SAES);
- English Critical Transfers (TransCrit), *Université Paris 8 – Vincennes–Saint-Denis*.

## Articles and book chapters

September 2021

### « Masculinités, sexualités et race : défaire les stéréotypes »

Book chapter: BOUSSAHBA Myriam, DELANOË Emmanuelle, BAKSHI Sandeep (dir.). *Qu'est-ce que l'intersectionnalité ? Dominations plurielles : sexe, classe et race* (What is intersectionality?). Paris : Petite Biblio Payot Essais, 2021, ISBN 978-2-228-92869-4.

May 2021

### « Imaginaire linguistique : la langue vernaculaire africaine américaine comme agent identitaire chez William Melvin Kelley » (“Linguistic Imagination : The African American Vernacular as an agent of identity in William Melvin Kelley’s Stories”)

Article: *Quaderna*, n°5 « Glottophobies et imaginaires des langues », mai 2021, Iván JIMÉNEZ et Graciela VILLANUEVA (dir.). <https://quaderna.org/5/imaginaire-linguistique-la-langue-vernaculaire-africaine-americaine-comme-agent-identitaire-chez-william-melvin-kelley/>

May 2021

### “Stepping to His Own Music: Influences and Plurality of Black Identities in the Work of William Melvin Kelley”

Book chapter: LEVERETTE, Tru (dir.). *With Fists Raised: Radical Art, Contemporary Activism, and the Iconoclasm of the Black Arts Movement*. Liverpool : Liverpool UP, 2021, ISBN 978-1-800-85977-7.

March 2021

### « “Black Identity” : d’une identité unique à des identités plurielles. Approche épistémologique des identités noires dans la littérature américaine des années 1960 » (“Black Identity: From a single identity to plural identities. An epistemological Approach to Black Identities in 1960s U.S. Literature”)

Book chapter: FOURNIER L.S., BERNIER-BOISSARD C., et al. (dir.). *Identités imaginées*. Aix-Marseille : PU d’Aix-Marseille, 2021, ISBN 9782731411942.

**December 2019**      « **Réinvention de la mémoire noire américaine dans les récits du *Black Arts Movement*** » (Reinvention of Black American Memory in the Narratives of the Black Arts Movement)  
 Article: *Babel-Littératures plurielles*, n°40 « Écritures minoritaires de la mémoire dans les Amériques », 2<sup>ème</sup> semestre 2019, Christine DUALÉ et Anne GARRAIT-BOURRIER (dir.), Université de Toulon, 251-281.  
<https://journals.openedition.org/babel/8168>

**August 2019**      “**Story of a Life: A Conversation with William Melvin Kelley**”  
 Interview: *GRAAT On-Line*, Occasional Papers, août 2019.  
<http://www.graat.fr/occasionalpapers.html>

**June 2016**      “**Rereading William Melvin Kelley, Black Identity in the Light of a Phenomenological and Africana Existentialist Approach**”  
 Article: *Black Studies Papers: Current Perspectives in Transnational Black Studies*, Issue 2.1., 99-112. <https://media.suub.uni-bremen.de/handle/elib/3234>

## Journal Edition

**2022-2023**      **Edition of an issue of the online journal *Quaderna***  
 “Mapping the Other”, issue 7 of the journal, to be published in 2023.

## Essays / Promotion of the research

**Currently being written (publication expected in 2024)**      ***James Baldwin***  
 Biographical novel on Jame Baldwin’s life. Collection Folio Biographie.

**October 27, 2021**      « **Noir, vous avez dit “Noir” ?** » (“**Black, did you say ‘Black’?**”)  
 Essay published in the online journal *#dïeses – against preconceptions*.  
<https://dïeses.fr/noir-vous-avez-dit-noir>

**April–May 2014**      “**From a Minority to Another**”  
 « *Guest editorial* » on the CAAR website. <http://caar-web.org/aprilmay-2014/> (page disabled)

## Conference papers

**May 31–June 3, 2022 (pending)**      “**Shifting Canons in Hip Hop: African American Gay Rappers and the Visibility of Homosexuality**”  
 53<sup>ème</sup> AFEA Conference, “Legitimacy, Authority, Canons.” *Université Bordeaux-Montaigne*.

**January 13–15, 2021**      “**African American LGBTQ+ Intersectional Dynamics in Some Contemporary Rap, R&B and Pop Music**”  
 Conference of the Institute of the Americas, North-East Pole, “Dynamics of Gender, sexuality and racialization in the Americas.” *Université Gustave Eiffel*.

**October 9, 2020**      “**Queer(ing) Masculinity in Hip Hop Culture: The Case of Lil Nas X**”  
 One-day conference, “*Gender Trouble 2020: Queering art/Queering society?*” *Université de Paris*.

**May 21–24, 2019**      “**Subverting clichés: *Moonlight* and the Reconstruction of Black Male Identities in the Ghetto**”  
 51<sup>ème</sup> AFEA Conference, “Disciplines/Indisciplines.” *Université de Nantes*.

**November 14–18 2018**      « **Du *Down Low* aux fiertés : redéfinition des identités et de la masculinité africaines américaines LGBTQ+ à travers les arts populaires, une analyse**

**intersectionnelle » (From DL to Pride : Redefining African American LGBTQ+ identités and Masculinity Through Popular Arts, an Intersectional Analysis)**

Conference “Intersectionality and Knowledge Transfer: Itinerary of a Militant Concept.” *Université Paris Diderot*.

**June 21–22, 2018**

**« “Black Identity” : d’une identité unique à une identité plurielle. Approche épistémologique des identités noires dans la littérature africaine américaine des années 1960 » (“Black Identity: From a single identity to plural identities. An epistemological Approach to Black Identities in 1960s U.S. Literature”)**

Conference “Why identities... ?” Interests and limits of a controversial notion.” *Université de Nîmes*.

**October 13–14, 2016**

**“William Melvin Kelley and the Decolonization of *Ebonics*: Language as a Constituent of African American Identities”**

Conference « *Young Scholars Transfers*: Reflections on the Notion of Transfer in the Humanities.” *Université Paris Est*.

**June 24–28, 2015**

**“Memoir, Memory and Conceptualized Identities in William Melvin Kelley’s Narratives”**

Conference “Mobilising Memory: Creating African Atlantic Identities.” *Hope University, Liverpool*.

**March 13–16, 2013**

**“Chig Dunford and the Idea of Life in Cycle – From Insouciance to Awareness, and Conversely”**

Conference “Dreams Deferred, Promises and Struggles: Perceptions and Interrogations of Empire, Nation, and Society by Peoples of African Descent.” *Agnes Scott College, Decatur/Atlanta*.

**April 6–9, 2011**

**“Making Blackness Meaningful or When William Melvin Kelley’s Characters Become Self-Conscious”**

Conference “Black States of Desire: Dispossession, Transformation, Circulation.” *Université Paris 7 Denis Diderot*.

## Organization scientific events

**November 17, 2022**

**One-day conference: “Queering Blackness: Non-Binary Representations in Post-Obama Popular Culture”** (with Anne CRÉMIEUX).

Unité de recherche TransCrit, axe « Imaginer les communautés », *Université Paris 8*. <https://queerblackness.sciencesconf.org/>

**13-15 janvier 2021**

**Workshop “Popular culture, reappropriation of norms and intersectionality”** (with Sébastien MIGNOT).

Conference of the Institute of the Americans , “Dynamics of Gender, sexuality and racialization in the Americas,” *Université Gustave Eiffel*.

## Research keywords

- Race relations in the United States;
- Identity factors: otherness, the self, existential realities, cultural and social identities, the individual and individuality, community, representations, receptions;
- Urbanity and the construction of African American identity in the hyperghetto;
- So-called minority identities : race, gay, lesbian, queer, gender;
- African American, America, activist literatures;
- African American LGBTQ+ Popular Arts (music, films, series, music videos);
- The use of social networks;
- Intersectionality;
- Inter- and Transdisciplinary;
- The concept of transfers;
- The question of reception.