
CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Sarah Brownsberger's poems have appeared in Alaska Quarterly Review, Salamander, Field, Poetry East, The Hudson Review, and other fine journals. She translates Icelandic poetry, fiction, and art criticism. Her essay "Poetry, Hunger, and Electric Lights: Lessons from Iceland on Poetry and Its Audience" (Cambridge Quarterly, 2015) is now available on-line at <https://academic.oup.com/camqtly/article/44/3/202/376240>.

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni is an award-winning and bestselling author, poet, activist and teacher of writing. Her work has been published in over fifty magazines, including the Atlantic Monthly and The New Yorker, and her writing has been included in over fifty anthologies, including The Best American Short Stories and the O. Henry Prize Stories. Her books have been translated into twenty-nine languages. Divakaruni teaches in the nationally ranked Creative Writing program at the University of Houston, where she is the Betty and Gene McDavid Professor of Creative Writing. Several of her works have been made into films and plays. She lives in Houston with her husband Murthy and has two sons, Anand and Abhay, who are in college.

Susan Faust has written and directed plays for the San Francisco Fringe Festival and Fertile Ground Festival. She has been an artist

-in-residence with Portland Public Schools and a playwriting mentor for at-risk youth with Haven Project. Susan was a founding member of the San Francisco-based Paducah Mining Company, and has collaborated with Hand2Mouth Theatre and Anne Bogart's SITI Company. A co-founder of LineStorm Playwrights, Susan's short plays have been performed as part of the group's Portland-in-Play projects. She holds a BA in Theatre from UC San Diego.

Emily Fritzler is an aspiring tattoo artist in Pontiac, Michigan. She has published three poems and is driven by her passion for art and creativity.

A native of Southwest Virginia, **James William Gardner** writes extensively about the contemporary American south. The writer explores aspects of southern culture often overlooked: the downtrodden, the impoverished and those marginalized by society. His work has been nominated for the 2016 Pushcart Prize. Gardner is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University and lives in Roanoke, Virginia. His work has appeared in numerous publications including Deep South Magazine, Newfound Journal, and The Virginia Literary Journal.

Jacqueline Guidry has received five Pushcart nominations and her work has appeared in Barnstorm Literary Journal, Carve Magazine, Southampton Review, South Carolina Review and elsewhere. "Surprises" is a stand-alone chapter from her second novel, currently being marketed by her agent. Visit her at <https://www.jacquelinemguidry.com/>

Sandra Gustin has been a juried poet of the Houston Poetry Fest, and her work has appeared in Rio Grande Review and Anglican Theological Review. Her chapbook, *This Treasured View*, was published by Red Bird Chapbooks. She is currently a student in the online MFA program of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Caitlin Hill is an essayist, memoirist, and columnist from South Dakota. She is an MFA candidate in creative nonfiction at the University of Idaho, where she is the Co-Editor-in-Chief for Fugue. Her writing has appeared in *Midwestern Gothic*, *Synaesthesia Magazine*, *Superstition Review*, and elsewhere. Learn more at CaitlinHillside.com.

A graduate of the Pacific University MFA in Writing program, **G. Elizabeth Kretchmer** writes about women and the landscape. She is the author of two novels—*The Damnable Legacy* and *Bear Medicine*—as well as a short story collection, *Women on the Brink*. Her short fiction and essays have also appeared in *The New York Times* and other publications. When she's not writing, she's facilitating creative and wellness writing workshops, advocating for the environment, or working on her farm in the Pacific Northwest. For more information, visit her website at <http://www.gekretchmer.com/>.

Fernando R. Manibog holds a Ph.D. in energy and resources, an M.A. in international relations, and a bachelor's degree in Asian Studies. He was an energy economist and is an evaluation consultant at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. He belongs to memoir and fiction writing groups, and has completed the three-year curriculum at the Studio Theatre's Acting Conservatory. As a member of a nonprofit organization, he focuses on helping children with cancer in the Philippines. His work has appeared in *Mary: A Journal of New Writing*, *Green Hills Literary Lantern*, *Forge*, and *Valparaiso Fiction Review*.

Raynald Nayler's work has been published in the *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Weave*, *Sentence*, and many other journals online and in print. A Russian speaker, Raynald has lived in Central Asia, Russia and the Caucasus for over a decade. He is currently Press Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Azerbaijan.

Wen Peihong is an associate professor of English in the School of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Southwest Minzu University, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China. She has published essays in Chinese on several ethnic minority American writers. Among her translations are Winnie-the-Pooh, *The House at Pooh Corner*, and *Coyote Traces: Aku Wuwu's Poetic Sojourn in America*. Her translations of poems by ethnic minority Chinese poets appeared in various anthologies and journals, such as *Silk Road and Borderlands of Asia: Culture, Place, Poetry* (2017). She is a visiting scholar at Pacific University, Oregon. Her present research focus is on the comparative study of ethnic minority literatures in China and the USA.

Emma Roles is majoring in Creative writing and minoring in Editing and Publishing as well as Spanish at Pacific University. She writes fiction and enjoys painting and drawing.

Rachel Savini has published creative non-fiction articles in *Pacific Portraits: The People Behind the Scenes 3*. Savini is an assistant editor for the literary magazines *Silk Road* and *Pacific's Literary Undergraduate Magazine (PLUM)*. She is completing her BA in Creative Writing with an Editing and Publishing Minor.

Rosalia Scalia's fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *Silk Road Review*, *The Oklahoma Review*, *North Atlantic Review*, *Notre Dame Review*, *The Portland Review*, and *Quercus Review*, among many others. She holds an MA in writing from Johns Hopkins University and is a Maryland State Arts Council Independent Artist's Award recipient. She won the Editor's Select award from *Willow Review* and her short story "In Pebble Lake" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She lives in Baltimore City with her family.

Josie Sigler's collection of stories, *The Galaxie and Other Rides* (Livingston Press, 2012), was awarded the Ruby Pickens Tartt First Fiction Award, her book of poetry, *living must bury* (Fence Books), won the 2010 Motherwell Prize, and the very short story, *The Compartment*, won the 2012 Barthelme Prize.

Xu Xi the author of twelve books, including five novels, five collections of short fiction & essays and most recently a memoir *Dear Hong Kong: An Elegy to a City*, released July 1, 2017 by Penguin as part of its Hong Kong series for the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China. She is also editor of four anthologies of Hong Kong writing in English. Two new books are forthcoming - a short fiction collection *Insignificant* (Signal 8 Press, 2018) and an essay collection *This Fish is Fowl* (Nebraska Univ. Press, 2019-20).

Mason Mimi Yadira (they/them/theirs) is based out of Portland, Oregon. They're a mixed-heritage Salvadoran and white person, studying creative writing and child, youth, and family studies at Portland State University, where they also work two jobs and organize radical leftist events. You can keep up with them on twitter or instagram @ricepunx

Joy Yokoy is a Creative Writing major and Editing & Publishing minor at Pacific University. A former barista, she loves anything *Pride and Prejudice*. She writes fiction.