

# Ellen Litman

Assistant Professor & Associate Director of Creative Writing, Department of English  
University of Connecticut, Storrs

Date of first appointment: 2007

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## EDUCATION

M.F.A. Creative Writing/ Fiction, 2004, Syracuse University.  
B.S. Information Science, 1995, University of Pittsburgh.

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2007, Assistant Professor & Associate Director of Creative Writing, University of Connecticut.  
2005 – 2007, Instructor, Grub Street Inc.  
2005 – 2006, Lecturer in Rhetoric, Babson College.  
2004 – 2005, James C. McCreight Fellow in Fiction, University of Wisconsin-Madison.  
2004 – 2005, Field Faculty Advisor (Fiction), Union Institute & University, Vermont College.  
2001 – 2004, Graduate Instructor, Syracuse University.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Mannequin Girl*, forthcoming from W.W. Norton in 2014  
*The Last Chicken in America*, New York: W.W. Norton 2007

### Stories in Journals

"The Song of the Stormy Petrel." *Dossier Journal* (Fall, 2011)  
"Home." *Five Chapters*. September 2007.  
"The Trajectory of Frying Pans." *Ploughshares* (August 2007).  
"Peculiarities of the National Driving." *Vrij Nederland* 1 (2007): 50-55.  
"When the Neighbors Love You." *ACM* 46 (2006): 67-79.  
"About Kamyshinskiy." *TriQuarterly* 121 (2005): 97-112.  
"In the Man-Free Zone." *Gulf Coast* 17.1 (2004): 68-83.  
"Dancers." *Tin House* 20 (2004): 188-203.  
"The Last Chicken in America." *Ontario Review* 60 (2004): 46-62.  
"Engagement." *Other Voices* 36 (2002): 36-48.

### Stories in Anthologies

"Dancers." *American Odysseys: Writing by New Americans*. Champaign: Dalkey Archive Press – forthcoming 2013.

"The Last Chicken in America." *American Odysseys: Writing by New Americans*. Champaign: Dalkey Archive Press – forthcoming 2013.

"About Kamyshinksy." *Best New American Voices 2007* 21-41.

"Dancers." *Best of Tin House* Portland: TinHouse Books, 2006. 212-28.

### **Book Reviews**

"Family Puzzle." *Haaretz: Books*, October 2008: 8 [A review of *Fault Lines*, a novel by Nancy Houston.]

"A Book About Dying." *Haaretz: Books*, March 2008: 6 [A review of *The Book of Dahlia*, a novel by Elisa Albert.]

### **Translations**

Starobinets, Anna. "Rules." Ellen Litman, trans. *It All Depends on Who You Believe: New Fiction from a New Russia*. Ed. Michael Iossel and Jeff Parker. New York: Tin House Books, 2009. 285-91.

## **CONFERENCE AND COLLOQUIA PRESENTATIONS**

"Imagining the Great Gatsby: A Conversation for Writers, Scholars, and Readers." Lecture. University of Connecticut, 2013.

"Life After MFA." Panel presentation/invited talk. Syracuse University, 2013.

"Next Wave Talk: On Chekhov." Panel presentation/invited talk. Brooklyn Academy of Music, 2012.

"A (young) Writer's Life: A Colloquium for Aspiring Writers Under 30." The Litchfield County Writers Project, University of Connecticut, 2012.

"First Fiction: New Voices." Panel presentation/invited talk. *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, 2008.

"Shaping a Short Story Connection." Panel presentation. Associated Writing Programs Conference, 2008.

"Getting the Words Right: A Craft Talk." Panel presentation/invited talk. Wisconsin Book Festival, 2007.

"Shaping a Short Story Collection." Seminar/invited. The Muse and the Marketplace Conference, Grub Street Writers, Boston, MA, 2007.

## **RECENT DISSERTATIONS ADVISED**

### **As Director**

Kofi Jahi Adisa, a novel with a critical preface (in progress)

Lori Carriere, a fiction manuscript with a critical preface (in progress)

### **As Secondary Advisor**

Jon Anderson, *Rage for Me*, a hybrid-genre young adult novel (defended M.A. 2012)

Sean Frederick Forbes, *Providencia*, a collection of poems with a critical preface on the poetry of Audre Lorde and Michelle Cliff (defended April 2011).

Kenneth Cormier, *Sounding the Audio Imagination*, a collection of poems and creative prose with a critical preface on audio autobiography and multitrack recording (defended August 2010).

Randy Laist, *American Environments: Technology and Subjectivity in Don DeLillo's Americana, White Noise, Underworld, and Cosmopolis* (defended May 2009)

Aaron Sanders, a novel with a critical preface on the concept of violence in the fiction of Mormon writers (defended December 2007)

### **SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

#### **University of Connecticut:**

Creative Writing Program Co-Director, 2007 to 2011 (Developed curriculum; organized a Visiting Writers Series hosting 10-12 authors per year; ran the Aetna Writer-in-Residence Program to bring an author to campus each semester for an extended visit; created and ran the Writers Who Edit program to bring a notable editor/author to campus each semester; advised the Poetic Journeys project; managed staff including an administrative assistant, one to two graduate TAs, and three or four undergraduate interns per semester.)

Wallace Stevens Poetry Program Committee member and/or co-chair, 2007 to 2013 (Wrote annual external grant for funding and organized poets' visits to campus)

Faculty advisor for *The Long River Review* undergraduate literary magazine, 2008, 2009

Faculty advisor for UCOW (UConn Coalition of Writers, an undergraduate student organization), 2011 to present.

Aetna Chair Advisory Board member, 2007 to present

Committee member, Creative Writing Committee, 2007 to present

Committee member, Departmental Faculty Search in Poetry, 2010

Committee member, Jennie Hackman Prize Committee, 2012, 2009, 2012

Committee member, Collins Prize Committee: 2008, 2010, 2011

Committee member, Aetna Graduate Creative Work in Progress Committee, 2008

Committee member, Long River Graduate Writing Prize Committee, 2009, 2010

Advisor for English Department graduate and undergraduate students (10-15 advisees per semester)

**Other Service Activities:**

Consultant, Grub Street Writers, Inc, 2012

External Evaluator, Roger Williams University, BFA in Creative Writing Program, 2011.

Judge, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Fiction Fellowship Panel, 2009.

Preliminary judge, Katharine Bakeless Nason Prize in Fiction, 2009

Juror, South Carolina Arts Commission, South Carolina Fiction Project 2007.

**AWARDS**

Fletcher Pratt Fellowship in Fiction, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

Finalist for the New York Public Library 2008 Young Lions Fiction Award (announced on March 24, 2008)

Finalist for the *LA Times* 2007 Art Seidenbaum Award for First Fiction (announced on February 28, 2008)

The Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award, 2006

James C. McCreight Fiction Fellowship, The University of Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, Madison, WI, 2004-2005.

Fiction Fellowship, Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, MA, 2004-2005 (declined).

First Prize in Fiction, *The Atlantic Monthly* 2003 Student Fiction Contest.

Work-study scholarships, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, 2003, 2004.

**LANGUAGES**

English

Russian