

Jennifer Kirchmyer Dobe

Department of Philosophy
Steiner Hall 208
Grinnell College
Grinnell, Iowa 50112
(641) 269-4555
dobejenn@grinnell.edu

ACADEMIC POSITION

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, May 2018–*present*, Grinnell College

Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2012–April 2018, Grinnell College

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2007–Spring 2012, Grinnell College

Visiting Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Grinnell College

Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Summer 2004–Spring 2005, University of Pennsylvania

Teaching Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2000–Spring 2002, University of Pennsylvania

ACADEMIC DEGREES

Ph.D. in Philosophy	University of Pennsylvania <i>A New Conception of Nature in the Aesthetics of Kant and Schelling</i> Thesis Committee: Paul Guyer (supervisor), Gary Hatfield, Rolf-Peter Horstmann	April 2007
M.A. in Philosophy	University of Pennsylvania <i>Kant's Theory of Pleasure</i> , Thesis supervisor: Paul Guyer	May 2002
Visiting Scholar	Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany	2002-2003
B.A. in Philosophy & German	University of New Hampshire Graduated <i>summa cum laude</i> ; elected to Phi Beta Kappa	May 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND COURSE OFFERINGS

Philosophy of Art • Nineteenth-Century Continental Philosophy • Ethical Theory • Senior Seminar on Kant's System • History of Early Modern Philosophy • Introduction to Philosophy • Philosophy and Race (first-year Tutorial) • Contemporary Ethical Issues • German Idealism • Ethics, Gender and the Emotions • Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies • Moral Philosophy and the Emotions • Philosophy and Literature

PUBLICATIONS

“Kant’s Aesthetics and the Problem of Happiness.” *Kantian Review*. *Forthcoming*.

“Kant’s *a priori* Principle of Judgments of Taste.” In *Freedom and Spontaneity in Kant*, edited by Kate Moran, 68-88. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018.

Review of Jennifer McMahon. *Art and Ethics in a Material World: Kant’s Pragmatist Legacy*, Routledge. *Kantian Review* 20, no. 2 (July 2015): 336-341.

“Beauty Reconsidered: Freedom and Virtue in Schelling’s Aesthetics.” In *Interpreting Schelling: Critical Essays*, edited by Lara Ostaric, 160-179. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014.

“Kant’s Common Sense and the Strategy for a Deduction.” *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 68, no. 1 (Winter 2010): 48-60.

“Human Nature and Indeterminacy in Kant’s third *Critique*” (*in progress*)

PRESENTATIONS

“Kant’s Aesthetics and Humanity’s Happiness,” American Society for Aesthetics, 20 April 2018, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

“Beyond the ‘inner lie’: Schelling on the ethical agency of art,” North American Schelling Society, 22 August 2014, Bard Graduate Center, New York City, New York.

“Nature, Beauty and Freedom in Kant,” International Conference on Nature and Freedom in Kant, 26 October 2013, Brown University, Providence, RI.

“Schelling on Aesthetics and the *Freibeitschrift*,” International Schelling Conference, 6 October 2013, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

“Confronting Contingency in Kant’s Antinomy of Taste,” New England Colloquium in Early Modern Philosophy, 19 May 2010, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

“Contingency and Necessity: Kant’s New Insight in the Antinomy of Taste,” American Society for Aesthetics, 17 April 2010, Philadelphia, PA.

“Confronting Contingency in Kant’s Antinomy of Taste,” American Philosophical Association, 29 December 2010, Boston, MA.

Commentator for Michelle Kosch (Cornell), “On the 200th Anniversary of Schelling’s *Freedom Essay*,” Society for German Idealism, APA Pacific Division, Vancouver, Canada, 8 April 2009.

DISSERTATION

A New Conception of Nature in the Aesthetics of Kant and Schelling

I argue that the motivation behind the aesthetics of Kant and Schelling is in large part a shared concern about the amenability of nature to our moral and theoretical ends. Both maintain that an investigation of aesthetics produces a new conception of nature that either intimates (Kant) or confirms (Schelling) that amenability. Moreover, they base their conclusions about nature on the same aesthetic elements: the artistic genius, the harmony of the faculties, and an idea of the supersensible substratum of humanity. I show how these aesthetic elements reveal the conception of a *human* nature in harmony with our moral and theoretical ends in Kant's *Critique of the Power of Judgment*. I then argue that, over the course of Schelling's philosophical development (1795-1815), he follows Kant by using these aesthetic elements to confirm the receptivity of nature in general to the highest ideals of the human subject.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION (AOS)

Kant, Aesthetics, Moral Philosophy, German Idealism

AREAS OF COMPETENCE (AOC)

Feminist Philosophy, History of Modern Philosophy

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Honorable Mention for the Fisher Prize in Aesthetics, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 2009

Chimicles Fellowship for Teaching Writing, University of Pennsylvania, 2004-2005

School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2003-2004

Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2002-2003

Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 1999-2000

REFERENCES

Karen Detlefsen, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania

Paul Guyer, Florence R. C. Murray Professor in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania

Gary Hatfield, Adam Seybert Professor in Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania

Rolf-Peter Horstmann, Professor Doctor of Philosophy, Humboldt University, Berlin

Bruce Matthews, Faculty, Bard High School Early College Manhattan (BHSECM)

Johanna Meehan, McCay-Casady Professor of Philosophy, Grinnell College

Sebastian Rand, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Georgia State University

Alan Schrift, F. Wendell Miller Professor of Philosophy, Grinnell College

Rocio Zambrana, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Oregon