

Dr Emma Wagstaff MA, MPhil, PhD

Lecturer in French Studies

[Department of Modern Languages: French Studies \(/schools/lcahm/departments/french/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/french/index.aspx)

Contact details

Telephone **+44 (0)121 414 5973 (tel:+44 121 414 5973)**

Email **e.r.wagstaff@bham.ac.uk (mailto:e.r.wagstaff@bham.ac.uk)**

Ashley Building
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2TT
UK



About

I came to Birmingham in 2006, and am based in the Department of Modern Languages. Among a range of teaching and research interests, I am particularly keen to promote the study of French literature and the visual arts, and the interactions between them.

Qualifications

- BA (Hons) in Modern and Medieval Languages (French and German), 1998 (MA 2003)
- MPhil in European Literature, 1999
- PhD, 'Time and Forgetting in the Work of André du Bouchet, Philippe Jaccottet and Bernard Noël', 2003

Biography

I studied at Trinity College, Cambridge, where I did an undergraduate degree in French and German, followed by an MPhil in European Literature and a PhD in contemporary French poetry, supervised by Jean Khalifa. Before coming to Birmingham as Lecturer, I taught at Trinity College, Cambridge and at the université Paris XII Val-de-Marne, and was a Research Fellow in French Literature at St. John's College, Cambridge.

Teaching

I teach on a range of courses in French Studies and European Studies, with a particular focus on translation, literature and visual art. My final-year specialist option is on links between modern French writers and artists.

I have been awarded prizes for my work for the Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching, which included a research project on teaching art within modern languages. With colleagues from the Universities of Leeds and Cambridge, I organised a study day on teaching visual arts in modern language undergraduate courses.

Postgraduate supervision

I would be very glad to hear from students wishing to pursue doctoral research in the areas of modern French poetry and word-image interactions.

I also regularly supervise projects and dissertations by students taking the MA in Translation Studies.

Research

I have two main areas of interest in modern and contemporary French Studies: poetry, and the relationship between literature and the visual arts.

My first book, *Provisionality and the Poem: Transition in the work of du Bouchet, Jaccottet and Noël*, was published by Rodopi in 2006. *Writing Art: French Literary Responses to the Work of Alberto Giacometti* (Peter Lang, 2011) examines poetic and critical responses to Giacometti's work by major literary figures from Breton to Bonnefoy.

I have published articles and presented papers on poetry, *poésie critique* and the *livre d'artiste*. I am co-editor with Stephen Forcer of a special issue of *Nottingham French Studies* on *The French Avant-Garde* (2011), and have co-edited, with Hugues Azérad, Michael G. Kelly and Nina Parish, two companion volumes on modern and contemporary French poetry: *Poetic Practice and the Practice of Poetics in French since 1945* (double special issue of *French Forum*, 2012) and *Chantiers du poème : Prémises et pratiques de la création poétique moderne et contemporaine* (Peter Lang, 2012).

I co-organise an **AHRC-funded international network (<http://frenchpoetryand.wordpress.com>)**, whose activities will include study days and open-access events in 2013 and 2014 on contemporary French poetry and its interdisciplinary connections.

Other activities

I regularly speak at the Society for French Studies annual conference and other occasional conferences, and review articles and manuscripts for journals and publishers including *The Modern Language review*, *Nottingham French Studies* and University of Wales Press.

I am joint Programme Lead for French Studies at Birmingham.

Publications

Sole-authored books

- *Writing Art: French Literary Responses to the Work of Alberto Giacometti* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2011)

- *Provisionality and the Poem: Transition in the Work of du Bouchet, Jaccottet and Noël* (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006)

Edited books and special issues

- with Hugues Azérad, Michael G. Kelly and Nina Parish, *Chantiers du poème : Prémises et pratiques de la création poétique moderne et contemporaine* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2012)
- with Hugues Azérad, Michael G. Kelly and Nina Parish, *Poetic Practice and the Practice of Poetics in French since 1945* (= *French Forum*, 37, 1-2 (2012))
- with Stephen Forcer, *The French Avant-Garde* (= *Nottingham French Studies*, 50,3 (2011))

Articles in refereed journals

- "'Le temps rhumain': Time in the Work of Philippe Beck", in *Poetic Practice and the Practice of Poetics in French since 1945*, ed. by Hugues Azerad et al (= *French Forum*, 37, 1-2 (2012), pp. 223-235)
- with Stephen Forcer, 'Dedication and Friendship in Two *Livres d'artistes*: *Parler seul* (Tzara-Miró) and *Vivantes cendres, innommées* (Leiris-Giacometti)', in *The French Avant-Garde*, ed. by Forcer and Wagstaff (= *Nottingham French Studies*, 50,3 (2011), pp. 103-16)
- with Stephen Forcer, *Introduction*, in *The French Avant-Garde*, ed. by Forcer and Wagstaff (= *Nottingham French Studies*, 50,3 (2011), pp. 1-11)
- 'Des matières, non des images: Bernard Noël's Creative Art Criticism', *French Studies*, special issue on 'New Ekphrastic Poetics', ed. by Susan Harrow (= *French Studies* 64, 3 (2010)), pp. 290-301
- 'Loss and Presence in three Poetic Texts of Mourning', *French Forum*, 32, 1-2 (2007), 137-52
- 'Ponge and du Bouchet on Giacometti: Art Criticism as Testimony', *Modern Language Review*, 101 (2006), 75-89
- 'The Creative Gesture: Bernard Noël's Poetry and Art Criticism', *Dalhousie French Studies*, 71 (2005), 53-63

Chapters in books and short articles

- 'André du Bouchet: "Accidents"', in *Twentieth-Century French Poetry: A Critical Anthology*, ed. by Peter Collier and Hugues Azérad (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), ISBN 978-0-521-71398-6, pp. 163-69.
- (With J. Khalfa) 'Poetry', in *Encyclopedia of Modern French Thought*, ed. by Christopher John Murray (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2004)
- 'André du Bouchet and Pierre Tal Coat: Sous le linteau en forme de joug', in *The Dialogue Between Painting and Poetry*, ed. by J. Khalfa (Cambridge: Black Apollo Press, 2001), pp. 105-126
- 'L'Étrangeté: André du Bouchet, Philippe Jaccottet and Translation', *Mantis*, Stanford University, 2 (2001), 121-137

Book Reviews

I regularly review books for the *Modern Language Review* and *French Studies*.

Expertise

Modern and contemporary French poetry; links between French writers and artists; Alberto Giacometti

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