October 1, 2026

Eric A. Pitz

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UCLA
Department of Film, Television and Digital Media
School of Theater, Film and Television

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES (UCLA) Los Angeles, CA

UCLA SCHOOL OF THEATER, FILM & TELEVISION

PhD in Cinema and Media Studies, expected June 12, 2027.

- Dissertation: "From Manhattan to Miami: Race, Ethnicity, and Technology in the Animated Films of Fleischer Studios"
- Committee: Denise Mann (chair), Ellen Scott, Jasmine Trice, Rob King (Columbia University)
- Comprehensive Exams: American Film History (emphasis: censorship, repression, and representation); Film Genres (emphasis: film comedy)
- Graduate Certificate in English Writing Pedagogy
- Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL) Associate

MA in Cinema & Media Studies, June 2022

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY Marquette, MI

BA in English and Spanish, December 2019 (*summa cum laude*)
Minor: Film Studies
Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain (study abroad)

- Certificate in Spanish Language

Graduated with Full Honors with World Language Studies

PUBLISHED WORK

(Forthcoming) Pitz, Eric A. "Giant Ads for a Giant Lad: The Failure of Marketing Fleischer's *Gulliver's Travels* (1939)." *XVII-XVIII: Revue de la Société d'études anglo-americáines des XVII^e^ et XVIII^e^ siècles*. Expected publication January, 2028.

(Under review with *Queer Studies in Media and Popular Culture*) Pitz, Eric A. "Queer Coding and Cross-Dressing: The Censorship of the Kiss in Hollywood Gender Impersonation Cinema, 1925-1959."

Pitz, Eric A. (2018) "In Another Person's Skin: Adaptations of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the Characterization of Scout Finch," *Conspectus Borealis*: Vol. 4: Iss. 1, Article 5.

Pitz, Eric A. (2017) "Homosociality in Michael Radford's *The Merchant of Venice*," *Conspectus Borealis*: Vol. 3: Iss. 1, Article 3.

BOOK REVIEWS

Pitz, Eric A. *The First Movie Studio in Texas: Gaston Méliès's Star Film Ranch* by Kathryn Fuller-Seeley and Frank Thompson. *Early Popular Visual Culture*. September 14, 2026. 1-3. https://doi.org/10.1080/17460654.2026.2729648.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Pitz, Eric A. "Limited Boundlessness: Cab Calloway's Performance in *Betty Boop* Shorts." American Studies Association Annual Conference (Chicago, IL: October 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Giant Ads for a Giant Lad: The Failure of Marketing Fleischer's *Gulliver's Travels* (1939)." *Gulliver's Travels* at 300 - The Global Afterlives of a Bestseller in Print, Transmedial Adaptations, and Material Culture: ILLUSTR4TIO Annual Conference (London, England: September 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "There's a Trace of Him Here: Considering Cab Calloway in Fleischer's *Minnie the Moocher*." Animate Experience: Society for Animation Studies Annual Conference (Pittsburgh, PA: June 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Beavers and Rabbits and Wolves, Oh My! Playing with Process in *Hundreds of Beavers* (2022)." University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Center for Literary Research Conference: Humor, Comedy, and Play in Times of Crisis (Santa Barbara, CA: May 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Betty Who? The Production of Betty Boop's Racial and Ethnic Ambiguity." Stars and Screen Virtual Symposium (Online: May 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Considering Cab Calloway: The Fleischer Studios' *Minnie the Moocher* and Rotoscoping Black Performance." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference (Chicago, IL: March 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Reelin' In the Years: The Talkie Compilation Short and the Turn from Silent Cinema." The Hollywood Conference at USC (Los Angeles, CA: July 2025).

Pitz, Eric A. "'The Colossus of Clout (The Colossus of Clout):' *The Sandlot*, Babe Ruth, and the (Hi)story of Baseball." Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Summer Salon Conference (Albuquerque, NM: June 2025).

Pitz, Eric A. "Ho-di-ho-di-Ro-to-scope: Black Performance in the Fleischer Studios' *Minnie the Moocher*." Popular Culture Association Conference (New Orleans, LA: April 2025).

Pitz, Eric A. "Queer Coding and Cross-Dressing: The Censorship of the Kiss in Hollywood Gender Impersonation Cinema, 1925-1959 – Case Study: *Some Like it Hot*." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference (Chicago, IL: April 2025).

Pitz, Eric A. "Chaplin as an Auteur: The Case of *The Great Dictator*." Northern Michigan University Celebration of Student Scholarship (Marquette, MI: April 2017).

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Teshome Gabriel Memorial Award – 2026

American Studies Association Annette Baxter Travel Grant – 2026

Society for Animation Studies Emru Townsend Award – 2026

UCLA Cinema and Media Studies Graduate Merit Award – 2026

Society for Cinema and Media Studies Animated Media Scholarly Interest Group Travel Grant – 2026

The Kemp R. Niver Scholarship in Film History at UCLA – 2024

John H. Mitchell Fellowship Award – 2022

Outstanding Graduating Student in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and International Studies Award (Language Major) – 2019-2020 academic year

Anna & Rich Lundin Summer Research Fellowship – 2019

James Cloyd Bowman Scholarship – Outstanding English Department Student – 2019

Sigma Tau Delta – International English Student Honor Society – Admitted 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, Los Angeles, CA June 2021 – Present

Teaching Assistant Consultant (TAC) as Instructor of Record
- FTV 495A: Teaching Practicum for Cinema and Media Studies (TA Training)
  - Fall 2025, Fall 2026

Instructional Assistant (IA) as Instructor of Record
- (Forthcoming) ENGCOMP 3: English Composition, Rhetoric, and Language
  - Winter or Spring 2027

Teaching Assistant/Associate/Fellow (TA)
- FTV 4: Introduction to Art & Technique of Filmmaking
  - Summer 2021, Summer 2022
- FTV 6A: History of the American Motion Picture
  - Winter 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Winter 2025
- FTV 10A: American Television History
  - Spring 2026
- FTV 51: Digital Media Studies
  - Winter 2023, Winter 2024
- FTV 84A: Overview of the Contemporary Film Industry
  - Summer 2022
- FTV 106C: Third Cinema and Its Legacies/History of African, Asian, and Latin American Film
  - Winter 2026
- FTV 112: Film and Social Change
  - Spring 2025
- FTV 113: Film Authors
  - Winter 2023

- FTV 114: Film Genres
  - Spring 2024, Summer 2025, Summer 2026

GUEST LECTURES

Pitz, Eric A. "Say Kids, What Time is it? Time for a Brief History of Children's Television" – FTV 10A: American Television History, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (Los Angeles, CA: May 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "'And You Gotta Be Girls:' Cross-Dressing, Censorship, and *Some Like it Hot*" – FTV 6A: History of the American Motion Picture, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (Los Angeles, CA: February 2025, February 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "Archival Research and Practices, Media Archaeology, and Preserving Film History" – University of California, Irvine School of Humanities (Irvine, CA: January 2026).

Pitz, Eric A. "'We're Going to Die Out Here:' The History, Marketing, and Culture of the Found Footage Film" – FTV 114: Film Genres, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (Los Angeles, CA: May 2024).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

SOCIETY FOR CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES
Classical Hollywood Scholarly Interest Group Graduate Student Representative — July 2026 – Present

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, Los Angeles, CA
Cinema and Media Studies Graduate Student Representative — Sept. 2022-2023; 2025 – Present

Aberrations Graduate Conference at UCLA — May 2025
Volunteer

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles, CA
The Hollywood Conference at USC — July 2025
Volunteer

OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

HIGHLAND PARK INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL, Los Angeles, CA — Sept. 2024 – Oct. 2024
Judge

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, Los Angeles, CA — June 2022 – Dec. 2023
Graduate Student Research Assistant

- Copyeditor for forthcoming book *Streaming Factories: Laboring Across Borders* (ed. Denise Mann) (Summer 2022)
- Assisted with course website maintenance and arranging class materials for multiple courses under supervision of Denise Mann (Summer 2022 – December 2023)
- Rewrote quiz questions, creative exercises, and discussion forum prompts for "FTV 4: Introduction to Art and Technique of Filmmaking" under supervision of Jasmine Trice (Summer 2023)

SHERMAN GRINBERG FILM LIBRARY, Chatsworth, CA — May 2021 – Dec. 2021
Media Archive Intern
- Assisted Allyson Field (University of Chicago) and Mark Williams (Dartmouth College) in compiling information pertaining to Paramount *Screen Souvenirs* series (1931-1935) as part of the Media Ecology Project (MEP).

SCHOOL DISTRICT 112 COMMUNITY EDUCATION, Chaska, MN — June 2014 – Aug. 2020
Program Assistant/Paraprofessional – Club Care Childcare

FRESH COAST FILM FESTIVAL, Marquette, MI — May 2019 – Sept. 2019
Programming Intern

LANGUAGE SKILLS

SPANISH – Intermediate fluency

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION (ASA) — 2026 – Present

SOCIETY FOR ANIMATION STUDIES (SAS) — 2025 – Present

CRITICAL HUMOR STUDIES ASSOCIATION (CHSA) — 2025 – Present

POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION (PCA) — 2024 – Present

SOCIETY FOR CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES (SCMS) — 2020 – Present

SIGMA TAU DELTA, INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY — 2017 – Present

REFERENCES

Denise Mann
Professor of Cinema and Media Studies, UCLA
Email: dmann@tft.ucla.edu
Phone: (310) 825-9218

Ellen C. Scott
Associate Professor of Cinema and Media Studies, UCLA
Email: ecscott@tft.ucla.edu
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Jasmine N. Trice
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