

MARGARET WILLIAMSON: CURRICULUM VITAE

2015 - Associate Professor Emerita of Classics and of Comparative Literature, Dartmouth College

Previous positions

1999 - 2015 Associate Professor of Classics and of Comparative Literature, Dartmouth College
Fall Term 2012 Leverhulme Visiting Professor at the Archive for Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, Oxford University (on leave from Dartmouth College)
1989-1999 Senior Lecturer in Classical Studies, St. Mary's College, University of Surrey (Programme Director 1997-99)
1990-91 Lecturer in Classics, Magdalen College, Oxford (one-year leave from St. Mary's University College)

Education and qualifications

1970 B.A. (Hons) in English, University of Cambridge
1972 M.A. in Comparative Literature, University of Toronto
1990 Ph.D. in Classics, University of London

Recent fellowships

2010 Fellowship, Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, working on travel narratives and plantation inventories
2012 James M. Osborn Fellowship in English Literature and History, Beinecke Library, Yale University, working on the reading notebooks of Thomas Thistlewood

Conference papers and lectures

-Paper, 'Medea Plays Picong: Greek Tragedy in the Caribbean' at a conference on Translation and Mediation, University of Warwick, 6-8 July 2001.
-Lecture, 'Hercules and Yarico' [on Matthew James Chapman's 1832 poem Barbadoes], Dartmouth College, July 11th 2005.
-Paper, '“The Mirror-Shield of Knowledge”: Classicizing the West Indies' [on Henry Nelson Coleridge's *Six Months in the West Indies*], at a conference on Classics and empire ('Hegemony and Cornucopia'), Nottingham University, December 9th 2005.
-Paper, 'Classicising the West Indies' at the 'Reconfiguring the British' seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London University, 11 May 2006.
-Lecture, 'The Mirror-Shield of Knowledge: a Classicist in the West Indies in 1825', Dartmouth College Humanities Forum, 25 January 2007.
-Paper, 'Classical Authority and the British Caribbean in the 19th century', given at an Ancient and Modern Imperialisms Network (see below) workshop, Institute of Classical Studies, 16 March 2007.
-Lecture, 'Classical allusion in the British West Indies', Vassar College, 26 March 2009.
-Paper, 'Citation as Translation: the case of classical names.' in a series on 'Reception and its Relations', Oxford University, 16 November 2010.
-Paper, ' "Nero, the mustard!" Classically-named slaves in the British Caribbean' at a conference on 'The Past-Colonial' (see below) at Yale University, 1-3 April 2011.

- Lecture, 'Translating for the Stage', at the Archive for Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, University of Oxford, 29 October 2012.
- Paper, 'Translating Sophocles' Electra: community and subjectivity', at the Archive for Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, University of Oxford, 19 November 2012
- Public dialogue with Timberlake Wertenbaker at a one-day conference at the Archive for Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, University of Oxford, 1 December 2012
- Paper, 'What's in a Name? The ironies and legacies of classical slave names in the British Caribbean,' at a conference on Classics and the Black Atlantic, University of Michigan, 14-16 March 2014
- Paper, 'Roman Heroism on the Plantation' at a symposium on Early European Caribbeana, Kingston University, London, 20-22 July 2014
- Paper, 'Naming and Agency on Blue Mountain Plantation' at the annual conference of the Association of Caribbean Historians, Nassau, Bahamas, May 17-21, 2015
- Paper, 'Ironic classical naming in the world of Atlantic slavery,' Yale University, March 2, 2018.
- Paper, ' "The names that we gave them": Classicism and power in 18th century Jamaica.' CAAS annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA, October 5, 2018.
- Paper, 'Men, Stallions and Other Animals: Animal and Slave Naming in 18th-Century Jamaica.' Omohundro Annual Conference, Williamsburg VA (online), June 19 2021.

Other professional activities

- External Assessor for the Open University's Arts Foundation Course, 1996-7 and External Examiner for the course nationwide, 1998-9.
- Worked with the playwright Timberlake Wertenbaker on translations of various Greek tragedies for stage and broadcast: Sophocles' *Antigone* for the Royal Shakespeare Company, London 1991; Euripides' *Hekabe* for ACT Theatre, San Francisco, Spring 1995; Sophocles' *Trachiniae*, adapted as *Dianeira* for broadcast on BBC Radio 3, 1999 & 2001; Euripides' *Hippolytus* for Temple Theatre, London and Oxford, February/March 2009; Sophocles' *Electra* for performance at the Getty Museum, September - October 2010; Sophocles' *Ajax*, adaptation workshopped at the Royal National Theatre in London in November 2010 as *Ajax* in *Afghanistan*, staged as *Our Ajax* at the Southwark Playhouse, London, November 2013.
- Panel organizer, "Classical Authority and European Colonialism," Northeast American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies Conference, Dartmouth College, Hanover, October 2007.
- Co-convenor of a transatlantic network on Ancient and Modern Imperialisms, which convened two workshops (in London, March 2007; Stanford, November 2007), and three conferences ('Empire without End', Duke, Oct-Nov 2008; 'Imperial Classics: Culture, Letters, Learning', Dartmouth, Nov. 2009; 'The Past-Colonial: Classics and the Colonization of the Past', Yale, April 2011.
- Co-organizer of a conference on translating ancient texts, 'What is a Classic?', Dartmouth College, September 26th-27th 2014.
- Principal Investigator of the Jamaican Slave Names Project, a database and website currently under construction, supported by the Dartmouth College Library and Information Technology Services as part of the Digital Humanities Summer Residency 2016

Publications

- 'A Woman's Place in Euripides' *Medea*', in A. Powell, ed., *Euripides, Women and Sexuality*, Croom Helm, 1990.
- 'The Greek Romance', in J. Radford, ed., *The Progress of Romance*, RKP, 1986.
- Sappho's Immortal Daughters*, Harvard University Press, 1995.
- 'Sappho and the Other Woman', in S. Mills, ed., *Language and Gender*, Longman 1995 and in E. Greene, ed. *Re-reading Sappho*, University of California Press 1996.
- Entries on Sappho and Phaon in S. Homblower and A. Spawforth, eds, *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, Oxford University Press, 1996 (recently revised for the 4th edition).

The Sacred and the Feminine in Ancient Greece (jointly edited with S. Blundell), Routledge, 1998.

'Eros the Blacksmith', in L. Foxhall and 3. Salmon, eds *Thinking Men: Masculinity and its Self Representation in the Classical Tradition*, Routledge, 1998 (also in *Oxford Readings in Greek Lyric Poetry*, ed. I.C. Rutherford, Oxford University Press, 2012).

'Sappho and Pindar in the 19th and 20th centuries', in *Cambridge Companion to Greek Lyric*, ed. F. Budelmann, Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Entry on Sappho in A. Grafton, G.W. Most, S. Settis, eds, *The Classical Tradition*, 2010.

Review of B. Goff, ed. *Classics and Colonialism* and C. Gillespie and L. Hardwick, eds, *Classics in Post-Colonial Worlds*, in *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 130, 2010.

'The Mirror-Shield of Knowledge: a Classicist in the West Indies in 1825', in M. Bradley, ed. *Classics and Imperialism in the British Empire*, Oxford University Press, 2010.

Interview with Carey Perloff, Artistic Director of the ACT Theatre in San Francisco, for the *Oxford Handbook of Greek Drama in the Americas*, Oxford University Press, 2015.

Review of D. Rayor, *Sappho. A New Translation of the Complete Works*, 2014, in *Classical Review* 66.1, 2016.

'Africa or Old Rome? Jamaican Slave Naming Revisited', in *Slavery and Abolition* 38.1, 2017

'Slave Names and Naming in the Anglophone Atlantic.' In Oxford Bibliographies Online. Ed. Trevor Burnard. New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.

'Dictionaries as translations: English in the Lexicon', in Liddell and Scott: the history, methodology and languages of the world's leading lexicon of ancient Greek, eds M. Clarke, J.A. Katz, C. Stray, Oxford University Press, 2019.

'“Nero, the mustard!” The ironies of classical slave names in the British Caribbean', in *Classicisms in the Black Atlantic*, eds A. Lecznar, H. Morse and I. Moyer, Oxford University Press, 2020.

Op-eds in San Francisco Chronicle, Time magazine, Pacific Standard magazine (republished in *Academe*) and OZY (with Leslie P. Henderson)

Works in progress

Nero and the mustard: injurious naming on 18th and early 19th century West Indian plantations: a book on slave naming practices and their cultural representation, with particular reference to classical names.

The Jamaican Slave Names Project, an online database under construction in partnership with the Dartmouth Library's Digital Humanities Summer Residency 2016.

Introduction to excerpts from the travel narratives of Thomas Staunton St Clair and Matthew 'Monk' Lewis for an online reader on *Classics and Race*, eds Sarah Derbew, Daniel Orrells and Phiroze Vasunia.