

Minsoo Kang

Associate Professor, History Department, University of Missouri – St. Louis

University of Missouri – St. Louis
Department of History
One University Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63121
kangmi@umsl.edu

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in European History, Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles, 2004

Concentration: Early Modern - Modern Europe (France, England and Germany),
Intellectual and Cultural

Dissertation: *The Automaton: A Historical Study of an Intellectual and Cultural Symbol*

Advisors: Professors Robert Wohl, Theodore Porter, Anne Mellor

M.A. in European History, Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles, 1991

Concentration: Modern European Intellectual History

Thesis: *The Intrusion of History: The Novels of Milan Kundera in the Context of Czechoslovak History*

Advisor: Professor Robert Wohl

B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies of History, Philosophy, and Religion, Honors Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Southern California, 1988

Concentration: Modern European Philosophy

Honors Thesis: *The Influence of Schopenhauer on the Thoughts of Kierkegaard and Nietzsche*

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

The Invincible and Righteous Outlaw: Hong Gildong, the Noble Robber of Korea, in Literature, History, and Culture (in submission)

(Translation from Korean) **The Story of Hong Gildong** (New York: Penguin Classic, forthcoming, 2016)

Sublime Dreams of Living Machines: The Automaton in the European Imagination (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2011)

(Co-editor with Amy Woodson-Boulton) **Visions of the Industrial Age: Modernity and the Anxiety of Representation in European History, 1830-1914** (Burlington: Ashgate Publishing, 2008)

Of Tales and Enigmas: Short Stories (Holicong: Prime Books, 2006)

Articles:

The Question of the Woman-Machine: Gender, Thermodynamics, and Hysteria in the Nineteenth Century, **Substance** (forthcoming 2016).

Catapunk: Toward a Medieval Aesthetic of Science Fiction, in James Paz and Carl Kears eds., **Medieval Science Fiction** (Woodbridge: Boydell & Brewer, forthcoming 2015).

Is Man a Machine?: Enlightenment Debates on Automata, in Helen Deutsch and Mary Terrall eds., **Vital Matters: Eighteenth-Century Views of Conception, Life & Death** (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012).

Sexing the Female Robot, in Kathy Justice Gentile ed., **Sexing the Look in Popular Visual Culture** (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010).

The Ambivalent Power of the Robot, **Antenna: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture** 9, March 21, 2009.

The Happy Marriage of Steam and Engine Produces Beautiful Daughters and Bloody Monsters: Descriptions of Locomotives as Living Creatures in Modernist Culture, 1875-1935, in Minsoo Kang and Amy Woodson-Boulton eds., **Visions of the Industrial Age: Modernity and the Anxiety of Representation in European History, 1830-1914** (Burlington: Ashgate Publishing, 2008).

Building the Sex Machine: the Subversive Potential of the Female Robot, **Intertexts** 9, 2, 2006.

Wonders of Mathematical Magic: Lists of Automata in the Transition from Magic to Science, 1533-1662, **Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies** 33, 2002.

The Use of Dreaming for the Study of History, **Rethinking History** 5, 2, Summer 2001.

Reading Dutch, **Rethinking History** 4, 3, Winter 2000.

Gyungbok Palace: History, Controversy, Geomancy, **Manoa** 11, 1, 1999.

Ten Short Essays on Korea, **AZ** 1, 1, 1999.

How to Keep Heaven's Mandate, **The Times Literary Supplement**, June 19, 1998.

The Moderns: Art, Forgery, and a Postmodern Narrative of Modernism, in Robert Rosenstone ed., **Revisioning History**, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1995.

De la Sagesse Inaboutie du Barbare: Un Erudit Confucéen Lit la vie de Saint Ignace, in Daniel S. Milo, Alain Boureau ed., **Alter Histoire: Essais d'Histoire Expérimentale**, Les Belles Lettres, Paris, 1991.

Reviews:

Adelheid Voskuhl, *Androids in the Enlightenment: Mechanics, Artisans, and Cultures of the Self*, **Journal of Modern History** 87, 1, March 2015.

Kara Reilly, *Automata and Mimesis on the Stage of Theatre History*, **Technology and Culture** 54, 4, October 2013.

Michael Saler, *As If: Modern Enchantment and the Literary Prehistory of Virtual History*, **The American Historical Review** 118, 5, 2013.

Peter Carey, *The Chemistry of Tears*, "Wondrous Machines," **Nature**, 484, 7395, 26 April, 2012.

Walter L. Abramson, *Embattled Avant-Gardes: Modernism's Resistance to Commodity Culture*, **Journal of World History**, June 2009.

John E. Wills Jr., *1688: A Global History*, **Rethinking History** 5, 3, Winter 2001.

Juan Downey, *Hard Times and Culture - Fin de Siècle Vienna*, **The American Historical Review** 97, 4, 1992.

Michael Verhoeven, *Das Schreckliche Mädchen*, **The American Historical Review** 96, 4, 1991.

Translations:

Introduction to and Translation (from Korean) of *The Story of Hong Gildong*;
Introduction to and Translation of *Hong Gildong Comics* (1965), **Azalea, Journal of Korean Literature & Culture**, 6, 2013.

Translation (from Korean, with Susanna Lim) of Hailji's "The Statement," **Azalea, Journal of Korean Literature & Culture**, 3, 2010.

Stories:

Super Market, **Azalea** 7, 2014

Jing Ke Before the Principle of Order, in Ace Jordyn, Calvin D. Jim, and Renée Bennett eds., **Shanghai Steam** (Calgary: Absolute Xpress, 2012).

A Fearful Symmetry, in Ellen Datlow, Kelly Link and Gavin J Grant eds., **The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror 2007** (New York: St. Martins, 2007).

Three Stories: Lady Faraway, The Well of Dreams, The Dilemma of the King and the Beggar, **Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet** 22, 2002.

PRESENTATIONS:

"The Coming War With Robots: A Historian's Perspective," Keynote Address, Mid-America Humanities Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, March 2015

"The Woman Machine: Gender, Hysteria, and Thermodynamics in the Nineteenth Century," The Affect of Artificial Humans: Models, Images and Automata Symposium, Washington University, April 2014

"The Stories People Tell About the Past: Historical Myths Versus Historical Facts," OASIS (Older Adults pursuing lifelong learning throughout St Louis) Program, University of Missouri - St. Louis, August 2013

“The Stories People Tell About the Past: Historical Myths Versus Historical Facts,” Ethical Society, Saint Louis, Missouri, November 2012

“Translating the Story of Hong Gildong, the Righteous Outlaw of Korea,” New York Conference on Asian Studies, State University of New York at New Paltz, September 2012

“The Coming War with Robots: A Historian’s Perspective,” Perspectives on Science and History Lecture Series, Missouri History Museum, Saint Louis, Missouri, April 2012

“Our Future War with Robots: A Historian’s Perspective,” Keynote Address, 39th Missouri Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium, Saint Louis, Missouri, March, 2012

“The Coming War with Robots: A Historian’s Perspective,” Keynote Address, Symposium for History Undergraduate Research, Mississippi State University, May 2011

“Is Man a Machine?: Enlightenment Debates on Automata,” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, January 2011

“Problems of Translating *Hong Gildong Jeon* into English,” Yonsei University (Seoul, Republic of Korea), Korean Language and Literature Department, BK21 Foreign Scholar Invitational Lecture, June 2010

“The Current State of the Study of Narrative in History in the United States,” Yonsei University (Seoul, Republic of Korea), Korean Language and Literature Department, ‘Narrative and Literature’ Group Colloquium, May 2010

“Reading Literature as a Historian,” UMSL English Department Colloquium, December 2009

“The Lord of Monstrous Machines: The Rise of the Mad Scientist Figure in Nineteenth-Century Literature,” Fictions of the Industrial Age Symposium, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, October 2009

“A Historical Reading of Kafka’s ‘A Country Doctor,’” “You Never Know What You’ll Find in Your Own House”: Five Ways of Reading Kafka’s ‘A Country Doctor,’ UMSL English Department, April, 2009

“The Female Robot: Misogyny and Subversion,” Sexing the Look Conference, University of Missouri – St. Louis, St. Louis, April, 2008

“Romantic Science: The View of Nature in the Time of Henry Shaw,” Tower Grove Park Speaker Series, St. Louis, March, 2008

“Wonders of Natural Magic: The Automaton in the Transition from Magic to Science, 1533-1622,” The Society for Literature, Science, and Art Annual Conference, New York, November, 2006

“The 1755 Lisbon Earthquake: Does God Punish Us with Natural Disasters?” Twelfth Annual ‘What is a City?’ Conference, University of Missouri, St. Louis, October 2006.

“The Machine-Man and the Man-Machine: The Automaton in Enlightenment Debates on the Animate and the Inanimate,” Vital Matters Conference, the William Andrews Clark Library, Los Angeles, May 2006

“The Marriage of Steam and Engine Produces Beautiful Daughters and Bloody Monsters: The Image of Locomotives as Living Creatures in the Modernist Imagination,” Visions of the Industrial Age Symposium, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, May 2006

“The Automaton in Modernist Literature,” The Society for Literature, Science, and Art Annual Conference, Chicago, November 2005

“The Man-Machine and the Automaton-Man: Enlightenment and the Mechanistic Image of Humanity,” History of Science Society Annual Conference, Minnesota, November, 2005

“The Coming War with Robots: A Historical Perspective,” The Council for Humanities Noon Series, University of Missouri, St. Louis, October 2005

“Is Man a Machine? Enlightenment Origins of the Mechanistic Image of Humanity,” European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska, Omaha, October 2005

“Korea in the Age of Globalization,” Public Affairs Conference – ‘Understanding Globalization,’ Principia College, Elsah, April 2005

“The Living Machines: The Automaton as a Modernist Symbol, 1886–1909,” History of Science Society Annual Conference, Austin, November 2004

“The Enlightenment and the Mechanistic Image of Man,” Midwest Eighteenth Century Society Conference, St. Louis, October 2004

“‘Tis Poor to Think Myself a Machine’: Enlightenment Origins of the Mechanical Imagery of Humanity,” History of Science Colloquium, University of California, Los Angeles, October 2003

“Dreaming of Percival Lowell,” Narrating History Conference, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, April 1994

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Co-guest editor (with Heinz Insu Fenkl) of the journal *Azalea* 7, August 2013 - March 2014

Co-organizer (with Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University) – Fictions of the Industrial Age Symposium, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, October 2009.

Discussant – “The Future of Entrepreneurship in a Global Economy” - Comparative Perspectives on the Role of Entrepreneurship in Creating a 21st Century Global Economy – UMSL Center for International Studies, October 2009

Co-organizer (with Amy Woodson-Boulton, Loyola Marymount University) - Visions of the Industrial Age Symposium, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, May 2006

Co-organizer and Presenter – The Post-Ironic Lull: A Multimedia Art Show and a Discussion, University of Missouri – St. Louis Galaxy, December 2 – 3, 2006

Chair – Revisiting the Victorian “Crisis of Faith”: The Transformation of the Religious Impulse in Physics, Feminist Literature, and Art – American Historical Association Annual Conference, Seattle, January 7, 2005

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Faculty Summer Research Grant, University of Missouri – St. Louis, May – August 2005

Gerald and Deanne Gitner Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Missouri – St. Louis, May 2005

University of California, Los Angeles, Graduate Division Fellowship, Fall 2002

Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Award, April 2001

LANGUAGES:

Fluent in English and Korean

Reading Knowledge of French and German

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Associate Professor, August 2010 – current
University of Missouri – St. Louis

Assistant Professor, August 2004 – August 2010
University of Missouri – St. Louis

Teaching Fellow - Instructor, Spring 2001
General Education Clusters, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 21C Science Fiction and Western History

Teaching Fellow, Winter 2001
General Education Clusters, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 21 B History of Modern Thought

Teaching Fellow, Fall 2000
General Education Clusters, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 21A History of Modern Thought

Teaching Assistant, Spring 2000
Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 2D History of Magic, Witchcraft, and Science

Instructor, Winter 1997
Sungshin Women's University, Seoul, Republic of Korea
Course: The Theme of Non-Conformism in Modern Western Drama

Military, 1995-1997
Army of the Republic of Korea, 5th Army Corps HQ, Ildong, Gyeonggi Province
Honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant

Teaching Assistant, Spring 1992
Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 3C History of Medicine

Teaching Assistant, Winter 1992
Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 3B History of Science

Teaching Assistant, Fall 1991
Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles
Course: 1C History of Modern Europe

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Modern European history, intellectual and cultural, concentration in eighteenth and nineteenth century France, Britain, and Germany; history of science and technology, especially on the cultural reaction to the Industrial Revolution; literature and history, including the use of literature for the study of history, the historical novel, and science fiction as history; global history, especially East Asian – European contact in the early modern period; Korean history, especially late Goryeo and early Joseon dynasties; history on film.