

**Jason Boaz Simus**

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**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:** Aesthetics, Environmental philosophy, Philosophy of Art.

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:** Ethics, Modern philosophy, Philosophy of Science.

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of North Texas at Denton (2009).

Dissertation: "Disturbing Nature's Beauty: Environmental Aesthetics in a New Ecological Paradigm." J. Baird Callicott, advisor (defense in Spring 2009).

M.A., Philosophy, University of Colorado at Boulder (2003).

Master's thesis: "Framing, Orientation, and Appropriate Aesthetic Appreciation of Natural Environments." John Andrew Fisher, advisor.

B.A., Philosophy, Texas State University at San Marcos (2001).

**PUBLICATIONS**

Invited book review of *Public Art: Theory, Practice, and Populism* by Cher Krause Knight, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* (forthcoming).

"Environmental Art and Ecological Citizenship," *Environmental Ethics* 30, No. 1, Spring 2008.

"Aesthetic Implications of the New Paradigm in Ecology," *Journal of Aesthetic Education* 42, No. 1, Spring 2008.

"A Response to Emily Brady's 'Aesthetic Regard for Nature in Environmental and Land Art.'" *Ethics, Place, and Environment* vol. 10, No. 3, October 2007.

"Allison on Kant's Theory of Beauty as a Symbol of Morality," *Kinesis* vol.30, Fall 2003.

"Birth, Death, and the Meaning of Life," *Dialogue* April 2001.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, Introduction to Contemporary Environmental Issues (Fall 2008, Spring 2007, 2006).

Instructor, Introduction to Contemporary Moral Issues (Spring 2005, 2004).

Instructor, Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2009, Fall 2006, 2005, 2004).

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Logic (Spring 2008, Fall 2007).

## PRESENTATIONS

American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting, Northampton, Massachusetts, November, 2008; *Thinking Through Nature: Philosophy for an Endangered World* conference, University of Oregon, June 2008; North Texas Philosophical Association, University of North Texas, April, 2008.

“Why Environmental Art is Not an Aesthetic Affront to Nature.” American Society for Aesthetics, Pacific Division annual meeting, Asilomar, CA, March 2007; North Texas Philosophical Association annual meeting, Denton, TX, April 2007.

“Aesthetic Implications of the New Paradigm in Ecology,” 2<sup>nd</sup> annual joint meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO, June, 2005; American Society for Aesthetics annual meeting, Houston, TX, October, 2004; North Texas Philosophical Association, University of Dallas, April, 2004.

“Aesthetic Qualities of Water,” joint meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO. June, 2004.

“A Pragmatist Approach to Environmental Aesthetics,” American Philosophical Association, Society of Student Philosophers’ panel, Pacific division meeting, San Francisco, CA. March, 2003; University of Colorado Philosophy Department Graduate Colloquium, Boulder, CO. November, 2002.

“Birth, Death, and the Meaning of Life,” Southwest Texas State University Annual Philosophy Symposium, San Marcos, TX, 2001.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Ecological Citizenship and Environmental Art.” Invited keynote address, 12<sup>th</sup> annual Philosophy Symposium, Texas State University at San Marcos, April, 2009.

Comments on Ned Hettinger’s “Animal Beauty, Ethics, and Environmental Preservation,” 4<sup>th</sup> annual joint meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO, June 2007.

Comments on Emily Brady’s, “Humans and Art in the Land: Power, Conflict, and Harmony.” American Society for Aesthetics annual meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 2006.

Comments on Alison Hagerman’s “Disinterestedness and Autonomy in the Appreciation of Natural Environments.” American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division annual meeting, Asilomar, CA, March 2006.

## INVITED GUEST LECTURES

“Contemporary Environmental Aesthetics,” Graduate Seminar in Aesthetics, University of North Texas (Fall 2007).

“Responding to Students’ Writing.” University of North Texas Orientation for Incoming Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows (Spring 2009, Fall, Spring 2008, Fall, Spring 2007).

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

Invited panel session chair, “Topics in Applied Ethics and Public Policy.” North Texas Philosophical Association annual meeting, Denton, TX (April 2009).

Invited panel session chair, “The Aesthetic, The Ugly, and Junk.” American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division meeting, Asilomar, CA, Spring 2008.

Invited panel session chair, “Ethics, Episteme, and Praxis.” North Texas Philosophical Association annual meeting, Denton, TX (April 2008).

Paper referee, North Texas Philosophical Association annual meeting, Denton, TX (April 2007, April 2008).

Member of organizing committee of WaterWays: A Biennial Conference on Water Issues, University of North Texas (Spring 2005, Spring 2007).

Director, Philosophy and Film series, University of North Texas (Fall 2004, Fall 2006, Spring 2007).

Member of Department Chair search committee, University of North Texas (Spring 2003).

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Travel grant, Center for Environmental Philosophy (June 2005, May 2006, 2008, October 2008).

Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Society (Fall 2007).

Richardson Environmental Action League Fellowship (Spring 2005).

Travel grant, American Society for Aesthetics (October 2004).

Academic achievement award, University of Colorado Philosophy Department (Spring 2001).

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Member of American Philosophical Association (2002-present).

Member of American Society for Aesthetics (2002-present).

Member of International Association for Environmental Philosophy (2007-present).

Member of International Society for Environmental Ethics (2006-present).

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

### University of North Texas at Denton

Environmental Citizenship (Eugene Hargrove) Fall 2006.  
 Metaphysics (Denny Bradshaw, University of Texas at Arlington) Fall 2006.  
 Topics in Modern Philosophy (Martin Yaffe) Fall 2006.  
 Symbolic Logic and Metamathematics (Pete Gunter) Spring 2006.  
 Philosophy of Technology (David Kaplan) Spring 2006.  
 Epistemology (Charles Nussbaum, University of Texas at Arlington) Spring 2006.  
 Topics in Ancient Philosophy (Robert Frodeman) Fall 2005.  
 Philosophy of Science (Harry Reeder) Fall 2005.  
 Philosophy of Mind (Denny Bradshaw, University of Texas at Arlington) Fall 2005.  
 Scholarly writing (Jacquiline Vanhoutte) Fall 2004.  
 Water in Cultural and Political Contexts (Irene Klaver) Spring 2004.  
 Environmental Ethics (Eugene Hargrove) Spring 2004.  
 Philosophy of Natural Science (Pete Gunter) Spring 2004.  
 Seminar in Philosophy of Ecology (J. Baird Callicott) Fall 2003.  
 Environmental Ethics in Literature (David Taylor) Fall 2003.  
 Comparative Environmental Ethics (George James) Fall 2003.  
 Comprehensive exams: History of Modern Philosophy, History of Late Modern  
 Philosophy, Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Aesthetics, Environmental Aesthetics (Summer  
 2007). Examiners: Martin Yaffe, Denny Bradshaw, Charles Nussbaum, Eugene Hargrove,  
 J. Baird Callicott.

### University of Colorado at Boulder

Kant on Cognition and Volition (Robert Hanna) Fall 2001.  
 Philosophy of Mind (Michael Peirce) Fall 2001.  
 Ethics (David Boonin) Fall 2001.  
 Metaphysics (George Bealer) Spring 2002.  
 Seminar in Environmental Philosophy (Alan Carter) Spring 2002.  
 Visiting Scholars Seminar in Art History (Erika Doss) Spring 2002.  
 Aesthetics (John Andrew Fisher) Fall 2002.  
 Independent Study, *Kant's Critique of Judgment* (Robert Hanna) Fall 2002.  
 Theories of Art History (Vernon Minor) Fall 2002.

## REFERENCES

J. Baird Callicott: [callicott@unt.edu](mailto:callicott@unt.edu).  
 Eugene Hargrove: [Hargrove@unt.edu](mailto:Hargrove@unt.edu).  
 Department of Philosophy  
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College of Charleston  
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Allen Carlson: [allen.carlson@ualberta.ca](mailto:allen.carlson@ualberta.ca).  
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Sheila Lintott: [sl025@bucknell.edu](mailto:sl025@bucknell.edu).  
Department of Philosophy  
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Emily Brady: [emily.brady@ed.ac.uk](mailto:emily.brady@ed.ac.uk).  
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