

## **Elizabeth (Betsy) Walters**

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **Boston University, Graduate College of Arts and Sciences**

PhD, American & New England Studies, Expected 2025  
Dissertation: “Oscar’s New Rules: Industrial Shifts, Cultural Controversies, and the Changing Status of the Academy Awards in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”  
Committee: Dr. Deborah L. Jaramillo, Dr. Bruce Schulman, Dr. Charlotte E. Howell, Dr. Miranda Banks  
Comprehensive Exam Fields: Television Studies; Global Film History; Cultural American History (U.S. social/cultural movements, mid-20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> century)

#### **Boston University, College of Communication**

MFA, Film and Television Studies, 2020  
Thesis: “‘Cinematic Art in All Its Forms’: Netflix and the Film Festival Network”  
Readers: Dr. Deborah L. Jaramillo, Dr. Roy Grundmann

#### **George Washington University, School of Media & Public Affairs**

BA, Electronic Media, 2004, *magna cum laude*

### **TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE**

Senior Teaching Fellow (Instructor of Record), 2024

Boston University, College of Arts and Sciences  
Course: AM 301, “Perspectives on the American Experience: The Oscars and American Culture,” Spring 2024

Teaching Fellow, 2021-2023

Boston University, College of Arts and Sciences/College of Communication  
Courses: HI 303, “Sex, Love, Family: Relationships in American History From Birth to Death” Prof. Brooke Blower, Spring 2023  
FT 520, “TV Theory & Criticism,” Prof. Charlotte Howell, Fall 2022  
FT 554, “True Crime,” Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, Spring 2022  
CI101, “History of Global Cinema 1: Origins through 1960,” Prof. Peter Schwartz, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant, 2018-2019

Boston University, College of Communication  
Course: FT 303, “Understanding Television,” Prof. Charlotte Howell

#### **Guest Lectures**

“Industry and Branding,” FT 554, “True Crime,” Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, February 20, 2024

“Television Authorship,” FT 520, “TV Theory & Criticism,” Prof. Charlotte Howell, October 11-12, 2022

“Industry and Branding,” FT 554, “True Crime,” Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, February 22-23, 2022

“True Crime Television,” FT 303, “Understanding Television,” Prof. Charlotte Howell, November 13, 2019

### Graduate Assistant

Boston University, Graduate College of Arts and Sciences, 2023-2024  
American & New England Studies Program

Boston University, College of Communication, 2018-2020

Courses: FT 772, “American Masterworks” / FT 554, “Queer Cinema,” Prof. Roy Grundmann, Fall 2018

FT 554, “Contemporary American Cinema,” Prof. Roy Grundmann, Spring 2019

FT 532, “NBC: Anatomy of a Network,” Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, Fall 2019

FT 554, “True Crime,” Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, Spring 2020

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed

“Festival Diplomacy: CINE, American Nontheatrical Cinema, and the Film Festival Network,”  
*JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* 63, no. 4 (Fall 2024), forthcoming.

“Throwing Shows Against the Wall and Hoping for the Best: NBC, Quality, and the Emmy Race for Outstanding Drama Series in the 2010s,” *New Review of Film and Television Studies* 21, no. 4 (2023): 794-817, DOI: 10.1080/17400309.2023.2257819.

“Netflix Originals: The Evolution of True Crime Television,” *The Velvet Light Trap* 88 (Fall 2021): 25-37. DOI: 10.7560/VLT8803.

#### Book Reviews

*The Academy and the Award: The Coming of Age of Oscar and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences*, by Bruce Davis, *Media Industries* 10, no. 2 (Fall 2023): 3, DOI: 10.3998/mij.4336, <https://journals.publishing.umich.edu/mij/article/id/4336>.

*Television Before TV: New Media and Exhibition Culture in Europe and the USA, 1928-1939*, by Anne-Katrin Weber, [\*Ampersand: An American Studies Journal\* 1, no. 3 \(Summer 2022\)](#).

#### Film Reviews

*The First Step* (Brandon Kramer, 2021), “Short Takes,” *Cineaste* XLVIII, no 3 (Summer 2023).

*Loving Highsmith* (Eva Vitija, 2022), “Short Takes,” *Cineaste* XLVIII, no 1 (Winter 2022).

#### Essays

“‘The Black face of an entitled White organization’: A Consideration of the 80th Golden Globe Awards and Host Jerrod Carmichael.” [\*Ampersand: An American Studies Journal\* 2, no. 1 \(Winter 2023\)](#).

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- “Space and Place, Visualized,” New England American Studies Association Conference, Harvard University. Cambridge, MA, June 21-22, 2024 (panel chair).
- “Ready for Primetime: The Primetime/International Emmys in the Era of Global Streaming Platforms,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) Conference. Boston, MA, March 14-17, 2024 (co-chair of the panel “Global Prizes, Politics, and Power: Transnational Awards Cultures in the Media Industries”; Monica R. Sandler, Emory University, co-chair)
- “Regardless of Race, Creed, or Color’: Civil Rights, White Liberalism, and the Academy Awards,” American Studies Association (ASA) Conference. Montreal, Canada. November 2-5, 2023.
- “Netflix, the Festival de Cannes and the Biennale di Venezia,” Locating Media Industries: Cities, Spaces, Places, King’s College London. London, UK. June 19-21, 2023.
- “Popularity and Prestige: The Oscars in the Era of Blockbuster Franchises,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) Conference. Denver, CO. April 12-15, 2023.
- “Popularity and Prestige: The Oscars in the Era of Blockbuster Franchises,” The Americanist Forum, Boston University American & New England Studies Program. Boston, MA. March 27, 2023.
- “Say Goodbye to Hollywood: The Historical and Industrial Precedents of the 2021 Oscar Telecast,” Critical Studies in Television Conference (Virtual). June 27-July 5, 2022. Co-presentation with Laura C. Brown, University of Texas at Austin.
- “Film Festival Diplomacy: CINE, American Nontheatrical Cinema, and the Film Festival Network, 1957-1977,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) Conference. (Virtual). March 31-April 3, 2022.
- “*Triumph of the Will* (1935), Propaganda Films, and the 1937 Exposition Internationale Des Arts et Des Techniques Dans La Vie Moderne,” The Popular Culture Association (PCA) Conference (Virtual). June 2-5, 2021.
- “The FedEx of Indie Film: The Rise of Netflix and the Sundance Film Festival,” Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) Conference (Virtual). March 17-21, 2021.
- “*Documentary Now!* and the Discourse of Quality Television,” Northeast Popular Culture Association (NEPCA) Conference, Southern New Hampshire University (Virtual). Manchester, NH. October 22-24, 2020.
- “*Documentary Now!* and the Discourse of Quality Television,” Comedy/Humor Conference, American Humor Studies Association and the Comedy and Humor Studies SIG of SCMS. Austin, TX, June 18-20, 2020.\*
- “Netflix Originals: The Changing Face of True Crime TV,” Northeast Popular Culture Association (NEPCA) Conference. Portsmouth, NH. November 15-16, 2019.

“The Evolution of True Crime Television,” Backward Glances: Reboot, Northwestern University. Chicago, IL. September 27-28, 2019.

“A Netflix Original: The Unexpected Journey of Orson Welles,” University Film & Video Association (UFVA) Conference, Augsburg University. Minneapolis, MN. July 30-August 2, 2019.

“A Netflix Original: The Unexpected Journey of Orson Welles,” New England Graduate Media Symposium, Emerson College. Boston, MA. March 15-16, 2019.

*\*Cancelled due to COVID-19*

### **ACADEMIC HONORS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

The David Hall Award, Boston University American & New England Studies Program, 2024

The Clarimond Mansfield Award and the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award, Boston University Center for the Humanities, 2023-2024

Outstanding Teaching Fellow (American & New England Studies Program), Boston University College of Arts and Sciences, 2023

Graduate Student Essay Contest Winner, SCMS Television Studies Scholarly Interest Group, 2023

Dissertation Research Travel Grant, Boston University Graduate Student Organization, 2023

Teaching Fellowship, Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, 2021-2023

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, 2020-2021; 2024-2025

Innovative Scholarship Award, Boston University Dept. of Film & Television Studies, 2020

Amos St. Germaine Paper Prize, Northeast Popular Culture Association (NEPCA), 2020

Constance Rourke Prize for Graduate Students, American Humor Studies Association, 2020

Merit Scholarship, Boston University College of Communication, 2018-2020

National Collegiate Communications Arts Award, 2003

University Honors Program Scholar, George Washington University, 2000-2004

Dean’s List, George Washington University, 2000-2004

### **MEDIA APPEARANCES**

Toni Fitzgerald, “A Blockbuster Year: Here’s Why 2023 Oscars Ratings Will Be Up,” *Forbes*, March 7, 2023,

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tonifitzgerald/2023/03/08/a-blockbuster-year-heres-why-2023-oscars-ratings-will-be-up/?sh=43f4b4fa4fbf>.

“Why are fewer people watching award shows?” Scripps News, March 1, 2023,

<https://scrippsnews.com/stories/why-are-fewer-people-watching-award-shows>.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Marvin Hamlisch International Music Awards, New York, NY (2019-Present)

Co-Founder/Board of Trustees

Key West Film Festival, Key West, FL (2018-2023)

Grant Writer/Strategist

Ekotopfilm/Envirofilm Festival, Bratislava, Slovakia (2018-2019)  
International Jury

AFI DOCS Film Festival, Washington, DC (2017-2019)  
Venue Manager, Museums, 2018-2019  
Talent Wrangler, 2017

New Hampshire Film Festival, Portsmouth, NH (2018-2019)  
Venue Manager

CINE, Washington, DC (2003-2018)  
Executive Director, 2016-2018  
Director of Awards & Operations, 2013-2016  
Director of Competitions, 2007-2016  
Competitions Administrator, 2003-2007

DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Washington, DC (2016-2017)  
Grant Panelist, Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program (AHFP), Media Arts Cohort

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS), Film & Media Festivals Special Interest Group (SIG)  
Graduate Student Representative, 2023-2025

*Ampersand: An American Studies Journal*, Boston University  
Editor, 2023-2024  
Associate Editor, 2022-2023

Graduate Student Association, American & New England Studies Program, Boston University  
Vice President, 2023-2024  
Secretary, 2022-2023  
Social Chair, 2022-2023  
Undergraduate Liaison, 2021-2022

The Peabody Awards, University of Georgia  
Screening Committee (Prof. Deborah Jaramillo, Committee Chair), 2020-2023

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) (2020-Present)  
American Studies Association (ASA) (2021-Present)  
The Popular Culture Association (PCA) (2021-Present)  
Alliance for Women Film Composers (2021-Present)

### **INVITED/PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Panelist, "The Art of the Pitch," Washington, DC (2018)  
DC Office of Cable, Television, Film, Music and Entertainment ("202Creates")

Panelist, "Mentoring the Next John Williams," Boston, MA (2017)

Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) Conference

Guest Presenter, CINE PitchFest Master Class Program (2016-2017)

USC School of Cinematic Arts, Los Angeles, CA, 2017

DC Shorts Film Festival, Washington, DC, 2017

NYU Washington DC, Washington, DC, 2017

American University Film & Media Arts, Washington, DC, 2016-2017

UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, Berkeley, CA, 2016

Howard University School of Communication, 2016

Georgetown Day School, Washington, DC, 2016

Moderator/Producer, CINE PitchFest Presented by A&E: Be Original (2015-2016)

NYU Washington DC, Washington DC, 2015-2016

Austin Public in partnership with the Austin Film Society, Austin, TX, 2016

The Los Angeles Film School, Los Angeles, CA, 2016

UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, Berkeley, CA, 2016

SVA Theatre at the School of Visual Arts, New York, NY, 2015-2016

Emerson College LA, Los Angeles, CA, 2015