

CHRIS TUSA

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY ▪ BATON ROUGE, LA 70803
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EDUCATION

- M.F.A., Creative Writing, University of Florida, 2000.
Poetry Thesis: *Inventing an End*, directed by Sidney Wade.
- M.A., English, Southeastern Louisiana University, 1998.
Poetry Thesis: *In the Darkness of Our Lives*, directed by Jack Bedell.
- B.A., English, Southeastern Louisiana University, 1996.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2000-present Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA

English Instructor

Courses taught include the following (most exclusively in computer classrooms):

- English 2007: Creative Writing: Poetry
- English 2025: Fiction
- English 3086: Contemporary Literature
- English 3002: Technical Writing
- English 2002: Business Writing
- English 1001: Freshman Composition
- English 1002: Argumentative Writing
- English 2000: Composition
- English 2123: Manipulating the Masses

Spring 2013-2017 Southeastern Louisiana University Hammond, LA

Writer-in-Residence

- Promote, organize, and lead discussion sessions for Common Read Program.
- Direct graduate creative writing theses.
- Assist graduate students with campus literary magazines: *The Pick* and *The Manchac Review*.
- Provide Wordpress instruction for students and faculty members connected with the Dual Enrollment Program.
- Act as ambassador for Southeastern Louisiana University's Creative Writing Program.

Spring 2002-2004 Baton Rouge Arts Council Baton Rouge, LA

Artist in the Schools

- Conducted creative writing workshops at local elementary schools.

- Responsible for organization and management of student readings.
- Worked extensively with elementary schools teachers to help them to incorporate the use of poetry into their existing curriculum.

Fall 1998- Spring 2000

University of Florida

Gainesville, FL

Teaching Fellow

Courses taught:

- CRW 1301: Beginning Poetry Writing
- English 1102: Writing about Literature
- English 1102L: Writing about Literature Laboratory
- English 1101: Argumentative Writing
- English 1101L: Writing Laboratory

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Fall 2011-present

Fiction Southeast

Baton Rouge, LA

Managing Editor

- Responsible for online marketing and promotion of journal.
- Responsible for proofreading and editing of incoming manuscripts.
- Designed, develop, manage, and maintain official web site.
- Publish work from numerous established poets, including Robert Olen Butler, Joyce Carol Oates, Aimee Bender, Ron Carlson, Donald Ray Pollock, and others.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *The Tainted Dress (agented)*
- *More Devils than Hell Can Hold (agented)*
- *In the City of Falling Stars*, University of West Alabama, 2016 (novel)
- *Dirty Little Angels*, University of West Alabama, 2009 (novel)
- *Haunted Bones*, Louisiana Literature Press, 2006 (full-length poetry collection)

CHAPBOOKS

- *Inventing an End*, Lone Willow Press, 2002 (poetry)

SHORT FICTION

- "Missing." *Five Points*. Summer 2016 Issue.
- "Mean Blood" *The Southeast Review* (selected by Robert Olen Butler as finalist for *The World's Best Short-short Story Contest*)
- "Neighborhood Association" *The Southeast Review* (selected by Robert Olen Butler as finalist for *The World's Best Short-short Story Contest*)
- "Blood." *New South*. Winter 2013 Issue.
- "Meat." *New South*. Winter 2013 Issue

- “The Girl with the Missing Face.” *Frrication*. Spring 2013
- “The Crucified Man.” *Corium Magazine*. Winter Issue 2013.
- “Baby Proof.” *Corium Magazine*. Winter Issue, 2013.
- “Sons of God” *StorySouth*
- “Riding the Devil’s Backbone” *Southern Hum*

NON-FICTION

- “Rhythm & Rhyme: An interview with Louisiana Poet Laureate Jack Bedell. Country Roads Magazine.
- “The Axe Man of New Orleans: A Jazz-Loving Jack the Ripper.” *Crixeo*, August 2018
- “The Yellow Fever Plot of 1864: A Confederate Conspiracy.” *Crixeo*, June, 2018
- “4 Strong Women Who Were Vital to the Civil War.” *Crixeo*, May, 2018
- 5 Legendary Duels: When Disputes Ended in Bloodshed. *Crixeo*, April 2018
- Contemporary Southern Writers: Slaves to the Old South. *StorySouth* (Spring Issue, 2011
- Aiming for Perfection: Meet Nationally Ranked Archer, Alee Vestal-Laborde. *Dig Magazine*.

INDIVIDUAL POEMS PUBLISHED IN LITERARY JOURNALS

- “Botticelli’s Venus” *Connecticut Review*
- “The Birth of Night” *Prairie Schooner*.
- “Kindergarten Portrait of My Mother” *New Delta Review*
- “Coma” *South Dakota Review*
- “Black Mare” *Texas Review*
- “I Cut Myself While My Husband Plants Flowers” *The Southeast Review*.
- “The Spirit of Bridget Bishop” *New Delta Review*.
- “Prozac” *Connecticut River Review*.
- “Photograph of a Missing Girl” *Texas Review*
- “Sober in a Dry County” *Louisiana Literature*
- “Hypochondriac” and “Alzheimer’s” *Caduceus*.
- “My Grandfather’s Hands” *Connecticut River Review*.
- “Revolver” and “Gone” *Story South*
- “The Drowned Light” *Passages North*
- “Ode to Gumbo” *Southern Hum*
- “Habit” *Louisiana Literature*
- “At a Filling Station, On the Anniversary of Your Death” *Louisiana Literature*
- “September Funeral” (reprint) *Story South*.
- “The Ballad of Leander Trueblood. *Southern Hum*
- “Inventing an End” (reprint) *Story South*.
- “A Retired Voodoo Priestess Talks about Revenge.” *Southern Hum*.
- “The Etymology of Love” *Lullwater Review*.
- “Apparition in a Divorce Decree” *Tar River Poetry*.
- “Cow Tipping Near Indian Creek” *Southern Hum*.
- “The Etymology of Science” *Red Cedar Review*

- “Marie Laveau Talks about Magic from a Confessional in St. Louis Cathedral” *The Spoon River Poetry Review*.
- “Inventing an End” *Red Cedar Review*
- “Apparition in a Marriage Certificate” *The Louisville Review*
- “September Funeral” *Half Tones to Jubilee*
- “Raymond Livaudais Talks about Faith from a Cell in Angola State Prison” *The New York Quarterly*
- “Waiting to Leave” *Half Tones to Jubilee*
- “Envisioning the Marsh” *Half Tones to Jubilee*
- “The Etymology of Love” *Tundra*
- “Worn” *Midwest Poetry Review*
- “Winter Funeral” *Slipstream*
- “Unexpected Conditions” *Midwest Poetry Review*
- “Ode to Laundromat Dryers” *Small Pond Magazine of Literature*
- “The Dancing Men at The Rainbeaux Casino Lounge” *Small Pond Magazine of Literature*
- “On Leaving the House Where I Spent My Youth” *Pegasus*
- “The Blind Man Touches My Face.” *Small Pond Magazine of Literature*
- “The Passing of the Eye” *Pegasus*
- “Remembering Leanne Thibodeaux” *Midwest Poetry Review*.
- “Memories of Chartres Street” *Crab Creek Review*.
- “The Lines That Separate Us” *Pegasus*.
- “My Stepfather Speaks to Me about Death” *Grasslands Review* 18.
- “An Empty Window” *The Comstock Review*.

INDIVIDUAL POEMS PUBLISHED IN LITERATURE ANTHOLOGIES

- Beyond Forgetting: Poems and Prose about Alzheimer's Disease, (*Kent State University Press*) edited by Holly Hughes with an introduction by Tess Gallagher.
- Poetic Voices without Borders, (*Gival Press*).
- [In Our Own Words: A Generation Defining Itself](#) . *MW Enterprises*, 2002.
- In the Eye *Thunder Rain Press*, 2006.

COMMITTEE WORK

- Online Assessment Committee (2007-present, LSU)
- Readers and Writers (2005-2007, LSU)
- Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate (2001-2004, LSU)
- Technology Enhancement Committee (2001-present, LSU)
- Academic Freedom and Research (2001-2002, LSU)
- College of Agriculture Task Force (2001-2003, LSU)
- First Year Writing Committee (2000-2005, LSU)
- Portfolio Assessment Committee (2000-2004, LSU)
- Caffee Award Committee (2000-2001, LSU)

READINGS/WORKSHOPS

- Fiction Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2011.
- Fiction Reading, University of Florida's Writer's Festival, Gainesville, FL, 2009
- Fiction Reading, Pegasus Visiting Writer Series, Tifton, Georgia, 2009.
- Fiction Reading at Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia, 2009
- Fiction Reading, Louisiana Book Festival, Baton Rouge, LA, 2009.
- Fiction Reading at Sixth Annual Jubilee Jambalaya Writers' Conference, Houma, LA 2009
- Fiction Reading at 23rd Annual Tennessee Williams Festival, New Orleans, 2009
- Poetry Reading, Boudreaux's and Thibodeaux's, Baton Rouge, LA 2009.
- Panelist, Louisiana Book Festival, Baton Rouge, LA, 2008.
- Fiction Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2008.
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2007.
- Poetry Reading, Bellhaven College, Jackson, MS, 2006.
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2006.
- Poetry Reading, Louisiana Book Festival, Baton Rouge, LA, 2006.
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2005.
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2004.
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2003.
- Poetry Reading, Chelsea's, Baton Rouge, LA, 2003
- Poetry Reading, Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Fairhope, AL, 2002.
- Poetry Reading, Creative Writer's Group, Southeastern Louisiana University, 1998.
- Poetry Reading, Sims Memorial Library, Hammond, LA, 1998.
- Explicating Poetry Workshop (1998, SLU's Writing Center)

TEACHING AWARDS/HONORS

- Recipient of 2009 Alpha Lambda Delta Teaching Award for Superior Instruction.
- Nominated for 2008 Center for Freshman Year Teaching Award.
- Recipient of 2008 Alpha Lambda Delta Teaching Award for Superior Instruction.
- Recipient of 2007 Alpha Lambda Delta Teaching Award for Superior Instruction.
- Elected President of the Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers
- Elected Vice President of the Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers
- Recipient of 2001 Alpha Lambda Delta Teaching Award for Superior Instruction.
- Recipient of 2000 Alpha Lambda Delta Teaching Award for Superior Instruction.

WRITING-RELATED HONORS & AWARDS

- “Winter Wonderland” chosen as a semi-finalist for inclusion in *The Best Fictions of 2016*.
- *More Devils than Hell Can Hold* selected as semi-finalist for the 2015 William Faulkner Novel in Progress Award
- *In the City of Falling Stars* selected as first runner-up for the 2014 William Faulkner Novel in Progress Award
- “Mean Blood” selected by Robert Olen Butler as finalist for The Southeast Review’s World’s Best Short-short Story Contest
- “Neighborhood Association” selected by Robert Olen Butler as finalist for The Southeast Review’s World’s Best Short-short Story Contest
- Selected as semi-finalist for Black Lawrence Press Fiction Chapbook Contest
- Invited to read at Yale University as part of the Yale’s Medical Group Art Place Celebration
- Finalist, Bright Hill Press 2005 Poetry Book Competition
- Selected by the Louisiana Division of the Arts as recipient of a \$500 Artist Mini-Grant Award
- Invited to Read at 23rd Annual Tennessee Williams Festival
- Finalist, Bright Hill Press 2005 Poetry Book Competition
- Selected as Feature Guest Poet by The Albany Poetry Workshop, August 2002.
- Recipient of Southeastern Louisiana University’s 1997 D. Vickers Award for Creative Writing
- Selected as Feature Guest Poet by The Albany Poetry Workshop, January 2000.
- Poetry accepted for presentation at the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Convention of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers, President (2005-2007)
- Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers, Vice President (2003-2005)
- The National Council of Teachers of English
- Poets and Writers
- Modern Language Association
- Associated Writing Programs
- Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society

RELATED COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE/ SERVER ADMINISTRATION

- Extensive knowledge of Moodle
- Extensive knowledge of web design, server management, web marketing, and editing of online literary journals (*Fiction Southeast*, *Poetry Southeast* and *Louisiana Literature*)
- Experience managing and maintaining two leased dedicated servers (Linux and Windows)
- Extensive knowledge of HTML, as well various web editing software (including Dreamweaver, Flash, Swish, and Photoshop)

- Experience teaching a wide variety of Moodle-based courses in computer classrooms

REFERENCES

Josh Russell, Professor of English
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