

# HUAN HE

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*Updated March 2026*

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### **Vanderbilt University**

Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2023 – Present

### **University of Michigan**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow (DISCO Network), Digital Studies Institute, 2022 – 2023

## EDUCATION

### **University of Southern California**

Ph.D., American Studies & Ethnicity, 2022

Graduate Certificate, Visual Studies, 2020

Graduate Certificate, Digital Media and Culture, 2018

M.A., American Studies & Ethnicity, 2018

### **Dartmouth College**

B.A., English and Creative Writing major (High Honors), Film & Media Studies minor, 2013

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Asian American literature and art, media and digital studies, race & technology, critical game studies, poetry, queer theory

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Book Manuscripts**

In prog. *The Racial Interface: Informatics and the Asian American Technological Imagination*

2025 *Technoskepticism: Between Possibility and Refusal*. Redwood City, CA: Stanford University Press, 2025 (Multi-authored with The DISCO Network). 240 pages.

- Honorable Mention for the Ángel David Nieves Book Award for best Monograph (American Studies Association Digital Humanities Caucus)

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- In prog. “Race as ‘Proof of Concept’: Metaverse Filipino Workers and the Colonial Enterprise of Web3 Games,” *Social Text* (Abstract accepted for a special issue on “Colonial Studies of the Platform”; under peer review).
- 2024 “Isamu Noguchi’s Gardens: Yellow Peril in the Age of Information,” *Configurations: A Journal of Literature, Science, and Technology*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP. Winter 2024. Pp. 25-50.
- 2022 “The Racial Interface: The Computational Origins of Minority Modeling,” *Media-N: Journal of the New Media Caucus*. Urbana, IL: Illinois Open Publishing. Winter 2022. Pp. 31-52.
- 2020 “On the Perpetual Motion of Search: The Transpacific Networked Poetics of Craig Santos Perez and Theresa H.K. Cha.” *College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP. Winter 2020. Pp. 185-212.

## Peer-Reviewed Essays (Open review)

- 2023 “Gaming Blockchain and the Asiatic Forms of Web3.” *Just Tech*. Social Science Research Council. DISCO Network Field Review Series. 6935 words (web platform).

## Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2024 “Chinese/Cheating: Procedural Racism in Battle Royale Shooters.” *Made in Asia/America: Why Videogames Were Never (Really) About Us*. Eds. Christopher Patterson and Tara Fickle. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 2024.

## Encyclopedia / Handbook Entries

- In prog. “Labor” (keyword). *Keywords in Game Studies*. New York, NY: New York University Press.

## Book / Event Reviews

- 2021 “*The Race Card: From Gaming Technologies to Model Minorities* by Tara Fickle” (Book review). *Journal of Asian American Studies*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2021.
- 2021 “Russell Leong” (Encyclopedia entry). *Asian American Literature: An Encyclopedia for Students*. Westport, CT: ABC-CLIO/Greenwood, 2021.
- 2018 “Networks of Dissent: *Video Art in Latin America* at LAXART” (Event review). *American Quarterly*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2018.

## Poetry Collection

- 2022 *Sandman*. Richmond, VA: Diode Editions, 2022. (Finalist, 2023 Jean Pedrick Chapbook Prize). July 2022.

## Poems in Journals

- 2026 *New England Review*. "Punctum." Fall 2025.  
2026 *New England Review*. "Iridescence." Fall 2025.  
2025 *Post Road*. "The Deepest Blue." Fall 2025.  
2025 *Post Road*. "Some shreds are still discernable in the desert." Fall 2025.  
2025 *Foglifter*. "Anelasticity." Spring 2025.  
2024 *Swing Magazine*. "Purloined." Fall 2024.  
2024 *Swing Magazine*. "House Family." Fall 2024.  
2024 *The Cortland Review*. "Planting Strawberries." Fall 2024.  
2024 *Cream City Review*. "2:12 AM." Spring 2024.  
2024 *Cream City Review*. "Incremental Love." Spring 2024.  
2024 *Parentheses Journal*. "Searching." Spring 2024.  
2024 *Passages North*. "The Worm." Winter 2024.  
2023 *The Sewanee Review*. "Night Instruction." July 2023.  
2023 *Poetry Magazine*. "Golden Hour." July 2023.  
2023 *Verses Daily* (Reprint). "spiderghost." Featured on Jan. 31, 2023.  
2023 *Poetry Daily* (Reprint). "Lullaby." Featured on Jan. 27, 2023.  
2022 *Colorado Review*. "Lullaby." Nov. 2022.  
2022 *Colorado Review*. "The Last House in Manzanar." Nov. 2022.  
2022 *RHINO Poetry*. "the alley." Sept. 2022.  
2022 *RHINO Poetry*. "spiderghost." Sept. 2022.  
2022 *Gulf Coast Journal*. "swamp men." June 2022.  
2022 *Alaska Quarterly Review*. "grammar advice." June 2022.  
2022 *Hayden's Ferry Review*. "glow." Finalist for 2021 HFR Poetry Contest. May 2022.  
2022 *A Public Space*. "The Yellow Iris." Winter 2022.  
2022 *A Public Space*. "Mercy." Winter 2022.  
2022 *Chestnut Review*. "Peeling Oranges." Winter 2022.  
2021 *Beloit Poetry Journal*. "Union Pacific." Semi-finalist for Adrienne Rich Award. Fall 2021.  
2021 *Black Warrior Review (Boyfriend Village)*. "Ode to the Cupboard Filled With Plastic Bags." Fall 2021.  
2021 *Palette Poetry*. "screensaver." Fall 2021  
2021 *DIALOGIST*. "door ajar." Fall 2021.  
2021 *wildness*. "shape." Aug 2021.

## Interviews

- 2022 "Poets in Conversation: Huan He." *Beloit Poetry Journal*. May 2022.  
<https://www.bpj.org/interview/huan-he>.

## GRANTS, AWARDS, HONORS

- 2025 Fellow, First Book Institute, Center for American Literary Studies, Penn State University  
2024–25 Faculty Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University  
2023–25 DISCO Network Mellon Faculty Affiliate Microgrant (\$23,000)  
2022–23 DISCO Network Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, University of Michigan  
(second year declined)  
2021–22 Anne Friedberg Memorial Grant, Visual Studies Research Institute, USC  
2021 The Judson-Morrissey Excellence in New Media Award, New Media Caucus  
2019–21 Visual Studies Summer Research Grant, USC  
2019–20 USC Research Enhancement Ph.D. Fellowship  
2018–21 Korean Studies Institute Graduate Student Grant, USC  
2018–22 Center for Transpacific Studies Research Grant, USC  
2017–22 USC Asian Pacific Alumni Scholarship  
2017 USC Graduate School Summer Research Grant  
2016 The Center for Feminist Research Grant, USC  
2016–20 American Studies & Ethnicity Research Grant, USC  
2015–20 Dornsife Graduate School Fellowship, USC  
2013 B. William Hochman 1955 Prize for American Literature, Dartmouth College  
2012 Edward C. Dodez Scholarship, Dartmouth College  
2012 James O. Freedman Presidential Scholar, Dartmouth College

## PAPERS PRESENTED

### Invited Talks

- 2026 “Metaverse Filipino Workers and the Digital Frontier of Web3 Gaming.” The Studio for Mediated Play. The University of Texas at Dallas. April 2026. *Invited Lecture.*
- 2024 “Engineering Asians.” Asian Americans and STEM Conference. Yale University. May 2024. *Invited Panelist.*
- 2024 “Asiatic Forms of High-Tech Innovation.” Technological Inhumanities and Imaginaries. A/P/A Institute. New York University. April 2024. *Invited Panelist.*
- 2024 “A Racial Theory of High-Tech Innovation.” Asian American Studies Lecture Series. Northern Illinois University. March 2024. *Invited Lecture.*
- 2023 “Non-Playable Character.” Emerging Voices in Asian/American Game Studies Panel. The Games Institute. University of Waterloo. November 2023. *Invited Panelist.*
- 2022 “Racial Informatics.” Asian America Otherwise Conference. Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory and Department of Asian American Studies. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. May 2022. *Invited Panelist.*
- 2022 “Asian/American Media Archaeology: Railroad Mythologies and the Racial Histories of Early Silicon Valley.” Anne Friedberg Memorial Lecture (Given annually by the recipient)

of the Anne Friedberg Memorial Grant). USC Visual Studies Research Institute. February 2022. *Invited Lecture*.

### Talks at Home Institution

2024 “Maxine Hong Kingston’s Technological Imagination.” Department of English. Vanderbilt University. October 2024. *Working Paper Talk*.

### Organized Symposia

2023 “Race and Esports Symposium.” Digital Studies Institute. University of Michigan. November 2023 (postponed from March 2023). *Lead faculty organizer*.

2020 “Transpacifics: A Working Symposium.” Center for Transpacific Studies. University of Southern California. February 2020. *Graduate student co-organizer*.

### Conferences and Panels

2025 “The Asiatic Digital: Empire’s New Media Materiality and its Racial Reformulations (Roundtable participant).” American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico. November 2025.

2025 “The Asian American Metaverse: *Everything, Everywhere, All At Once* and Web3.” Association for Asian American Studies. Boston, MA. April 2025.

2024 “Race-Liberalism and the Asiatic Forms of High-Tech Innovation.” American Studies Association. Baltimore, MD. Nov. 2024. *Co-organizer, chair, and presenter*.

2024 “Majority World Digital Infrastructures” (Roundtable participant). DISCO Network Summit. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. June 2024.

2024 “Perception/Prediction: On Race and Informatics.” Association for Asian American Studies. Seattle, WA. Apr. 2024.

2024 “The Racial Logics of the NPC.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Boston, MA. Mar. 2024.

2023 “Love under Digital Capitalism.” (Roundtable talk). American Studies Association. Montreal, Canada. Nov. 2023.

2023 “Race and Playbor in the Age of Crypto-Gaming.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies 2023 Conference. Denver, CO. April 2022.

2023 “Race on the Blockchain.” Association for Asian American Studies 2023 Conference. Long Beach, CA. April 2022. *Organizer, chair, and presenter*.

2023 “Asiatic Forms of Blockchain.” Global Asias 6 Conference. State College, PA. Mar. 2023.

- 2023 “Asians in Silicon Valley: A Romance.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA. Jan. 2023.
- 2022 “Myth.” Digital Keywords. DISCO Fellows Presentations (Virtual). Digital Studies Institute. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. Nov. 2022.
- 2022 “Digital Food Snacks and Asian/American Nostalgia” (Roundtable talk). Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. Los Angeles, CA. Sept. 2022.
- 2022 “Railroad Mythologies and the Racial Histories of Early Silicon Valley.” Association for Asian American Studies 2022 Conference. Denver, CO. April 2022.
- 2022 “Games of Ruin, Repair, Renewal: Asian/America at Play” (Roundtable). Association for Asian American Studies 2022 Conference. Denver, CO. April 2022.
- 2021 “Transpacific Circuits: Race and Multiculturalism in Global Silicon Valley.” American Studies Association Annual Conference. Virtual. October 2021.
- 2021 “Asian/American Game Studies” Roundtable. Association for Asian American Studies 2021 Conference, Washington D.C. April 2021.
- 2021 “Nam June Paik’s Software Experiments: Race and the Digital Arts.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Denver, CO. March 2021.
- 2020 “Histories of Race and Place.” American Studies & Ethnicity Symposium. University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. February 2020. *Invited moderator.*
- 2019 “Noguchi’s Gardens: ‘Yellow Peril’ in the Information Age.” American Studies Association Annual Conference. Honolulu, HI. November 2019.
- 2019 “Isamu Noguchi’s Gardens.” Visual Studies Research Institute, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. September 2019.
- 2019 “A Transpacific Laboratory: Technological Imaginaries in the Aftermath of Empire.” Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Conference, Dumaguete, Philippines. August 2019.
- 2019 “Isamu Noguchi’s Blueprints: Experiments in the Making of a Sanctuary.” Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Madison, WI. April 2019.
- 2018 “On the Perpetual Motion of Search: The Transpacific Networked Poetics of Craig Santos Perez and Theresa H.K. Cha.” American Studies Association Annual Conference. Atlanta, GA. November 2018. *Panel organizer and presenter.*
- 2017 “Time of the ‘Otherwise’: Transpacific Futures in B.D. Wong’s Queer Performances.” American Studies Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. November 2017.
- 2017 “Envisioning History: Artistic and Historical Production in the Writings and Works of Nam June Paik.” Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Conference. Seoul, Korea. July 2017.
- 2017 “B.D. Wong’s Perverse Performances.” Summer Institute for Sexuality

Studies. York University. Toronto, Ontario. June 2017.

- 2017 “The “Unworlding” of Nam June Paik: Race, Technology, and Transpacific Fantasies.” Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Portland, OR. April 2017.
- 2017 “Queer, Trans, Visual.” American Studies & Ethnicity 2017 Symposium. University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. April 2017. *Invited moderator.*
- 2016 “An ‘Odorous’ Encounter: Queer Affects and the Ecological in Larissa Lai’s *Salt Fish Girl*.” Association for Asian American Studies Conference. Miami, FL. April 2016.

### **Respondent**

- 2022 “The Techniques of Global Asia.” Association for Asian American Studies Annual Conference. Honolulu, HI. Apr. 2026.
- 2023 “Skins Deep: Race, Gender, and Nationality in Esports.” Lecture by Dr. Tara Fickle. Race and Esports Symposium. Digital Studies Institute. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. Nov. 2023.
- 2022 “Poetry in Motion in Asian Diaspora Movements.” American Studies Association Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. Nov. 2022.
- 2022 “Racial Replication.” Lecture by Dr. Michelle Huang. Digital Studies Institute. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. Oct. 2022.

### **Class Visits**

- 2026 Guest speaker (in person with honorarium) for “Introduction to Asian American Studies.” American Studies in the Efron Center for the Study of the Americas. Princeton University. Mar. 2026.
- 2024 *Poetry Reading and Workshop.* “Asian American and Pacific Poetry” (upper-level undergraduate course). English Department. Amherst College. Feb. 2024.

### **Community Engagement**

- 2026 Invited poet and speaker for the Invocation. Nashville Metro Council Meeting. Nashville, TN. Feb. 2026.
- 2025 Poetry reader. Sewanee in Print. Sewanee, TN. April 2025.
- 2024 Moderator for New Fiction Books panel on “Emerging Technologies” with Peng Shephard (author of *All This & More*) and Justin Taylor (author of *Reboot*). Southern Festival of Books. Nashville, TN. Oct. 2024.
- 2024 Faculty panelist. Lunar New Year Event on “Asian American Community and Politics in Tennessee.” Vanderbilt Asian America Students Association. Nashville, TN. Feb. 2024

## TEACHING

### Vanderbilt University—Instructor of Record

- 2026 ENGL 1260W: Literature and Culture: Asian American Speculative Fiction
- 2026 ENGL 3726: New Media: Race and Digital Culture
- 2025 ENGL 8442/3726: Media Studies/New Media (Graduate course and honors seminar)
- 2025 ENGL 3662: Asian American Literature
- 2025 ENGL 3662: Asian American Literature
- 2024 ENGL 3726: New Media: Race and Digital Culture
- 2024 ENGL 1111.03: First-Year Writing Seminar: Representations of Asian Americans
- 2024 ENGL 3726.02: New Media: Race and the Technological Imagination
- 2023 ENGL 3662: Asian American Literature
- 2023 ENGL 3726: New Media: Race and the Technological Imagination

### University of Michigan—Instructor of Record

- 2023 DIG 357: Race and the Technological Imagination

## SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

### Vanderbilt University

- 2024–25 Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English
- 2024–26 Co-organizer, Film and Visual Cultures Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities.
- 2024–25 Member, Search Committee, Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in Asian American & Asian Diaspora Studies, Department of Asian Studies.
- 2024 Co-organizer, Lecture and Concert by *No-No Boy*, Department of Asian Studies
- 2024 Member, Search Committee, Mellon Asst. Prof in Asian American & Asian Diaspora Studies (three-year appointment), Department of Asian Studies
- 2023–24 Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English

### University of Southern California

- 2020–22 Member, USC Writing Center Committee
- 2016–21 Co-convener, Queer Transpacific Research Cluster, USC Center for Transpacific Studies
- 2016–17 Senator, USC Graduate Student Government
- 2015–16 Member, American Studies & Ethnicity Graduate Student Union, USC
- 2015–16 Graduate Student Liaison, ASE Commons Lectures Series, USC
- 2012–13 Pan Asian Student Leader, Office of Pluralism and Diversity, Dartmouth College

### To the Profession

- 2025 Peer reviewer, *Journal of Asian American Studies*
- 2025 Peer reviewer, *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience*
- 2023–24 Mentor, GSO Mentorship Program, Society for Cinema and Media Studies

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

American Studies Association (Lifetime member)  
Association for Asian American Studies (Lifetime member)  
Modern Language Association  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies