



CHRIS LEZOTTE PHD

Independent Scholar

Ann Arbor MI

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EDUCATION

Research Fellow

Center for Popular Culture Studies

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH

2015-2016

Doctor of Philosophy in American Culture Studies

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH

May 2015

Master of Liberal Studies in Women's and Gender Studies

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI

April 2009

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Advertising Design

Wayne State University, Detroit MI

March 1972

SCHOLARLY INTEREST

My work focuses on the relationship between women and cars in a variety of contexts. This includes investigations of women's participation in various car cultures traditionally associated with masculinity and the male driver, as well as the representation of women and cars in popular culture.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“What Would Miss Daisy Drive? The Road Trip Film, the Automobile, and the Woman Driver.” *The Journal of Popular Culture* 54.5 (October 2021): 987-1011.

“McCann & Me: One Woman’s Experience in Detroit Automotive Advertising.” *Automotive History Review* 62 (Spring 2021): 4-16.

“Born to Drive: Elderly Women’s Recollections of Early Automotive Experiences.” *The Journal of Transport History* 40.3 (December 2019).

“A Woman and Her Truck: Pickups, the Woman Driver, and Cowgirl Feminism.” *European Journal of American Culture* 38.2 (2019), 135-53.

“Where on the Web is Dorothy Haener? Recovering Dorothy Haener from Labor, Automotive, and Women’s Histories.” *Automotive History Review* 59 (Spring 2019), 34-49.

“Out on the Highway: Cars, Community, and the Gay Driver.” *Culture, Society, and Masculinities* 7.2 (2015): 121-139.

“Women Auto Know: Automotive Knowledge, Auto Activism, and Women’s Online Car Advice.” *Feminist Media Studies* (2014): 1-17.

“Born to Take the Highway: Women, the Automobile, and Rock ‘n’ Roll.” *The Journal of American Culture* 36.3 (2013): 161-176.

“Women with Muscle: Contemporary Women and the Classic Muscle Car.” *Frontiers: A Journal of Women’s Studies* 34.2 (2013): 83-113.

“The Evolution of the Chick Car, or What Came First, the Chick or the Car?” *The Journal of Popular Culture* 45.3 (2012): 216-231.

BOOK CHAPTER

“From Powder Puff to W Series: The Evolution of All-Women Racing in Motorsports History.” *Lives in the Fast Land: Essays on the History and Politics of Motor Racing*. D. Andrews, D. Strum, & S. Wagg (eds). London: Palgrave Macmillan. Manuscript in Press.

BOOK

Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars. Jefferson SC: McFarland & Co., Inc. 2018.

UNPUBLISHED

Dissertation: “Have You Heard the One About the ‘Woman Driver’? Chicks, Muscles, Pickups, and the Reimagining of the Woman Behind the Wheel.” Bowling Green State University, 2015.

Master’s Thesis: “Women and Car Culture in Cyberspace: Empowerment and Car Talk in the Internet User Group.” Eastern Michigan University, 2009.

BOOK REVIEWS

Candacy Taylor. Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America. In *SAH Journal* 313 (November/December 2021): 13.

Gary S. Cross. Machines of Youth: America’s Car Obsession. In *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* 13.1 (Winter 2020): 142-144.

Miller, David Lawrence. The State of American Hot Rodding: Interviews on the Craft and the Road Ahead. In *SAH Journal* 295 (November/December 2018): 14-15.

Darwin Holstrum & Melinda Keefe, eds. Life is a Highway: A Century of Great Automotive Writing. In *Journalism History* 37.2 (2011): 124-125.

PEER REVIEWS

Book Chapter: *Gender, Feminist and Queer Studies: Power, Privilege and Inequality in a Time of Neoliberal Conservatism*

Automotive History Review

European Journal of American Culture

Transfers: Interdisciplinary Journal of Mobility Studies

CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIUMS

November 2022

Argetsinger Symposium for International Motor Racing History, Watkins Glen NY
“Real Racers Turn in Both Directions: Autocross, Life Skills, and the Woman Driver”

September 2022

Wheels Across the Pacific: Transnational Histories of the Automotive Industry
Society of Automotive Historians & Automotive Historians Australia Virtual
Symposium

“Women & Automobiles Across Two Continents: An [Unfortunately] Brief History of
Women’s Automotive Scholarship in Australia and America”

June 2021

National Popular Culture Association Virtual Conference
“Pink Power: The Barbie Car and Female Automobility”

April 2019

National Popular Culture Association Conference, Washington DC
“What Would Miss Daisy Drive? The Road Trip Film, the Automobile, and the Woman
Behind the Wheel”

April 2018

Second International Drive History Conference, Allentown PA
“Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars”

March 2018

National Popular Culture Association Conference, Indianapolis IN

“Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars”

April 2017

National Popular Culture Association Conference, San Diego CA

“Born to Drive: Elderly Women’s Recollections of Early Automotive Experiences”

November 2015

Bowling Green State University Department of Popular Culture Colloquium, Bowling Green OH

“Muscle Men to Fast Women: the American Muscle Car and the Woman Driver”

April 2015

National Popular Culture Association Conference, New Orleans LA

“Playing with Trucks: Cowgirl Feminism and the Woman Driver”

April 2014

National Popular Culture Association Conference, Chicago IL

“Women Auto Know: Automotive Knowledge, Auto Activism, and Women’s Online Car Advice.”

June 2012

Popular Music and Automobile Culture Symposium, University of Chester, England

“Born to Take the Highway: The Automobile, Women, and Rock n’ Roll”

April 2012

National Popular Culture Association Conference, Boston MA

“Women with Muscle: Contemporary Women and the Classic Muscle Car”

March 2012

BGSU Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Symposium, Bowling Green OH

“Women with Muscle: Contemporary Women and the Classic Muscle Car”

February 2012

Ohio Latin Americanist Conference, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH

“Political Peregrinations: Getting Personal with Flora Tristán”

April 2010

National Popular Culture Association Conference, St. Louis MO

“Classic Women: Women and Classic Car Culture Online and on the Road”

February 2010

Battleground States Conference, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green OH

“A Women’s Place is in the Minivan: Power, Mobility, and Motherhood”

October 2009

Midwest Popular Culture Conference, Detroit, Michigan

“Born to Take the Highway: The Automobile, Women, and Rock n’ Roll”

April 2009

National Popular Culture Association Conference, New Orleans LA

“Women and Car Culture in Cyberspace: Empowerment and Car Talk on the Internet User Group”

March 2009

Eastern Michigan University Graduate Fair, Ypsilanti MI

“Women and Car Culture in Cyberspace: Empowerment and Car Talk on the Internet User Group”

October 2008

Midwest Popular Culture Conference, Cincinnati OH

Paper 1: “Evolution of the Chick Car”

Paper 2: “Does the Gender and Sexuality of a Film Director Make a Difference?”

March 2008

Michigan Women’s Studies Conference, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI

“Evolution of the Chick Car”

March 2007

Eastern Michigan University Graduate Fair, Ypsilanti MI

“Does the Gender and Sexuality of a Film Director Make a Difference?”

MEDIA

Appearances & Reviews

Presentation to the American Association of University Women [AAUW] in Birmingham, Michigan. March 9, 2022.

Appearance at the *Automotive Hall of Fame*, December 1, 2021.

Book review on *Speedreaders.com* by Helen V. Hutchins. Oct 2021.

<https://speedreaders.info/24147-power-under-her-foot-women-enthusiasts-of-american-muscle-cars/>

Book Review in the *SAH* [Society of Automotive Historians] *Journal*. Issue 301 (November/December 2018).

Book review in *The Independent Journal* by Dorothy Woodman. July 10, 2019.

Presentation to Points and Condensers Restoration Society, Ypsilanti MI, April 2019
“Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars”

Hackett Museum Speaker Series, Jackson MI, January 2019

“A Discussion with Chris Lezotte”

Book review in *Choice Connect* 56.4 December 2018.

Book review on *Woman Driver Blog* by Liz Turner October 28, 2018. https://www.liz-turner.com/woman-driver-blog/women-just-love-muscle?fbclid=IwAR2LNXYcrnP-YMZOA3K6203LS5SrKA-eKrWfztMnGF1zbi6o991PwC8g_Mk

Featured in AD&P blog “Girls Just Wanna Have Horsepower” by Gary Vasilash. 8 October 2018. <https://www.adandp.media/blog/post/girls-just-wanna-have-horsepower>

Book review in *Against the Grain* (September 2018): 70.

Book review in *Hemmings Muscle Machines* by Mark McCourt. September 2018, 12.
Presentation at Motor City Muscle, Detroit MI, August 2018
“Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars”

Featured in the Book Beat blog “What’s So Underground About Detroit?” 2 August 2018. <http://www.thebookbeat.com/backroom/2018/07/30/whats-so-underground-about-detroit/>

Featured in DBusiness “Detroit Native and Scholar Writes Book about Women and Muscle Cars.” 6 July 2018. <http://www.dbusiness.com/daily-news/Annual-2018/Detroit-Native-and-Scholar-Writes-Book-About-Women-and-Muscle-Cars/>

Presentation at Motor Muster, The Henry Ford, Dearborn MI, June 2018
“Power Under Her Foot: Women Enthusiasts of American Muscle Cars”

Featured in “Car Sellers Refine Pitch to Women” by A.J. Baime. *Wall Street Journal* 21 August 2014: D1, 3.

Featured in “Local Women’s Club Represents Shift in Classic Car Culture” by Will Rubin. *The Bulletin* 8 August 2015 <http://www.bendbulletin.com/lifestyle/3399087-151/not-their-husbands-cars>

Webcast

Webinar: MotorCities at Home Series. 25 March 2021.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5pWlevBXlg>

Featured on *The Bart Hawley Show*. 21 March 2019. <https://jtv.tv/category/bart-hawley-show-guests/page/2/>

Featured on *Autoline After Hours* “Power Under Her Foot: Drive, She Said.” 5 Oct 2018.
<http://www.autoline.tv/journal/?p=57629>

Radio

Interviewed on *Titanium Outdoors Radio* 15 August 2015.

HONORS & AWARDS

2009 Margaret L. Rossiter Award for Outstanding Graduate Paper in Women's & Gender Studies, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI
"Getting into Cars: Women, Engineering and the Automotive Industry"

2007 Margaret L. Rossiter Award for Outstanding Graduate Paper in Women's & Gender Studies, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI
"Will the Real Mrs. Dalloway Please Stand Up?"

MEMBERSHIPS

National Coalition of Independent Scholars [NCIS]

Society of Automotive Historians [SAH] – Board of Directors
National and Regional [Leland] Chapters

T2M: Transport, Traffic, & Mobility

National Women's Studies Association

Midwest Popular Culture Association

National Popular Culture Association

Culture Club: Bowling Green State University

Bowling Green State University Graduate Women's Caucus

Women's and Gender Studies Student Association: Eastern Michigan University
Secretary & Webmaster

REFERENCES

Susana Peña, Director, School of Cultural and Critical Studies, Associate Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies, Dissertation Chair, Bowling Green State University, susanap@bgsu.edu

Andrew Schocket, Director, Department of American Culture Studies, Associate Professor, Department of History, Bowling Green State University, aschock@bgsu.edu

Radhika Gajjala, Professor, Communication, Bowling Green State University, radhik@bgsu.edu

Denise Pilato, Professor, School of Technology Studies, Eastern Michigan University, denise.pilato@emich.edu

Margaret Crouch, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Eastern Michigan University, mcrouch@emich.edu

EMPLOYMENT: NON-ACADEMIC

Doner Advertising, Southfield, Michigan

Vice President, Creative Group Supervisor

May 1983 – April 1989

October 1975 – January 1979

McCann-Erickson, Troy, Michigan

Senior Art Director & Copywriter

April 1980 – May 1983

James Neal Harvey Advertising, New York

Senior Writer

January 1979 – April 1980

Wayne State University Publications Department

Designer

September 1972 – October 1975

Advertising Awards (1975 – 1989):

9 Clio Awards

2 One Show Awards

2 Communication Arts Awards (CA)

36 Caddy Awards (Creative Advertising Club of Detroit)

10 Addy Awards