

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 2002-2004 Baton Rouge Arts Council Baton Rouge, LA

Artist in the Schools

- Conduct creative writing workshops at local elementary schools.
- Responsible for organization and management of student readings.
- Work 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

Spring 2005-present Poetry Southeast Baton Rouge, LA

Managing Editor

- Responsible for proofreading and editing of incoming manuscripts.
- Develop, manage, and maintain official web site.
- Act as yearly contest judge.

- Responsible for online marketing and promotion of journal.
- Publish work from numerous established poets, including Natasha Treadway, Alan Shapiro, Ed Hirsch, Dorianne Laux, Denise Duhamel, Beth Ann Fennelly, Virgil Suarez, John Bensko, Bob Hicok, and others.

May 2003-present Southeastern La. University Hammond, LA
On-line Editor for Louisiana Literature

- Responsible for the proofreading and editing of incoming manuscripts.
- Develop, manage, and maintain official web site.

May 1998-Aug. 1998 Southeastern La. University Hammond, LA
Editorial Assistant for Louisiana Literature

- Responsible for proofreading and editing of incoming manuscripts.
- Worked extensively with Quark XPress, Microsoft Word, and Word Perfect.
- Maintained records of incoming manuscripts and incoming subscription fees.
- Responsible for the processing of interdepartmental budget adjustments and purchasing requisitions.

July 1997-Dec. 1997 Southeastern La. University Hammond, LA
Fiction Editor (Gambit)

- Responsible for the proofreading and editing of manuscripts included in the Spring 1998 issue.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- 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)

INDIVIDUAL POEMS PUBLISHED IN LITERARY JOURNALS

- "Botticelli's Venus" *Connecticut Review*
- "The Birth of Night." *Prairie Schooner* 76:1(2002).
- "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* 10:2 (2000): 31.
- “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* 25:1 (2000) 93.
- “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* 20:3 (1999): 4.
- “Memories of Chartres Street.” *Crab Creek Review* 13:2 (1999): 14.
- “The Lines That Separate Us.” *Pegasus* 14:2 (1999): 29.
- “My Stepfather Speaks to Me about Death.” *Grasslands Review* 18 (1998): 54.
- “An Empty Window.” *The Comstock Review* 12:1 (1998): 24.

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.

SHORT STORIES

- “Sons of God” *Story South*
- “Riding the Devil’s Backbone.” *Southern Hum*

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, 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

- Invited to Read at 23rd Annual Tennessee Williams Festival
- 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
- 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
- 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
- Associated Writing Programs
- Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society

RELATED COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE/ SERVER ADMINISTRATION

- Extensive knowledge of Moodle.
- Experience managing, maintaining, and editing online literary journals (*Poetry Southeast* and *Louisiana Literature*).
- Experience managing and maintaining two leased dedicated servers (Linux and Windows).
- Experience teaching a wide variety of courses in computer-based classrooms.
- Extensive knowledge of HTML, as well various web editing software (including Dreamweaver, Flash, Swish, Photoshop, Netscape Composer, and Microsoft FrontPage)

REFERENCES

- Dr. Malcolm Richardson, Professor of English
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▪ Dr. Jack Bedell, Professor of English
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