

## CAROLINE A. KITA

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### Academic Appointments

Washington University in St. Louis	
Associate Professor of German and Comparative Literature and Thought	2019 - present
Assistant Professor of German	2013-2019
Affiliate Faculty, Performing Arts Department, Program in Film and Media Studies	
College of the Holy Cross	
Visiting Assistant Professor of German	2011-2013

### Current Leadership Roles

President, Austrian Studies Association	2025-present
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### Education

Ph.D. German Studies	Duke University	2011
B.A. History	Boston College	2004

### Research Interests

19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century German and Austrian Literature and Culture, German-Jewish cultures, aesthetic philosophy, music, theater and performance, the history of radio in German-speaking cultures, and radio drama (Hörspiel).

### Fellowships and Grants

National/International Fellowships	
Aarhus University Research Foundation Visiting Researcher Stipend (Denmark)	2025
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship	2022
Franz Werfel Grant, Austrian Exchange Service (OeAD)	2015, 2017
Ernst Mach Grant, Austrian Exchange Service, (OeAD)	2012
Fulbright Student Grant, Vienna, Austria	2004-2005

### Project Grants

Second Book Grant, Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis	2023
Research Seed Grant, Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis	2020
Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis	2018
Summer Faculty Research Grant, Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis	2017
James and Sylvia Thayer Short-Term Research Fellowship, UCLA Library	2015

### Research and Publications

#### Monograph under Review

*Border Territories: Listening to the Soundscapes of Postwar West German Radio Drama*

#### Articles under Review

- Kita, C.A., "Akustische Räume/Soundscapes" in *Darstellungen zur deutschsprachig-jüdischen Literatur seit der Aufklärung*, vol. 2: Orte und Räume. Eds. Primus-Heinz Kucher, Alexandra Strohmeier, Johanna Pfuhl-Rybizki (expected 2026)
- Kita, C.A., "The Child as Earwitness: Remembering the Sounds of War in the Radio Drama *Der Bussard über uns*." In *Sound and Memory*, Eds. Wulf Kansteiner, Andreas Steen, Jacco Visser. DeGrueyter (expected 2026).

### Monograph

Kita, C.A. *Jewish Difference and the Arts: Composing Compassion in Music and Biblical Theater*, Indiana University Press, 2019.

### Edited Volume

Kita, C.A. and Kapczynski, J., eds. *The Arts of Democratization: Styling Political Sensibilities in Postwar West Germany*, University of Michigan Press, 2022.

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles (Single Author)

Kita, C.A. "The Hearing I: Sounding the 'Conditio Humana' in Ingeborg Bachmann's *Ein Geschäft mit Träumen*." *Journal of Austrian Studies*, 52.3 (2019), pp. 19-40.

Kita, C.A. "Richard Beer-Hofmann's *Die Historie von König David*: Jewish Biblical Drama and the Limits of Epic Theater." *The German Quarterly*. 89.2 (2016), pp. 133-149.

Kita, C.A. "Myth, Metaphysics and Cosmic Drama: The Legacy of *Faust* in Lipiner's *Hippolytos* and Mahler's Eighth Symphony." *Monatshefte*. 105.4 (2013), pp. 543-564.

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles (Co-Author)

Kita, C.A., Corbett, T., Hödl, K., Korbel, S. and Rupnow, D. "Migration, Integration and Assimilation: Reassessing Key Concepts in (Jewish) Austrian History." *Journal of Austrian Studies*, 54.1 (2021), pp. 1-28.

Kita, C.A. and Eley, M.R. "Cultivating Critical Listening: Hörspiel in the German Classroom" *Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German*, 52.1 (2019), pp. 70-82.

### Peer Reviewed Essays in Edited Volumes

Kita, C.A. "Musical Speech-Score as Soundscape: Elfriede Jelinek's *Die Schutzbefohlenen* on the Radio" in *Word, Sound, and Music in Radio Drama*, Eds. Jarmila Mildorf and Pim Verhulst. Brill, 2023, pp. 310-325.

Kita, C.A. "Revisiting the Soundscapes of Postwar West German Radio Drama," in *A Companion to Sound Studies in German-Speaking Cultures*. Ed. Rolf Goebel. Camden House, 2023, pp. 151-164.

Kita, C.A. "Constructing Symphonic Worlds: Gustav Mahler, *Weltliteratur*, and the Musical Program" in *German Literature as a Transnational Field of Production, 1848-1919*. Eds. Lynne Tatlock and Kurt Beals. Camden House, 2023, pp. 228-249.

Kita, C.A. "Listening Toward Democracy: Axel Eggebrecht and the Postwar Radio Play" in *The Arts of Democratization: Styling Political Sensibilities in Postwar West Germany*, Eds. Jennifer Kapczynski and Caroline Kita. University of Michigan Press, 2022, pp. 60-74.

Kita, C.A. "Simultaneity and the Soundscapes of Audiofiction," in *Audionarratology: Lessons from Radio Drama*. Ed. Lars Bernaerts and Jarmila Mildorf. The Ohio State University Press, 2021, pp. 101-117.

Kita, C.A. "Student Culture in 1870s Vienna," in *Gustav Mahler in Context*. Ed., Charles Youmans. Cambridge University Press, 2021, pp. 32-39.

### Editor of Journal Special Issue

Kita, C.A., Markx, F. and Niekert, C., eds. "Music and German Culture," Special Issue of *The German Quarterly*. 91.4 (2018).

### Book Reviews

Review of *German-Jewish Studies: Next Generations*, edited by Kerry Wallach and Aya Elyada, *George L. Mosse Program New Books Blog*. Posted: June 27, 2023. <https://mosseprogram.wisc.edu/2023/06/27/german-jewish/>

Review of *Entangled Entertainers. Jews and Popular Culture in Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*, by Klaus Hödl, translated by Corey Twitchell. *Austrian History Yearbook*. 53 (2022), pp. 244-245.

Review of *Karl Kraus and the Discourse of Modernity*, by Ari Linden. *The Germanic Review*. 96.3 (2021), pp. 332-335.

Review of *Dorothy Thompson and German Writers in Defense of Democracy*, by Karina von Tippelskirch. *Journal of Austrian Studies*. 53.2 (2020), pp. 91-93.

- Review of *Sara Levy's World: Gender, Judaism, and the Bach Tradition in Enlightenment Berlin*, edited by Rebecca Cypess and Nancy Sinkoff. *H-Judaic, H-Net Reviews*. August 2020. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=54709>
- Review of *Mahler and Strauss in Dialogue*, by Charles Youmans. *German Studies Review*, 42.1 (2018).
- Review of *Tragedy and the Tragic in German Literature, Art and Thought*, edited by Stephen D. Dowden and Thomas P. Quinn. *Studies in 20th & 21st Century Literature*. 41.2 (2017). Article 2. <https://doi.org/10.4148/2334-4415.1932>
- Review of *Stefan Zweig and World Literature. Twentieth Century Perspectives*, edited by Birger Vanwesenbeeck and Mark H. Gelber. *The German Quarterly*, 89.3 (2016), pp. 378-379.
- Review of *Ein Triumphforte österreichischer Kunst. Hugo von Hofmannsthals Gründung der Salzburger Festspiele*, by Norbert Christian Wolf, *Journal of Austrian Studies*. 49.1 (2016), pp. 106-108.
- Review of *Constructions of Melancholy in Contemporary German and Austrian Literature*, by Anna O'Driscoll. *Gegenwartsliteratur*. XII (2014), pp. 367-368.
- Review of *Fictions from an Orphan State: Literary Reflections of Austria between Habsburg and Hitler*, by Andrew Barker. *German Studies Review*. 36.3 (2013), pp. 706-707.
- Review of *"Vienna is Different": Jewish Writers in Austria from the Fin de siècle to the Present*, by Hillary Hope Herzog. *The German Quarterly* 85.3 (2012), pp. 362-363.

## Research Talks and Presentations

### Keynotes

- “Sounding Difference. Revisiting Jewishness in Austrian and German Music.” Inaugural Conference of the Institute for Austrian and German Music Research. University of Surrey, United Kingdom (Virtual). September 17, 2021.

### Invited Lectures

- “An Archaeology of Sound: Olga Neuwirth’s Music for *The City without Jews*,” Maximilian Aue Memorial Lecture, Emory University, February 26, 2025.
- “Just a Dream? Radio Drama and the Art of Acoustic Storytelling,” Gettysburg College, April 10, 2024.
- “Sounding the Unseen: The Hauntings of Postwar German Radio Drama,” Washington University in St. Louis, Performing Arts Department Colloquium, November 3, 2023.
- “Border Territories: The Emancipatory Soundscapes of Postwar German Radio Drama,” Department of German and Romance Languages, School of Communication and Culture, Aarhus University, May 18, 2022.
- “Gustav Mahler and the Musical Program: Music, Literature, and Performance on the Margins of the Nation,” Transnational Framings: The German Literary Field in the Age of Nationalism. 25th Biennial St Louis Symposium on German Literature and Culture, Washington University in St. Louis, September 2-4, 2021.
- “Anxious Ears: Soundscapes and the Art of Listening in Postwar German Radio Drama,” University of Texas Austin Invited Speaker Series, December 4, 2020.
- “Jewish Difference and the Arts in Vienna.” Center for Jewish Learning, St. Louis, April 2019.
- “Listening and the Democratic Ideal in American and Austrian Radio Plays.” University of Graz, Austria, December 2017.

### Interviews

- “Waves of Reflection: Soundscapes in German Post-War Radio Dramas” *Sounds of War* – The audio magazine of SoundTrak – A transnational and trans-disciplinary research project exploring the sonic memories of World War II in Taiwan, East Germany, and Denmark, episode published August 2023. <https://soundsofwar.buzzsprout.com>
- “Embrace Everything: The World of Gustav Mahler” – Season 1 (2020), Season 2 (2021), Season 3 (2022), Season 4 (2025)  
Commentator for radio podcast, directed by Aaron Cohen, produced by WNYC New York Public Radio. <https://www.theworldofgustavmahler.org>
- “Jewish Difference and the Arts in Vienna” – *New Books Network*, October 26, 2021. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/jewish-difference-and-the-arts-in-vienna>

“Mahler’s Titan” and “On Mahler’s Songs of a Wayfarer”

Commentator for films, directed by Jason Starr, produced by Cultural Media Collaborative, 2020.  
<https://culturalmedia.net/mahlers-titanthe-romance-death-and-triumph-of-a-young-musician/>

### **Conference Presentations (selected)**

“Sounding/Surfacing: Olga Neuwirth’s Jewish Music,”

Austrian Studies Association Conference, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, March 29, 2025.

“Caught on Tape: Sound, Surveillance, and the (Re)Construction of Memory in Postwar West German Radio Drama,” German Studies Association Conference, Montréal, Canada. October 5, 2023.

“Listen up!” Radio Programming Magazines and the Creation of Democratic Listeners in Germany, 1946-1948.”  
“A Century of Broadcasting: Preservation and Renewal.” Conference of the Radio Preservation Task Force, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, April 27-30, 2023

“The Child as Earwitness: Remembering the Sounds of War in Postwar West German Radio Drama.” Sound and Memory Workshop, Aarhus University. March 23-24, 2023.

“Music at the End of a World: Sounding Exile in the Postwar Funkoper,” German Studies Association Conference, Houston, Texas. September 2022.

“Of Mirrors and Spirals: Resonance, Art, and Empathy,” Seminar on Resonance in Art, Film, Literature, Music, and Theory, German Studies Association Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana (Virtual). October 2021.

“Anxious Ears: Listening, Agency, and the Postwar German Radio Play,” SpokenWeb Symposium, Concordia University, Montreal (Virtual), May 2021.

“Urban Soundscapes and the Art of Listening in Postwar German Radio Drama,”  
German Studies Association Conference (Virtual). October 2020.

“Sounding the ‘Double Blind’: Voice and the Poetics of Suspense in Radio Drama and Television Adaptations.”  
International Society for the Study of Narrative. New Orleans, Louisiana. March 2020.

“Migration, Integration, and Assimilation: Reassessing Key Concepts in (Jewish) Austrian History” (Roundtable).  
Austrian Studies Association Conference. Bowling Green, Ohio. April 2019.

“Performative Listening and the Postwar German Radio Play.”

German Studies Association Conference. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. September 2018.

“Voices between Two Worlds: Refugee Narratives in Austrian Radio Drama from the Cold War to the Present.”  
Austrian Studies Association Conference. Burlington, Vermont. May 2018

### **Teaching and Advising at Washington University in St. Louis**

#### **Dissertation Committees (German, Comparative Literature, English, History)**

Chair, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee: Stephanie Nebenfuehr (Comp Lit, expected 2027), Kader Grey (German, expected 2026), Juana Torralbo-Higuera (German, expected 2026), Franziska Finkenstein (German, 2025).

Member, Core Ph.D. Dissertation Committee: Rebecca Weingart (Comp Lit, expected 2028), George Cai (Comp Lit, expected 2028), Kathleen Walsh (History, expected 2028), Nicolàs Herzberg (German, expected 2027), Kebei Wang (German, expected 2026), Lavinia Xu (Comp Lit, expected 2026)  
Rebecca Jordan (German, 2023), Peter Oguinneran (German, 2023), Bethany Morgan (German, 2021)

Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation: Sophie Levin (English and Comp Lit, 2025), Adeline Bauder (German, 2021), Anna Nowicki (German, 2020), Amy Braun (German, 2019), Angineh Djavadghazaryans (German, 2016), Corey Twitchell (German, 2015), Petra Watzka (German, 2014)

#### **Master’s and Bachelor Thesis and Exam Committees**

Chair, M.A. Exam Committee: Carla Fischer (2025)

Member, M.A. Thesis Committee: Alexis Rose (Music, 2024), Julian Rey (German, 2024), Anna Vasilev (German, 2020), Antonia Villinger (German, 2017), Anna Nowicki (German, 2014)

Member, M.A. Exam Committee: Hanna Beuel (German, 2019), Lukas Haeberle (German, 2017)

Chair, B.A. Thesis: Patrick Goff (German 2018)

Reader, B.A. Honors Thesis: Nicci Mowszowski (German, 2021)

## Graduate Courses

GER 527: Seminar in 20<sup>th</sup> Century: Radio Drama  
GER 528: German-Jews and the Arts, Identity and Culture from 1780-1933  
GER 529: Vienna 1900 and its Afterlives

## Language Courses

GER 210: Intermediate German Core Course III  
GER 301: Advanced German Core Course IV  
GER 302: Advanced German Core Course V  
GER 302: Advanced German Grammar & Style  
GER 403: Advanced German Vocabulary and Usage  
GER 5071: German for Reading Knowledge I  
GER 5081: German for Reading Knowledge II

## Undergraduate Seminars in English

CL115: First Year Seminar: Storytelling Through Sound  
CL 313E: Introduction to Comparative Arts  
GER 340C: German Literature and the Modern Era  
GERM 341C: German Thought and the Modern Era  
IPH 3050 Literary Modernities

## Undergraduate Seminars in German

GER 432: What Dreams May Come: Explorations of the Psyche in Viennese Modernism  
GER 4102: Rebellion, Regression, Rebirth: German Literature from the *Vormärz* to the *Fin-de-Siècle*  
GER 4103: Reading Radio: The Sounds of German History and Culture

## Service to the Profession

### Leadership Roles

Austrian Studies Association  
President (2025-present), Vice President (2023-2025), Member, Executive Council (2020-2023)  
American Council of Learned Societies  
Delegate representing Austrian Studies Association (2023-present)  
German Studies Association  
Board Member, Music and Sound Studies Working Group (2023-present)  
Institute for Austrian and German Music Research, University of Surrey, UK  
Board Member (2020-present)  
Modern Languages Association  
Regional Delegate (2021-2023)

### Reviewer

Fellowship Review Panelist  
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2025)  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend (2016)  
Manuscript Reviewer  
*German Politics and Society*, *German Studies Review*, *German Quarterly*, Manchester University Press,  
*Modernism/Modernity*, *Monatshefte*, Oxford University Press, *Seminar*

### Conference and Conference Panel Organization

“Archiving the Sounds of German Cultures: A Century of Collection, Curation, and Creative Practice.” 27<sup>th</sup> Biennial St. Louis Symposium, Washington University in St. Louis, planned for March 26-29, 2026. Co-organizer with Sarah Koellner.  
“The Arts of Democratization: Styling Political Sensibilities in Postwar West Germany.” 24<sup>th</sup> Biennial St Louis Symposium on German Literature and Culture, Washington University in St. Louis, April 5-8, 2018. Co-

organizer with Jennifer Kapczynski. Funded by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

#### Conference Panel/Seminar Organizer

“Navigating the Next Steps: A Forum on Forging a Career in Austrian Studies”

Austrian Studies Association (2024)

“Music in Exile: Figurations of Sound, Space, Memory, and Identity 1937-1953”

German Studies Association (2022).

“Sounding Resistance in Modern Austrian Literature and Culture”

Modern Language Association Conference (2021)

“New Perspectives on Postwar Radio and German Culture”

German Studies Association Conference (2018)

“Not Enough Notes: Exploring the Intersections of Music, History and Cultural Studies.” German Studies Association Conference (2017)

“What is Jewish Theater History?” Association for Jewish Studies Conference (2016)

“Viennese Jews and the Christian Question.” Northeast MLA Conference (2013)

#### Conference Panel Moderator/Commentator

“The Jazz Century” German Studies Association Conference (2014)

“Sound and Resignification” German Studies Association Conference (2014)

“The Repercussions of the French Revolution on German Romantic Music.”

German Studies Association Conference (2012)

### Service to University and College of Arts & Sciences

#### Leadership Roles

Chair, Faculty Library Committee (2023-present), Member (2021-2024)

Director of Summer Scholarly Writing Retreat, Center for the Humanities (2018, 2020, 2021)

#### University Committees

Member, Center for the Humanities Executive Council (2024-present)

Member, Romance Language Department Faculty Search Committee, Global Hispanophone Studies (2023)

Member, Selection Committee, Carl Neureuther Student Book Collection Essay Competition (2021)

Member, Fulbright Fellowship Selection Committee (2018-2019)

Member, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Fellowship Selection Committee (2016)

### Service to Department of Comparative Literature & Thought and Program in German

#### Leadership Roles

Director of Graduate Studies, Comparative Literature (2023-2025)

Director of Graduate Studies, German (2023-2025)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Comparative Literature and Comparative Arts (2020-2021)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, German (2020-2021)

#### Department Committees

Member, Redefining Doctoral Education (Mellon Grant) Individual Development Plan Committee and Internships Committee (2023-present)

Diversity Representative (2023-present)

Co-Chair, German New Faculty Member Search Committee (2022-2023)

Chair, German Language Curriculum Review Committee (2020)

Chair, German Department Lecture Committee (2016-2017); Member, (2014-2016)

Lecturer, Summer Humanities Institute (2018)

Faculty Advisor, Delta Phi Alpha (German Honors Society) (2018-present)

Faculty Advisor, Summer Abroad Program in Göttingen (2013-2017)

Member, Intermediate German Textbook Committee (Spring 2015)

German Major and Minor Advisor (2013 to present)

Examiner, Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities Junior Exams (2017, 2019)

## Service to the St. Louis Community

Guest Lecturer, St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center Film Series (2019, 2020)

## Membership in Professional Organizations

American Association of Teachers of German

Austrian Studies Association

German Studies Association

Modern Languages Association

Modernist Studies Association

## Languages

English (native language)

German (near-native fluency in reading, writing, and speaking).

French (advanced level in reading, intermediate level in writing and speaking)

Danish (basic reading knowledge)