



## Curriculum Vitae

### Brian Bantum, Ph.D.

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### Research Interests

identity, race, Christology, anthropology, theology and arts, poetry, theological method

### Academic Appointments

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Neil F. and Ila A. Professor of Theology, 2019-present

Seattle Pacific University

Associate Professor of Theology, 2014-2019

Assistant Professor of Theology, 2009-2014

### Education

Duke University, Graduate Program in Religion

Ph.D., Theology, Spring 2009

Dissertation, "Mulatto Theology: Race, Discipleship and Interracial Existence"

Duke University Divinity School

M.T.S., Theology, Spring 2002 (Magna Cum Laude)

Houghton College

B.A., History, Spring 1997

### Fellowships, Grants, Awards

2018 Weter Lecture Award, Seattle Pacific University

Seattle Pacific University Center for Biblical and Theological Education (Art-Installation)

2011

Seattle Pacific University Center for Biblical and Theological Education (Living Theology)

2011

Dissertation Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2008-2009

Predoctoral Fellow, Ford Foundation, 2006-2009

Doctoral Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2005-2007

## Publications

### BOOKS

- ▶ (with Gail Song Bantum) *Choosing Us: Marriage and Mutual Flourishing in a World of Difference*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Press, a division of Baker Publishing Group, 2022.
- ▶ *The Death of Race: Building a New Christianity in a Racial World*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2016.
- ▶ *Redeeming Mulatto: A Theology of Race and Christian Hybridity*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2010.

### ESSAYS

- ▶ "Theology and Race" in *Modern Theologians 4th ed.*.... (Forthcoming)
- ▶ "Theology, Race, and Art" in *T&T Clark Companion to Theology and the Arts* (Forthcoming)
- ▶ "Black Bodies, Art, and Community" in *Do Black Lives Matter? How Christian Scriptures Speak to Black Empowerment*. Eugene, OR: Wipe and Stock, 2023.
- ▶ "Clothed in Flesh: The Artist, Liberation, and the Future of Barthian Theology," in *Karl Barth and Liberation Theology 2023.*, edited by Paul Dafydd Jones, Kaitlyn Dugan. New York, NY; London;: T&T Clark, Bloomsbury Publishing Plc.
- ▶ "A Mosaic of Story." *The Christian Century* (1902) 140, no. 2 (2023).
- ▶ "Race, Gender, and Public Theology" in *T&T Clark Handbook to Public Theology* (New York, NY; London;: T&T Clark, Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, 2022).2
- ▶ "You Can't Go Home Again: Retrieval and Mulattic Theology," in *Theologies of Retrieval: Exploration and Appraisal*. Darren Sarisky, ed. (London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2018).
- ▶ "Review: Souls of Mixed Folk by Michele Elam," *ARTS* (Arts in Religious and Theological Studies) 26, no. 2 (2015).
- ▶ "Here Am I: Moses and the Meaning of our Bodies," in *Ex Auditu*. Pickwick Publications, 2014.
- ▶ "The Threefold Man: Johannes Kaspar Lavater, Physiognomy, and the Creation of the Western Icon" in *Sainthood and Race: Holy Flesh, Marked Flesh*. Molly Basset and Vincent Lloyd, eds. London: Routledge, 2014.
- ▶ "A Future Unwritten: Blackness Between the Religious Invocations of Zadie Smith and Heidi Durrow," *South Atlantic Quarterly* Vol. 112, No. 4 (2013).
- ▶ "'This is Me:' Ronald Prezbylewski, Mis-Performance and Transformation," in *Corners in the City of God: The Wire and Theology*. Jonathan Tran and Myles Wertz, eds. Cascade: Eugene, OR, 2013.

- ▶ "Discipleship and Identity: Race, Gender, and the Human Situation," in *Gender and Christianity*. Jack Levison and Priscilla Pope-Levison, eds. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2012.
- ▶ "To Those Who Are Distant and Those Who Are Far Away: Atonement, Identity, and Identification," in *Ex Auditu* Vol 26. Pickwick Publications (2011), 128-144.
- ▶ "Black Theology or Black Religion? Discipleship as a Theological Method," in *Black Theology: An International Journal* Vol. 8, No.2 (2010).

## Invited Lectures

- ▶ "Living Futures: Theology, Icons, and Life in a Racialized World" Brite Distinguished Black Church Studies Lecture, Forth Worth, TX, February 2023.
- ▶ "The Disruptive Body: Christology for a Raced World" T.B. Maston Lecture Series. Logsdon Seminary, Abilene, TX, March 2019.
- ▶ "Who Will We Be? Doing Theology As Though Our Bodies Mattered" Wiley Lecture Series. Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA, February 2019.
- ▶ "Clothed in Flesh: The Artist, Liberation, and the Future of Barthian Theology." Plenary. 2018 Karl Barth Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary. Princeton, NJ. June 2018.
- ▶ "Unruly Gaps: Towards a Theology of Visual Life." Keynote. Princeton Youth Forum. Princeton Theological Seminary. Princeton, NJ. April 2018.
- ▶ "True Ornamentation: The Making of the Western Icon." Keynote. Princeton Youth Forum. Princeton Theological Seminary. Princeton, NJ. April 2018.
- ▶ "The Artists Will be My Priests: A Theology of the Iconic Body." Weter Lecture. Seattle Pacific University. Seattle, WA. April 2018.
- ▶ "There is Life in the Tomb: Discipleship in a Racialized World." Mannoia Lecture. Greenville University, Greenville, IL. February 2018.
- ▶ "Holy Difference in a Divided World." Redding Lecture. Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY. February 2018.
- ▶ "Conjuring Chaos: Jesus, Race, and the Hope of Disruptive Bodies." Keynote Address. Wesleyan Philosophical Society, Asbury Theological Seminary, March 2017.
- ▶ "The Bodied Word: Theology, Discipleship and the Problem of the Visible Body," African American Lecture Series. Center for Applied Christian Ethics, Wheaton College, February 2012.

## Scholarly Presentations

- ▶ "Response to Image and Likeness" American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO, November 2018.

- ▶ "Hybridities and the Future of Being Human." Workgroup on Constructive Theology. Vanderbilt University, April 2017.
- ▶ "Birth of the Mestizo: Diego Rivera's "Arrival of Cortes" as Borderland Creation," Arts and Literature Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2016.
- ▶ "Can Theology be Literary? Should it?" International Society Literature and Religion Conference, University of Glasgow, September 2016.
- ▶ "Does America Hate Its Poor," Community Conversation of Minority Association of Pre-Professional Health Students (MAPS), Seattle Pacific University, February 23, 2015.
- ▶ "Race in America after Ferguson," Community Forum, Seattle Pacific University, November 20, 2014.
- ▶ "Discipleship: What's Race Got to Do With It?" Community Forum, Bluffton University, Bluffton OH, March 2014.
- ▶ "Here Am I: Moses and the Meaning of our Bodies," North Park Theological Seminary Theology Symposium, North Park Theological Seminary, September 2014.
- ▶ "Asians and Asian Americans in Conversation with the New Black Theology," Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA, January 2014.
- ▶ "Recovery and Critique: The Turn to Tradition in Contemporary Black Theologies," Society of Christian Ethics Annual meeting, Seattle, WA, January 2014.
- ▶ "Critical Whiteness, Theological Explorations," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 24, 2013.
- ▶ "Theological Reflections on The Wire," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 24, 2013.
- ▶ "Theology to and From: What is Mulatto Theology?" American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL November 19, 2012.
- ▶ "Redeeming Mulatto: Theology and Hybridity," Faculty Forum, Westmont College, February 2012.
- ▶ "Paradigm Shift," A site-specific art-installation, with Roger Feldman, Seattle Pacific University, Winter 2011.
- ▶ "Redeeming Mulatto: A Book Presentation," John Perkins Center Community Forum, Seattle, WA, April 2011.
- ▶ "The Mulatto Jesus: Evangelical Theology Between the Margins and the Center," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2010.
- ▶ "To Those Who Are Far and Those Who Are Near: Atonement, Identity, and Identification," North Park Theological Seminary Theology Symposium, North Park Theological Seminary, September 2010.
- ▶ "Discipleship and Identity: A Theological Consideration of Race, Gender, and the Human Situation," Gender and Christianity: Lilly Fellows Summer Seminar, Seattle Pacific University, June 30, 2010.

- ▶ "Race and Discipleship," *Passionate Faith: A Bible, Youth and Culture Conference and Youth Leaders Forum*, Seattle, WA, May 2, 2010.
- ▶ "Death by Misunderstanding: Nella Larsen and Social Death," *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Diego, CA, November 2007.
- ▶ "Who Do You Say I Am: Black Theology and Discipleship," *American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting*, Sand Diego, CA, November 2007.
- ▶ "Race, Biology and the Mystery of Mixture," *To Be or Not To Be: Searching for Self in the Genome*, Conference, Duke University, October 2006.

## Public Writing

- ▶ "The Novelist and the Theologian." *The Christian Century* (1902) 140, no. 4 (2023): 37-38.
- ▶ "Did God Intend for Adam and Eve to Live Forever?" *The Christian Century* (1902) 140, no. 3 (2023): 33-34.
- ▶ "The Roots of My Deconstruction." *The Christian Century* (1902) 139, no. 20 (2022): 30-31.
- ▶ "Attending to the Ordinary." *The Christian Century* (1902) 139, no. 18 (2022): 32-33.
- ▶ "Wee Little Men." *The Christian Century* (1902) 139, no. 13 (2022): 35-35.
- ▶ "Faith by Proxy." *The Christian Century* (1902) 139, no. 6 (2022): 33-33.
- ▶ "The Allure of Escape." *The Christian Century* (1902) 138, no. 26 (2021): 37-37.
- ▶ "A Psalm of Unknowing." *The Christian Century* (1902) 138, no. 20 (2021): 37-37.
- ▶ "Is There No Other Prophet?" *The Christian Century* (1902) 138, no. 14 (2021): 35-35.
- ▶ "What Will We Be?" *The Christian Century* (1902) 138, no. 8 (2021): 37-37.
- ▶ "Forever Changing." *The Christian Century* (1902) 137, no. 22 (2020): 51-51.
- ▶ "Still Plowing." *The Christian Century* (1902) 137, no. 14 (2020): 35-35.
- ▶ "Bodies in the Vernacular" *The Christian Century* 134. no. 7 (March 29, 2017): 26-29.  
\*2017 award of excellence (first place) in the long-form theological reflection category by Association of Church Presses.
- ▶ "Need to Confess: Review of America's Original Sin, The Justice Calling, and The Third Reconstruction," *Christian Century* 133, no. 17 (August 17, 2016): 28-30.
- ▶ "A Black Lives Matter: Seven Writers Assess the Movement," *Christian Century* 133, no. 6 (March 16, 2016): 26-27.
- ▶ "The Third Day," *The Other Journal* 25 (December 24, 2015): 16-20.
- ▶ "Living by the Word." *Christian Century* 132, no. 2 (January 21, 2015): 18-19.
- ▶ "To Be A Father Like My Mother," in *Father Factor: American Christian Men on Fatherhood and Faith*. Campbell, R., ed. Ashland: White Cloud Press, 2014.

- ▶ "Preaching Reflections on Michael Brown and Ferguson - Odyssey Networks." Odyssey Networks. December 23, 2014. <http://www.odysseynetworks.org/on-scripture-the-bible/preaching-reflections-michael-brown-ferguson/>.
- ▶ "Doing Theology As Though Our Bodies Mattered." Syndicate Theology. August 24, 2014. <https://syndicatetheology.com/commentary/doing-theology-as-though-our-bodies-mattered/>.
- ▶ "New Birth and the Realities of Race," Covenant Companion, September 2012.
- ▶ "The Living Word: May 6, May 13," Christian Century, May 2, 2012, Vol. 129, No. 9.
- ▶ "Why Theology Needs Art," Response Magazine Seattle Pacific University. Autumn 2011.
- ▶ "A Reflection on Being Biracial and Christian," Etc. Magazine. Autumn 11, Seattle Pacific University, 12-13.
- ▶ "Why Christians Can't be Post-Racial: Christian Existence in the Murky Waters of Race and Place" in The Other Journal 16. August 17, 2009. [www.theotherjournal.com](http://www.theotherjournal.com).

## Courses Taught

### **GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

Introduction to Theology  
Theology, Race, and Culture  
Theologies of Black Life  
Theologies of Hybridity  
Art as Theological Practice  
Theology and Visuality  
Introduction to Theological Education

### **SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY**

#### Undergraduate courses

Introduction to Christian Theology  
Introduction to Christian Theology (arts emphasis)  
Christianity and Society  
Christian Identity and Formation  
Christology  
Introduction to Christian Ethics  
Theology of Karl Barth  
Introduction to Christian Reconciliation  
Theology, Art and the Body  
University Scholars: Modernity (Texts and Contexts)  
Are Mixed People the Future? Introduction to Critical Mixed Race Studies

### Seminary courses

Theology, Race, and Culture  
Introduction to Theology: Christology  
Theology of Karl Barth  
Gender and the Body  
Theology, Art, and the Body  
Public Theology

## Service

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Committee on Faculty, 2022-2023  
Theology Area Chair, 2021-2023

Seattle Pacific University

Faculty Status Committee, September 2018-June 2019  
Co-Director, Cultural Studies and Social Justice Major, September 2017-June 2019  
Cultural Engagement Workshop Facilitator, June 2017, September 2017  
Faculty Diversity Committee, 2012-2015 (chair, 2014-2015)  
First Year Curriculum Task Force, 2013-2014  
Cultural Engagement Task Force, 2012-2013  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2010-present  
Asian American Ministry Program Faculty Advisory Committee, 2010-present  
Graduate Admissions Committee, 2009-2010

## Editorial

Associate Editor, Journal of Literature and Theology, 2013-2020  
Black Theology Group Steering Committee, American Academy of Religion, 2015-2020  
Mentoring Consortium Team, The Forum for Theological Exploration, 2013-present (co-lead, 2015-2020)  
Editorial Advisory Committee, The Other Journal, 2010-2015  
African American Lectionary Core Team, 2012-2013

## Peer Review

Journal of Literature and Theology  
Modern Theology  
Political Theology

MELUS: Mixed Ethnic Literature of the United States

Journal of American Academy of Religion

Baylor University Press

Brill

Palgrave MacMillan

Bloomsbury Press

## **Memberships**

American Academy of Religion

International Society for Religion, Literature, and Culture

Workgroup on Constructive Theology, 2017-2020

## **Church teaching and service**

Theologian-in-Residence, Quest Church, Seattle, WA, 2019-present