

DYLAN BASSETT
Curriculum vitae

EDUCATION

2022 PhD in Creative/Critical Writing, University of California – Santa Cruz

Fields: Creative Writing; Fiction; Histories of the Novel; Histories of the Avant-garde;
Film and Literature; Narratives of Disability, Illness, Madness; Speculative
Fiction; Popular Fiction; Fabulism; Autofiction and Memoir; Translation Studies;
20th and 21st Century Pan-American Literature; Scriptwriting
Dissertation: *Gad's Book*

- Graduated with Honors and Highest Distinction

2015 MFA in Creative Writing, The Iowa Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa

Thesis: *Against Creation*

- Third-Year Teaching Fellowship (Post-MFA)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2023-present Assistant Professor of English, Xavier University
2021-2023 Assistant Professor of English, Albright College
2016-2021 Graduate Student Instructor of Record, University of California-Santa Cruz
2020-2021 Instructor of Playwriting, San Francisco School of the Arts
2015-2016 Teaching Fellow, University of Iowa
2014-2015 Visiting Lecturer, BYU-Provo (summer semesters)
2013-2015 Graduate Student Instructor of Record, University of Iowa

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Gad's Book: A Novel. Outpost19, 2023.

Invention of Monsters: Plays for the Theatre. Plays Inverse Press, 2015. Second Ed.

Reprinted by 53rd State Press, 2025.

- Lambda Literary Prize Nomination
- Small Press Distribution (SPD) Best Seller
- Parlor Press/Clemson University Press Prize Finalist
- New Measure Prize Finalist
- Autumn House Book Prize Finalist
- Letter Machine Press Book Prize Finalist

- Sawtooth Prize Finalist
- Nightboat Book Prize Finalist

Books in Progress

We Are Where Nobody Is From: A Novel.

The Nearest Exit: A Memoir.

Chapbooks

Lake Story. Thrush Press. 2015.

- Winner of the Thrush Press Chapbook Contest, selected by Ocean Vuong.

The Unpainted Shore. Sparkwheel Press. 2015.

Invention of Monsters. iO Books. 2015.

- Winner of the iO Chapbook Contest, selected by Wendy Xu.

No Audience. Alice Blue Books. 2014.

Translated Books

A Failed Performance: Plays of Daniil Kharms, with Emma Wood. Plays Inverse Press, 2018. Second Ed. Reprinted by 53rd State Press. 2025. (Translated from Russian)

- Small Press Distribution (SPD) Best Seller

Performed Plays

Elizaveta Bam

Staged adaptation of Elizaveta Bam by Daniil Kharms, from *A Failed Performance*. Performed at The Million Underscores (2020).

Invention of Monsters

Staged adaptation of *Invention of Monsters*. Performed at Poet's Theater (2016), Utah Arts Festival (2016), Columbia College (2016).

Screenplays

Landscape with the Fall of Icarus, with Arel Wiederholt-Kassar (2024)

- Winner of the Screenplay Funding Award from the Escola Superior de Cinema i Audiovisuals de Catalunya (ESCAC), April 2023
- Produced by ESCAC Films and Frank Stein Studio

Selected Prose (fiction)

"Daphne," *Gulf Coast*. (2025, forthcoming)

"Felix," *Interim Magazine*. (2025, forthcoming)

"Gentleness," *Works Progress*. (2022)

"Clown," *The Chicago Review*. (2021)

"Outage," *The Literary Review*. (2019)

“Money,” *Bennington Review*. (2018)
 “Against Creation,” *Seattle Review*. (2018)
 “Almost Man,” *Seattle Review*. (2018)
 “Grand Narrative,” *Seattle Review*. (2018)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Mid-American Review*. (2016)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Witness*. (2016)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *NANO Fiction*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *American Short Fiction*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Black Warrior Review*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Ninth Letter*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *West Branch*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Salt Hill*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Columbia Poetry Review*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Seattle Review*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Laurel Review*. (2015)
 from “Invention of Monsters,” *Inter/rupture*. (2015)
 “Horoscopes at the End of the World,” *Laurel Review*. (2015, Pushcart Prize nomination)
 “Sleep,” *Florida Review*. (2014)
 “Autumn Physics,” *Pleiades*. (2014)
 “My Desert,” *Pleiades*. (2014)

Interviews

“The Best Books Teach You How to Die: An Interview with C Dylan Bassett,”
neonpajamas, 2021.
 “On Translating *A Failed Performance*.” Mini-Interview Project #162: Emma Winsor
 Wood and C Dylan Bassett, interviewed by Maria Anderson, *The Rumpus*, 2019.
 Interview with C Dylan Bassett, interviewed by Victor Florence, *Subtropics*, 2016.

AWARDS

2024	Summer Research Fellowship, College of Arts and Sciences, Xavier University
2023	Screenplay Award, Escola Superior de Cinema
2022	Joyce Family Fellowship
2022	Laughlin Distinguished Teaching Award, Albright College
2021	Outstanding Teaching Award, Literature Department, University of California-Santa Cruz
2021	Chancellor’s Dissertation Fellowship, University of California
2021	Dissertation Award, Literature Department, University of California-Santa Cruz
2021	Travel Research/Writing Fellow, The Humanities Institute
2021	Idstrom Prize for Fiction, University of California
2021	Writer-in-Residence Fellow, San Francisco School of the Arts

2020 Advanced Pedagogy Fellow, University of California-Santa Cruz
 2020 Writing Fellowship, James Merrill House
 2019 Hitchcock Foundation Fellowship for Fiction
 2019 Advancement to Candidacy with Honors, University of California
 2019 Qualifying Examination Research Fellowship, University of California
 2017 Summer Research Fellowship, University of California
 2016 Presidential Fellowship, University of California
 2016 Lambda Literary Prize Finalist
 2015 Post-Graduate Writing Fellowship, Iowa Writers' Workshop
 2014 Teaching-Writing Fellowship, Iowa Writers' Workshop
 2014 Academy of American Poets Prize
 2014 Thrush Chapbook Prize Winner, judged by Ocean Vuong
 2014 iO Books Chapbook Contest Winner, judged by Wendy Xu
 2014 Pushcart Prize Winner
 2014 Stadler Center Writing Fellowship
 2013 Ellipsis Magazine Prize Winner
 2013 Hart-Larson Prize Winner
 2013 Academy of American Poets Prize.
 2013 Orca Grant Recipient
 2013 Mayhew Prize Winner
 2012 Morrie Moss Writing Fellowship
 2012 Academy of American Poets Prize

CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Teaching Texts in Translation," Association of Writers & Writing Programs. April 2025.
 "The Creative Writing PhD: Is it Worth it?" Association of Writers & Writing Programs.
 February 8, 2024.
 "On Teaching Pan-America." Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean
 Conference. Palenque, Mexico. March 10, 2023.
 "Works in Progress: On Gertrude Stein's Materialism." Life's Not Personal: Experimental Life
 Writing Conference. Virtual Conference. July 26, 2022.
 "Poetics and Paradox in Las Vegas." Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association
 Conference. University of Nevada, Las Vegas. November 13, 2021.
 "Writing in Secret: Crypto-Christianity, Hermeticism, and the Critique of History in 20th-century
 Russian Literature." Surrealism Conference of the ISSS. Virtual Conference. November
 11, 2021.
 "Non-speech and the Convulsive Body in the stories of Daniil Kharms." Surrealisms Conference
 of the ISSS. Bucknell University. November 4, 2018.
 "Material Performances: On Translating the Avant-Garde," ALTA Translation Conference.

University of Rochester. November 10, 2019.
“Translating Nonsense.” ALTA Translation Conference. Indiana University. November 1, 2018.
“What is Gained in Translation?” Association of Writers & Writing Programs. March 8, 2018.
“Histories of Small Press Publishing.” Association of Writers & Writing Programs. March 7, 2018.
“Unreadability in Daniil Kharms.” Literature Conference: Not Reading. University of Chicago. November 3, 2017.
“Poetry as Praxis.” New Narrative Conference. University of California-Berkeley. October 13, 2017.

CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Xavier University

Spring 2024 Community-engaged Fellowship, Interviewer
2024-present Clocktower Review, Workshop Leader
2024-present MFA Thesis Committee Member (with students at University of Houston, University of Iowa)

Albright College

2022-2023 Faculty Advisor, *Agon: Literature and Art*
2022-2023 Faculty Advisor, Global Scholars Program
2022-2023 Committee Member, Athletic Advisory Committee
2021-2022 Curator, Androne Reading Series

University of California, Santa Cruz

2020-2021 Graduate Student Association Representative
2019-2021 Graduate Student Advisor, *Red Wheelbarrow: A Journal of Literature*
2019-2020 Subcommittee Member, Hiring Committee

Editorial Work

2024-present Founder and HeadEditor, Bench Editions: An Independent Publisher of Experimental Prose and Poetry
2022-present Fiction Reader, *Iowa Review*
2017-2018 Conference Manager, Catamaran Writing Conference
2016-2018 Contributing Editor, *The Rumpus*
2014-2017 Curator, Antibody Reading Series, University of Iowa
2013-2015 Poetry Editor, *Iowa Review*
2011-2013 Editor-in-Chief, *Inscape: A Journal of Literature and Art*

Professional Memberships

2022-present Member, Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean
2021-present Member, Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association
2018-present Member, American Literary Translators Association
2017-present Member, International Society for the Study of Surrealism
2017-present Member, Modern Language Association
2014-present Member, Association of Writers and Writing Programs

Conferences Organized

July 2018 Conference Manager, Catamaran Writing Conference: Topics in West Coast Literature. Pacific Collegiate School, Santa Cruz, CA.
July 2017 Conference Manager, Planning Committee, Catamaran Writing Conference: Writing in California. Robert Louis Stevenson School, Pebble Beach Cruz, CA. July 2017.

Volunteer Non-University Teaching

2020-present Workshop Leader (ages 9-16), *Stone Soup Magazine* and *Young Inklings*
2015-2016 Workshop Leader, Prison Writing Project, University of Iowa
2015-2016 Workshop Leader, Iowa Youth Writing Project, University of Iowa
2013-2015 Workshop Leader, Iowa City Public Library
2007-2009 ESL Instructor, Refugee Center, Yekaterinburg, Russia

UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT

Xavier University

ENGL 202 Introduction to Creative Writing
ENGL 310 Creative Writing, Fiction
ENGL 313 Novel Writing

Albright College

ENGL 101 Composition
ENGL 102 Writing about Texts
ENGL 110 Introduction to Latin American Literature
ENGL 125 Introduction to Creative Writing
ENGL 210 The Novel in Latin America
ENGL 225 Novel Writing
ENGL 390 American Authors in Paris

University of California, Santa Cruz (Instructor of Record)

LIT 90 Introduction to Creative Writing
LIT 91 Intermediate Fiction: The Short Story

LIT 120 Topics in Poetry: From Emily Dickinson to The Program Era
LIT 121 The Graphic Novel
LIT 150 Topics in Modern Literature: Novels of Toni Morrison
LIT 200 Translation Theory
LIT 210 Studies in the Novel: Autofiction
LIT 210 Studies in the Novel: Madness Narratives
LIT 210 Studies in the Novel: The Modernist Novel
LIT 210 Studies in the Novel: The Novel in Latin America

San Francisco School for the Arts

Scriptwriting (Winter 2021)

BYU-Provo

Comp Lit 202: A Survey of World Literature after 1750 (Summer terms 2014, 2015)

University of Iowa (Instructor of Record)

CW 420 Advanced Creative Writing: The Art of (Re)vision
CW 111 Intermediate Poetry Writing
CW 90 Introduction to Creative Writing
ENG 111 Introduction to Literary Interpretation

LANGUAGES

Russian—fluent in speaking, reading, writing, translating
Spanish—proficient in speaking, reading, translating