

Curriculum Vitae  
R. COLIN TAIT  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Film, Television and Digital Media  
Texas Christian University,  
TCU Box 298030,  
Fort Worth, TX 76129  
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## EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin  
Ph. D. in Media Studies.  
Dissertation: Robert De Niro's Method: Acting, Authorship, Agency in  
the New Hollywood, 1967-1980.  
Supervisor: Thomas Schatz  
Committee: Janet Staiger, Mary Kearney, Janet Davis, Ernest Mathijs

University of British Columbia  
M.A. in Film Studies.  
Thesis: Assassin Nation: Theorizing the Conspiracy Film in the  
Early Twenty-First Century (2007)  
Supervisors: Brian McIlroy, Ernest Mathijs

University of Toronto  
B.A. (Honors) in Cinema Studies

## SCHOLARSHIPS & HONORS

### TCU

Junior Faculty Summer Research Program (2015 & 2016)  
Research and Creative Activities Fund (2015-16)

### UT Austin

University Continuing Fellowship (2012-13)  
Harry Ransom Center Dissertation Fellowship (2012-2013)  
David Bruton Jr. Graduate School Fellowship (2012-2013)  
Good Neighbor Scholarship (2012-2013)

### UBC

Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Council Grant (2006-07)  
Graduate Entrance Scholarship (2005)

### University of Toronto

Regent's In-Course Scholarship (2004)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Film and Television Genres  
Film and Television Authorship  
Acting and Performance  
Critical and Cultural Approaches to the Media  
1970s and 1990s Cinema and Television

## PUBLICATIONS

- Monograph           The Cinema of Steven Soderbergh: Indie Sex, Corporate Lies and Digital Videotape. Co-author Andrew deWaard. New York: Wallflower/Columbia University Press, 2013.
- Refereed Articles    Co-author, Justin Owen Rawlins & R. Colin Tait, “Recentring Television Performance” *Journal of Film and Video*. 68:3 Fall/Winter 2016. 3-5.
- “The Simpsons as a Blockbuster Transmedia Franchise.” *The Projector: A Journal on Film, Media, and Culture Issue* 16.1 (2016): n. pag. Web. Access: <http://www.theprojectorjournal.com/tait.html>
- “The Screwball Bromance: Regression, Bisexuality and Reconfigured Masculinity in *Step Brothers*.” *The Journal of Men’s Studies* vol. 24, no. 1. 60-77.
- Absurd Masculinity: Will Ferrell’s Time-Bending Comic Persona. *The Communication Review*, 18:3, August 2014.
- “Robert De Niro’s *Raging Bull*: A History of a Performance and a Performance of History.” *The Canadian Journal of Film Studies*, 20: 1 (Spring 2011): 20-40.
- Book Chapters        “When Marty Met Bobby: Collaborative Authorship in *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver*.” In *A Companion to Martin Scorsese*. Ed. Aaron Baker. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2014. pp. 292-311.
- “Competing Modes of Capital in *Ocean’s 11*.” In *The Philosophy of Steven Soderbergh*. Eds. R. Barton Palmer and Steven M. Sanders. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2011, pp. 231-245.
- “Piercing Steven Soderbergh’s *Bubble*.” In *The Business of Entertainment*. Ed. Robert C. Sickels. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Press, 2008, pp. 180-198.
- “Class and Allegory in Spike Lee’s *Inside Man*.” In *Fight the Power!: The Spike Lee Reader*. Eds. J. Hamlet & R. Means Coleman. New York: Peter Lang, 2008, pp. 41-60.
- Other Writing  
(non-refereed)      “That 70’s Sequence: Remembering the Bad Old Days in *Summer of Sam*” *Cinephile* 5:2 (2009): 16-23.
- “The HBO-ification of Genre.” *Cinephile*, 4:1 (2008): 50-57.

“(Zombie) Revolution at the Gates: The Dead, The ‘Multitude’ and George A. Romero. *Cinephile*, 3: 1 (2007): 61-69.

### **Materials Accepted but not yet printed, released or presented.**

“Shakespeare, Villainy and Performance: Kevin Spacey in *House of Cards*” Book Chapter for publication within edited collection entitled: “*Bad Men and Damaged Women: Gender, Violence and 21st Century Television.*” Wayne State University Press. Publication Date 2017.

### **Online, Non-Refereed Publications**

“Teaching *Friday Night Lights*.” *Flow: Online Journal of Television and Media Studies*. April 21, 2015. url: <http://flowtv.org/2015/04/teaching-friday-night-lights/>

“I Am the One Who Acts: Breaking Down Bryan Cranston’s *Breaking Bad* Performance.” *Flow: Online Journal of Television and Media Studies*. March 1, 2015. url: <http://flowtv.org/2015/03/i-am-the-one-who-acts-breaking-down-bryan-cranston%E2%80%99s-breaking-bad-performance-r-colin-tait-texas-christian-university/>

“Dialectical Montage in Steven Soderbergh’s *Psychos*.” *[in]Transition: A Media Commons/Cinema Journal Project*, December 12, 2014. url: <http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/intransition/2014/12/12/dialectical-montage-steven-soderbergh-s-psychos>

“Marathon-Viewing *E.R.*: Rewatching Television’s Greatest Prime-Time Serial.” *Flow: Online Journal of Television and Media Studies*. November 26, 2014. url: <http://flowtv.org/2014/11/marathon-viewing-e-r/>

“Vivisecting *The Knick*/Clive Owen’s Dirtied Star Image in *The Knick*,” *Antenna: Responses to Media and Culture*, October 22, 2014. url: <http://blog.commarts.wisc.edu/2014/10/22/vivisecting-the-knick/>

“Steven Soderbergh: Television’s Latest Showrunner/Auteur,” *Antenna: Responses to Media and Culture*, August 12, 2014. url: <http://blog.commarts.wisc.edu/2014/08/12/steven-soderbergh-televisions-latest-showrunnerauteur/>

“Orphan Black and the Performance Text of Attractions.” *In Media Res: A Media Commons Project*, April 7 2014. url:

<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2014/04/07/orphan-black-and-performance-text-attractions>

“Les Grossman: the Bizarro Tom Cruise.” *In Media Res: A Media Commons Project*, August 15, 2013. url:

<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2013/08/15/les-grossman-bizarro-tom-cruise>

“Soderbergh, Spielberg and Lucas: Filmmakers at the Crossroads?”

*Antenna: Responses to Media and Culture*, June 18, 2013. url:

<http://blog.commarts.wisc.edu/2013/06/18/roundtable-the-implosion-of-the-blockbuster/comment-page-1/>

“‘Dirtied’ Star Images and Acting Against Type in *Behind the*

*Candelabra*.” *Columbia University Press Blog*, June 7, 2013. url:

<http://www.cupblog.org/?p=10547>

“Steven Soderbergh’s Spectacular Un-Retirement.” *Antenna: Responses to Media and Culture*, May 30, 2013. url:

<http://blog.commarts.wisc.edu/2013/05/30/steven-soderberghs-spectacular-un-retirement/>

“When the Magic Kingdom Ate the Galactic Empire.” *Antenna:*

*Responses to Media and Culture*, Nov 2, 2012.

<http://blog.commarts.wisc.edu/2012/11/02/when-the-magic-kingdom-ate-the-galactic-empire/>

## Book Reviews

“Hollywood Reborn: Movie Stars of the 1970s.” *The Velvet Light Trap*, No. 69, (Spring 2012): 74-76.

“*The Solaris Effect: Art and Artifice in Contemporary American Film.*” *Film International*, 40, (2009): 85-86.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor** August 2014-Present  
Texas Christian University  
Media Analysis  
The History of Broadcasting

- Lecturer**
- TV Number Ones: 1990s Network Television
  - Topics in Sports Media: Investigating *Friday Night Lights*
  - TV Studies for Non-Majors
  - Television, Culture and Society: “It’s Not TV, It’s HBO”
  - Topics in Film: Indie Cinema
  - 2013-2014
  - Texas Christian University
  - History of Broadcasting
  - Media Analysis
  - Television Studies for Non-Majors
- Assistant Instructor** (2007-2012)
- The University of Texas at Austin
  - Narrative Strategies in Film and Television
  - (Summer 2012, Spring 2011, Fall 2010 & Spring 2010)
  
  - The University of British Columbia
  - Authorship and Steven Soderbergh (Fall 2007)
  - Hong Kong and Chinese Cinema (Fall 2007)
- Teaching Assistant** (2005-2012)
- The University of Texas at Austin
  - Media Archaeology (Spring 2012)
  - Indie Cinema (Fall 2011)
  - Narrative Strategies in Film and Television (Fall 2009)
  - Introduction to Media Studies (Fall 2008 & Spring 2009)
  
  - The University of British Columbia
  - Introduction to Film Studies (Spring & Summer 2007)
  - Silent Cinema (Fall 2006)
  - Hollywood Cinema (Spring 2006)
  - Canadian Cinema (Fall 2005)
- Research Assistant** (2006-2013)
- The University of Texas at Austin
  - Postdoctoral Research Assistant for book-length study of Conglomerate Hollywood: 1990-2010 (Thomas Schatz, Summer 2013).
  
  - Archival Researcher: The Peter Glenville Collection at the Harry Ransom Center. (Christine Becker, Summer 2013).
  
  - Deutsche Kinemathek*
  - Archival researcher for Martin Scorsese: The Exhibition. (Peter Mäns, 2012).

The University of Texas at Austin  
 Graduate Research Assistant for book-length study of Conglomerate  
 Hollywood: 1990-2010 (Thomas Schatz, 2011-May 2013).

The University of British Columbia  
 Researcher for book-length study of Irish Representations in Silent Film  
 (Brian McIlroy, 2006).

**Student Mentor** UT College of Communication Pre-Graduate School Internship  
 Mentor for minority students preparing for graduate school (Spring 2011)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Serial Drama Ensembles as Repertory Companies: The Case of *E.R.*”  
 Flow Conference, Austin, Texas, September 16, 2016.

“*The King of Comedy* in the Archive: What the Robert De Niro Papers  
 Tell Us About the Actor’s Authorial Stamp” SCMS Conference, Atlanta,  
 GA, March 31, 2016.

“Being Don Draper: Jon Hamm’s Performance in *Mad Men*” to be  
 presented at the “Reexamining the 1960s: Media, Politics, Culture  
 Conference, TCU, Ft. Worth, TX, November 6-7, 2015.

“*Friday Night Lights*: Establishing Austin as ‘Indie TV’ Hub and Cultural  
 Epicenter” 2016 MLA Conference, Jan 7-10, 2015.

“*Breaking Bad* as a Long-Form Performance Text,” PCA/ACA  
 Conference, New Orleans, LA, April 4, 2015.

“Hiding in Plain Sight: The Lack of Influence of *ER*,” Flow Conference,  
 Austin, TX, September 13, 2014.

“Absurd Masculinity: Will Ferrell’s Time Bending Comic Persona,”  
*Alternative Visions in Media Conference*, Fort Worth, November 8, 2013.

“The Performance of Labor and Downward Mobility in Steven  
 Soderbergh’s Post-Recession Films: 2009-2012.” The Society for Cinema  
 and Media Studies Conference, Chicago, March 2013.

**Panel Chair** – “The Unretiring Auteur: Considering Steven Soderbergh’s  
 Final Films.”

“Robert De Niro’s Method: Acting, Agency and Authorship in the New Hollywood (1967-1980).” The Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Boston, March, 2012.

“Steven Soderbergh’s The Girlfriend Experience: Digitally Recording the Moment of Crisis.” Fault Lines: The American Studies Conference, The University of Texas at Austin, October, 2010.

“True? True? True?”: De Niro, Casino and Authorship.” The Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference Los Angeles, March, 2010.

**Panel Chair** – “The Actor’s Archive: Problems and Promises.”

“Caprica Looks a Lot Like Vancouver to Me: Theorizing Canadian-ness in Battlestar Galactica.” Global Fusion Conference, The University of Texas at Austin, September 2009.

**Panel Chair** - “Theorizing Canadian Television”

“sex, lies and (digital) videotape: Steven Soderbergh as Digital Auteur.” The Film Studies Association of Canada Conference, The University of British Columbia, May 2008.

“Considering the Interesting Failure of Steven Soderbergh’s Schizopolis.” The Film Studies Association of Canada, The University of Saskatchewan, May 2007.

“Nostalgia for Nostalgia in The Royal Tennenbaums.” The Film Studies Association of Canada Graduate Colloquium – NSCAD University, Halifax, April 2006.

## **INVITED LECTURES**

“Breaking Bad as Long-Form Performance Text,” University of Maryland, November 11, 2014. Guest of Dr. Andrew Scahill.

“Author R. Colin Tait and Professor Tom Schatz present Steven Soderbergh's OUT OF SIGHT, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, February 17, 2014.

“Impresario of Indiewood: Soderbergh as Sellibrity Auteur,” Austin College, Sherman TX. October 15, 2013. Guest of Dr. Erin Cople Smith.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Editorial**

*Journal of Film and Video* – 2014-Present

Position: Co-Editor, Special Issue on Television & Performance

*The Velvet Light Trap* – Fall 2008-2011.

Position(s): Senior Editor, UT Press Liaison.

*Flowtv.org* – Fall 2008-2011.

Position: Co-Coordinating Editor, Columns Editor.

*Cinephile* – Fall 2005-2007.

Position: Editor-in-Chief.

**Committees**

TCU: Bob Schieffer College of Communication: Dean's College Handbook Task Force, 2015-16.

TCU FTDM Curriculum Committee Fall 2014-Present

Position: Chair

TCU Special Guests Committee – Fall 2014-Present

Graduate Student Organizer, The Film Studies Association of Canada Conference, Spring 2008, The University of British Columbia.

Graduate Representative, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Film and Theatre, The University of British Columbia, Spring 2006.

**AFFILIATIONS**

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Popular Culture Association (PCA/ACA)

The Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

Media Industries Scholarly Interest Group (SCMS)

The Film Studies Association of Canada (FSAC).

**REFERENCES**

Dr. Thomas Schatz,  
Mrs. Mary Gibbs Jones  
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Department of Radio-Television and Film  
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Austin, TX 78712  
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Dr. Janet Staiger  
Professor Emeritus  
Department of Radio-Television and Film  
The University of Texas at Austin,  
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Dr. Mary Celeste Kearney  
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Department of Theatre and Film  
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