

# Lal Zimman

[lɑɫ ˈzɪmən]

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sociolinguistics and linguistic anthropology; sociophonetics (acoustic & perceptual); ethnography; language, gender, and sexuality, especially within transgender and LGBTQ communities; embodiment & identity.

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## POSITIONS

### *Current*

2015- Assistant Professor of Linguistics & Affiliated Faculty in Feminist Studies, UC Santa Barbara  
2013- General Editor, *Studies in Language, Gender, and Sexuality*, Oxford University Press

### *Previous appointments*

2014-15 Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University  
2013-14 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Reed College  
2013 Lecturer, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, Spring Quarter  
2013 Research Consultant to Robert J. Podesva, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

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## EDUCATION

2012 Ph.D. Linguistics, University of Colorado at Boulder  
Certificate in Culture, Language and Social Practice  
Dissertation: *Voices in Transition: Testosterone, Transmasculinity, and the Gendered Voice among Female-to-Male Transgender People*  
Committee: Kira Hall (chair), Rebecca Scarborough, J. Andrew Cowell, Barbara Fox & Donna Goldstein  
2006 M.A. English (Linguistics concentration), San Francisco State University  
2004 B.A. Philosophy, San Francisco State University

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## PUBLICATIONS

### *Book*

2014 *Queer Excursions: Retheorizing Binaries in Language, Gender, and Sexuality*. Oxford University Press.  
First editor, with Jenny Davis and Joshua Raclaw.

### *Peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters*

*accepted* Trans identification, agency, and embodiment in discourse: The linguistic construction of gender and sex. For a special issue of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* on Trans Language, edited by Emilia di Martino & Luise von Flotow.  
*accepted* Variability in /s/ among transgender speakers: Evidence for a socially-grounded account of gender and sibilants. For a special issue of *Linguistics*, edited by Erez Levon, Marie Maegaard & Nicolai Pharao.  
*accepted* Gender as stylistic bricolage: Transmasculine voices and the relationship between fundamental

frequency and /s/. *Language in Society*.

accepted Working with trans communities. For Christine Mallinson, Becky Childs, and Gerard Van Herk (Eds.), *Data Collection in Sociolinguistics: Methods and Applications*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Routledge.

- 2016 Agency and the gendered voice: Metalinguistic rejections of vocal masculinization among female-to-male transgender speakers. In Anna Babel (ed.), *Awareness and Control in Sociolinguistic Research*. New York & Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. 253-277.
- 2016 Language, gender, and sexuality. In Mark Aronoff (Ed.), *Oxford Bibliographies in Linguistics*. New York: Oxford University Press. First author, with Kira Hall.
- 2015 Transmasculinity and the voice: Gender assignment, identity, and presentation. In Tommaso Milani (Ed.), *Language and Masculinities*. New York: Routledge. 197-219.
- 2014 *Boycunts and bonus holes*: Discourses about transmasculine bodies and the sexual productivity of genitals. *Journal of Homosexuality* 61(5): 673-690. Special issue on Trans Sexualities, edited by Carla A. Pfeffer. Second author, with Elijah Edelman.
- 2014 The discursive construction of sex: Remaking and reclaiming the gendered body in talk about genitals among trans men. In Lal Zimman, Joshua Raclaw, and Jenny Davis (eds.), *Queer Excursions: Rethorizing Binaries in Language, Gender, and Sexuality*. Oxford University Press. 13-34.
- 2014 Opposites attract: Rethorizing binaries in language, gender, and sexuality. In Lal Zimman, Jenny Davis, and Joshua Raclaw (eds.), *Queer Excursions: Rethorizing Binaries in Language, Gender, and Sexuality*. Oxford University Press. Third author, with Jenny Davis and Joshua Raclaw. 1-12.
- 2013 Hegemonic masculinity and the variability of gay-sounding speech: The perceived sexuality of transgender men. *Journal of Language & Sexuality* 2(1):5-43.
- 2010 Language, embodiment, and the "third sex." In Dominic Watt and Carmen Llamas (eds.), *Language and Identities*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 166-178. First author, with Kira Hall.
- Female-to-male transsexuals and gay-sounding voices: A pilot study. *Colorado Research in Linguistics* 22(1). [http://www.colorado.edu/ling/CRIL/Volume22\\_Issue1/](http://www.colorado.edu/ling/CRIL/Volume22_Issue1/).
- 2010 Biology, socialization, and identity: Accounting for the voices of female-to-male transsexuals. *eLanguage* "extended abstract" (proceedings from 2008 LSA talk). <http://www.elanguage.net/journals/index.php/lsameeting/article/view/655>.
- 2009 "The other kind of coming out": Transgender people and the coming out narrative genre. *Gender & Language* 3(1):53-80.

*Encyclopedia entries, book reviews, etc.*

- 2016 Transsexuality. In Nancy A. Naples (Ed.), Tom Boellstroff (section Ed.), *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*. Published online at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118663219.wbegs105/abstract>.
- 2011 Review of *Ethnographic Fieldwork*, Jan Blommaert and Jie Dong. *LINGUIST LIST* 22.1330. <http://linguistlist.org/issues/22/22-1330.html>.
- 2011 Booknote on *Culture and Gender of Voice Pitch: A Sociophonetic Comparison of the Japanese and Americans*, Ikuko Patricia Yuasa. *Language in Society* 40(2):251-252.
- 2007 Review of *Speaking Out: The Female Voice in Public Contexts.*, Judith Baxter (ed.). *Gender & Language* 1(2):327-334.

*Essays, popular linguistics & non-technical publications*

- 2015 Facebook, the gender binary, and third-person pronouns. In Alice Northover (Ed.), *The OUPblog Tenth Anniversary Book*. New York: Oxford University Press. 137-142.
- 2014 Gender and the voice. In Laura Erickson-Schroth (Ed.), *Trans Bodies, Trans Selves: A Resource Guide for the Transgender Community*. New York: Oxford University Press. 127.

*Published abstracts*

- 2015 Acoustic correlates of creaky voice in English. Third author, with Sameer ud Dowla Khan and Kara Becker. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 137(4):2267.

- 2014 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1121/1.4920276>  
 Voice quality variation and gender. Third author, with Kara Becker and Sameer ud Dowla Khan. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 136(4):2295. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1121/1.4900303>

## GRANTS & AWARDS

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### Awards

- 2014 Ruth Benedict Prize (book award, edited volume division), awarded by the Association for Queer Anthropology for *Queer Excursions: Rethorizing Binaries in Language, Gender, and Sexuality*.
- 2010 Outstanding Teacher Award, awarded by Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority at the University of Colorado, Boulder.
- 2009 Graduate Part-Time Instructor Teaching Excellence Award Finalist, awarded by the Graduate School at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

### Research grants

- 2015-16 Research Grant, UC Santa Barbara Academic Senate (to support a project focused on the speech of transgender people of color in California).
- 2013-14 Stillman-Drake Research Grant, Reed College (to support a collaborative sociolinguistic and articulatory study of young women's and men's voices in 2014 with Kara Becker and Sameer ud Dowla Khan).
- 2012 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Colorado Graduate School
- 2011 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, the Wenner-Gren Foundation (for 18 months of ethnographic and sociophonetic fieldwork among transmasculine individuals in San Francisco, 2010-2011).
- 2009 Beverly Sears Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Colorado Graduate School (for pilot ethnographic work with trans men in the San Francisco Bay Area during Summer 2009).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### UC Santa Barbara

- LING 106 Introduction to Phonetics (Undergraduate) (Fall 2015)
- LING 131 Sociocultural Linguistics (UG) (Winter 2016)
- LING 132 Language, Gender & Sexuality (UG) (Fall 2016)
- LING 144 Sociophonetics (UG) (Winter 2017)
- LING 244 Sociophonetics (Graduate) (Spring, 2017)
- LING 233 Language, Gender & Sexuality (G) (Spring 2016, Winter 2017)

### Reed College

- LING 212 Introduction to Language, Culture & Society (UG) (Spring 2014, 2 sections)
- LING 313 Topics in Sociolinguistics: Ethnographic Sociophonetics (UG) (Spring 2014)
- LING 326 Discourse (UG) (Fall 2013)
- LING 335 Queer Linguistics (UG) (Fall 2013)

### Stanford University (Lecturer)

- LING 156 Language and Gender (UG) (Spring 2013)

### University of Colorado, Boulder (Graduate Part-Time Instructor)

- LING 1000 Language in US Society (UG) (Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2009, Spring 2010)
- LING 2400 Language and Gender (UG) (Summer 2010)
- LING 3545 World Language Policies (UG) (Fall 2008)
- LING/ANTH 4800 Language and Culture (UG) (Spring 2009)
- LING 1900 Linguistics Service Learning Practicum in Literacy (UG) (Spring 2008, Fall 2009)

## COLLOQUIA AND OTHER INVITED TALKS

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- upcoming* Panel member, "Professional Divides, IV: Journalists and Anthropologists in Conversation about Language, Gender, and Representation." 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November.
- upcoming* "Lessons from the language of trans embodiment." Colloquium, the Ohio State University. October.
- 2016 "The language of trans inclusion: A conversation about linguistic strategies for higher education and beyond." Linguistics Colloquium, UC Santa Barbara. April 23.
- 2015 "Gender politics & linguistic activism in English-speaking trans communities." Trans (Re)presentations. Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand). November 27.
- Panel discussant, *Constructing and Constraining: Considerations of Agency in Language, Gender, and Sexuality Research* (organized by Shawn Warner-Garcia and Chris VanderStouwe). 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 21.
- 2014 "Trans-versing the linguistic divide: Voices, genders, and trans identities." Colloquium, Department of Applied Linguistics, Portland State University, April 14.
- "Transgender linguistic practices: Voices, genders, and identities" Gender Consortium Speaker Series, Reed College, March 8.
- 2011 "Trans men and gay-sounding voices: Insights on gender and sexuality." Socio Rap Speaker Series, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, April 21.
- "Explaining gay-sounding voices: Trends, insights, and future directions." Colloquium, Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado, March 16.
- 2007 "Coming out as transgender: Another look at the coming out narrative genre." Colloquium, Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado, March 7.
- 2006 "Cultural, biological, or personal?: A new semantics of gender in transgender speech." SquibFest, Linguistics Graduate Students Association, San Francisco State University. May 19.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS & POSTERS

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- upcoming* "Operationalizing stance for sociophonetic analysis: Affective stance in a pervasively creaky transgender speaker." 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Austin, TX.
- upcoming* "Engendering the sexed voice: The somatechnics of trans vocal productions." 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 19.
- upcoming* "Affective stance and voice quality in a pervasively creaky speaker: Stance objects as a tool for investigating indexical meaning. NWAV 45. Simon Fraser University & University of Victoria, Vancouver. November 4.
- 2016 "Language and embodiment: What can linguistics do for trans studies?," Trans\* Studies Conference. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ. September 10.
- 2016 "Language and agency in a trans(itional) moment: The politics of linguistic choice in transgender communities" 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Gender and Language Association. City University of Hong Kong, China. May 20.
- 2016 "Acoustic correlates of perceived creaky voice in a controlled sample of American English." With Sameer ud Dowla Khan and Kara Becker. 90<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. Washington, DC, January 9.
- 2015 "Trans masculine linguistic styles and the gendered embodiment of neoliberal selfhood." With Elijah Edelman. 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 19.
- "The acoustics of perceived creaky voice in American English." With Sameer ud Dowla Khan & Kara Becker. 170<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Jacksonville, FL. November 3.
- "Creak as disengagement: Gender, affect, and the iconization of voice quality." NWAV 44. University of Toronto, October 25.
- "Creaky voice in a diverse gender sample: Challenging ideologies about sex, gender, and creak in American English." With Kara Becker & Sameer ud Dowla Khan. NWAV 44. University of Toronto,

- October 25.
- 2014 "The larynx." 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C. December 4.
- "Agency and the gendered voice among female-to-male transgender speakers." 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Gender and Language Association. Vancouver, Canada. June 6.
- 2013 "Publicly trans and trans publics: Visibility and trans masculinities." With Elijah Edelman. 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL. November 21.
- "Contextual variation in gendered style among trans men." NWAV 42. University of Pittsburgh & Carnegie Mellon University, October 20.
- "Agency and sociophonetic variation in the metalinguistic commentary of trans men." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XX. American University (Washington, DC). February 16.
- "Perceived gender in context: Gendered style among transgender speakers." 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Boston, MA. January 5.
- 2012 "Stylistic context and perceptions of the gendered voice: Transgender speakers engaged in phonetic bricolage." 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, November 17.
- "Transmasculinity and phonetic bricolage." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XIX. American University (Washington, DC). February 12.
- "The social basis of gendered phonetic styles: Changes in transmasculine voices." 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Portland, OR, January 6.
- 2011 "Voicing gender normativity: Clashes and alignments between speech therapists and transgender speakers." 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Montréal, Canada, November 20.
- "Performing the gendered voice: Variability in the realization of /s/ among transmasculine speakers." NWAV 40. Georgetown University, October 28.
- "Challenging biological determinism in the phonetics of gender: Evidence from transmasculine speakers." 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference on Culture, Language, and Social Practice. University of Colorado (Boulder, CO), October 8.
- "The homogeneity of heteronormative masculinity: Explaining straight-sounding speech." Annual Meeting of the American Dialect Society. Pittsburgh, PA, January 8.
- 2010 "The discursive construction of sex." 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. New Orleans, LA, November 18.
- "Language socialization as a life-long process: Gender change across the individual lifespan." Language, Culture and History Conference. University of Wyoming (Laramie, WY), July 2.
- "Gendered language socialization and the voices of transsexual men." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XVII. American University (Washington, DC). April 17.
- "Biology, socialization, and identity: Accounting for the voices of female-to-male transsexuals." 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. Baltimore, MD, January 8.
- 2009 "Perceived sexual orientation and gender normativity: What do gay men, nerds, and female-to-male transsexuals have in common?" NWAV 38. University of Ottawa, October 24.
- "Identity, socialization, and gay-sounding voices." 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Culture, Language, and Social Practice. University of Colorado (Boulder, CO), October 4.
- "One of these things is not like the others: Why power matters for the study of gay-sounding voices." 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. San Francisco, CA, January 9.
- 2008 "Talking like a real man: Discourses of language and masculinity among transgender men." 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA, November 20.
- "She's just a high-maintenance bitch': Interpersonal drama & discourse continuity in reality television." Arizona Linguistics and Anthropology Symposium. University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ), May 10.
- "Contesting gender, (re)constructing sex: Semantic variation in transgender communities." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XV. American University (Washington, DC), February 17.
- 2007 "Institutionally coerced narratives and power in transgender research." 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC, November 29.

- "Revisiting the closet: Transgender narratives of identity, coming out, and disclosure." 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on Culture, Language, and Social Practice. University of Colorado (Boulder, CO), October 6.
- "Who's coming out and whose coming out? Transgender people and the coming out paradigm." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XIV. American University (Washington, DC), February 10.
- 2006 "Gendered language in a female-to-male transgender community of practice." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XIII. American University (Washington, DC), February 12.

## CONFERENCES & PANELS ORGANIZED

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- 2016 Panel Organizer, "Sounds like Embodiment: Sound and the Material Body." 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 19. With Tyanna Slobe.
- Panel Organizer, "Language, Power, and Materiality in Trans\* Communities," Trans\* Studies Conference. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ. September 10.
- 2012 Panel Organizer, "Voices in Movement: Phonetic Border Crossings," 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA, November 18.
- 2009 Conference Co-Organizer & Funding Coordinator, 2<sup>nd</sup> Interdisciplinary Conference on Culture, Language and Social Practice (CLASP), University of Colorado, October.
- 2007 Conference Co-Organizer, 1<sup>st</sup> Interdisciplinary Conference on Culture, Language and Social Practice (CLASP), University of Colorado, October 5-7.
- Session Chair and Co-Organizer (with Elijah Edelman), "Transforming Trans Linguistics." Lavender Languages and Linguistics XIV, Washington, DC, February 10.
- 2004-06 Co-Organizer, SquibFest, San Francisco State University's Linguistics Colloquium Series.

## SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

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### *Committee work*

- 2016- Trans Inclusion Training Development Committee, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2015- Member. Trans\* Task Force [campus-wide committee], UC Santa Barbara.
- 2015-16 Graduate Admissions Committee. Department of Linguistics, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2013-14 Member, Informal Working Group on Trans Inclusion, Reed College.

### *Workshops*

- 2016 "Language issues in trans communities." Rainbow House (an LGBT dorm), UC Santa Barbara. May 12.
- "Language and trans identity/community/politics," "Transmasculine break-out group" & "Mixed & other racial identities break-out group" (facilitator). T\*Camp. January 9.
- 2015 "Teaching trans: Identities, rights, visibility, action." Workshop for faculty and staff. Organized by the Resource Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity, UC Santa Barbara, August 31.
- 2014 "Trans\* inclusion in the college classroom: A workshop for faculty." Teaching workshop organized through the Multicultural Resource Center and Office for Institutional Diversity, Reed College, January 27.
- "Trans\* inclusion in the college classroom: A workshop for faculty." Teaching workshop organized through the Multicultural Resource Center and Office for Institutional Diversity, Reed College, April 28.
- 2012 "Workshop on transmasculine voices." The Pacific Center, Berkeley, CA. January 26.
- 2011 "Grammar in the classroom: A linguistic perspective on teaching academic English." Teaching workshop for the Graduate Teacher Program, University of Colorado, Boulder, October 7.
- 2011 "Gender and the voice: A workshop for transmasculine people." TRANS: THRIVE, San Francisco, CA. October 18.

### *Other service*

- 2016 T\*Camp (staff). A retreat for trans, non-binary, and gender questioning students at Southern California colleges and universities.

**LANGUAGES**

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English (native)  
Spanish (advanced)  
French (reading knowledge; basic conversational skills)  
American Sign Language (basic conversational skills)

**REFERENCES**

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Available on request.