

*Nienke Boer*

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2016–present Yale-NUS College  
Assistant Professor (Literature), Humanities Division

EDUCATION

Ph.D. New York University, Comparative Literature, May 2016

M.A. New York University, Comparative Literature, January 2011

A.B. Princeton University, Comparative Literature, June 2008  
*Magna Cum Laude*; Certificate in African Studies; Phi Beta Kappa 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

“Exploring British India: South African prisoners-of-war as imperial travel writers, 1899-1902.” *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 54.3 (2019): 429-443. (Online 2017).

“Settlers and Laborers: The Afterlife of Indenture in Early South African Indian Writing.” *Research in African Literatures* 47.4 (2016): 21-35.

“Taking a Joke Seriously: Mickey Mouse and William Kentridge.” *MLN* 128.5 (2013): 1146-1169.

Online

"Indenture." *Global South Studies: A Collective Publication with The Global South*.  
March 19, 2019.

In Progress

*Slaves, Coolies, and Prisoners-of-War: Misplaced Sentiments in the Imperial Indian Ocean World* (book manuscript).

“The Global South Novel: Imagining Transnational Subaltern Solidarity in Contemporary Historical Fiction” (article).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2019 Teaching Innovation Grant, Yale-NUS College

2015–2016 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, NYU

2015 Global Research Initiatives Summer Workshop, NYU London

2013 Department of Comparative Literature Penfield Fellowship, NYU

2012 Robert Holmes Travel/Research Award for African Scholarship, NYU

2009–2014 Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship, NYU

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

(\* indicates invited papers)

Conferences

- 2019 “The Speaking Slave in the Court Records of the Cape of Good Hope, 1700-1795.” *African Legal History Symposium*, American Legal History Association/African Studies Association annual conferences, Boston, MA, November 21.
- “‘I Shall Eat Her Heart’: Sentimental Speech in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Court Records.” International Comparative Literature Association meeting. Macau, China. July 29-Aug 2.
- “Keywords for Oceanic Literary Studies: Adapting Assignment to the Potential of the Liberal Arts in Southeast Asia.” *New Approaches to Liberal Arts Education in Asia*. Fulbright University Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, April 19-21.
- “Oceanic Tales, Imperial Legacies: *Robinson Crusoe* in the Indian Ocean.” South Asian Literary Association (SALA) annual meeting, Chicago, IL, January 6-7.
- “Contemporary Historical Fiction: Inventing the Global South.” *The Global South Novel*. Special Session. Modern Language Association (MLA) annual convention, Chicago, IL, January 3-6.
- 2018 “‘No Human Footprints’: Robinson Crusoe on the Chagos Archipelago.” *Africa-Asia: A New Axis of Knowledge (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*. International Institute of Asian Studies international conference. University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: 20-22 September.
- \*“The Shadow Empire: Unfree Migration and Travel Writing in the Indian Ocean World.” Literature Faculty Seminar Singapore: Inaugural Meeting. Nanyang Technical University, Singapore, August 30.
- “African Literary Connections: New Waves.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual conference, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA: March 29-April 1.
- \*“‘Adultery, Seduction and Abduction’: The Female Body in the Literature and Law of Indenture.” South Asian Studies Programme Seminar Series. National University of Singapore, Singapore, January 26.
- 2017 “Indenture in literature and law: Amitav Ghosh’s *Sea of Poppies* and the statutes of colonial Natal.” *2017 International Conference on the Centenary of the Abolition of Indentureship in the British Empire*. Senate House, University of London, London, UK, October 6-7.

- “Imperial Chronotopes: Law and Time in Indian Ocean Narratives.” ICAS 10: International Convention of Asia Scholars, Chiang Mai, Thailand, July 20-23.
- “Reading Adichie in Singapore: Rethinking Afropolitanism from South East Asia.” African Literature Association annual conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT, June 14-17.
- 2016 “‘A Long, Long Trip’: Prisoners-of-War as Imperial Tourists.” *Victorian Outliers*. Northeast Victorian Studies Association conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, April 8-9.
- “Bringing the Civil Dead to Life: Boer War Prisoners in British India.” ACLA annual conference, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 17-20.
- “Reading Writing on Indentured Labor.” *Writing on Labor*. Division on Non-fiction Prose Panel.
- “Indenture.” *Keywords for the Global South*. Global South Forum Roundtable. MLA annual convention, Austin, TX, January 7-10.
- 2015 “The Farm at Sea.” *Transoceanic Postcolonialisms: Shifting Currents in the Global South*. NYU Postcolonial Colloquium, New York, NY, October 21.
- “Laborers and Settlers: The Afterlife of Indenture in Indian South African Writing.” *Writing South Africa Now 2015*. Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, June 26-27.
- 2014 “A Different Kind of Settler: Indians Immigrants in South Africa under the British Empire.” ACLA annual conference, New York, NY, March 21-23.
- “Connecting and/or Comparing: What does a Comparative Literature of the Indian Ocean look like?” Participant, Special Session Round-table, *Futures of South-South Comparison: Theorizing Emergent Zones of Exchange*. MLA annual convention, Chicago, IL, January 9-12.
- 2013 “Indian Ocean Passages: The Chronotope of Indentured Labor in Literature, Law, and Autobiography.” ACLA annual conference, Toronto, ON, April 4-7.
- 2012 “Fantasies of Policing in Deon Meyer’s Crime Fiction.” ACLA annual conference, Providence, RI, March 29–April 1.
- “Detecting Realism in Crime Fiction: A South African Case Study.” *Crime and its Fictions in Africa*, Yale University, New Haven, CT, March 23.
- 2011 “‘Like a leaf stuck to one’s shoe’: Traces of Disney in Kentridge, Kentridge in Disney.” ACLA annual conference, Vancouver, BC, April 5-6.

Panels Organized

- 2016 “Law and Literature in Sub-Saharan Africa.” Co-organizer Nicholas Matlin. ACLA annual conference, Cambridge, MA, March 17-20.
- 2015 *Transoceanic Postcolonialisms: Shifting Currents in the Global South*. Co-organizer Isabel Hofmeyr. Speakers: Isabel Hofmeyr, Maebh Long, Ashley Cohen, and Nienke Boer. NYU Postcolonial Colloquium, New York, NY, October 21.
- 2012 “The Mechanisms and Materiality of Ensuring Security.” Co-organizer Nicholas Matlin. ACLA annual conference, Providence, RI, March 29–April 1.

Other Academic Program Participation

- 2017 American Institute for Indian Studies (AIIS) Annual Workshop: *Transforming Your Dissertation into a Book*. University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, October 25-26.
- 2011 AIIS Summer Language Program: Advanced Hindi. Jaipur, India: June 12–August 19.
- 2010 *Johannesburg Workshop in Theory and Criticism*. South Africa, July 18-28.

TEACHING

Yale-NUS College

*Oceanic Frameworks: Shifting Currents in Lit. Studies*. Literature: 2018, 2019

*Equiano’s Slave Narrative: Text and Contexts*. Literature/Historical Immersion: 2018

*The Afropolitans: Contemporary African Literature and Film*. Literature: 2017, 2019

*Literature and Humanities I*. Common Curriculum: 2016-2019

LANGUAGES

English (native), Afrikaans (native), German (highly proficient), Dutch (highly proficient), French (reading), Hindi (reading).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

South Asian Literary Association, 2018-

African Literature Association, 2016-

Society for Novel Studies, 2015-

Modern Language Association, 2013–

American Comparative Literature Association, 2010–