

Professor Magdalena J. Zaborowska

**University of Michigan
Department of American Culture
Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
3700 Haven Hall
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1045
t: 734.223.1026
e: mzaborow@umich.edu**

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- 2024-27 Chair, Department of American Culture, University of Michigan
- 2023-24 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of American Culture, Graduate Committee Executive Committee
Divisional Evaluation Committee, Humanities, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
Director of Graduate Admissions, Department of American Culture
Fellowships Committee, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
Third-Year Faculty Review Committee, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
Rackham School of Graduate Studies Academic Integrity Hearing Board
- 2022-25 Distinguished Faculty Awards Committee. Rackham School of Graduate Studies. University of Michigan
- 2020-21 Associate Chair, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of American Culture
Fellowships Committee, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
- 2018-21 Humanities Division Executive Board Member, Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan
- 2017-18 John Rich Faculty Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan
- 2016-17 Director of Graduate Program, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan
- 2010 - Professor, Department of American Culture and Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2009-10 Institute for the Humanities, Hunting Family Faculty Fellow, University of Michigan
- 2007-10 Director of Graduate Studies, Program in American Culture
- 2001-09 Associate Professor, Program in American Culture and Center for Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2000-01 Visiting Associate Professor, Program in American Culture and Taubman School of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 1999-00 Research Fellow, Newcomb College Center for Research on Women, Tulane University, New Orleans, USA
- 1999-00 Research Fellow, Centre for Cultural Research, Aarhus University, Denmark

- 1998-00 Associate Professor, Department of English and American Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark
- 1996-97 Assistant Professor, Department of English and American Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark
- 1992-96 Assistant Professor, Department of English, Furman University, USA
- 1987-92 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Visiting Lecturer, American Studies Program and Department of English, University of Oregon, USA

EDUCATION

- 1992 Ph.D. (With Distinction) Department of English, University of Oregon, USA
- 1987 M.A. Department of English and American Studies, College of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Warsaw, Poland
- 1986 Summer Seminar in American and English Studies, University of Poznań, Poland
- 1985 B.A. (equivalent) University of Warsaw, Poland
- 1982 Matriculation (Honors) IV Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Hanki Sawickiej, Kielce, Poland

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Memory Wars: Museums, Race, and the New Borderlands. In early stages of research and drafting.

James Baldwin: Being Better than the World. Black Lives biography series (edited by David Blight, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Jacqueline Goldsby), Yale UP. Forthcoming 2025.

Archiving the Invisible House: James Baldwin's Virtual Writer's Museum. Digital Humanities and Black Digital Humanities project consisting of an electronic book and a digital collection. [Digital collection published in 2019](#). Book (e-book) in progress.

[Chez Baldwin](#) Exhibit. Collaboration with NMAAHC/Smithsonian, 2019.

Me and My House: James Baldwin's Last Decade in France. Duke University Press, 2018.

James Baldwin's Turkish Decade: Erotics of Exile. Duke University Press, 2009.*

*Modern Language Association William Sanders Scarborough Prize for an Outstanding Scholarly Study of Black American Literature or Culture. Honorable Mention, Errol Hill Award (for outstanding scholarship in African American theater, drama, and/or performance studies) from the American Society for Theater Research.

How We Found America: Reading Gender through East-European Immigrant Narratives. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995.

Edited Books

Over the Wall/After the Fall: Post-Communist Cultures through the East-West Gaze, with Sibelan Forrester and Elena Gapova. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004.

The Puritan Origins of American Sex: Religion, Sexuality and National Identity in American Literature, with Nicholas F. Radel and Tracy Fessenden. New York and London: Routledge, 2001.

Other Americans, Other Americas: The Politics and Poetics of Multiculturalism. Aarhus and Oxford: Aarhus University Press, Printed in the UK, 1998.

Articles and Book Chapters

In Progress and Forthcoming

“James Baldwin, Feminism, Other European Auto-Theory, and Black Queer Humanism.” Solicited. Forthcoming from *The James Review: Special Centenary Issue*, January 2025.

“My Running Buddy Had Sent Me to the Right One”: Beauford Delaney’s Black Queer Fatherhood of James Baldwin.” Forthcoming in *In a Speculative Light: The Arts of James Baldwin and Beauford Delaney*. Ed. Amy Ellias. Duke UP. Forthcoming.

“The Tale of Two Museums: Representing Blackness and Jewishness Between Poland and the United States.” In progress.

Selected Published Articles and Chapters

“Rebranding James Baldwin and His Queer Others.” A report on a session at the 2019 American Studies Association Conference. With essays by: Nichola F. Radel, Nigel Hatton, Ernest L/ Gibson III. *The James Baldwin Review*. Vol. 6, January 2020: 199-202 (199-229).

“East Meets West: Baldwin in Istanbul in the 1960s.” *James Baldwin in Context*, ed. Quentin Miller. Cambridge University Press, 2019: 47-56.

“You have to get to where you are before you can see where you’ve been’: Researching Black Queer Domesticity at Chez Baldwin.” *The James Baldwin Review*. Vol. 4, January 2019: 72-91.

“Going to See Jimmy.” *032c* (Berlin). Issue 35, November 2018: 65-73.

“Black Matters of Value: Archiving James Baldwin’s House as a Virtual Writer’s Museum.” *The American Quarterly*. Fall 2018: 505-30.

“Being James Baldwin, or Everything Is Personal.” Special issue of *The New Centennial Review*, eds. John Drabinski and Grant Farred. Vol. 16, No 2, Fall 2016: 47-64.

“The Other Women’s Lives in Translation.” Co-authored with Justine M. Pas. *Feminist Translation Studies: Local and Transnational Perspectives*, eds. Olga Castro and Emek Ergun(UK). New York and London: Routledge, 2017: 139-150.

“No House in the World for James Baldwin: Reading Transnational Black Queer Domesticity in St. Paul-de-Vence.” *Spatial Perspectives: Essays on Literature and Architecture*, eds. T. Mulholland and N. Sierra. Oxford: Peter Lang, 2015: 215-247.

“Chained Together in Time and Space’: W.E.B. Du Bois Looks at the Warsaw Ghetto, James Baldwin Regards the Harlem Ghetto.” Special issue, “Black Europe: Subjects, Struggles, and Shifting Perceptions,” of *Palimpsest: A Journal on Women, Gender, and the Black International*(SUNY Press), ed. Jean-Paul Rocchi (Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée) & Frédéric Sylvanise (Université Paris-Nord Villetaneuse). Vol. 4, No. 2, 2015: 97- 112.

“Domesticating James Baldwin’s Global Imagination.” *The Cambridge Companion to James Baldwin*, ed. Michele Elam. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2015: 211-226.

“Harlem Streets Can Talk: Affective Disorders of Characterization in the Fiction of James Baldwin.” *Black Harlem and the Jewish Lower East Side: Narratives out of Time*, ed. Catherine Rottenberg. SUNY Press, 2013: 133-159.

“From Istanbul to St. Paul-de-Vence: James Baldwin’s *The Welcome Table*.” *James Baldwin: America and Beyond*, eds. Bill Schwartz and Cora Kaplan. June 2011, University of Michigan Press: 188-208.

“From Baldwin’s Paris to Benjamin’s: The Architectonics of Race and Sexuality in *Giovanni’s Room*.” *Walter Benjamin and Architecture*, ed. Gevork Hartoonian. Routledge: London and New York, 2010: 51-73.

“Recasting Global Feminisms: Towards a Comparative Historical Approach to Feminist Scholarship and Women’s Activism,” with Jayati Lal, Kristin McGuire, Abigail J. Stewart, and Justine Pas. *Feminist Studies*. Vol. 36, No. 1, (2010): 13-39.

“‘In the Same Boat’: James Baldwin and the Other Atlantic.” *Historical Guide to James Baldwin*, ed. Douglas F. Field. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009: 177-211.

“James Baldwin: ‘Stranger in the Village’/Obcy w wiosce.” *Czarno na Białym. Afroamerykanie, którzy zmienili Amerykę* (Black on White: African Americans Who Changed America). Eds., Ewa Łuczak and Andrzej Antoszek. Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego (Warsaw University Press). Warsaw, Poland: 2008: 87-117.

“Racing Transatlantic Passages: James Baldwin’s African ‘America’ and Immigrant Studies.” *Cultural Psychology of Immigrants*, ed. Ramaswami Mahalingam. Lawrence Erlbaum, 2006: 169-96.

“From Baldwin’s Paris to Benjamin’s: The Architectonics of Race and Sexuality in *Giovanni’s Room*.” *Architectural Theory Review*. Vol. 10, No. 1, 2005: 44-63.

“Reading ‘Transparent ‘Constructions of History,’ or Three Passages through (In)Visible Warsaw.” *Over the Wall/After the Fall: Post-Communist Cultures through the East-West Gaze*, eds. Sibelan Forrester, Magdalena J. Zaborowska, and Elena Gapova. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004: 97-119.

“Mapping Postsocialist Cultural Studies,” Preface and Introduction, with Sibelan Forrester and Elena Gapova. *Over the Wall/After the Fall: Post-Communist Cultures through the East-West Gaze*, eds. Sibelan Forrester, Magdalena J. Zaborowska, and Elena Gapova. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004.

“The Best View Is from the Top: Autobiographical Snapshots, Communist Monuments, and Some Thoughts on (Post)Totalitarian Homelessness.” *Framing the Polish Home: Postwar Cultural Constructions of Hearth, Nation, and Self*, ed. Bozena Shallcross. Ohio University Press, 2002: 179-215.

“Three Passages through (In)Visible Warsaw.” *Harvard Design Magazine*. Vol. 13, Winter/Spring 2001: 52-9.

“The Height of (Architectural) Seduction: Reading the ‘Changes’ through Stalin’s Palace of Culture in Warsaw, Poland.” Special issue, “Political Change and Physical Change,” ed. Jeffrey M. Chusid, *Journal of Architectural Education*. Vol. 54, No. 4, May 2001: 205-17.*

*Draft version of this article has been published by Center for Kulturforskning (Centre for Cultural Research), Aarhus Universitet, Danmark:
<http://www.hum.au.dk/ckultur/f/pages/publications/mz/architect.htm>, juni 1999.

“Americanization of a ‘Queer Fellow’: Performing Jewishness and Sexuality in Abraham Cahan’s The Rise of David Levinsky, with a Footnote on the (Monica) Lewinsky’ed Nation.” *The Puritan Origins of American Sex: Religion, Sexuality and National Identity in American Literature*, eds. Nicholas F. Radel, Tracy Fessenden and Magdalena J. Zaborowska. New York and London: Routledge, 2001: 213-234.

“Palac Kultury i Nauki--widok z Ameryki.” (The Palace of Culture and Science: A View from America). *Teksty drugie*. Trans. Agnieszka Kluba. Warsaw: Instytut Badan Literackich PAN (Institute for Literary Research, Polish Academy of Sciences). No. 4, 1999: 51-60.

Recent Public Media and Online Publications and Appearances

2023 Interview: *James Baldwin’s Turkish Decade*, “New Books Network” with Morteza Hajizahed, March 18, 2023: <https://newbooksnetwork.com/james-baldwins-turkish-decade>

2022 “The Best Books on James Baldwin as a Black Queer Exile.”
<https://shepherd.com/best-books/james-baldwin-as-a-black-queer-exile>

2021 “Chez Baldwin Writer’s House Digital Collection.” The University of Michigan Library:
<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/b/baldwin1ic>

Invited Presenter, “James Baldwin and Being Better than the World.” Cultural Medallion Dedication for James Baldwin. Historical Preservation Society of New York. May 25, 2021.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfaSlebH-M>

2020 “Chez Baldwin” public museum exhibit in collaboration with the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC/Smithsonian):
<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/exhibitions/chez-baldwin>

Interview with William Armstrong, “Turkey Book Talk: Magdalena Zaborowska on *James Baldwin’s Turkish Decade: Erotics of Exile*.” Apple podcast:
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/magdalena-zaborowska-on-james-baldwins-turkish-decade/id1035167283?i=1000483057918>

Interview with Efe Oc, BBC Turkey: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6zFOo4wI2Q>
 BBC News/Türkçe: <https://www.bbc.com/turkce/haberler-dunya-54208975>

2018 Black Agenda Report, *BAR Book Forum*, “Acclaimed Authors Answer Five Questions about Their Book.” November 7, 2018. <https://www.blackagendareport.com/bar-book-forum-tracy-sharpley-whitings-bricktopsparis-and-magdalena-j-zaborowskas-me-and-my-house>

BBC World Service, The Forum: “The American Author James Baldwin.” Aired on September 4, 2018. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3cswpsg>

Duke University Press, “Q and A with Magdalena J. Zaborowska, Author of *Me and My House*.”
<https://dukeupress.wordpress.com/2018/04/27/qa-with-magdalena-j-zaborowska-author-of-me-and-my-house/>

Literary Hub, “The Last Days of James Baldwin’s House in the South of France.” Excerpt from *Me*

and My House: <https://lithub.com/the-last-days-of-james-baldwins-house-in-the-south-of-france/>