

Hillary Kaell

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Employment

2017- Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Concordia University
2011-2017 Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Concordia University

Education

Ph.D. Harvard University, American Studies, 2011
M.A. University of Toronto, History, 2005
B.A. (hons) McGill University, International Development and History, 2003

Fellowships and Grants

2016-19 Faculty Fellow, Material Economies of Religion in the Americas, Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion, Yale University

2016-17 Co-Applicant with Emma Anderson (University of Ottawa) and Pamela Klassen (University of Toronto), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Individual Connection Grant, *Restoring Canada: Reconsidering Religion and Public Memory Conference* (\$25,000)

2016-17 Co-Applicant with Emma Anderson (University of Ottawa) and Pamela Klassen (University of Toronto), Ministry of Canadian Heritage, *Restoring Canada: Reconsidering Religion and Public Memory Conference* (\$34,029)

2017 Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Awards to Scholarly Publications Grant, "Everyday Sacred: Religion in Contemporary Quebec" edited volume (\$8000)

2017 VP Research and Graduate Studies Aid to Research Grant, Concordia University, "Everyday Sacred: Religion in Contemporary Quebec" edited volume (\$5000)

2015-16 Co-Applicant (with Jeremy Stolow), Aid to Research Related Events, Concordia University, Material Religion Initiative Speaker Series (\$6300)

2014 Visiting Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University

2013-15 Young Scholars in American Religion Program, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture

2014-18 Fonds Quebecois de recherches - nouveaux chercheurs (FQRSC), "Lambs of God, Tools of Empire: Child Sponsorship in American Foreign Missions." (\$39 013)

- 2012-14 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Insight Development Grant, "Lambs of God, Tools of Empire: Child Sponsorship in American Foreign Missions." (\$18 578)
- 2012-13 VP Research and Graduate Studies Aid to Research Grant, Concordia University, "Race, Religion, and Border Crossings: Messianic Judaism and Narratives of Self" (\$7000)
- 2009-10 Charles Warren Center for American Studies, Graduate Fellow, Harvard University
2009 Lynn E. May Jr. Study Grant, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
2008-9 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Graduate Fellow, Harvard University
2007-08 William B. Hutchison Fellow, Harvard Divinity School
2006 Harvard University Graduate Society Fellowship
2006 Westengard Scholarship for Language Study Abroad, Harvard University
2004-05 CGS Masters Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
2003 Scarlet Key Award, Academic Excellence & Community Involvement, McGill
2002 Blacher-Glasrot Thesis Prize for Historical Research
2001 McGill University Historical Society Prize

Scholarly Publications

Monographs

The Immensity of Being: Making Christian Globalism At Home. Or the Material and Sensory Dimensions of Child Sponsorship in the United States, in progress

Walking Where Jesus Walked: American Christians and Holy Land Pilgrimage. New York University Press, 2014.

Edited Volumes

Everyday Sacred: Religion in Contemporary Quebec, McGill-Queens University Press, 2017.

"Ritual Risk and Emergent Efficacy: Ethnographies of Christian Ritual," Special Issue (with Jessica Hardin), *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 31(3) October 2016.

Book Chapters

"Transnational Transmissions: Quebec as North American Hub," in eds. Jean-François Laniel, David Koussens et Catherine Foisy, *Étudier la religion au Québec: regards d'ici et d'ailleurs*, Presses de l'Université du Québec/Presses Universitaires de Rennes, in progress

"Introduction" in ed. Hillary Kaell, *Everyday Sacred: Religion in Contemporary Quebec*, 3-30. McGill-Queens University Press, 2017.

"Prayer Places on the Side of the Road" in ed. Hillary Kaell, *Everyday Sacred: Religion in Contemporary Quebec*, 129-155. McGill-Queens University Press, 2017.

“How Distrust Begets Asking and Giving in Christian Child Sponsorship” in ed. Frederick Klaits, *The Request and the Gift in Religious and Humanitarian Endeavors*, 93-116. Palgrave Macmillan. 2017.

“Marking Memory: Heritage Work and Devotional Labour at Quebec’s *Croix de Chemin*” in eds. Maya Mayblin, Kristin Norget and Valentina Napolitano, *The Anthropology of Catholicism: A Reader*, 122-138. University of California Press, 2017.

“Lost, Hidden, Discovered: Theologies of DNA in North American Judaism and Messianic Judaism,” (with Sarah Imhoff) in ed. Leonard J. Greenspoon, *Mishpachah: The Jewish Family in Tradition and in Transition*, 111-133. Purdue University Press, 2016.

“Quebec’s Wayside Crosses and the Creation of Contemporary Devotionalism,” in eds. Lucas Van Rompay and David A. Morgan, *The Long Shadow of Vatican II: Authority, Faith, and Church since the Second Vatican Council*, 102-22. University of North Carolina Press, 2015.

- *Third Place, Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada Book Award*

Articles

“Semi-Public Hints of Jewish Lineage in Messianic Judaism,” *Ethnos*, submitted.

“Worshipping in Concert with the World,” Invited Essay, *Journal of Modern American History*, forthcoming 2018.

“Evangelist of Fragments: Mite-Box Capitalism in the Late Nineteenth Century,” *Church History*, 86 (1) 2017: 86-119.

“Lineage Matters: DNA, Race, and Gene Talk in Judaism and Messianic Judaism,” (with Sarah Imhoff), *Religion and American Culture*, 27 (1) 2017: 95-127.

“Seeing the Invisible: Ambient Catholicism on the Side of the Road,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 85 (1) 2017: 136-167.

“Under the Law of God: Mimetic Discipleship and Obligation among Christians Living Jewishly,” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 22 (3) 2016: 496-515.

“Ritual Risk and Emergent Efficacy: Ethnographies of Christian Ritual,” (with Jessica Hardin), *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 31(3) 2016: 323-334.

“Can Pilgrimage Fail? Intent, Efficacy, and Evangelical Trips to the Holy Land,” *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 31(3) 2016: 392-407.

“Les croix de chemin du Québec et la naissance du dévotionnalisme contemporain,” (invited submission), *Études d’histoire religieuse*, 82 (1-2) 2016: 75-95.

“Born-again Seeking: Explaining the Gentile Majority in Messianic Judaism,” *Religion*, 45(1) 2015: 42-65.

“Age of Innocence: The Symbolic Child and Political Conflict on American Holy Land Pilgrimage,” *Religion and Society: Advances in Research* (5) 2014: 157-172.

“‘A Bible People’: Post-Conciliar U.S. Catholics, Scripture, and Holy Land Pilgrimage,” *U.S. Catholic Historian*, 31(4) 2013: 85-106.

“Trash Talk: American Pilgrims in Israel-Palestine,” *Anthropology News* (American Anthropological Association), 53 (8) October 2012:12-13.

“Of Gifts and Grandchildren: American Holy Land Souvenirs,” *Journal of Material Culture*. 17 (2) July 2012: 133-151.

“Christian Teens and Biblezines: An Analysis of Revolve, the Complete New Testament,” *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 22 (3) Fall 2010: 15-31

“Pilgrimage in the Jet Age: The Development of the American Evangelical Holy Land Travel Industry, 1948–1978,” *Journal of Tourism History*, 2 (1) May 2010: 23-38.

“Marie-Rose, Stigmatisée de Woonsocket: The Construction of a Franco-American Saint Cult, 1930-55,” *Historical Studies (Canadian Catholic Historical Association)* 73 (1) 2007: 7-26.

Book Reviews

Sara M Patterson, *Middle of Nowhere: Religion, Art, Pop Culture at Salvation Mountain* (University of New Mexico Press 2017), Material Religion, forthcoming.

Valentina Napolitano, *Migrant Hearts and the Atlantic Return: Transnationalism and the Roman Catholic Church* (Fordham University Press, 2016), Marginalia for the L.A. Review of Books (online), 9 May 2016.

Frédéric Parent, *Le Québec invisible: monographie d'un village québécois* (Presses Université Laval 2015) in Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses, 45 (2) 2016: 257-59.

Sally Promey, ed. *Sensational Religion: Sensory Cultures in Material Practice* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014) in Church History, 84 (2) 2015: 482-484.

Matthew Engelke, *God's Agents: Biblical Publicity in Contemporary England* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013) in Religion & Society, 5 (2014):

Yaacov Ariel, *An Unusual Relationship: Evangelical Christians and Jews* (New York: New York University Press, 2013) in Studies in Jewish-Christian Relations, 9 (1) 2014: 1-3.

Erin L. Hasinoff, *Faith in Objects: American Missionary Expositions in the Early Twentieth Century* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) in Church History, 82 (1) 2013: 252-55.

Victor and Edith Turner, *Image and Pilgrimage in Christian Culture* [1978] (Columbia UP, 2011); Anna-Karina Hermkens, Willy Jansen, Catrien Notermans, eds. *Moved by Mary: The Power of Pilgrimage in the Modern World* (Ashgate, 2009); Robert Scott, *Miracle Cures: Saints, Pilgrimage and the Healing Power of Belief* (California UP, 2010). Invited review essay. Material Religion. 8 (4) 2012: 534-37.

Elaine A. Pena, *Performing Piety: Making Space Sacred with the Virgin of Guadalupe* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011) in American Ethnologist, 39 (4) 2012: 839.

James S. Bielo, *Words Upon the Word: An Ethnography of Evangelical Group Bible Study* (New York and London: New York University Press, 2009) in Review of Religious Research, 54 (1) January 2012: 129-30.

Kevin M. Schultz, *Tri-Faith America: How Catholic and Jews held postwar America to its Protestant Promise* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011) in Studies in Jewish-Christian Relations, 6 (4) 2011: R1-2.

Reference Book Entries

"Museums, Expositions, and Religion in North America since the 19th Century," ed. John Corrigan, *Oxford Encyclopedia of Religion in America*, Oxford University Press, solicited contribution, early online publication, 2017: 1-18.

"Islam in America," "Canada," and "Eagle Forum/Phyllis Schlafley," in eds. Mary Zeiss Stange, Carol K. Oyster and Jane E. Sloan, *The Multimedia Encyclopedia of Women in Today's World* (Sage Publications, 2011) online.

"H.P. Blavatsky: The Secret Doctrine," in ed. David M. Fahey, *Milestone Documents of World Religions: Exploring Traditions of Faith through Primary Sources*, vol III (Schlager, 2011): 1234-1251.

Newspaper, Magazine and Blog Articles (selected)

"On the Power of Aggregates," Invited Contribution, *The Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council (USA), forthcoming 2017.

"Notes on Pilgrimage and Pilgrimage Studies," Invited contribution, *Practical Matters: A Journal of Religious Practices and Practical Theology*, May 2016.

"Places of Longing," Invited contribution, *KAPSULA* 2(3) 2015: 10.

"Commerce, Commercialism, Commercialization: How Money Gets Spent and Talked About on Holy Land Tours," *Sacred Matters*, January 2015.

"Promised Land: American Missionaries Chase the Lapsed Catholics of Montreal," *The Walrus Magazine*, Jan-Feb 2015: 6-7.

"Wayside Crosses – Objects that Reveal and Conceal," *Reverberations*, September 2013.

"Evangelical Ketubah, Messianic Mezuzah: Judaica for Christians," *Religion & Politics*, March 2013.

"Cross Purposes: The Meaning of Quebec's *Croix de Chemin*," *The Walrus Magazine*, May 2013: 15-6.

“Review of Gillian McCann, *Vanguard of the New Age: The Toronto Theosophical Society, 1891–1945* (MQUP, 2012)” *Canada’s History Magazine*, January 2013.

“Ethiopian Christians Celebrate Fasika in Toronto,” *The Globe and Mail*, 16 April 2012: A8.

Conferences and Workshops

Papers (previous three years)

“Anti-Materialist Strategies that Normalize Global Capitalism,” Religion and the American Normal, Invited Symposium, Princeton University, 9-10 February 2018.

“Transnational Transmissions: Quebec as North American Hub for *L’Association de la Sainte-Enfance*,” *Société québécoise pour l’étude de la religion*, December 2017.

“Statistical Aesthetics in Nineteenth-Century Christian Globalism,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, November 2017.

“That All May Be One: Simultaneity and Proximity in Child Sponsorship Programs,” Society for the Anthropology of Religion, May 2017.

“Materiality and Transcendence: What Holy Land Pilgrimage Does for the Study of U.S. Religion,” American Academy of Religion, November 2016

“Semi-Public Secrets: Hints and Whispers in Messianic Gene Talk,” American Anthropological Association, November 2016

Respondent, “The Power of Ambient Faith” Panel, American Anthropological Association, November 2016

“Of Gifts and Grandchildren: American Holy Land Souvenirs,” Universities Art History Association of Canada, October 2016

“When Humans Don’t Matter (As Much): On Agency and Christianity,” American Anthropological Association, November 2015.

“Protesting Catholics: The ‘New Anti-Catholicism’ and the Politics of Public Religion in North America,” Roundtable, American Academy of Religion, November 2015.

“Les croix de chemin du Québec et la naissance du dévotionnalisme contemporain,” *Société canadienne d’histoire de l’Église catholique*, October 2015.

“Seeing the Invisible: Ambient Crosses in the Quebecois Countryside” *Material Religion: Embodiment, Materiality, Technology Conference*, Duke University, September 2015

“Theological Families: Jews, Messianic Jews, and the Meaning of Lineage,” (with Sarah Imhoff), Klutznick-Harris-Schwab Symposium on the Jewish Family, Creighton University (Omaha, NB), October 2014.

“Writing to José: Christian Women, Missions and Child Sponsorship in the 1950s,” Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, Toronto, May 2014.

“Holy Land Pilgrimage and the Growth of ‘Para-Parochial’ Activities since Vatican II,” Lived History of Vatican II Conference, University of Notre Dame (South Bend, IN), April 2014

“Seeing the Sponsored Child: Christian Travelers, Global Encounters,” American Society of Church History Annual Meeting, January 2014.

Invited Lectures and Talks

“The Simultaneity of Unified Prayer,” University of Edinburgh, October 2017.

“A Global Movement in Three Parts,” Keynote Address, Memorial University (Newfoundland), Text and Context: Religious Studies Graduate Student Conference, April 2017.

“Walking Where Jesus Walked: Book Discussion,” Princeton University, Religion Department Graduate Seminar, December 2016.

“Case Studies in Emotion, Capitalism, and Material Religion,” Keynote Address, Unravelling Religion: Graduate Student Conference, Queen’s University (Kingston, ON), May 2016.

“The Fifth Gospel: The Holy Land and Scripture in American Christianity,” Presbyterian Church General Assembly (McGill University) October 2015.

“Mammon in the Holy Land: How Money Gets Spent and Talked about on Christian Trips” Indiana University (Bloomington), April 2015

“Born Again Seeking: Exploring the Gentile Majority in Messianic Judaism,” Princeton University, Religion and Public Life Seminar, March 2014

“Ritual Failure among American Evangelicals,” Emory University, Forum for the Ethnographic Study of Religion, April 2013.

“Apocalypticism in the US: 1776-1976,” On the Margins of Christianity: Heresy, Dissidence and the End of the World (undergraduate course), Concordia University, March 2012.

“Mormon Performance and the American Political Landscape,” Concordia Religion Students’ Association, January 2012.

“Ethics of Care: Evangelicals and the Environmental Movement,” Religion and Globalization (undergraduate course), McGill University, November 2011

Workshops and Groups

Co-organizer (with Emma Anderson and Pamela Klassen), *Restorying Canada: Reconsidering Religion and Public Memory*, Major national conference, Ottawa, 18-20 May 2017.

Co-organizer (with Jeremy Stolow), Material Religion Initiative, Speaker Series, Concordia University, 2016.

Organizer, *Religious Lives and Landscapes in Quebec* Symposium, Concordia University, January 2015.

Member, *Media, Materiality and Religion Working Group* (Montreal), 2013-

Participant, *Religion and Public Life Seminar* (Princeton University), 2014

Organizer, talks by David Holland and Abbie Reese (Concordia University, 2014 and 2015)

Co-organizer (with Catherine Jarvis), Richard Bushman talk (McGill University, 2014)

Research Member, *Object Ethnography Project* (New York University), 2011-2013

Student Coordinator (appointed), *Boston North American Religions Colloquium*, 2008-2009

Teaching and Professional Experience

Faculty, Concordia University, 2011-

Undergraduate

Christian Reformers and the Rise of Modernity (RELI 398)

Women and Religion: Christianity (RELI 382)

North American Christianity: History and Practice (RELI 398)

Anthropology of Religion (RELI 358/630)

Death and Dying (RELI 378)

Global Christianity (RELI 311)

Religion and the Public Square in North America (Seminar, RELI 498)

Graduate

Ethnography and Religion (RELI 630)

Christian Pilgrimage (RELI 638)

Transnational Evangelicalism (RELI 638)

Cemeteries: A Seminar (RELI 639/498)

Hear, See, Taste, Touch: Material Religion (RELI 630/430/833)

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, 2007-2009

Awarded Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, 2009

The Politics of Storytelling (Harvard Divinity School, anthropology)

The Evangelical Tradition in the North Atlantic Region (Harvard Divinity School)

Religion in America, 1630-1870 (Harvard College)

Religion and Public Policy (Harvard Kennedy School of Government)

Religion in a Multicultural America (Harvard College)

Writing Center Tutor, ESL, Harvard Extension School, 2008-2010

Resident Tutor, Mather House, Harvard University, 2007-2010

- Live-in academic advisor for undergraduates; Public Service coordinator and director of monthly Senior Common Room speaker series.

Related Experience

Changing Spirituality of Emerging Adults Project, September 2010-2011

- Research Fellow, Lilly Endowment/Catholic University of America project. Resulting online publication: "The Crossing: Worship, Community and Action in Emergent Episcopal Ministry" (2011). <http://changingsea.org/studies.htm>

PBS/WGBH, "God in America," 2008-2010

- Researcher and consultant for TV series (episodes 3-4, 1830-1925) and web education tools

Patheos Online, "Islam, Judaism, Christianity," 2009

- Designed online content and authored short encyclopedia-like entries for non-specialists.

The Pluralism Project (Harvard University), 2008

- Author and researcher, profiles and introduction for "Christianity" section of "World Religions in Boston," published online.

Faith Kitchen (Boston), 2007

- Researcher about interfaith pantries and kitchens. Resulting publication: *Faith Kitchen: Creating a Successful Interfaith Partnership* (Boston, MA: Faith Lutheran Church, 2007)

Service and Affiliations

Academic Societies and Projects

Coordinator, *Restorying Canada 2.0*, 2017-

- Web-based interactive project showcasing recent scholarship on religion. In development.

Co-curator, *Anthrocybib*, 2016-

- Online platform for interviews, bibliographic posts, and book reviews related to the anthropology of Christianity

Co-host, *New Books in Religion*, 2014-

- Bi-monthly podcast featuring interviews with authors of major new books on religion from around the world

Faculty Member (elected), Centre for Sensory Studies (Concordia University), 2015-

Steering Committee (appointed), Anthropology Unit, American Academy of Religion, 2014-

Executive Board Member (elected), Society for the Anthropology of Religion, 2013-2017

Steering Committee (appointed), Gender and Religion, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, 2016

Association Memberships: American Academy of Religion, American Historical Association, American Society of Church History, American Anthropological Association

Reviewer

American Ethnologist, Anthropological Quarterly, Théologiques, Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses, Practical Matters, Journal of Middle East Studies, Contemporary Jewish Studies, Journal of Contemporary Religion, Religion, Religion and American Culture, University of California Press, Oxford University Press, Bloomsbury Publishing.

Chair, Clifford Geertz Book Prize Committee, Society for the Anthropology of Religion, 2017.

Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada, Insight Development Grants, *Classics, Philosophy, Medieval and Religious Studies committee*, 2016.

Reviewer for conference papers and panels:

- Anthropology Unit, American Academy of Religion, 2014-
- Society for the Anthropology of Religion, American Anthropological Association, 2014-2016.
- Gender and Religion Committee, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, 2016

Expert Interviews

Chosen as Concordia's "Newsmaker of the Week," June 2014.

CBC News television, CTV News television (Montreal), New Republic Magazine, Slate, Métro (Montréal), NPR online, Deseret News, Religion & Politics

Author interview, *Marginalia* (L.A. Review of Books), August 2015

University Service and Affiliations

Faculty Fellow, Centre for Sensory Studies (Concordia University)

College of Ethics Reviewers (Concordia University)

Research Ethics Advisor (Department of Religion)

Department Personnel Committee (Department of Religion)

Graduate Curriculum Committee (Department of Religion)

Responsible for Religion department website redevelopment, 2017-2018.

Faculty Affiliate, Centre for Oral History & Digital Studies (Concordia University), 2014-2017

Languages

English (native), French (non-native fluency), Spanish (intermediate)