

**Alex Purves**

Associate Professor of Classics, UCLA  
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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Classical Studies. University of Pennsylvania, PA. 2002.  
MA. Classical Studies. University of Pennsylvania, PA. 1999.  
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Classics, University of Pennsylvania, 1997.  
MA with Distinction. Classical Studies. University of Nottingham, Nottingham, U.K. 1995.  
BA (Hons.) English and Classical Studies. University of Nottingham, Nottingham, U.K. 1993.

**EMPLOYMENT**

2010–Present. Associate Professor of Classics, UCLA.  
2002–2010. Assistant Professor of Classics, UCLA.

**RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

Archaic Greek poetry; classical prose; touch and the senses; kinaesthetics, gesture; reception.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- “Feeling on the Surface: Touch and Emotion in Fuseli and Homer” in S. Butler, ed., *Deep Classics: Rethinking Classical Reception*. Bloomsbury (2016): 67–85.
- “Ajax and Other Objects: Homer's Vibrant Materialism” in S. Lindheim & H. Morales, eds., *New Essays in Homer: Language, Violence, and Agency, Ramus Special Issue* (2015): 75–94.
- “Sleeping Outside in Homer's *Odyssey* and W. G. Sebald's *The Emigrants*” in H. Gardner and S. Murnaghan, eds., *Odyssean Identities in Modern Cultures*. Ohio State University Press (2014): 175–96.
- “Who, Sappho?” in R. Scodel & D. Cairns, eds., *Defining Greek Narrative*. Edinburgh Leventis Studies, vol. 7. University of Edinburgh Press (2014): 175–96.
- “In the Bedroom: Interior Space in Herodotus' *Histories*” in K. Gilhuly & N. Worman, eds., *Space, Place, and Landscape in Ancient Greek Literature and Culture*. Cambridge University Press (2014): 94–129.
- Synaesthesia and the Ancient Senses* (edited volume, with S. Butler). Acumen/Routledge (2013).
- “Haptic Herodotus” in S. Butler & A. Purves, eds., *Synaesthesia: Classics Across the Senses*. Acumen/Routledge (2013): 27–41.
- “Introduction” (with S. Butler), in S. Butler & A. Purves, eds., *Synaesthesia and the Ancient Senses*. Acumen/Routledge (2013): 1–6.
- “Thick Description: Auerbach and the Boar's Lair” in M. Skempis and I. Ziogas, eds., *Geography, Topography, Landscape: Configurations of Space in Greek and Roman Epic*. De Gruyter (2013): 37–62.
- Review of Francis Dunn, *Present Shock in Late Fifth-Century Greece* (2007), *Classical Review* 62.1 (2012): 49–51.
- “Homer and the Art of Overtaking.” *American Journal of Philology* 132.4 (2011): 523–51.
- “Ares,” “Hades,” “Hermes,” “The Body,” “Olympus,” In M. Finkelberg, ed., *The Homer Encyclopedia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2011).
- Space and Time in Ancient Greek Narrative*. Cambridge University Press (2010).
- “Wind and Time in Homeric Epic.” *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 140.2 (2010): 323–50.
- Review of Silvia Montiglio, *Wandering in Ancient Greek Culture*. *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, 15.3 (2008): 478–81.
- “Falling Into Time in Homer's *Iliad*.” *Classical Antiquity* 25.1. (2006): 179–209.
- “The Plot Unravels: Darius's Numbered Days in Scythia (Herodotus 4.98).” *Helios* 33.1 (2006): 1–26.
- “Unmarked Space: Odysseus and the Inland Journey.” *Arethusa* 39.1 (2006): 1–20.
- “Topographies of Time in Hesiod” in R. Rosen, ed., *Time and Temporality in the Ancient World*, University of Pennsylvania Museum Press (2004): 147–68.
- “Empowerment for the Athenian Citizen: Philocleon as Actor and Spectator in Aristophanes' *Wasps*” in B. Zimmermann, ed., *Griechisch-römische Komödie und Tragödie*. *DRAMA* vol. 5 (1997): 5–22.

### Completed / Forthcoming

*Touch and the Ancient Senses* (edited volume), Routledge, July 2017.

*Positions in Homer* (ms. in review, Oxford University Press).

“Rough Reading: Tangible Language in Ancient Criticism of Homer,” in J. Grethlein, L. Huitink, A. Tagliobue, eds., *Narrative and Experience*. Cambridge University Press. Forthcoming.

### In Progress

“Touch and Time in Heliodorus’ *Aethiopia*.”

“Sappho’s Lyric Sensibility,” in P. Finglass & A. Kelly, eds., *Cambridge Companion to Sappho*. Cambridge University Press.

“Sense and Experience in Ancient Literary Criticism,” in J. Connolly & N. Worman, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Literary Theory and Criticism*. Oxford University Press.

### **PAPERS & LECTURES** (from 2010 only)

*The Drag of Gesture: Bearing the Body in Iliad 24*

- Invited Lecture, Columbia University, NY. September 2016.

*Tangible Language: Ancient Literary Criticism of Homer*

- Metaphor and Materiality Panel, Classical Association Annual Conference, Edinburgh, UK. April 2016.

*Gesture and Repetition: The End of the Odyssey*

- Invited Lecture. Forum Antiquum Series, Leiden University, Netherlands. March 2016.

*Ending the Odyssey.*

- Keynote Speaker and Respondent, Homer and the Epic Tradition (Seminar VIII), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. December 2015.

*Homer Goes to Hollywood: The Odyssey in Film.*

- Public Lecture, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. December 2015.

*Touch and Time in Heliodorus’ Aethiopia*

- Novel and the Senses Panel, International Conference on the Ancient Novel, Houston, TX, October 2015.

*Standing By the Stathmos: Suspense at Home*

- Invited Lecture. House and Home: Theories, Texts, Metaphors Conference. Susan and Donald Newhouse Center for the Humanities, Wellesley College, MA. May 2015.

*Lost and Found at the Movies.*

- Discussion / Q&A with John Nein (Sundance Film Festival) on Homer and Film. Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, CA. Part of the *L.A. Odyssey Project*. October 2014.

*Feeling on the Surface*

- Deep Classics: Rethinking Classical Reception Conference. Institute for Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition, University of Bristol, UK. October 2014.

*Touching Space: Turning on the Limits of Word and Image.*

- Keynote Speaker. Classical Association Annual Conference, University of Nottingham, UK. April 2014.

*Ajax and Other Objects: Homer’s Vibrant Materialism*

- Panel on “The Ancient Nonhuman,” APA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. January 2014.
- Invited Lecture. Department of Classics, University of Toronto, Canada. October 2014.
- Ancient Nonhuman Panel, Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, MN. September 2012.

*Odysseus’ Last Leap: Unfinished Action in Homeric Epic*

- Invited Lecture. “Rhetoric and Poetics” Seminar, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. September 2013.
- Invited Lecture. Department of Classics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. October 2013.

*Feeling for Stone and Wool: Haptic Aesthetics*

- Invited Paper. Aesthetics Workshop, Barnard College, NY. April 2013.

*Crouching Odysseus: Action and Ending in Homeric Epic*

- Invited Lecture. Classics Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. February 2013.
- Invited Lecture. Classics Department, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. February 2013.

*Thick Description: Auerbach and the Boar's Lair*

- Invited Lecture. Departments of Classics and Comparative Literature, University of Davis, Davis, CA. May 2012.

*Getting Lost with Herodotus.*

- Invited Workshop Presentation. University of Toronto Jackman Humanities Group. Toronto, Canada. February 2012.

*Who, Sappho?*

- Invited Paper. Leventis Conference on Greek and Other Narrative, Edinburgh, UK. October 2011.
- Invited Lecture. Department of Classics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. February 2012.
- Invited Lecture. Department of Classics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. April 2012.

*Teaching the Homeric Gods*

- Homeric Pedagogy Panel, APA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. January 2011.

*Sleeping Outside: Homer's Odyssey and W. G. Sebald's The Emigrants*

- Nostos Conference, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. March 2011.

*The Sense of Touch*

- Invited Paper. Sensory Overload: Harvard/Radcliffe Seminar on the Senses, Boston, MA. May 2011.

*Homer and the Art of Overtaking*

- UCLA Brown Bag Lunch Talks on Research-in-Progress, Los Angeles. October 2010.

*Haptic Herodotus*

- Synesthesia: Beyond the Visual Paradigm Conference, UCLA, Los Angeles, April 2010.

## **PANELS & CONFERENCES**

*Pindar's Thoughtworld.* Chair. American Philological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. January 2013.

*Touch.* Co-organizer and Co-Chair (with Shane Butler). American Philological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. January 2012.

*Synesthesia: Classics Beyond the Visual Paradigm.* UCLA Department of Classics /CMRS Conference. Co-organizer with Shane Butler and Mario Telò. May 2010.

## **GRANTS & AWARDS**

Spinoza Visiting Research Fellow. Leiden, Netherlands. Spring 2016.

UCLA Research Enabling Grant. 2016–2017 (\$6000); 2015–2016 (\$2000); 2014–2015 (\$2000); 2013–2014 (\$2000); 2012–2013 (\$2000); 2011–12 (\$2000); 2009–2010 (\$1000); 2008–2009 (\$1000); 2007–2008 (\$1000); 2006–2007 (\$1000); 2005–2006 (\$1000); 2004–2005 (\$2000).

Center for Hellenic Studies, Junior Fellow. 2005–2006.

American Council of Learned Societies, Fellow. 2005–2006.

National Endowment for the Humanities. Summer Stipend. 2005.

UCLA Faculty Career Development Award. \$3,000, 2009–2010; 1/3 Sabbatical Supplement, 2004–2005.

Dean's Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania. 2002.

Benjamin Franklin Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania. 2001–2002.

## **SERVICE**

UCLA Department of Classics

Director of Graduate Studies. 2015–Present.

Director of Undergraduate Studies. 2008–2011; 2013–2014.

Teaching Assistant Coordinator. 2011–2013.

Reading Room Supervisor. 2006–2010.

Search Committees:

Assistant Professor Roman Material Culture. 2006–2007.

Assistant Professor, Latin Literature. 2012–2013.

Temporary Lecturers. 2009, 2012, 2014

Visiting Palevsky Chair. 2013.

Student Affairs Officer. 2016.

Greek and Latin Assistant Professors (2) 2016–2017

Graduate Affairs Committee. 2002–2006, 2015–Present.

Undergraduate Affairs Committee. 2006–2014.

Field at large

*Classical Antiquity*, Editorial Board. 2010–Present.

*Classical Receptions Journal*. August 2016–Present.

*Society for Classical Studies* Nominating Committee 2013–2016. Co-chair 2015–2016.

*John J. Winkler Memorial Prize*. Jury. 2013–2014.

*American Philological Association* Committee on the Status of Women and Minority Groups. January 2011–2013. Chair 2013.

*American Philological Association* Lionel Pearson Fellowship Committee. 2005–2008.

**TEACHING** 2002–Present. UCLA.

Undergraduate

GRK 1–3 **Introduction to Ancient Greek**: Fall 02; Winter 03; Fall 03; Winter 04; Spring 11.

GRK 20 Intermediate Greek: **Lucian, *A True History***. Fall 15.

GRK 100 Intermediate Greek: **Xenophon's *Oeconomicus***: Fall 03.

GRK 100+ Advanced Greek: **Homer's *Odyssey***: Spring 07, Spring 11; **Euripides' *Medea***: Spring 09; **Hesiod's *Theogony***: Fall 09; **Lysias' *Orations***: Winter 11; **Herodotus' *Histories***: Fall 12; **Sophocles' *Philoctetes***: Fall 13; **Apollonius *Argonautica***: Spring 16.

CL 30 **Classical Mythology**: Spring 03; Spring 05; Spring 07; Spring 10; Spring 12.

CL 60 **The Fantastic Journey: Antiquity and Beyond**: Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2015.

CL 191 Capstone Seminar: Classics **"The Immortal Experience"**: Winter 09; **"The Other Plays of Aeschylus"**: Winter 12.

HON 13 Honors Collegium Seminar – **The Fantastic Journey From Homer to Kubrick's *2001 A Space Odyssey***: Winter 04.

CL 19 Fiat Lux Undergraduate Seminar: **"My Broken Tongue: The Poetry of Sappho"**: Winter 10, Spring 11, Winter 12.

Masters

GRK 200A **MA Survey Greek Literature of the Archaic Period**: Winter 07, Winter 09, Fall 12, Spring 15; Fall 16.

GRK 200B **MA Survey Greek Literature of the Classical Period**: Spring 03; Spring 05.

CL 495: **Graduate Teaching Practicum**. Spring 12, Spring 13.

CL 287: **Graduate Proseminar**. Fall 15; Fall 16.

PhD

GRK 200+ Graduate Seminars:

**Aristophanes**: Spring 04.

**Homer's *Iliad***: Spring 08.

**Herodotus' *Histories***: Fall 09.

**Homer's *Odyssey***: Winter 11.

**Homer's *Iliad***: Fall 13.

**Hesiod**: Winter 16.

Leiden University, NL

Master's Seminar on **Homer's *Iliad***: Spring 16.

**SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS**

Dissertation Committees

Celsiana Warwick ("For Those Yet to Come: Gender and Kleos in the *Iliad*"). Director. (Prospectus Defence June 16).

Justin Vorhis ("The Best of the Macedonians: Alexander as Achilles in Curtius, Plutarch, and Arrian"). Committee Member.

Hilary Lehmann ("Feeling Home: House and Ideology in the Attic Orators"). Committee Member.

Suzanne Lye ("The Hypertextual Underworld: Exploring the Underworld as an Intertextual Space in Greek Literature."). Committee Member.

William McCrary ("Working Subjects: Psychoanalysis, Emotion and the *Iliad*"). Committee Member.

Sarah Olsen ("Beyond Choreia: Solo and Individualized Dance in Ancient Greek Literature and Culture"). UC Berkeley. External Committee Member. PhD 2016.

Kristin Mann (“The Fabulist in the Fable Book.”) Committee Member. PhD 2015.  
Jessica Higgins (“From Fleet to Foot: An Analysis of Odysseus’ Pedestrian Journeys in the *Odyssey*”),  
U. Toronto. External Committee Member. PhD 2014.  
Craig Russell (“Homer’s Possible Worlds.”) Director. PhD 2013.  
Charles Stein (“Beyond the Generation of Leaves: Plant and Human Life in Archaic Greek Poetry”)  
Director. PhD 2013.  
Michael Brumbaugh (“Constructing Ideologies of Kingship: Praise Poetry in Hellenistic Egypt”)  
Committee Member. PhD 2011.  
Christopher Lovell (“The Overburdened Earth: Landscape and Geography in the *Iliad*”), U-Texas-  
Austin. External Committee Member. PhD 2011.  
Renée Calkins (“Making *Kleos Thnêton*: Funerary Commemoration and the Making of Social Memory  
in Archaic Athens”). Committee Member. PhD 2010.  
Emily Kratzer (“*Tenella Kallinikos*: Herakles and the Religious and Literary Conceptions of Death and  
the Afterlife in Late 5<sup>th</sup>-century Athens”). Committee Member. PhD 2010.  
Lorenzo Garcia (“Homeric Temporalities: Simultaneity, Sequence and Durability in the *Iliad*”)  
Committee Member. PhD 2007.

#### Special Field Exams

Ben Radcliffe (Aesthetics and Archaic Greek Poetry) 2016.  
Celsiana Warwick (Gender and Archaic Greek Epic) 2016.  
Hilary Lehmann (Greek Oratory) 2013.  
William McCrary (Homer and Cognitive Poetics) 2012.  
Kristin Mann (Fables) 2012.  
Craig Russell (Homeric Time and Narrative) 2010.  
Charles Stein (Lyric Poetry) 2009.  
Michael Brumbaugh (Lyric Poetry) 2008.

#### M.A. Papers

Elliott Piros (Causation in Heliodorus’ *Aethiopica*) 2015.  
Ben Radcliffe (Homer’s Dichotomous Style) 2015.  
Anna Gonzales (Homeric Memory) 2014.  
Celsiana Warwick (Maternal Kleos) 2014.  
Doug Fraleigh (Herodotus in Halicarnassus) 2011.  
Julia Abbott (Sound in Homeric Epic) 2009.  
Andrew Kinzler (The Seduction of Zeus) 2008.

#### Graduate Teaching Mentorship

Robert Groves (Lost in Translation) Winter 2011.

#### Graduate Research Mentorship

Ben Radcliffe (Homeric Aesthetics in Motion) 2015–2016.  
Celsiana Warwick (Gender and the *Iliad*) 2014–2015.  
Justin Vorhis (Homeric Characterization) 2013–2014.  
Suzanne Lye (Homer/colonization) 2007–2008.

#### Graduate Summer Research Mentorship

Ben Radcliffe (Homeric Style) 2014.  
Celsiana Warwick (Gendered Similes in Homer) 2013.  
Anna Gonzales (Homeric Memory) 2012.  
Charles Stein (Homeric Plantlife) 2009.  
Emily Rush (Homer/vase painting) 2005.

#### Senior Honors Thesis

Stephen Millburn (Space in Homer) 2013–14.  
Kyle Erickson (Homer/Herodotus/dreams) 2005.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Society for Classical Studies  
Women’s Classical Caucus  
Lambda Classical Caucus