

# Robert Eric Shoemaker

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## Education

PhD **University of Louisville, Humanities.** Coursework in Comparative Humanities with certificates in Public History and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. University Fellowship Recipient. Expected 2022.

MFA **Naropa University, Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics. Creative Writing & Poetics.** Coursework in Pedagogy, Poetics, 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

- Maddox Prize Winner, Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Louisville 2019  
*"After After Lorca: Homage, Anamnesis and Magic between Jack Spicer and Garcia Lorca," Doctoral Student Writing Award*
- Inaugural Orinda Award for Best New Translation 2018  
*Workshop and staged reading awarded to "Barrens", translated from Lorca's "Yerma"*
- Naropa University Commencement 2018 Graduate Speaker 2018
- kari edwards scholarship for experimental & gender-based activist writing, Naropa University Summer Writing Program 2018
- Graduate Student Leader of the Year Award, Naropa University Student Engagement Awards 2018
- Artistic Community Student Group Award for "BEATS", Naropa University Student Engagement Awards 2018
- Henderson Area Arts Alliance Grant 2017  
*Towards poetry workshops at the Henderson Public Library*

- Awesome Foundation: Boulder Grant 2017  
*Project: Producer of "HOWL: A Ginsberg Birthday Party" at the Fox Theatre, including over 20 acts*
- DCASE Individual Artist Program Grant from the City of Chicago 2015  
*Project: "Lorca in America" involving 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 2014-15  
*Project: "Venetian Artisanry 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 Artisanry 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 & E-Book,*  
*Debut Chapbook-length Poetry Collection* 2015
- Ca'Venezia and other tales with Partial Press *Print & Online,*  
*Limited Edition Artist's Book (Poetry/Prose/Hybrid Writing)* expected  
& Web Content

### Scholarship

- *Signs and Society*, University of Chicago Press *Print & Online,*  
*"After After Lorca: Anamnesis and Magic between Jack Spicer* Fall 2019  
*and García Lorca"*
- *Gender Forum* *Expected Online,*  
Book Review: *Nepantla* Anthology *Spring 2020*
- *Jacket2* *Online,*  
"Spelling for Humanity" Book Review of *Spells* 2019 Fall 2019

- *Plath Profiles*, Indiana University Press Online,  
Summer 2019  
“Animal Trapping Exercise” and selections from original musical “PLATH/HUGHES”

### Translation

- *Asymptote Journal of Translation* Online,  
Spring 2020  
“Barrens, from Lorca’s ‘Yerma’”, selected by Caridad Svich
- *Exchanges Journal of Translation at the University of Iowa* Online & Print, 2018  
Poetry by Giuseppe Gioachino Belli
- *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”

### Poetry

- *Bombay Gin #45* Print,  
Expected 2019  
SWP Portfolio:
- *Call Me [Brackets]* Online & Print,  
2019  
Poem: “forest gash”
- *Cigar City Poetry Journal* Online & Print  
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”
- *Kairos Literary Journal* Online & Print, 2017  
Poem: “Body: Domain”
- *Water, Water Everywhere* Online, 2017  
Poem: “Sublimation”
- *Beats: A Naropan Periodical: Mental Health* Print &  
Online, 2017  
Poem: “Reductive Motions”
- *Verde Que Te Quiero Verde* with Open Country Press Print, 2017  
Poem: “Impicture”

- *Tooth N' Nail Anthology*  
Poems: "Sammie Jo", "Sammie Jo Speaks", "Sammie Jo Redux", "Jo Reborn" *Print, 2017*
- *Thought Notebook Webzine*  
Poem: "If A Hobo" *Online, 2016*
- *Mosaic Literary Journal*  
Play: "Death at a Reading: or, Poetic Justice" *Print, 2017*
- *Baseball Bard*  
Poem: "America's Game" *Online, 2016*
- *Roots Student Literary Journal*  
Poems: "Confirmation", "Creed", "If Once You Were German", "Set" *Online, 2016*
- *Thought Notebook*  
Poem: "I Am/Who Am" *Print, 2016*
- *Literature Emitting Diodes Anthology*  
Poem: "I Am Solar" *Print, 2016 & Installation, 2015*
- *Chicago After Dark Anthology*  
Poem: "City of Steel" *Print, 2014*
- *Rollick Magazine*  
Poems: "Sammie Jo", "Ca'Venezia: Your Voice", "Pins" *Online, 2015*

### 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"

### Journalism

- Campus Consortium Fellow, Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting *2014-2015*
- Founding Editor, *BEATS* *2016-2018*  
*2017*

- Contributor, “Turnout: A Poetics Journalism Zine” 2016
- Feature Contributor, *Boulder Weekly*  
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/Director, “The Enormous Room” 2019  
*Staged Reading produced by Studio Theatre, University of Louisville*
- Writer, “Lead Me Into Dark” 2019  
*Staged Reading for PlayDates produced by Pandora Productions, Louisville*
- Producer, “HOWL: 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—  
*Produced at Redtwist Theatre as a guest company* 2016
  - *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*
- Writer, “#409” 2013  
*Produced at American Theater Company*
- Writer, “Box of Wind” 2013  
*Staged Reading at Horizon Theatre*
- Writer, “Five Minute Flamenco” 2013  
*Staged Reading at Horizon Theatre*
- Writer, “Lead Me Into Dark” 2015  
*Workshop Production at Theatre of Western Springs*
- Writer, “Death at a Reading” 2015  
*Produced at the University of Chicago*
- Writer, “Transformations: After Ovid” 2015  
*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

- Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, University of Louisville 2020  
*Panel “Unruly Women,” “Lorca’s Yerma”*  
*Chair: Mythopoeitics; Horror, Affect, and Race*
- University of Louisville Writing Center, Ethics and Writing 2019  
*Panel*
- Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, University of Louisville 2019

- Creative Panel, "Guarda L@s Niñ@s' and other poems";  
Chair, "Experiments in Disruption"* 2019
- Kentucky Philological Association Conference  
*Paper: "After After Lorca: Homage, Anamnesis, and Magic  
between Jack Spicer and García Lorca"* 2018
  - American Literary Translators Association Conference  
*Panel presentation: "Transcreating Lorca's Duende"* 2018
  - Thomas R. Watson Conference on Making Future Matters  
*Panel: "Redefining Eco-Pedagogy For the New Weathers"* 2018
  - Naropa's Summer Writing Program  
*Panel: "Romancing Lorca"* 2018
  - "Faith Quest" Author's Panel, Holy Name Church 2018
  - Colorado Translators Association Conference  
*Talk: "The Untranslatability of Translation"* 2017
  - Conference on Community Writing  
*Panel presentation: "Eco-Pedagogy Praxis"* 2017
  - Naropa's Summer Writing Program  
*Panel presentation: "Activism and the Beats"* 2017
  - Colorado Wyoming Writing Center Conference  
*Panel presentation: "The Journalism Triangle as a Method of  
Academic Writing"* 2017
  - Taking the Next Step  
*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):  
"Creative Writing" 2018  
*Designed course, instructed 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders*
- Instructor, Naropa University's Summer Writing Program:  
BA Writing Seminar 2018
- Instructor, Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP):  
"Philosophy in Literature and Film" 2017  
*Designed course, instructed 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> graders*
- Graduate Instructor, Naropa University: Fall 2017 & Spring 2018



“Writing Seminar 1”

*Design syllabus, implement, instruction of undergraduate students*

- Teaching Assistant, Naropa University’s Jack Kerouac School: Spring 2018 & Spring 2017  
 “Writing Pedagogy Seminar”  
*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 2017  
 County Public Library: “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 2017  
 BLDG61: “Book Arts”  
*Designed and implemented a workshop for adults on chapbook-making*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor, University of Chicago’s 2017  
 Southside Scribblers at Ray Elementary: “For the Fun of It”  
*Designed and implemented a workshop for middle and elementary school students on chapbook-making*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor, Henderson County Public 2016  
 Library: “Writing What You Know”  
*Designed and implemented a poetry workshop for adults on memoir and personal narrative*
- Workshop Designer and Instructor: Chicago Public Library 2016  
 Archer Heights Branch: “Poetry As Performance”  
*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**

- Frazier History Museum, Education Intern Fall 2019
- *Plath Profiles*, Poetry Editor 2019-Present  
*Academic and Creative Journal at IU Northwest*
- Student Union of Naropa Co-Chair 2017-2018  
*Student Government Co-President*
- Student Union of Naropa Communications Officer 2017
- Poetry Is: A Sound Experience, Artistic Director and Founder 2019-Present  
*Ongoing poetry and music performance collective in Louisville*
  - *Venues including: Frazier History Museum, Portland Museum, Writer’s Block Festival, and Surface Noise*
- 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*

## Memberships & Professional Development

- Louisville Literary Arts Board, Member 2019-present
- Sarabande Books Young Professionals Board, Member 2019-present
- American Literary Translators Association, Member 2018-present
- Colorado Translators Association, Member 2017-2019
- University of Chicago Arts Alumni Board Member 2017-present
- Organizer and Host: “Poetry and Performance- Protest Reading” at Naropa University 2016
- 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

- Kentucky Is: A Sound Experience at the Frazier Museum 2019  
*Producer and Performer*
- Poetry Is: A Sound Experience 2019  
*Host: Surface Noise Records, Portland Museum, Writer’s*

- Block Festival, Kleinhelter Gallery*
- River City Revue 2019  
*Featured Reader*
  - 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 2017  
*Featured Performer*
  - 100,000 Poets for Change, Boulder 2017
  - 4x4 Reading Series at University of Denver 2018  
*Student Representative, Naropa University*
  - “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, 2017  
“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”*

## 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 Outcast Productions, 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 Ouver, 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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Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics  
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