**PICS Transnational Hollywood**

**Delphine Naudier**

My research focuses on the relationships between French talent agents and the venerable William Morris Agency (WMA) in the US, immediately after World War II. I explore the activities of WMA's representatives in Paris. In addition to the existence of a local WMA branch (opened in the 50s and shut down in the 70s), individual representatives were also sent to work with several of the major French agencies. What were exactly the activities of these William Morris agents in Paris, and how was their local agency structured? Did the presence of WMA agents influence and transform the role and the work of French talent agents? I will examine the extent to which American professional models, modes of action, and organizational forms circulated and were appropriated by French agents in this context. To this end, I will draw on archival sources and conduct interviews with representatives of the William Morris Agency in France between the 1950s and the 1970s.

**Recent publications**

Delphine Naudier. 2015, “The talent agent’s role in producing artists’ symbolic and commercial value in France.” In *Brokerage and Production in the American and French Entertainment Industries: Invisible Hands in Cultural Markets*, edited by Denise Bielby and Violaine Roussel, 55-74. Lanham: Lexington Books.

Wenceslas Lizé, Delphine Naudier, and Séverine Sofio (eds.) 2014. *Les stratèges de la notoriété. Intermédiaires et consécration dans les univers artistiques.* Paris: Éditions des Archives contemporaines.