

# Robert Eric Shoemaker

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## Education

PhD **University of Louisville, Humanities.** Coursework in Comparative Humanities, Creative Writing, Literature, and Gender Studies. University Fellowship Recipient. Expected 2022.

MFA **Naropa University, Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics. Creative Writing & Poetics.** Coursework in Pedagogy, Poetics Theory, Literature, and Creative Writing. Graduate Commencement Speaker. kari edwards Scholarship Recipient. 3.97/4.0 GPA. June 2018.

*Master's Thesis: "The Untranslatability of 'Translation'," a paper synthesizing translation theory towards a new paradigm, and "Rural Triptych," a compilation of essays and original translations of Federico García Lorca's "Rural Trilogy": "Yerma," "Bodas de sangre," and "La casa de Bernarda Alba"*

BA **University of Chicago. Theatre & Performance Studies.** Minors in English & Creative Writing and Cinema & Media Studies. 3.8/4.0 GPA. June 2014.

*Undergraduate Thesis: "How Lorca: The Performance of Recontextualization with the Poet-Playwright", including a critical essay, performance art piece, poetry and stage play translations, and translator's note*

## Honors & Awards

- Orinda Award for Best New Translation, Inaugural Year-long workshop and staged reading awarded to "Barrens", translated from Lorca's "Yerma" 2018
- Naropa University Commencement 2018 Graduate Speaker 2018
- kari edwards scholarship for experimental & gender-activist writing, Naropa University Summer Writing Program 2018
- Graduate Student Leader of the Year Award, Naropa University's Student Engagement Awards 2018
- Artistic Community Student Group Award for "BEATS", Naropa University's Student Engagement Awards 2018
- Henderson Area Arts Alliance Grant Towards a series of poetry workshops at the Henderson Public Library 2017
- Awesome Foundation: Boulder Grant Project: Producer of "HOWL: A Ginsberg Birthday Party" at the Fox Theatre, including over 20 acts 2017

- DCASE Individual Artist Program Grant from the City of Chicago 2015  
*Project: “Lorca in America” involved the production of 2 new Lorca plays by the recipient’s company Poetry Is Productions*
- Olga and Paul Menn Foundation Prize for Best New Play 2014  
*Awarded to “PLATH/HUGHES”*
- University of Chicago Student Marshal 2014
- Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting Campus Consortium Grant 2014–2015  
*Project: “Venetian Artisanship and Climate Change”*
  - *Grant to travel to Venice, Italy and report on the ground about climate change and the arts*
  - *Selections: “State of Glass”, “Venetian Artisanship and Climate Change Podcast Parts 1 -4”*
- University of Chicago Arts Council Grants 2012, 2013

## Publications

### Books

- We Knew No Mortality with Acta Publications *Print, 2018*  
*Full-length Poetry & Prose Collection*
- 30 Days Dry with Thought Collection Publishing *Print, 2015*  
*Debut Chapbook-length Poetry Collection*
- Ca’Venezia and other tales with Partial Press *Print & Online, expected*  
*Artist Book (Poetry/Prose/Hybrid Writing) & Web Content*

### Poetry

- *Cigar City Poetry Journal* *Online, 2019*  
*Poem: “Instructions for Tapered Ribbon”*
  - Featured on KRFY 88.5, *Songs-Voices-Poems* with Jackie Henrion *Radio, 2018*  
*Poem: “Old Kuttawa And The Flood”*
  - *Gordian Review* *Online, 2018*  
*Poem: “If Once You Were German”*
  - *BEATS: Eco-Magick* *Online & Print, 2017*  
*Poem: “Halloween Night”*
- Online & Print, 2017*

- *Kairos Literary Journal*  
Poem: "Body: Domain" *Online, 2017*
- *Water, Water Everywhere*  
Poem: "Sublimation" *Print &*
- *Beats: A Naropan Periodical: Mental Health*  
Poem: "Reductive Motions" *Online, 2017*  
*Print, 2017*
- *Verde Que Te Quiero Verde* with Open Country Press  
Poem: "Impicture" *Print, 2017*
- *Tooth N' Nail Anthology*  
Poems: "Sammie Jo", "Sammie Jo Speaks", "Sammie Jo Redux", "Jo Reborn" *Online, 2016*
- *Thought Notebook Webzine*  
Poem: "If A Hobo" *Print, 2017*
- *Mosaic Literary Journal*  
Play: "Death at a Reading: or, Poetic Justice" *Online, 2016*
- *Baseball Bard*  
Poem: "America's Game" *Online, 2016*
- *Roots Student Literary Journal*  
Poems: "Confirmation", "Creed", "If Once You Were German", "Set" *Print, 2016*
- *Thought Notebook*  
Poem: "I Am/Who Am" *Print, 2016 &*
- *Literature Emitting Diodes Anthology*  
Poem: "I Am Solar" *Installation, 2015*  
*Print, 2014*
- *Chicago After Dark Anthology*  
Poem: "City of Steel" *Online, 2015*
- *Rollick Magazine*  
Poems: "Sammie Jo", "Ca'Venezia: Your Voice", "Pins"

### *Essay/Memoir*

- *Barely South Review* *Online & Print, 2017*  
Essay: "Postface as Memory"
- *Mount Analogue* *Print & Online, 2017*  
Essay: "Activism and the Beats"
- *Roar: Literature and Revolution by Feminist People* *Online, 2017*  
Essay: "Activism and the Beats"
- *Punch Drunk Press* *Online, 2017*

Essay: "Ekphrasis of Sia"

### Translation

- *Columbia Journal* Online, 2017  
Poem: "A Mistranslation of Dante's Inferno"
- *The Adirondack Review* Online, 2017  
Poetry by Lorca: "Narcissus", "Sleepwalker's Ballad", "Nueva York (Office and Denunciation)", "Adam"

### Journalism

- Campus Consortium Fellow, Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting 2014-2015
- Founding Editor, *BEATS* 2016-2018
- Contributor, "Turnout: A Poetics Journalism Zine" 2017
- Feature Contributor, *Boulder Weekly* 2016  
Contributor to *Boulderganic*, Arts sections
  - Selection: "Eat, Drink, or Shine?"
- Head Arts Writer, *Evanston Now* 2015-2016  
Lead point of contact for reviews and features on the arts
  - Selections: "Sarah Ruhl – Interview with the Poet-Playwright", "FBI Agent talks JFK 'Assassination Theater'"
- Arts Contributor, *Newcity* 2014-2016
  - Selection: "Go South"
- Feature Contributor, *Fra Noi Magazine* 2015
- Arts Contributor, *VAM Magazine* 2016
  - Selection: "Delia Kropp"
- Feature Contributor, *Artisan Magazine* 2015

### Productions and Writing/Theatre

- Writer, "Lead Me Into Dark" 2019  
*Staged Reading for PlayDates produced by Pandora Productions, Louisville*
- Producer, "2HOWL: The Second Coming" 2018  
*Produced at Naropa University by BEATS*
- Writer, "Terrariums" 2018

- Produced by Naropa University's MFA Performance Program for "Embodied Poetics"*
- Producer, "HOWL: A Ginsberg Birthday Party" 2017  
*Produced at Boulder's Fox Theatre by Beats: A Naropan Periodical, Poetry Is Productions, The Fox, and the Boulder Weekly*
  - Writer, "medea conjures dragons" 2017  
*Reading produced by Poetry Is Productions*
  - Writer, "PLATH/HUGHES" 2014-2016  
*Produced at: Teatro LATEA in New York; Chicago Musical Theatre Festival, Gorilla Tango, and Rhinofest in Chicago*
    - *Highly Recommended by Chicago Stage Standard, Chicago Critic*
  - Translator, "Buster Keaton Passes By" by Federico García Lorca 2015  
*Produced at: Abbie Fest and Skokie Theatre in Chicago*
  - Translator, "Bernarda Alba and Her House" 2015–2016  
*Produced at Redtwist Theatre as a guest company*
    - *Highly Recommended by Chicago Critic, Windy City Times*
  - Adaptor, "Wilde's Salomé" 2016  
*Produced at Gorilla Tango Theatre*
  - Writer, "Phaedra, Released." 2016  
*Staged Reading at The Old Globe in San Diego; Produced at the Poetry Is Theatre Festival*
    - *Highly Recommended by Chicago Reader*
  - Adaptor, "Iron Bridal Feast" 2014  
*Produced at the University of Chicago*
  - Translator, "Blood Weddin" 2013  
*Produced at the University of Chicago*
  - Writer, "Tiresias" 2013  
*Staged Reading at the Greenhouse Theatre; Produced at the University of Chicago*
  - Adaptor, "Beowulf" 2012  
*Produced at the University of Chicago*
  - Writer, "The Magic Thread" 2016  
*Staged Reading at Adventure Stage Chicago*
  - Adaptor, "War of the Worlds" 2015  
*Produced at Gorilla Tango Theatre*
    - *Highly Recommended by Chicago Stage Standard*
  - Adaptor, "The Music of Erich Zann" 2015  
*Produced at the Whiskey Rebellion Radio Hour and the Hyde Park Players' Radio Show*
- 2013

- Writer, “#409”  
*Produced at American Theater Company* 2013
- Writer, “Box of Wind”  
*Staged Reading at Horizon Theatre* 2013
- Writer, “Five Minute Flamenco”  
*Staged Reading at Horizon Theatre* 2015
- Writer, “Lead Me Into Dark”  
*Workshop Production at Theatre of Western Springs* 2015
- Writer, “Death at a Reading”  
*Produced at the University of Chicago* 2015
- Writer, “Transformations: After Ovid”  
*Staged Reading at Gorilla Tango Theatre*

## Introductions and Interviews

- Introduction for Lisa Jarnot 2018  
*Summer Writing Program at Naropa University*
- Introduction for Michelle Naka Pierce 2018  
*Summer Writing Program at Naropa University*
- Introduction for Sarah Escue 2017  
*What/Where Reading at Naropa University*
- Interviewed by *States of the Union* 2017  
*Print*
- Introduction for Eugene Lim 2016  
*What/Where Reading at Naropa University*
- Interview of Sarah Ruhl 2016  
*For Evanston Now*
- Interview of Chuck Mee 2015  
*For Evanston Now*
- Interviewed by Troy Cabida 2016  
*Online, for release of “30 Days Dry”*
- Interview by Kat Lahr 2016  
*Print, for Thought Notebook’s Artist to Watch*
- Interviewed by University of Chicago 2015  
*Online, for Alumni Website*
- Interviewed by Chicago Magazine 2015  
*Online*
- Interviewed by Evansville Courier & Press 2015

*Print and Online*

- Interviewed by University of Chicago 2014  
*Online, for “Uniquely Chicago”*

**Invited Talks/Conferences**

- American Literary Translators Association Conference 2018  
*Panel presentation: “Transcreating Lorca’s Duende”*
- Thomas R. Watson Conference on Making Future Matters 2018  
*Panel: “Redefining Eco-Pedagogy For the New Weathers”*
- Naropa’s Summer Writing Program 2018  
*Panel: “Romancing Lorca”*
- “Faith Quest” Author’s Panel, Holy Name Church 2018
- Colorado Translators Association Conference 2018  
*Talk: “The Untranslatability of “Translation”*
- Conference on Community Writing 2017  
*Panel presentation: “Eco-Pedagogy Praxis”*
- Naropa’s Summer Writing Program 2017  
*Panel presentation: “Activism and the Beats”*
- Colorado Wyoming Writing Center Conference 2017  
*Panel presentation: “The Journalism Triangle as a Method of Academic Writing”*
- Taking the Next Step 2017  
*University of Chicago career development conference for undergraduates; arts roundtable discussion leader and Entertainment and Creative Arts panel participant*

**Instructing Experience***Classroom*

- Instructor, Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP): 2018  
“Creative Writing”  
*Designed course, instructed 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders*
- Instructor, Naropa University’s Summer Writing Program: 2018  
BA Seminar
- Instructor, Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP): 2017  
“Philosophy in Literature and Film”  
*Designed course, instructed 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> graders*

- Graduate Instructor, Naropa University:  
 “Writing Seminar 1” Fall 2017 & Spring 2018  
*Design syllabus, implement, instruction of undergraduate students*
- Teaching Assistant, Naropa University’s Jack Kerouac School:  
 “Writing Pedagogy Seminar” Spring 2018 & Spring 2017  
*Designed and implemented lesson plans with instructor*

### Workshops

- Workshop Designer and Instructor: Chicago Public Library: 2017  
 “Identity Politics/Poetics: Writing/Reading for Diversity and Inclusion”  
*Designed and implemented workshop at two Chicago branches*
- Weekend Workshop Designer and Instructor: Henderson County Public Library: 2017  
 “The Poetics of Space: Writers and their Environment”  
*Designed and implemented three workshops and accompanying readings on Eco-Poetics, Contemporary Praxis, and Performance*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor, Boulder Public Library’s BLDG61: “Book Arts” 2017  
*Designed and implemented a workshop for adults on chapbook-making*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor, University of Chicago’s Southside Scribblers at Ray Elementary: “For the Fun of It” 2017  
*Designed and implemented a workshop for middle and elementary school students on chapbook-making*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor, Henderson County Public Library: “Writing What You Know” 2016  
*Designed and implemented a poetry workshop for adults on memoir and personal narrative*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor: Chicago Public Library Archer Heights Branch: “Poetry As Performance” 2016  
*Designed and implemented a poetry workshop for adults on performance and alternative poetry*



### Teaching Artist

- Teaching Artist and Stage Manager: Northlight Theatre's Education Program 2015
- Teaching Artist and Playwright: American Theater Company's Bridge Program 2014  
*Wrote a new short play based on high-school students' writing and led workshops with teaching artists and students*

### Consultation

- Head Writing Fellow, Naropa Writing Center 2017-2018  
*Graduate Fellow position, main coordinator and administrator of the Writing Center and Core Writing Seminars Fall 2017*
- Writing Fellow, Naropa Writing Center 2016-2018  
*Graduate Assistant position, conducting one-on-one writing sessions with Naropa students.*
- Tutor, Nurturing Wisdom 2015
- Tutor, Varsity Tutors 2017

### Administration & Management

- Student Union of Naropa Co-Chair 2017-2018  
*Student Government Co-President*
- Student Union of Naropa Communications Officer 2017
- Poetry Is Productions, Artistic Director and Founder 2015-Present  
*7 Productions in Chicago, New York City, and Boulder*
  - *Including my original works: "PLATH/HUGHES", "Phaedra, Released."; and adaptations/translations of "Wilde's Salomé", "Bernarda Alba and Her House", "Buster Keaton Passes By", "The Enormous Room"*
- Classical Entertainment Society, Artistic Director 2012-2014  
*13 Productions in Chicago, including 2 festivals founded*
  - *Including my original works: "Iron Bridal Feast", "Tiresias"; and adaptations/translations of "Beowulf", "Blood Weddin"*
- Ta Pyra Ensemble, Artistic Director and Founder 2009-2012  
*4 Productions in Kentucky and Indiana*

- *Including my adaptation: “Upwards to the Sun”*
- Evanston Now, Head Arts Writer 2015-2016  
*Lead point of contact articles, coordinated scheduling and editorial*
- University of Chicago Information Center Intern 2014  
*Collaborated with News Office to disseminate University information, website building, article writing*

### Professional Development

- University of Chicago Arts Alumni Board Member 2017-present
- Organizer and Host: “Poetry and Performance- Protest Reading” at Naropa University 2016
- Graduate Class: “Writing Pedagogy” 2016  
*Designed syllabi, lesson plans, and teaching demos*
- Naropa Writing Center Client Committee 2016-17  
*Research and presentations on how to better serve the writing center’s client base*
- Pedagogy Collective at Naropa 2016-2018
- Pedagogy Collective Syllabi Committee 2017  
*Re-designed courses “Literary Studies” and “Creative Reading & Writing”*

### Performances/Readings/Installations

- Alexis Levitin Bilingual Reading Series of the American Literary Translators Association Conference 2018  
*Featured Translator/Reader of Giuseppe Gioachino Belli*
- Bing Art Books, hosted by the UChicago Arts Alumni Network 2018  
*Book Release for “We Knew No Mortality”*
- Innisfree Poetry Café Reading 2018  
*Featured Reader for “We Knew No Mortality”*
- Naropa University Art Gallery Installation & Performance 2018  
*Installation: “a Writer’s Notebook”, with opening Performance from “We Knew No Mortality”*
- Punketry Reading/Performance, Denver 2018  
*Featured Performer*
- Still Cellars Performance Series 2018

- Naropa University Graduation Reading 2018
- Naropa Writing Center Reading 2018
- Revolutionary Letters Reading 2018
- Joanna Macy Center Cabaret 2017
- Boulder Public Library Lunchtime Concert Series  
*Featured Performer* 2017
- 100,000 Poets for Change, Boulder 2017
- 4x4 Reading Series at University of Denver  
*Student Representative, Naropa University* 2018
- “30 Days Dry” Release Event at Armadillo’s Pillow, Chicago 2015
- “30 Days Dry” Release Event at Worsham Hall, Kentucky 2015
- CHI PRC reading from “30 Days Dry”, Chicago 2015
- Book Cellar, Chicago 2016
- University of Chicago Alumni Reading 2016
- Rhino Poetry Featured Reader, Chicago 2016
- 100,000 Poets for Change, Boulder 2016
- Naropa University Protest Reading, Boulder 2016
- Naropa Text/Image Symposium Reading, Boulder 2017
- Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art,  
“Blackboard/Whiteboard”  
*Performance art and installation produced by Poetry Is/Beats  
as part of an exhibition* 2017
- “HOWL: A Ginsberg Birthday Party” at the Fox Theatre  
*Performed selection from “PLATH/HUGHES”* 2017

## Interests

- Theatre Production, Playwriting, Directing, and Design
  - *Including staged readings of my work with The Old Globe, San Diego; Trellis/Greenhouse Theatre, Chicago; Adventure Stage, Chicago; Also including work with Gorilla Tango Theatre, Whiskey Rebellion Radio Hour, Hyde Park Players, Rhinofest, American Theater Company, Horizon Theatre, Theatre of Western Springs, Dandelion Theatre, Steep Theatre, Stage Left, New American Folk Theatre, Tympanic Theatre, Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company, Redtwist Theatre, Poor Theatre, Opera Oouvert, Redd Opera, and 3 Brothers Theatre.*
- Creative Writing/Literature Instruction; Literary Seminars; Writing Workshops; Pedagogical Theory

- *Literary translation, chapbook creation, design, text and image, lyrical essay, activist writing, expository writing, research and analysis, Eco-Pedagogical theory, writing outside the canon*
- Journalism Arts Feature Writing, Interviews, Reviews of Theatrical Productions And Events
- Translation from Spanish and Italian to English
  - *Lorca, Belli, Dante*

## References

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