

NICHOLAS BROWN

Professor  
Departments of English (MC 162)  
Black Studies (MC 069)  
and Art History (affiliate)  
601 South Morgan Street  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Chicago, IL 60607

1911 South Racine Avenue  
Apartment 3  
Chicago, IL 60608-3249  
home 312.563.9205  
office 312.355.2453  
fax 312.413.1005  
cola@uic.edu

DEGREES

Duke University  
PhD, Literature, January 2000

Stanford University  
BA with Distinction and Honors, Modern Thought and Literature, 1993

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

Baker-Nord Scholar in Residence, Case Western Reserve University, April 2014

Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, Humboldt University, Berlin, 2012-14

Fulbright Fellow, University of São Paulo, Brazil, 2007

SELECTED BOOKS

*Autonomy: The Social Ontology of Art under Capitalism*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 2019.

*Contemporary Marxist Theory: A Reader*. Edited with Imre Szeman, Andrew Pendakis, and Josh Robinson. London: Continuum, 2014. Translated into Turkish (Ankara: Dipnot, 2017), and Chinese (Beijing: China Social Sciences Press, 2018).

*Marxism and the Critique of Value*. Edited with Neil Larsen, Mathias Nilges, and Josh Robinson. Chicago and Alberta: MCM', 2014.

*Utopian Generations: The Political Horizon of Twentieth-Century Literature*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 2005.

*Pierre Bourdieu: Fieldwork in Culture*. Edited with Imre Szeman. New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2000.

*Yutopian geneoreishyeon: Ishipsegi munhakui jungchijeok jipyeong*. Trans. Yong-Gyu Kim and Dongho Cha. Seoul: Hyeonamsa, 2019. Trans. of *Utopian Generations*.

SELECTED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

"Late Postmodernism." *Comparative Literature and Culture* 22.3 (Fall 2020): A Symposium on Nicholas Brown's *Autonomy*, ed. Mathias Nilges. Web. 10,350 words.

"Things Recognized Without Having Been Seen." *nonsite* #32 (September 2020), special section, "The Tank: *Autonomy: The Social Ontology of Art under Capitalism*." Web. 7,562 words.

"Interpretation without Method, Realism without Mimesis, Conviction without Propositions." *Mediations* 33.1-2 (Fall 2019-Spring 2020) 127-146.

- “Sobre a especificidade da arte” [“On the Specificity of Art.”] Preface. Fabio Durão, *Do texto à obra*. Curitiba: Appris, 2019. 9-13 (n.p.)
- “Boyhood: quand l’enfance est un privilège de classe.” *Lava* (Brussels), 2019. Web. 3,000 words.
- “Roberto Schwarz: Mimesis Beyond Realism.” *The Sage Handbook of Frankfurt School Critical Theory*. Ed. Beverly Best et al. London: Sage, 2018. 465-478.
- “Hélio Oiticica, Tropical Hyperion.” *nonsite* #25 (October 2018). Web. 11,680 words.
- “A obra de arte na era da sua subsunção real ao capital.” *Marxismo: Cultura e Educação*. Ed. Fabio Akcelrud Durão, Daniela Mussi, and Andréia Maranhão. São Paulo: Nankin Editorial, 2015. 11-31.
- “Brecht eu misturo com Caetano: citação, mercado e forma musical.” *Revista do Instituto de Estudos Brasileiros* 59 (December 2014) 149-90.
- “Chinua Achebe and the Politics of Form.” *Research in African Literatures* 42.2 (Summer 2011), 87-90.
- “The Identity of Identity and Difference: Modernism and African Literature.” *Traversing Transnationalism: The Horizons of Literary and Cultural Studies*. Ed. Pier Paolo Frassinelli, Ronit Frenkel, and David Watson. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011. 179-190.
- “Twenty-Five Theses on Philosophy in an Age of Finance Capital.” With Imre Szeman. *A Leftist Ontology*. Ed. Carsten Strathausen. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009. 33-53.
- “Marxist Approaches to the African Novel.” *Teaching the African Novel*. Ed. Guarav Desai. New York: Modern Language Association, 2009. 37-52.
- “African Literature, Modernism, and the Problem of Political Subjectivity.” *Novel* 41.2/3 (Spring/Summer 2008), 264-78.
- “Ngugi wa Thiong’o.” *Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2005. 708-710.
- “ $\{\emptyset, S\} \in \{S\}$ ? Or, Alain Badiou and Slavoj Žižek, Waiting for Something to Happen” (review essay). *The New Centennial Review* 4.3 (Winter 2004) 289-319.
- “Revolution and Recidivism: The Problem of Kenyan History in the Plays of Ngugi wa Thiong’o.” *African Drama and Performance*. Ed. John Conteh-Morgan and Tejumola Olaniyan. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2004. 126-143.
- “bossapóbossa: Or, Postmodernism as Semi-Peripheral Symptom.” *The New Centennial Review* 3.2 (Summer 2003) 214-221.
- “The Eidaesthetic Itinerary: Notes on the Geopolitical Movement of the Literary Absolute.” *South Atlantic Quarterly* 100.3 (Summer 2001): 829-851.
- “Marxism and Postcolonial Studies Now” (review essay). *Symploke* 8.1-2 (Spring 2001): 214-221.
- “Revolution and Recidivism: The Problem of Kenyan History in the Plays of Ngugi wa Thiong’o.” *Research in African Literatures* 30.4 (Winter 1999): 56-73.
- “People’s Theater in East Africa: The *Lehrstücke* of Ngugi wa Thiong’o.” *Communications from the International Brecht Society* 27.1 (June 1998): 23-27.
- “Introduction.” *An African Practice of Philosophy*. *SAPINA* 10.2 (Fall 1997): vii-x.

"Umbuji wa Mnazi and the Poetics of Anthropology." *An African Practice of Philosophy*. SAPINA 10.2 (Fall 1997): 177-229.

"An Overview of the Classical Swahili Poetry of Pate Island." *SAPINA* 8.1-2 (Spring 1995): 43-50.

*Umbuji wa Mnazi and the Poetics of Anthropology*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Board of Trustees, 1995.

#### SELECTED TRANSLATIONS

"National Adequation and Critical Originality." Translation of "Adequação nacional e originalidade de crítica," by Roberto Schwarz. *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, forthcoming 2020.

"From a Rooseveltian Dream to the Nightmare of Parliamentary Coup." Translation of "Do sonho rooseveltiano ao pesadelo golpista: A ascensão e o declínio do lulismo," by André Singer. Translated with Emilio Sauri. *nonsite #24* (Summer 2018). Web. 8857 words.

"The Elegance of the Coconut Tree." Translation of *Umbuji wa Mnazi*, by Ahmed Sheikh Nabhany. In *Umbuji wa Mnazi and the Poetics of Anthropology*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Board of Trustees, 1995. ii-xix.

#### SELECTED KEYNOTES AND PLENARIES

"Mangueira/Manhattan: Uneven Political Development and Aesthetic Form." Annual Distinguished Lecturer, Plenary Lecture, *Cultural Production and Uneven Development*, Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, University of Pittsburgh, April 19, 2018.

"What is Autonomy, and What Does it Matter?" Keynote, *Presumed Autonomy: Literature and the Arts in Theory and Practice*. Stockholm University, May 11, 2016.

"Actually Existing Modernism in Photography as Film and in Film as Photography." Keynote, *For What It's Worth: Nostalgia, Sustainability and the Values of the Present*. Justus Liebig Universität, Giessen, April 30, 2016.

"What's on TV?" Keynote, *Engagements, Events, Energies: The Humanities Between Affirmation and Critique*. Indiana University, April 19, 2014.

"Brecht eu misturo com Caetano: Citação, mercado, forma musical." Opening Keynote, *XIV Seminário de Pesquisa do Programa de Pós-Graduação em Estudos Literários*. Universidade do Estado de São Paulo (UNESP-Araraquara), October 29, 2013.

"Two Aesthetic Revolutions in *Arrow of God*." Plenary Panel. *Celebrating Chinua Achebe*. Newhouse Center for the Humanities. Wellesley University, March 6, 2010.

#### SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDITORIAL SERVICE

Founding Editor, MCM' Books, 2013-

Head, Department of African American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2009-12

Chair, Editorial Board, *Mediations*, 2007-

President, Marxist Literary Group, 2005-2016