

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;  
20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 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