

DEBRA KANG DEAN

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EDUCATION

MFA in Creative Writing (Poetry), University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, 1989.
MA in English (Literary Studies), Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Washington, 1986.
BA in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, Eastern Washington University, 1982.
Associate of Arts, General Studies, Spokane Community College, Spokane, Washington, 1980.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (selective)

Adjunct Faculty, brief-residency Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, October 2003–present.
Instructor, Writers' Program, UCLA Extension School, Los Angeles, California, July 2003–present.
Visiting Assistant Professor, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, January–May 1995.
Consultant, Transpacific Communications, Ayden, North Carolina, May 1990–December 1993.
Lecturer, Department of English, East Carolina University, August 1990–December 1991.

PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS

Nominated for William Carlos Williams Award, 2003.
Nominated for the Pushcart Prize, 2003, 1999, 1993, 1990.
Co-winner, Sheila Margaret Motton Prize, sponsored by the New England Poetry Club, 1999.
“Taproot” selected by Robert Bly for *The Best American Poetry*, 1999.
Winner, Harperprints Poetry Chapbook Competition, sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network and judged by Ruth Stone, 1997.
Semi-finalist, The University of Wisconsin Press Poetry Series Competition, 1997.
Selectee, The Blumenthal Writers & Readers Series, sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network, 1997.
Semi-finalist, “Discovery”/ *The Nation* Contest, 1997, 1996, 1994, 1993.
Finalist, The Anhinga Prize for Poetry, 1995.
Poet Laureate Award, sponsored by the North Carolina Poetry Society, 1995.
Finalist, Paumanok Poetry Award, 1994.
Semi-finalist, The Bluestem Award, 1991.
Honorable Mention, The Academy of American Poets Contest, University of Montana, 1989.
Second Place, Wallace Stevens Poetry Contest, University of Connecticut, 1987.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Precipitates*, (Rochester, N.Y.: BOA Editions, 2003).
News of Home, (Rochester, N.Y.: BOA Editions, 1998).
Back to Back, (Carrboro, N.C.: North Carolina Writers' Network, 1997).

Reprints and Anthologies

- "Hail" in *Never Before*, forthcoming.
"Widdershins" in *Blues for Bill*, forthcoming.
"Eulogy," poem (to feature *Precipitates*) reprinted online by *Poetry Daily* (www.poems.com) 14 August 2004.
"Taproot," poems (to feature *Precipitates*) reprinted online by *Verse Daily* (www.versedaily.org) 30 January 2004.
"Pockets," "Chanticleer," and "Hot Rock Rising" in *Yobo: Korean American Writing in Hawai'i* (Honolulu: Bamboo Ridge Press, 2003): 342–246.
"Arrival," poem printed in *Urban Nature: Poems about Wildlife in the City* (Minneapolis: Milkweed, 2000): 205–206.
"Stitches," "Immigrants," "Back to Back," and "Taproot," poems reprinted in *The New American Poets: A Bread Loaf Anthology* (Hanover, N.H.: Univ. of New England Press, 2000): 63–66.
"Stitches," "Immigrants," and "The Weep Line," poems reprinted in *Intersecting Circles: Hapa Women's Voices in Prose and Poetry* (Honolulu: Bamboo Ridge Press, 1999): 132, 268–271.
"Immigrants," poem reprinted in *Word and Witness: One Hundred Years of North Carolina Poetry* (Durham, N.C.: Carolina Academic Press, 1999): 253.
"Taproot," poem reprinted in *The Best American Poetry* (New York: Scribner, 1999): 55–56.
"Meditations on a Rock Garden" (excerpts), *Boston 1999*, special issue of *East Village Poetry Web*.
"The Corsage" (under the title "Remembering Your Father"), poem reprinted in the 20th Anniversary Issue of *Tar River Poetry* 38, no. 1 (fall 1998): 70–71.
"The Weep Line," poem (to feature *News of Home*) reprinted online by *Poetry Daily* (www.poems.com), 28 October 1998.
"Back to Back," poem reprinted in *Anthology of Magazine Verse & Yearbook of American Poetry*, edited by Alan F. Pater (Palm Springs, Calif.: Monitor Book Company, 1997): 127–128.
"Telling Differences," personal essay reprinted in *Under Western Eyes: Personal Essays from Asian America*, edited by Garrett Hongo (New York: Anchor Books, 1995): 49–69.
"In the Way Back," *Unsettling America: An Anthology of Contemporary Multicultural Poetry*, edited by Maria Mazziotti Gillan and Jennifer Gillan (New York: Viking, 1994): 298–99.

Poems

- "Single-Lens Reflex" and "Hermit Crab," *River Styx*, forthcoming.

- "Lights, Please," "Beads," "Peeling an Onion" in *High Horse*, a special issue of *The Louisville Review*, featuring work from the faculty in the brief-residency MFAW program at Spalding University, forthcoming.
- "Soap" and "Patchwork of Selvage: March," *Kestrel*, forthcoming.
- "The Use of Letters," "Noise and Hunger," and "The Bench," *The Acre*, forthcoming.
- "Sand, Salt, & Snow," *Tar River Poetry* 43, no. 2 (spring 2004): 30.
- "Piñas," translation of "Pineapples," Antonio Casado da Rocha, trans., *biTARTE* 10, no. 30 (August 2003): 109–111.
- "Beyond MacDowell Lake," *Tar River Poetry* 43, no. 1 (fall 2003): 37.
- "Patchwork of Selvage: May," *North Dakota Quarterly* 69, no. 1 (winter 2002): 138–140.
- "Of Thee I Sing" and "Single-Lens Reflex," online at *can we have our ball back?* (www.canwehaveourballback.com) 8.I (Special Issue, September 2001).
- "In Defense of Reticence," "On First Looking into Hongo's *Volcano*," and "The Man with the Red Guitar," *Luna* 4 [2000]: 181–186.
- "Totem: America," *Tar River Poetry* 40, no. 1 (fall 2000): 34–35.
- "Articulations," online at *can we have our ball back?* (www.canwehaveourballback.com) 2 (fall 2000).
- "Customs" and "Heart Sutra #6," *North Carolina Literary Review* 9 (spring 2000): 153–155.
- "Robin's Breast," a twenty-stanza renku with Tadashi "Shōkan" Kondo and Raffael de Gruttola, *Chiyo's Corner* 1, no. 2 (fall 1999): 18–19.
- "Heart Sutra #5," "Hail," "Adam's Apple," and "Apology for Children," *Kestrel* 13 (spring 1999): 64–69.
- "[Roughly the size of a grain of rice,]" and "[Stooping to pull up a weed,]" both from *Heart Sutras*, *Crab Orchard Review* 3, no. 2 (spring/summer 1998): 43–46.
- "Burning. Love." *Many Mountains Moving* 3, no. 2 (1997): 145–146.
- "Adam's Apple" and "Musical Fruit," *The Squaw Review* 3 (1997): 27–29.
- "Ordinary Moons," *The Southern Review* 32, no. 4 (autumn 1996): 621–22.
- "The Cord," *Prairie Schooner* 70, no. 3 (fall 1996): 49–50.
- "Prothalamion," *Puerto del Sol* 31, no. 1 (spring 1996): 18–19.
- "Advice to the Mother of a Southpaw," *Asheville Poetry Review* 2, no. 2 (fall/winter 1995): 134.
- "Somonka," "Meditations on a Rock Garden," and "Heal-all: In Memory of Kana Nakama," *Kestrel* 5 (spring 1995): 15–18.
- "The Weep Line," "Islands: To Ohnesorge-Fick in Overland Park," and "Back to Back," *Tar River Poetry* 34 no. 2 (spring 1995): 10–12.
- "Emblems of Faith," *Cimarron Review* 107 (April 1994): 94–95.
- "What I Say" and "Sagittarius," *The Squaw Review* 1993: 16, 73.
- "Pineapples," "After Long Thought, I Submit My Resignation to the University," and "Catch and Release," *Tar River Poetry*, Vol. 33, No. 1 (fall 1993): 50–52.
- "Spheres of Influence" and "Smoke," *Pleiades*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (spring 1993): 1–2.
- "Calling from the Gate," *Bamboo Ridge*, No. 57, New Moon (winter 1993): 156.
- "Wild Horse Island" and "With My Mother and Aunts in the Kitchen," *Tar River Poetry*, Vol. 31, No. 2 (spring 1992): 26–27.
- "Distance," *Embers*, Vol. XVII, No. 1 (spring 1992): 8–9.
- "Aloha, 'Āina," *Ploughshares*, Vol. 17, No. 4 (winter 1991-92): 82–83.
- "Geophagy," *Sing Heavenly Muse!*, Earth Issue (No. 19), 1991: 35.
- "Proteus," *The Laurel Review*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (summer 1990): 24–25.

- “Hawaiian Time” and “No Pilikia,” *CutBank*, Volume 34, No. 2 (spring 1990): 37–38.
 “Fidelity,” *Tar River Poetry*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (spring 1989): 15.
 “Remembering Your Father,” *Tar River Poetry*, Vol. 27, No. 1 (fall 1987): 39–40.
 “Obake” and “New Year’s Eve,” *The Greenfield Review*, Vol. 14, Nos. 3 & 4 (summer/fall 1987): 162–63.

Prose

- “Ten Thousand Leaves,” personal essay, *Tar River Poetry* 43, no. 1 (fall 2003): 112–121.
 “In Another Tongue,” review of Laure-Anne Bosselaar’s *Small Gods of Grief*, *Tar River Poetry* 41, no. 2 (spring 2002): 52–57.
 “A Watcher of Night,” review of Eugene Gloria’s *Drivers at the Short-Time Motel*, *Tar River Poetry* 40, no. 2 (spring 2001): 50–54.
 Untitled review of Brenda Shaughnessy’s *Interior with Sudden Joy*, *Chelsea* 68 (2000): 138–141.
 “Amazements of the Word: A Conversation with Patricia Goedicke,” with Connie Poten, *Tar River Poetry* 39, no. 1 (fall 1999): 1–20.
 “The Only Light There Is: A Conversation with Betty Adcock,” with Peter Makuck, *Tar River Poetry* 37, no. 2 (spring 1998): 1–22.
 “Writing a *Linked Poem*,” *Dream/Girl*, (summer 1998): 10.
 “The Space Between,” review of Carl Phillips’s *Cortège*, *Tar River Poetry* 37, no. 1 (fall 1997): 54–57.
 “Braving the Elements,” review of Juliet Kono’s *Tsunami Years*, *MoonRabbit Review* 2, no. 1 (1997): 111–15.
 “Constant Experimentation: An Interview with Louis Simpson,” with Peter Makuck, *Tar River Poetry* 36, no. 2 (spring 1997): 1–20.
 “Among the Ruins,” review of Natalie Kenvin’s *Bruise Theory*, *Tar River Poetry* 35, no. 1 (fall 1995): 45–48.
 “The Islands, Real and Imagined,” personal essay, *Many Mountains Moving* 1, no. 2 (1995): 44–54.
 “Breaking the Code,” review of Dzivinia Orlowsky’s *A Handful of Bees*, *Tar River Poetry* 34, no. 1 (fall 1994): 46–49.
 “Between Desire and Fear,” review of Elizabeth Dodd’s *Like Memory, Caverns* and Heather Ross Miller’s *Friends and Assassins*, *Tar River Poetry* 33, no. 2 (spring 1994): 40–49.
 “Telling Differences,” personal essay, *New England Review*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (summer 1993): 21–34.
 “‘Willow Weep for Me’: An Elegy for Etheridge Knight,” personal essay, *Kinnikinnik*, 15 November 1991: 15.
 Untitled review of W.S. Merwin’s *The Rain in the Trees*, *Kinnikinnik*, 15 December 1990: 12.
 “Of Muskrats and Men in *Walden*: Beyond the Consolation of Bravery,” *Concord Saunterer*, Vol. 18, No. 2 (December 1985): 30–35.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Workshops and Presentations

- “ ‘How *Unlikely*: Wor(1)d and Self in a Few Contemporary Poems,” Fall Residency, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, 3 November 2004.

- Guest Speaker, Jeff Friedman's Poetry Writing Class, Keene State College, Keene, New Hampshire, 13 September 2004.
- Guest Lecturer, Keene State College Writers Conference, Keene, New Hampshire, 3 August 2004.
- Panelist, "On Revision," Fall Residency, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, ;27 May 2004.
- " 'Hurting the Tune': Some Thoughts on the Line Break," Fall Residency, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, 28 May 2004.
- Visiting Writer, St. John Fisher College, Pittsford, New York, 19 February 2004.
- Panelist, discussion the life of poetry with William Doreski and Jeff Friedman, Keene State College, Keene, New Hampshire, 13 November 2003.
- Presenter, "Approaching Walden," The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 17 July 2002.
- Presenter, "Finding Walden," The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 30 July 2001.
- Presenter, "Approaching Walden," The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 9 July 2001.
- Presenter, "Finding Walden," The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 1 August 2000.
- Presenter, "Thoreau's World and Ours," The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 17 July 2000.
- Guest Speaker, Quabbin Regional Middle-High School, Petersham, Massachusetts, 8 March 2000.
- Guest Speaker, Clinton Book Club, The Thoreau Institute, Lincoln, Massachusetts, 4 March 2000.
- Facilitator, Wildacres Writers' Workshop, Little Switzerland, North Carolina, 4–11 July 1998.
- Writer-in-Residence, Artists-in-the-Schools Program, sponsored by the Bertie Arts Council, J. P. Law Elementary School, Merry Hill, North Carolina, 26–30 January 1998.
- Writer-in-Residence, Artists-in-the-Schools Program, sponsored by the Bertie Arts Council, C. G. White Middle School, Powellville, North Carolina, 8–12 December 1997.
- Panelist, "The Transformational Power of Reading and Writing," (Paper: "Drive My Car"), North Carolina Women Writers Festival, Greensboro, North Carolina, 19–20 September 1997.
- Facilitator, Poets-in-Person Series (weekly meetings to discuss contemporary poets), Washington, North Carolina, 20 March–24 April 1997.
- Facilitator, North Carolina Poetry Society Workshop, Wilmington, North Carolina, 5 April 1997.
- Facilitator, North Carolina Poetry Society Workshop, Southern Pines, North Carolina, 15 March 1997.
- Presenter, "Celebrating the Arts," (Paper: "Poetry & Motion"), North Carolina Poetry Society Meeting, Weymouth Center, Southern Pines, North Carolina, 20 January 1996.
- Panelist, "Embodying America: Ethnic Identity and Authenticity," (Paper: "The Islands, Real and Imagined"), Unsettling America Conference, Paterson, New Jersey, 22–24 October 1994.

Poetry Readings (selective)

- River Styx Reading Series, Duff's Restaurant, St. Louis, Missouri, 15 November 2004.
- Fall Residency, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, 27 October 2004.
- D'Alzon Poetry Reading Series, Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts, 17 September 2004.
- Keene State College Writers Conference, Keene, New Hampshire, 3 August 2004.
- Celebration of Recently Published Books by Spalding University Faculty, The Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, 27 May 2004.
- Sun to Moon Gallery, Carrollton, Texas, 8 May 2004.
- The Poetry Hoot at Café Espresso, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 5 May 2004.
- Borders Bookstore, Framingham, Massachusetts, 13 April 2004.

With Bradley P. Dean reading selections of Henry David Thoreau's writings, Barnes & Noble Salisbury, Salisbury, Maryland, 10 March 2004.

Writers on the Shore Series, Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland, 9 March 2004.

Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, 8 March 2004.

Penn State Altoona, Altoona, Pennsylvania, 4 March 2004.

The Arts Branch of the YMCA of Greater Syracuse, 21 February 2004.

St. John Fisher College, Pittsford, New York, 18 February 2004

The Toadstool Bookshop, Peterborough, New Hampshire, 24 January 2004.

Riverrun Bookstore, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 23 January 2004.

Publication Party for *Precipitates*, reading sponsored by the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library, Concord Free Public Library, Concord, Massachusetts, 16 November 2003.

Keene State College, Keene, New Hampshire, 13 November 2003.

Fall Residency, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, 12 October 2003.

Haverill High School, Haverill, Massachusetts, 6 December 2002.

Naragansett Regional High School, Baldwinville, Massachusetts, 18 October 2002.

Boston Poetry Month Festival, a two-day event featuring poets from the Greater Boston Area, Boston Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts, 20 April 2002.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library, Concord Free Public Library, Concord, Massachusetts, 28 October 2001.

"Shop-Talk: A Poetical Dialogue," with Bradley P. Dean reading selections of Henry David Thoreau's writings, Concord Festival of Authors, Tsongas Gallery, Walden Pond State Reservation Headquarters, Concord, Massachusetts, 20 October 2001.

Brookline Arts Center, with John Sedgwick, Brookline, Massachusetts, 19 October 2001.

Boston Poetry Month Festival, a two-day event featuring poets from the Greater Boston Area, Boston Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts, 21 April 2001.

For *Urban Nature: Poems about Wildlife in the City*, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, Massachusetts, 21 November 2000.

A Tapestry of Voices Series, with Michael Casey, Diana Der-Hovanessian, and Afaa Michael Weaver, Borders Bookstore, Boston, Massachusetts, 9 November 2000.

The Writer's Place, Kansas City, Missouri, 23 September 2000.

With Laure-Anne Bosselaar and Wendy Mnookin, Brookline Booksmith, Brookline, Massachusetts, 15 March 2000.

Chapter & Verse Reading Series, St. John's Episcopal Church, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, 5 January 2000.

"Big Night in the Bookhouse," First Night Boston, Boston Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts, 1 January 2000.

Awards Reading, sponsored by the New England Poetry Club, Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 6 December 1999.

Poetry Center, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California, 11 November 1999.

Cody's Books, Berkeley, California, 10 November 1999.

For *The Best American Poetry 1999*, The Festival Within, Huntington, New York, 3 October 1999.

Various locations in New York state (funded by a grant from New York State Council on the Arts), 25 September–2 October, 1999.

The Writer's Voice, Billing, Montana, 17 May 1999.

Fact & Fiction, Missoula, Montana, 13 May 1999.
 Perquimans County Library, Hertford, North Carolina, 23 April 1999.
 Albermarle Poetry Festival, College of the Albermarle, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, 23 April 1999.
 Southwest State University, Marshall, Minnesota, 18 March 1999.
 Osler Literary Roundtable, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, 12 February 1999.
 Sponsored by the ECU Poetry Forum, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, 9 February 1999.
 Regulator Bookshop, Durham, North Carolina, 2 December 1997.
 Publication Party for *Back to Back*, Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville, North Carolina, 26 October 1997.
 North Carolina Women Writers Festival, Greensboro, North Carolina, 19–20 September 1997.
 The Blumenthal Writers & Readers Series, Warren County High School, Warrenton, North Carolina, 16 April 1997.
 Unsettling America Conference, Paterson, New Jersey, 22–24 October 1994.

Other

Faculty Advisory Committee, brief-residency Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, Fall 2004.
 Reviewer, *North Carolina Literary Review*, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, Fall 2004–present.
 Contributing Editor, *Tar River Poetry*, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, Spring 1998–present.
 Proofreader, *Thoreau Society Bulletin*, a quarterly publication of the Thoreau Society, 1991–1998, 2001–2002.
 Screener, A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize, BOA Editions, Fall 2002.
 Judge, Oscar A. Young Award, sponsored by the Poetry Council of North Carolina, Summer 2002.
 Judge, Academy of American Poets Prize, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, Spring 2002.
 Screener, A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize, BOA Editions, Fall 2001.
 Interim Treasurer, New England Poetry Club, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, June–November 2000.
 Preliminary Judge, Persephone Book Publication Award, sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network, Summer 1999.
 Managing Editor, *Tar River Poetry*, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, January 1996–December 1997.
 Member-at-Large, North Carolina Poetry Society, based in Southern Pines, North Carolina, May 1996–September 1997.
 Participant, Squaw Valley Writers' Workshop, Olympic Valley, California, 20–27 July 1996.
 Contributing Editor, *Tar River Poetry*, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, Fall 1993–Fall 1995.
 Writer-in-Residence, Weymouth Center, Southern Pines, North Carolina, 31 August–7 September 1994.
 Participant, Squaw Valley Writers' Workshop, Olympic Valley, California, 25 July–1 August 1993.
 Participant, Yellow Bay Writers' Workshop, University of Montana's Biological Station Conference Center, Bigfork, Montana, 20–26 August 1989.
 Reader, *CutBank*, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, 1988–1989.
 Reader, *Writing UConn*, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, Spring 1986.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Individualized Instruction in poetry writing, brief-residency MFA in Writing Program, Spalding University.

Introduction to Writing Poetry (online), Writers' Program, UCLA Extension School.

Seminars in Business Communications, Sunstar Inc., Takatsuki, Ōsaka, Japan.

Introduction to Poetry Writing, East Carolina University.

Freshman Composition, East Carolina University.

See also "Workshops and Presentations" under "Professional Activities."

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of American Poets

Associated Writing Programs

New England Poetry Club

New Hampshire Writers' Project

Poetry Society of America