

## **MARK PAYNE**

The University of Chicago  
Departments of Classics and Comparative Literature, the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, and  
The College  
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### **Education**

Ph.D. Classics, Columbia University, 2003 (Distinction)  
M.A. Romanticism and Modernism, Southampton University, 1990 (Distinction)  
B.A. English Language and Literature, Oxford University, 1989 (First Class)

### **Academic Employment**

*2019-present*

Chester D. Tripp Professor, Departments of Classics and Comparative Literature, the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, and the College, the University of Chicago

*2013-2018*

Professor, Department of Classics, the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, and the College, the University of Chicago

*2010-2013*

Associate Professor, Department of Classics, the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, and the College, the University of Chicago

*2009-2010*

Associate Professor, Department of Classics and the College, the University of Chicago

*2003-2009*

Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and the College, the University of Chicago

### **Honors and Awards**

*2011*

The Warren-Brooks Award for Outstanding Literary Criticism (for *The Animal Part*)

*2007-2008*

Faculty Fellow, The Franke Institute for the Humanities, The University of Chicago

*1998-2003*

President's Fellow, Columbia University

*1987-1989*

Demy Fellow, Magdalen College, Oxford

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### ***Books***

2020. *Flowers of time / On post-apocalyptic fiction*. Princeton University Press.

2018. *Hontology: Depressive Anthropology and the Shame of Life*. Zero Books.

2010. *The Animal Part: Human and Other Animals in the Poetic Imagination*. The University of Chicago Press.

Ziba Rashidian, *Nineteenth Century Studies* 24, 2010, 159-68 || Victoria Rimell, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2011.02.21 || Stephen Burt, *Rain Taxi* 2011.05.09 || Nancy Worman, *American Journal of Philology* 133, 2012, 696-9 || Carlo Salzani, *Bryn Mawr Review of Comparative Literature* 10, 2012 || David Konstan, *Classical World* 106, 2013, 288-9 || Adam Lecznar, *Classics for All Reviews* 2015.08.09 (paperback release).

2007. *Theocritus and the Invention of Fiction*. Cambridge University Press.

Owen Hodkinson, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2008.06.13 || Graham Zanker, *Classical Review* 59, 2009, 88-91 || Wolfgang Polleichtner, *Gnomon* 81, 2009, 391-4 || V. Castellani, *European Legacy* 14, 2009, 87-90 || Robert Kirstein, *Classical World* 102, 2009, 193-4 || Jon S. Bruss, *American Journal of Philology* 129, 2008, 595-7 || Brian W. Breed, *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 128, 2008, 198-9 || Adolf Köhnken, *Gymnasium* 117, 2009, 275-7 || Daniel Donnet, *L'antiquité classique* 77, 2008, 378-80 || Regina Höschel, *New England Classical Journal* 35, 2008, 143-5.

### **Series editor**

*Critical antiquities*. University of Chicago Press. With Brooke Holmes.

### **Articles and Chapters**

In preparation. "Speculative historicity." In *Heidegger and the Classics*, edited by Aaron Turner. Berlin: De Gruyter.

2020. "Callimachus and Theon: A dialogue." *Vita: Harvard Magazine*. July-August 2020: 14-15. With Stephanie Burt.

2020. "Foreword." Stephanie Burt, *After Callimachus*. Lockert poetry in translation series. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

2020. "Post-apocalyptic humanism in Hesiod, Mary Shelley, and Olaf Stapledon." *Classical Receptions* 12.1: 91-108.

2019. "Chorality." In *Asad Raza's Root sequence. Mother tongue*, edited by Olivia Fairweather. London: Koenig Books: 124-28.

2019. "Shared life as chorality in Schiller, Hölderlin, and Hellenistic poetry." In *Antiquities Beyond Humanism*, edited by Emanuela Bianchi, Sara Brill, and Brooke Holmes. Oxford: Oxford University Press: *Classics in Theory* series: 141-58.

2018. "What's an ark?" *Relegere: Studies in Religion and Reception* 7.1-2: 73-91.

2018. "Poetry, vegetality, relief from being." *Environmental Philosophy* 15.2: 255-74.

2018. "Fidelity and farewell: Pindar's ethics as textual events." In *Textual Events*, edited by Felix Budelmann and Tom Phillips. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 257-74.

2017. "Centaur." In *liquid antiquity*, edited by Brooke Holmes. Athens: DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art: 120-23.

2017. "Before the law: Imagining crimes against trees." In *Fatal Fictions: Crime and Investigation in Law and Literature*, edited by Richard McAdams, Alison LaCroix, and Martha Nussbaum. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 241-58.

2016. "Aetna and Aetnaism: Schiller, vibrant matter, and the phenomenal regimes of ancient poetry." *Helios* 43: 1-20.

2016. "Attention drift: An interview with Mark Payne." In *Bad at Sports: Contemporary Art Talk*. <http://badatsports.com/2016/attention-drift-an-interview-with-mark-payne/>

2016. "Trees in shallow time." In *Imperceptibly and Slowly Opening*, edited by Caroline Picard. Chicago: Green Lantern Press: 76-83.

2016. "Teknomajikality and the humanimal in Aristophanes' *Wasps*." In *The Brill Companion to the Reception of Aristophanes*, edited by Phil Walsh. Leiden: Brill: 129-47.

2016. "Relic | channel | ghost: Centaurs in Algernon Blackwood's *The Centaur*." In *Deep Classics: Rethinking Classical Reception*, edited by Shane Butler. London: Bloomsbury: 239-54.

2014. "Nature deficiency, nature hunger." *The Yearbook of Comparative Literature* 58: 196-97. DOI: 10.1353/cgl.2012.0021

2014. "The natural world in Greek literature and philosophy." In *Oxford Handbooks Online in Classical Studies*, edited by Gareth Williams. DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935390.013.001

2014. "The one absolute didactic poem, and its opposite: Schelling on ancient didactic poetry and the scientificity of contemporary lyric." *Classical Receptions* 6: 245-69. DOI: 10.1093/crj/clt018

2013. "The understanding ear: Synaesthesia, paraesthesia, and talking animals." In *The Other Senses: Antiquity Beyond the Visual Paradigm*, edited by Shane Butler and Alex Purves. Durham, UK: Acumen: 43-52.

2013. "Aristotle on poets as parents and the Hellenistic poet as mother." In *Classical Myth and Psychoanalysis: Ancient and Modern Stories of the Self*, edited by Ellen O'Gorman and Vanda Zajko: 299-313. Oxford.

2012. "Aristotle's birds and Aristophanes' *Birds*." In *Éclats de littérature grecque d'Homère à Pascal Quignard: Mélanges offerts à Suzanne Saïd*, edited by Sandrine Dubel, Sophie Gotteland, and Estelle Oudot. Nanterre: Presses universitaires de Paris Ouest: 113-32.

2012. "Pastoral: ancient"; "Choliamb." In *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, edited by Roland Greene. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

2011. "Iambic theater: The childhood of Callimachus revisited." In *The Brill Companion to Callimachus*, edited by Benjamin Acosta-Hughes, Luigi Lehnus and Susan Stephens. Leiden: Brill: 487-501.

2010. "The bucolic fiction of Theocritus." In *A Companion to Hellenistic Literature*, edited by James Clauss and Martine Cuypers. Malden, MA: Blackwell: 224-37.

2009. "Pastoral." In *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Literature*, edited by Richard Eldridge. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 117-38.

2007. "Ideas in lyric communication: Pindar and Paul Celan." *Modern Philology* 105: 5-20.

2006. "On being vatic: Pindar, pragmatism, and historicism." *American Journal of Philology* 127: 159-84.

2003. "Narrative technique in Theocritus' *Idyll* 12." *Arethusa* 36: 37-48.

2001. "Ecphrasis and song in Theocritus' *Idyll* 1." *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 42: 263-87.

2000. "Three double messenger scenes in Sophocles." *Mnemosyne* 53: 403-18.

### **Reviews**

2013.04.60. E. Sistakou, *The Aesthetics of Darkness: A Study of Hellenistic Romanticism in Apollonius, Lycophron, and Nicander*, Bryn Mawr Classical Review.

2012. M. Eskin, *Poetic Affairs: Celan, Grünbein, Brodsky*, *Modern Philology* 109.

2004. S. A. Stephens, *Seeing Double: Intercultural Poetics in Ptolemaic Alexandria*, *Classical Philology* 99: 267-72.

### **Poetry**

*Hambone, Talisman, Object Permanence, Shearsman*

## TALKS

*Harvard University, 14-15 April 2020*

Reading: *After Callimachus*, Harvard Book Store (with Stephanie Burt)

Discussion: Classical Traditions seminar (with Stephanie Burt)

*Princeton University, 23-24 January 2020*

Workshop: An Archaeology of Sound with Umashankar Manthravadi

*University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Classics, 11-12 October 2019*

Conference: Metamorphosis and the Environmental Imagination, from Ovid to Shakespeare

“Ancient aliens: Biotechnology, slavery, and the Greeks in H. P. Lovecraft’s *At the Mountains of Madness*.”

*The University of Manchester Centre for Inter-Disciplinary Research in Arts and Languages (CIDRAL), 2-3 April 2019*

“Occupation and Mentation in Post-Apocalyptic Fiction”; “Theorizing catastrophe.”

*The University of Warwick Centre for Research in Philosophy, Literature, and the Arts, 3 May 2018*

“Poetry, vegetality, relief from being.”

*Florida State University, Department of Classics, 23-24 March 2018*

Conference: Anachronism and Antiquity: Configuring Temporalities in Ancient Literature, Scholarship, and Material Culture

“The future in the past: Hesiod and speculative fiction.”

*Boghossian Foundation, Brussels, 12-12 May 2017*

Workshop: Atopia

“Fugitive pastoral.”

*Johns Hopkins University, Department of Classics, 14-15 April 2017*

Seminar: Haunting Antiquity

“Hontology versus hauntology.”

*University of Southern California, Department of Classics, 30 January 2017*

“Poetry, vegetality, relief from being: On relationality with the living in ancient literary thought.”

*University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Classics, 21-22 October 2016*

Graduate Student Conference: Into the Wild: Flora and Fauna in the Classical World

Keynote address: “Forms of relationality with the living in ancient literary thought: vegetality.”

*University of California, San Diego, Department of Literature, 20 October 2016*

“Forms of relationality with the living in ancient literary thought: chorality.”

*University of California, Berkeley, 4-5 January 2016*

Conference: Swarms, Collectivities, Intensities, Networks, and Nodes

“Trees in shallow time.”

*Literature and Philosophy Workshop, The University of Chicago, 19 November 2015*

“Gnostic and Hellenic ecologies.”

*Sector 2337 Gallery, Chicago, 7 November 2015*

Following Nonhuman kinds: The plant symposium

“Matter | life | trees.”

*Magdalen College, Oxford University, 27-28 March 2015*

Conference: Textual Events: Rethinking Poetics in a Performance Culture

“Fidelity and farewell: Pindar’s ethics as textual events.”

*Stanford University, Workshop in Poetry and Poetics, 26 January 2015*

“The choric con-sociality of nonhuman life: Schiller, Hölderlin, and interpellation by Nature in Hellenistic poetry.”

*Princeton University, Department of Classics, 6-7 January 2015*  
Postclassicisms Global Collaborative Network  
“Responsibility and disciplinary ecology.”

*University of Washington, Department of Classics, 5 December 2014*  
“The choric con-sociality of nonhuman life: Schiller, Hölderlin, and interpellation by Nature in Hellenistic poetry.”

*Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, 4 December 2014*  
Invited talk for Ann Hamilton installation, “The Common Sense”  
“Animal relics | Relic animals”

*University of Bristol, Institute for Greece, Rome, and the Classical Tradition, 21-22 November 2014*  
Conference: Deep Classics 1  
“Philology, ecology, hauntology: Algernon Blackwood’s Greece.”

*New York University, Department of Comparative Literature, 13-15 November 2014*  
Conference: Posthuman Antiquities  
“The choric con-sociality of nonhuman life.”

*Cambridge University, Craven Seminar, 22-23 May 2014*  
X [Interdisciplinary] Caucus: Being Human — Classical Perspectives  
“The choric con-sociality of nonhuman life.”

*University of Chicago, Committee on Social Thought, 16-17 May 2014*  
Conference: The Novel as a Form of Thought  
“The con-sociality of nonhuman life in the work of Nathaniel Hawthorne.”

*Indiana University, Graduate Program in Ancient Studies, 11-12 April 2014*  
Conference: Miniature and Minor  
“Callimachus, Twombly, and the poetics of childhood.”

*The University of Chicago, Poetry and Poetics Workshop, 7 April 2014*  
“Callimachus, Twombly, and the poetics of childhood.”

*New York University, Department of Classics, 13-14 February 2014*  
Conference: Animals in Antiquity  
Response to Craig Williams: “Animals in Love: Images from Greek and Latin Literature.”

*University of Chicago, Law School, 7-8 February 2014*  
Conference: Crime in Law and Literature  
“Before the law: Imagining crimes against trees.”

*Annual Meeting, American Philological Association, 2-5 January 2014*  
Panel organizer (with Brooke Holmes, Princeton University): “The Ancient Non-human.”  
Paper: “Thinking like a mountain: *Aetna* as a Hellenistic didactic poem.”

*Chicago Humanities Festival, 2-10 November 2013*  
Animal: What does it mean to be human?  
“The Iambic Animal” (Karla Scherer Endowed Lecture Series for the University of Chicago).

*Boston University, Department of Classical Studies, 22-23 March 2013*  
Graduate Student Conference: Homo animalis: Man and Animal in the Ancient World  
Keynote address: “Beyond empathy: Imagining nonhuman life in ancient didactic poetry.”

*Princeton University, Department of Classics, 16 October 2012*  
The William Kelly Prentice Memorial Lecture  
“The one absolute didactic poem, and its opposite: From Nicander to Paul Celan.”

*The Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, 26th Annual Conference, 27-30 September 2012*  
Panel Co-organizer (with Brooke Holmes, Princeton University): “The Ancient Non-human.”  
Paper: “Thinking like a mountain: Poetry as a practice of immanence.”

*Western Kentucky University, English Department, 15 April 2011*

The Warren-Brooks Lecture

“The ‘Heart Look’ in Robert Penn Warren’s *Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce*.”

*The University of Chicago, Humanities Open House, 23 October 2010*

“How young people should listen to animals: Stories of nonhuman communication from ancient Greece and the American Plains.”

*The University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1-2 October 2010*

Graduate Student Forum: The Beast Within (and Without): Animals in the Ancient World

Keynote address: “Pre- and post-humanities: Animal studies, classical studies, and new directions in critical theory.”

*University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Classics, 30 April-1 May 2010*

Conference: Synesthesia: Classics Beyond the Visual Paradigm

“Sound and sense in ancient narrative.”

*University of Minnesota, Departments of Classics and Comparative Literature, 13 November 2009*

“The poet as parent: From Plato to Hellenistic poetry.”

*Columbia University, Department of Classics, 13 October 2009*

“The Hellenistic poet as mother.”

*University of London, School of Advanced Studies, 3-6 September 2009*

Fifth Bristol Colloquium on Classical Myth: Classical Myth and Psychoanalysis

“Literary history and poetic childhood.”

*University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Classics, 10 April 2009*

“Natality and the tradition: Aristotle and Callimachus on poets as mothers and children.”

*Northwestern University, Department of Classics, 7-8 November 2008*

Conference: Theatre Outside Athens: Drama in the Greek Colonies of Sicily and South Italy

Response to Benjamin Acosta-Hughes: “Outlines of theatrical performance in Theocritus.”

*University of Crete, Department of Philology, 19-20 May 2008*

Conference: Greek and Roman Ecphrasis

“Ecphrasis and atmosphere.”

*The University of Chicago, Greek Thought and Literature Humanities Core Lecture, 14 February 2008*

“Aristophanes’ *Birds*.”

*The University of Chicago, Poetry and Poetics Workshop, 7 January 2008*

“The beast in pain: Abjection and aggression in Archilochus and William Carlos Williams.”

*The University of Michigan, Department of Classics, 16 September, 2006*

Seminar: Hellenistic poetry and Philodemus

“Visual representation and literary imagination: Callimachus, *Iambs* 6 & 7.”

*The University of Chicago, Franke Institute for the Humanities, 3-4 March 2006*

Conference: How to read. What to do. The future of poetry criticism

“Ideas in lyric communication: Pindar and Paul Celan.”

*Annual Meeting, American Philological Association, 5-8 January 2006, Montreal*

Colloquium: Interrogating theory, critiquing practice

“Truth claims in archaic poetry.”

*The University of Chicago, Humanities Open House, 22 October 2005*

“The invention of fiction in ancient Greece: Theory and practice.”

*The University of Chicago, Franke Institute for the Humanities, 2 March 2005*

New Faculty Talk

“Pindar, pragmatism, and poetic interpretation.”

*The University of Chicago, Poetry and Poetics/Rhetoric and Poetics Workshops, 4 October 2004*  
 “On being vatic: Thinking about Pindar and historicism.”

## TEACHING

Introduction to Attic Greek (GREK 10100 and 10200): autumn 2012; winter 2009, 2012.  
 Introduction to Accelerated Attic Greek (GREK 11100 and 11200): autumn 2004, 2005, 2006, 2010; winter 2012.  
 Intermediate Greek: Plato (GREK 20100): autumn 2018, 2019; Sophocles (GREK 20200): winter 2014  
 Greek Lyric and Epinician Poetry (GREK 2/31700): autumn 2003, 2006, 2018.  
 Greek Elegy (GREK 2/31700): autumn 2004; spring 2014.  
 Greek Epic (GREK 2/31800): winter 2006, 2009.  
 Aristophanes (GREK 2/31400): spring 2009.  
 Survey of Greek Literature 3: Introduction to Literary Theory (GREK 32900): spring 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012.  
 Theocritus (GREK 41700): winter 2004.  
 Hellenistic Poetry (GREK 42700): autumn 2005.  
 Pindar (GREK 45700/CMLT 42100) (with David Wray): spring 2009.  
 Intermediate Latin (LATN 20300): spring 2010.  
 Vergil (LAT 2/31600): spring 2005.  
 Roman Elegy (LATN 2/31100, CMLT 2/31101): autumn 2010.  
 Roman Novel (LATN 2/31200): winter 2011.  
 Postvirgilian epic (LATN 2/31700): Statius’ *Achilleid*: autumn 2015.  
 Dissertation prospectus workshop (CLAS 49000): autumn 2015, winter 2015, spring 2016.  
 Greek Thought and Literature 2 and 3 (HUMA 1/2000): winter 2006, 2009; spring 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008.  
 Greece and Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations (HUMA 11000): autumn 2016, 2018.  
 Readings in World Literature 1 and 2 (HUMA 1/2000): autumn/winter 2019-20.  
 Wordsworth: *The Prelude* (FNDL 21409) (with Wendy Olmsted): winter 2011.  
 Rousseau, Classical Primitivism, and the Plains Indian Critique of Modernity (SCTH 39600/CLAS 39510): winter 2011.  
 Plotinus (PHIL 2/35720, CLCV 2/36811, FNDL 27906, SCTH 34201) (with Gabriel Lear): spring 2012.  
 Philosophy and the Poetics of Presence in Postwar France (CDIN 43312) (with Alison James, at the Franke Center for Disciplinary Innovation): autumn 2012.  
 Early American Novels (SCTH 31712/ENGL 38701/FNDL 23402) (with Nathan Tarcov): winter 2014.  
 Hawthorne and James (SCTH 31800/ENGL 31801) (with Rosanna Warren): winter 2015.  
 Hölderlin and the Greeks (GRMN 35614/CLAS 45613/CMLT35614) (with Christopher Wild): spring 2014, autumn 2016.  
 H. P. Lovecraft and Cosmic Horror (SCTH 39601, FNDL 29601): winter 2019.  
 The ancestral: on historical fiction (CMLT): spring 2020.

## **SERVICE**

### ***University***

Center for College Student Success: faculty advisor: 2015-.

Society of Fellows: senior fellow 2009-2012.

College Council: committee member 2009-10.

Council of the University Senate: member 2006-09.

### ***Humanities Division***

Poetry & Classics reading series: organizer and sponsor 2014-16.

Policy Committee (tenure and promotion): member 2013-16.

Animal studies workshop: faculty sponsor 2013-18.

Speculative fiction workshop: faculty sponsor 2019-.

Humanities Dean selection committee: member 2012.

Creative Writing Committee: member 2005-11.

Greek Thought and Literature Humanities core: coordinator 2007-10.

MAPH campus days film panel: presenter 2010, 2012.

Humanities Open House: presenter 2006, 2010.

University Center for Creative and Performing Arts: departmental representative 2006-07.

Dissertation fellowship selection committee: member 2006.

Rhetoric and Poetics workshop: faculty sponsor 2004-08, 2014-16.

Poetry and Poetics Program: member 2004-.

### ***Classics Department***

Department chair: 2014-17.

Curriculum review committee: chair 2011.

Graduate admissions committee: chair 2011, 2014, 2015.

*Classical Philology*: book review editor 2004-2009; editor 2009-2010, 2013-14; referee.

Member of one fixed-term and two tenure-track search committees.

### ***Dissertation Director***

Marcos Bídoli Gouvêa. "Another Homer: The figure of the Roman Homer from Ennius to Macrobius." Defended 2019.

Luke Parker. "Listening to *logos*: A prose poetics in Heraclitus." Defended 2019. (Co-directed with Glenn Most, Social Thought).

Rana Liebert. "Hunger for tears: Archaic poetics and the Platonic critique of poetic pleasure." Defended 2012.

Ray Kania. "*Audax iuventa*: Virgil's *Eclogues* and the art of fiction." Defended 2011.

Francesca Sardi. "Psychological activity in the Homeric Circe episode." Defended 2008.

I have served as a reader on more than thirty dissertation committees in the departments of Classics, Comparative Literature, English, Germanic Studies, Comparative Human Development, and the Committee on Social Thought. I have also served as an external reader for dissertations at Princeton University and the University of Texas, Austin.



***Other Professional Service***

Postclassicisms global research network ([www.postclassicisms.org](http://www.postclassicisms.org)): Affiliate member.

Editorial board: *Aitia: Regards sur le monde hellénistique au XXIe siècle*.

Referee: *Acta Classica*; *Aetia*; *American Journal of Philology*; *Classical Philology*; *Classical Receptions*; *Contemporary Literature*; *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*; *Helios*; *Paideuma*; *Phoenix*; *Publications of the Modern Language Association*; *Ramus*; *Skenè*; *Transactions of the American Philological Association*.

Oxford University Press, The University of Chicago Press: manuscript reader.

Guggenheim Fellows Program: evaluator.

MacArthur Fellows Program: evaluator.

Tenure and promotion evaluator: details available upon request.