

emoeck@gmail.com

## **EDUCATION**

# PhD in English, Creative Writing, 2025

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN GPA 4.0

## Dissertation: [sic]: A Critical Memoir on American Memory and Memorialization

In a dialectic with the American frontier narrative, [sic] is a genre-bending work of prose that maps the story of western masculinity onto three shipwrecks buried beneath the tumultuous waters of California's Santa Barbara Channel in a poetic interweaving of ethnography, film criticism, and personal memoir. Spanning from the ancient Chumash tomols that carried the first Native Americans onto western soil to John Wayne's *Wild Goose* converted minesweeper yacht, these shipwrecks become poetic containers through which to process the historic violence of white male hegemony and our desperate need to restore public memory to a place of collective consciousness.

Committee: Margaret Lazarus Dean (chair), Iliana Rocha (co-chair), Eleni Palis, Tamar Shirinian

Cinema Studies, Graduate Certificate

Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Comprehensive Exam, Pass with Distinction
The Novel, Comprehensive Exam

# MFA in Creative Writing, 2019

University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA Thesis: *Body Mechanics*, Fiction GPA 4.0

# BFA in Writing, Literature, and Publishing, 2009

Emerson College, Boston, MA
Thesis: Forget Why We Left Here, Fiction

Cum Laude

### **PUBLICATIONS**

## PEER-REVIEWED SCHOLARSHIP

"A *Mercy* Offered by Morrison: Forging Places and Spaces for the Recontextualization of Historical Trauma." *JLM: Journal of Modern Literature* [forthcoming 2025]

"The Blair Witch Project: Metatextual Layers of Subverting the Female Gaze." CINEJ Cinema Journal, Vol. 11, No. 1, Oct. 2023, pp. 240-57, doi:10.5195/cinej.2023.471.

## **PROSE and POETRY**

"Mother, A Digital Triptych." Arcturus: Chicago Review of Books, Winter 2022. Web.

"Personal History." The Journal, Spring 2020. Web.

"Soft Boiled." New Letters, Vol 85, No 1, Fall 2018. Print.

"You, Soldier, and Others." Fugue Journal, 2017. Web.

# **FILMS**

*Lineage of My Throat.* Videographer, Documentary Short on festival circuit (2023).

## THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

If You See Her. Rareworks Theatre, Boston, MA (2009). Playwright.

# **ARTICLES & INTERVIEWS**

"A Sit Down With Etgar Keret" Grist Literary Journal of the Arts. (Issue 13 2022). Print.

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"Understanding the Fragmentary Nature of Flights: An interview with Olga Tokarczuk." Consequence Magazine. (Vol. 11 Spring 19). Print & Web.
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"2001: A Space Odyssey, 50 Years Later." Atticus Review. (June '18). Web.

### **FILM REVIEWS**

- "Is It Time to Give Up Tarantino?" Atticus Review. (July '19). Web.
- "Perfect Feel-Good Horror" Atticus Review. (July '19). Web.
- "The High Life of Low Lifes" Atticus Review. (April '19). Web.
- "A Romance With Shifting Borders" Atticus Review. (Feb '19). Web.
- "A Blockbuster Heist With Arthouse Bones" Atticus Review. (Nov '18). Web.
- "Mid90s Brings Back More Than Just Nostalgia" Atticus Review. (Nov '18). Web.
- "First Man Is #ProudtobeanAmerican." Atticus Review. (Oct '18). Web.
- "Glenn Close Saves The Wife." Atticus Review. (Sept '18). Web.
- "2001: A Space Odyssey, 50 Years Later," Atticus Review. (June '18). Web.
- "Meticulous Reinvention" Atticus Review. (May '18). Web.
- "All Brain, No Heart: A Review of You Were Never Really Here." Atticus Review. (April '18). Web.
- "Call Me By Your Name: A Deeply Felt Elegy On First Love." Atticus Review. (Jan '18). Web.
- "A Vortex of American Hate: A Review of Three Billboards." Atticus Review. (Dec '17). Web.
- "Many Forms of Justice: A Critique of Cinema After A Year of Trump." Atticus Review. (Nov '17). Web.
- "Blade Runner 2049 Is No Replicant." Atticus Review. (Oct '17). Web.
- "A Hollow Crescendo of Surrealist Mania: A Review of Mother!." Atticus Review. (Sept '17). Web.
- "Nolan's Modernist Masterpiece: A Review of Dunkirk." Atticus Review. (July '17). Web.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

## Instructor of Record

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (2019 - present)

## COURSES:

- CNST 365/ ENGL 365: Writing the Screenplay (Fall 23, Spring 25)
- ENGL 364: Intermediate Creative Writing, Fiction (Spring 24)
- ENGL 102: Comp II: Race and Gender in Pop Culture (Spring 21)
- ENGL 102: Comp II: Race, Gender, and the Role of Adaptation in HBO's "Watchmen" (Spring 22/ Summer 22)
- ENGL 102: Comp II: The Black Horror Film (Fall/Spring 23/24)
- ENGL 102: Comp II: The Myth of the Western Frontier (Summer 20)
- ENGL 101: Composition I (Fall 19 / Fall 20 / Summer 21 / Fall 21, Fall24)

University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA (2017 - 2019)

## COURSES:

- ENGL 210: Introduction to Creative Writing, multi-genre (Fall 18 / Spring 19)
- ENGL 273: The Art of Fiction: The Unreliability of Narrative (Fall 17 / Spring 18)

## **Guest Teaching**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

# COURSES:

- ENGL 464: Advanced Fiction Writing (Fall 24)
- ENGL 469: Advanced Creative Nonfiction (Fall 23)

# **Teaching Assistant**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

COURSES:

CNST 281/ ENGL 281: Introduction to Film Studies (Fall 22)

University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

COURSES:

ENGL 300: Intermediate Creative Writing, Poetry (Fall 18)

#### **Research Interests**

Adaptation, American Literature and Cinema, Critical Race Studies, Digital Poetics, Essay Film, Feminist Literature and Film, Found-Footage Film, Graphic Novels, Historiography, Metanarrative, Narratology, The Novel, Postmodernism, Posthumanism, Queer Theory

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**

2022 Hodges Excellence in Teaching Award, graduate winner

2021 UTK Creative Writing Award in Fiction, Ist place, "Bootstraps, Pull Yourself Up." Judge: Caleb Johnson

2021 UTK Creative Writing Award in Poetry, 1st place, "Mother, A Digital Triptych." Judge: Emily Skaja

2021 SWPACA PostScript Award in Film Studies, 'Blair Witch Project: Metatextual Subverting of the Female Gaze.'

2021 Hodges Excellence in Teaching Award, finalist

2021 Hodges Scholarship Award, nominee, 'BWP: Metatextual Subverting of the Female Gaze.'

2020 Hodges Scholarship Award, nominee, 'A Mercy: Rewriting Historical Trauma.'

2020 John Hurt Fisher Research Assistantship, recipient

2019 O. Henry Short Story Prize, nominee, "Soft Boiled."

2018 New Letters Prize For Fiction, runner up, "Soft Boiled."

Senior Writing Award of Distinction in Dramatic Writing, Emerson College, 2010

Dean's List, Emerson College, Spring 09 - Fall 09

Phi Eta Sigma National Honors Society, 2007

Dean's List, Hofstra University, Fall 06 - Spring 07

## **PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES**

### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

# **Conference Papers**

'The Fallout Frame: Attempts to Decenter the Atomic Hero in Nolan's Oppenheimer (2023) and Labatut's The Maniac (2023). 'Rethinking Mainstream Media Panel. Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Chicago, Il (2025). Panelist.

'[sic]: Archiveology as a Feminist Theory of Narrative in Practice.' CWWA Panel "Feminist Redux."

Autotheory Conference: Thinking Through Self, Body, and Practice. Univ of Glasgow, UK (2022).

Panelist.

'Crafting A Conference Abstract.' UTK, Knoxville, TN (2021). Panelist.

'The Blair Witch Project: Metatextual Subverting of the Female Gaze.' Cinematic Horror: Sound, Vision, and Spectatorship Panel. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference (2021). Panelist. [won best grad conference paper]

'A Mercy Offered By Morrison: Rewriting Historical Trauma.' SSAWW Panel "Morrison and Her Legacy." ALA Conference. Boston, MA (2021). Panelist.

#### Moderator

'Irrevocable Conditions.' In A Speculative Light Conference: Baldwin and Delaney Symposium. UTK, Knoxville, TN (2020). Moderator.

### Introductions

Fennelly, Beth Ann. UTK Creative Writing Reading Series.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2023). Introduction.

Ahmed, Nawaaz. UTK Creative Writing Reading Series.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2022). Introduction.

Tokarczuk, Olga. Flights Press Tour.

University of Massachusetts, Boston (2019). Introduction.

### **FILM FESTIVALS**

<u>Lineage of My Throat</u>. TIIFF Tennessee International Indie Film Festival (2023 selection) <u>Lineage of My Throat</u>. Frozen Film Festival. San Francisco, CA (2023 selection)

### **CREATIVE READINGS**

UTK Creative Writing Awards, Knoxville, TN (2021). Reader.

UTK AWP Offsite Reading. Freetail Brewing Co, San Antonio, TX (2020). Reader. [COVID canceled]

Vanderbilt Reading Series. Barnes & Noble, Nashville, TN (2020). Reader.

Breakwater Reading Series. Brookline Booksmith, Boston, MA (2017, 2018, 2019). Reader.

Write On The Dot. Dorchester, MA (2017, 2018, 2019). Reader.

### OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **EDITORIAL**

Assistant Fiction Editor, Grist Literary Journal (2019 - 2020)

Editor-In-Chief, Breakwater Review Literary Magazine (2017 - 2019)

Staff Contributor, *Atticus Review Literary Magazine* (2017 - 2020)

Fiction Editor, Gangsters In Concrete Literary Magazine at Emerson College (2007 - 2009)

Assistant Editor, Font Literary Magazine at Hofstra University (2006 - 2007)

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Literature Association Modern Language Association

Society For Cinema and Media Studies

### **SERVICE**

### **Academic Service**

UTK Composition Committee Member (2022). Graduate Chair.

UTK Composition Department Mentor for GTAs (2020-2024). Paid Mentor.

UTK Undergraduate Creative Writing Awards. UTK, Knoxville, TN (2020). Nonfiction Judge.

Writing and Publishing Poetry. UMass, Boston, MA (2018). Editorial Panelist.

So I Have An MFA, Now What? UMass, Boston, MA (2018). Panel Moderator.

UMass Six Word Story Contest. UMass, Boston, MA (2018). Fiction Judge.

### **Community Service**

Young Writers Institute. Knoxville, TN (2020 - present). Teacher Volunteer.

Breakwater Reading Series. Brookline Booksmith, Boston, MA (2016 - 19). Host.

826 Boston. Jamaica Plains, MA (2018 - 2019). Tutor and Editorial Volunteer.

# **SKILLS**

Languages: Spanish, basic reading skills.

*Film:* Canon C100 Cinema Camera, BlackMagic PCC4k/6k, Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro, Da Vinci Resolve, lighting & sound equipment.

*Digital:* Basic HTML, Python, Adafruit, Wix, Squarespace, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Photoshop, InDesign, Canvas, Blackboard, Schoology, Zoom, Slack, and Google Drive; Strong typing, internet research, and social media skills.