

Name and Contact Information Should Go Here

AOS:

AOC:

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Philosophy

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

M. A. in Philosophy

The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC – January 2001

Bachelor of Music

The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC – October 1995

Rice University, Houston, TX – August 1991-May 1993

M. A. THESIS

“The Status of Names in Aristotle”

Director: Dr. Kurt Pritzl

At the beginning of *De interpretatione*, Aristotle briefly delineates the elements that provide the basis for the functioning of human language. This text, which describes human language in terms of the relations between the name, affections of soul, and the thing named, is at the center of disagreement over the existence of an Aristotelian theory of meaning. This thesis argues that Aristotle does present a theory of meaning in this passage. The formulation of this theory of meaning is dependent upon the status of names, as names serve as the fundamental unit of language and so are elements for more complex expressions and communications. Modern commentators have overlooked the importance of the name and its relation to truth and falsity with respect to this passage. Aristotle’s theory of meaning in *De interpretatione* 16a3-9 is inseparable from these two aspects present in the surrounding text.

PUBLICATIONS:

“The Role of *Gelassenheit* in the Work of Art.” In *Being Amongst Others: Phenomenological Reflections on the Life World*, edited by Eric Chelstrom. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006.

Heidegger’s later writing draws on concepts found in the tradition of Christian Mysticism. The concept of *Gelassenheit*, or releasement, is derived from this tradition. This paper examines the role that *Gelassenheit* plays in the work of art according to Heidegger’s treatment of art in *On the Origin of the Work of Art*. For Heidegger the essence of art does not lie in its being a mere reproduction or representation of a thing, but in its revealing truth. This truth does not consist in the correspondence of representation to thing, but in the dynamic relationships at work in Heidegger’s conception of truth as unconcealedness. Insofar as truth is revealed in the work of art, Being is present in the work of art. This revelation of truth, described by Heidegger as a ‘happening of truth,’ depends equally upon the activity of the human being and the willingness of Being to reveal itself; as much upon the comportment of the human being as it does upon the unconcealedness of Being. The concept of *Gelassenheit*—a letting be or releasement—is descriptive both of the comportment of the human being and of the moment and manner in which

truth is revealed. The work of art as the letting-happen of truth can thus be understood in terms of this releasement, or *Gelassenheit*.

“Aquinas and Themistius on Intellect” (forthcoming) in *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association*.

Aquinas puts forward two different, and conflicting, interpretations of Themistius’s account of the intellect. In his earlier interpretation of Themistius, Aquinas understands him to hold the position that both the possible and agent intellect are separate and incorruptible, existing apart from individual human souls but shared in by individual souls in the process of knowing. In *De unitate intellectus contra averroistas*, however, Aquinas radically departs from this reading, hailing Themistius as a genuine interpreter of the Peripatetic position, while decrying Averroes’ perversion of both Themistius and Aristotle. This paper examines these competing interpretations of Themistius’s account of the intellect in his *Commentary on the De Anima* of Aristotle, focusing on two issues central to its interpretation: (1) the nature of intellect insofar as it is separate, impassive, and unmixed (2) whether the productive intellect is one or many.

CONFERENCES & SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES:

“Aquinas and Themistius on Intellect” presented at the American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting: *Intelligence and the Philosophy of Mind*. Denison University, Granville, Ohio. October 27-29, 2006.

“Themistius: Two Interpretations by Aquinas” presented at the First Marquette Summer Seminar Conference On Aquinas And The Arabs: *Issues on Motion and Mind*. Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. July 8, 2006.

“Love in the Aristotelian Cosmos” presented at SUNY Buffalo graduate student conference on Aristotle, April 9, 2005.

“The Role of *Gelassenheit* in the Work of Art” presented at SUNY Buffalo graduate student conference, *Continental Philosophy: Examining the Margins*, March 5, 2005.

Organized (with Jonathan Bechtel and Michael Lynch) the 7th Annual Graduate Conference of the Philosophy Graduate Student Association at Marquette University, October 14-15, 2005. Keynote speakers: Gail Fine, Cornell University and Karl Ameriks, University of Notre Dame. The Graduate Conference is organized and run entirely by graduate students and provides an opportunity for students at the graduate level to present their research and scholarship to other graduate students.

Organizing (with David Leichter and John Westbrook) the 8th Annual Graduate Conference of the Philosophy Graduate Student Association at Marquette University, *Substance Abuse: The use and abuse of metaphysics*. March 30-31, 2007. Keynote Speakers: David Carr, Emory University and John Jones, Marquette University.

LANGUAGES

German
French
Latin
Greek

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Philosophical Association

American Society for Aesthetics

SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

English 298: Graduate Writing in Disciplinary Genres (Summer 2006)

Nominated and selected by the Department of Philosophy to participate in the first Graduate Writing Consultant program at Marquette University. Participants were awarded a stipend and completed a course that provided both theoretical and practical training for their work as Writing Consultants for graduate students within their discipline. This included learning methods of peer tutoring in writing, analyzing the conventions and genres unique to their disciplines, and learning methods of teaching and assessing writing.

Philosophy Graduate Student Association, PhD Representative and Director (Spring 2006-present)

Philosophy Graduate Student Association, PhD Representative and Assistant Director (Spring 2005-Spring 2006)

Elected by peers in the Department of Philosophy as representative to the Graduate Committee and Administration. Served as liaison between graduate students and administration, organized two inter-collegiate Graduate Student conferences, various social events for the department, meetings for teaching assistants, and forums to prepare students for Doctoral Qualifying Exams.

Marquette University Philosophy Department Graduate Committee (Fall 2005-present)

Treasurer, Board of Trustees, Dominican Volunteers USA (2001-2003)

Shelter Assistant, Calvary Shelter for Women (Fall 1997-Spring 1998)

CUA University chorus (Fall 1993-Spring 1995)

The Thresher, staffwriter (Fall 1991-Spring 1992)

Rice Radio (KTRU), disc jockey (Fall 1991-Spring 1992)

Rice Chorale (Fall 1991-Spring 1993)

Rice Student Volunteer Program (Fall 1991-Spring 1992)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Schuenke Teaching Fellow, Marquette University

Milwaukee, WI Fall 2006-present

Selected for special award from the Department of Philosophy

Graduate Writing Consultant, Marquette University

Milwaukee, WI Fall 2006-present

Selected by the Department of Philosophy

Teaching Assistant, Marquette University

Milwaukee, WI Fall 2003-present

Courses taught: Logic, Philosophy of Human Nature

Fully responsible for teaching courses.

Visiting Instructor of Philosophy, St. Mary's University

San Antonio, TX August 2002-July 2003

Courses taught: Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy

Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, St. Mary's University

San Antonio, TX August 2001-August 2002
Courses taught: Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy

Homeless Advocate/Outreach Services, Southern Dominican Volunteer Program
St. Joseph Church, New Orleans, LA August 1999-August 2000
Organized volunteers, provided emergency assistance to homeless and neighborhood residents in need. Assistance included providing food, vouchers for housing, referrals to appropriate social services to obtain food stamps, transitional housing, medical and psychiatric aid, job training, etc.

Math/Computer Teacher, Oakcrest School
Washington, DC - August 1998-June 1999
Taught Algebra I (8th and 9th grades), Geometry (10th grade), Study Skills and Introductory Computer Skills to 7th and 8th grades, Computer Skills to 9th through 12th grades

Accounting Clerk/Secretary, Theological College
Washington, DC – January 1997-August 1998
Responsible for billing, purchasing, tracking of income and expense accounts; assisted directors of liturgical and pastoral services

REFERENCES:

Susanne Foster, Associate Professor
Kevin Gibson, Associate Professor
John Jones, Professor