

**DIVERSITY OF VOICES: A GLOBAL  
STORYTELLING HISTORY**

16th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE  
SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH

20 – 24 June, 2023

**Author Biographies for Academic  
Presenters**

### **Alves, Teresa F. A.**

Teresa F. A. Alves is emerita professor of American Studies and a researcher in CEAL/ULICES. Her published work mirrors her interests in the literary production of the United States and in interdisciplinary cultural approaches. She is presently engaged in researching Portuguese American literature and culture, having published essays on autobiographical works by Charles Peters, Laurinda C. Andrade, Rodrigues Miguéis, Charles Reis Felix and Josephine B. Korth; as well as on the short fiction by Miguéis and on Frank X Gaspar's poetry and fiction. Her publications include *Cânone e Diversidade* (Lisboa, 2003) and, in co-authorship, *Feminine Identities* (Lisboa, 2002) and *Literatura Norte-Americana* (Lisboa, 1999). She co-edited several publications, among them *Portugal Pelo Mundo Disperso* (Lisboa, 2013), *Narrating the Portuguese Diaspora: Piecing Things Together* (New York, 2011), *From the Edge: Portuguese Short Stories/Onde a Terra Acaba: Contos Portugueses* (Lisboa, 2006), and *Ceremonies and Spectacles: Performing American Culture* (Amsterdam, 2000). She is a Board member of the Society for the Study of Short Story-SSSS and of the Fulbrighers Portugal-Alumni Association.

### **Bautista, Victor Felipe**

Victor Felipe S. Bautista is an assistant professor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of the Philippines-Diliman. He holds a master's degree in Literary and Cultural Studies obtained from Ateneo de Manila University. Bautista's most recent research took a Zen approach to the representation of Dōgen's notion of being-time in the novel *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki. His current interests revolve around the relationship between Zen and the poetics of writers like Ozeki and Jane Hirshfield, literature and religion, and intuitive or trans-intellectual approaches to literature. He teaches classes on literary criticism and theory, critical thinking, and writing. His research and teaching are heavily influenced by his own Zen practice, as he is a member of Zen Center Philippines. Beyond his literary interests, Bautista does research and teaches about Marcosian historical distortion in the Philippines. He is the author of the journal article "The Pervert's Guide to Historical Revisionism: Traversing the Marcos Fantasy," published in *Philippine Studies: Historical and Ethnographic Views* in 2018. As a member of the Martial Law Chronicles Project, he organizes events and goes to various schools to critique historical distortion and to commemorate true stories about the Marcos dictatorship.

### **Byrne, Jessica**

Jessica Byrne has a background in the health area and has a keen interest in literature.

### **Cardoso, Alexandra May**

May Cardoso is a playwright and dramaturg currently teaching at the College of Arts and Letters in the University of the Philippines Diliman. She has staged several one-act plays and adaptations. Her latest work is an adaptation of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper," set in 2017 Philippines. She is currently a distance student of the MFA Theatre Arts - Dramatic Writing program at the University of Idaho.

### **Chang, Hawk**

Dr. Hawk Chang is Assistant Professor of the Department of Literature and Cultural Studies at The Education University of Hong Kong. He received his PhD from National Taiwan Normal University and did his post-doctoral study at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. Some of his works have been published in *English Studies*, *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, *Changing English*, *Children's Literature in Education*, *ANQ*, *Neohelicon*, *The Explicator*, *Journal of Language, Literature and Culture*, *CLCWeb*, *Journal of English Studies*, etc. He was awarded the First Book Prize 2019 by Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities and was awarded a Junior Fellowship in the Academy for a five-year term (2019-24).

### **Chang, Kai-lung**

Bachelor of Arts degree from National Taiwan University. Postgraduate student in the Ph.D. programme (Comparative Literature and Cross-cultural Studies) at the Graduate Institution of Cross-Cultural Studies, Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan. Attended two academic conferences to present papers. (the 44 Annual CLAROC Convention 2022 and the 24th International Symposium on Translation and Interpretation) Winner of Prof. Liu Kuang-Yi's Memorial Scholarship. Research interests are translation studies, Aesop's Fables, comparative rhetoric, and cross-cultural studies. Now live in Taichung, Taiwan.

### **Cheng, Qiujie**

Cheng Qiujie Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), Shanghai, China Sep 2022 – June 2023 & Sep 2024 – June 2025 M.A. in English and American Literature The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK July 2023 – August 2024 MSc, English Literature: Literature and Modernity (2nd Master's Degree).

### **Chong, Yin Teng**

Yin Teng teaches critical thinking and communication skills in a local university. Her students include undergraduates and young working adults. She enjoys interacting with her students and hearing their stories of personal and professional growth.

### **Choo, Suzanne**

Suzanne Choo is Associate Professor in the English Language and Literature Academic Group at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her research has been published in various peer-reviewed journals such as *Harvard Educational Review*, *Reading Research Quarterly*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, *Critical Studies in Education*, among others. Her book, *Reading the world, the globe, and the cosmos: Approaches to teaching literature for the twenty-first century* was awarded the 2014 Critics Choice Book Award by the American Educational Studies Association. Her recent book is *Teaching ethics through literature: The significance of Ethical Criticism in a global age* (Routledge, 2021). More info can be found on her website – <https://www.suzannechoo.com>.

### **Cid, Teresa**

Teresa Cid is Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Lisbon, School of Arts and Humanities (FLUL) and University of Lisbon Center for English Studies (CEAUL/ULICES). Her research interests include American Modernism, Portuguese-American Studies, Cinema and Popular Culture. Her selected publications include "Preferring not to: Bartleby's NO in...Silence!" (Lisbon, 2013), "Walking the Lisbon Night Through with Johnny Guitar" (Lisbon, 2009), "Lively Modernism(s): the Comic Strip as/and Modern American Art" (Bern, 2008), "Fate, Diaspora and the Melody of Storytelling: The Portuguese-American Fado/Blues of Katherine Vaz" (Lisbon, 2007), "Antigas Raízes e Novos Rumos: o fado/blues de Katherine Vaz e a Diáspora Portuguesa nos EUA" (Rio de Janeiro, 2001). She is also the co-author of *Literatura Norte-Americana* (Lisbon 1999) and co-editor of *Portugal pelo Mundo Disperso* (Lisbon, 2013), *Narrating the Portuguese Diaspora: Piecing Things Together* (New York, 2011), and *Ceremonies and Spectacles: Performing American Culture* (Amsterdam, 2000).

### **Cosgrove, Shady**

Associate Professor Shady Cosgrove is the author of *What the Ground Can't Hold* (Picador) and *She Played Elvis* (Allen and Unwin). Her short works have appeared in *Best Australian Stories*, *Overland*, *Antipodes*, *Southerly*, *Island*, *Unlikely*, *Eunoia Review*, *takahē* and various *Spineless Wonders* anthologies. She was a Bundanon Trust International Artist-in-Residence and was awarded the 2020 Eleanor Dark Flagship Fellow. She teaches prose fiction and editing at the University of Wollongong, in New South Wales, Australia. [www.shadycosgrove.com](http://www.shadycosgrove.com)

### **Ghosh, Debasree**

Debasree Ghosh has recently submitted her PhD thesis for examination. She is a student at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, where she resides with her family. Her thesis explores the influence of British Literature on the development of Indian Children's genres. She has previously completed her Post Graduate Diploma of Education from the National Institute of Education, Singapore and had taught the Singapore-Cambridge General Paper at the Anglo-Chinese Junior College.

### **Giles, Sarah**

Sarah Giles (she/her) is a writer and PhD candidate at Swinburne University researching the possibilities of the contemporary short story cycle exploring women's experiences of isolation, trauma and mental illness. Her writing has been published in *ACE III: Arresting Contemporary stories by Emerging Writers*, *The Incompleteness Book*, *TEXT Journal*, *The Victorian Writer*, *Science / Art Network (ScAN)* & *Australasian Association of Writing Programs (AAWP)*, *ILLUMINATE*, and *Lip Magazine*. Her audio documentary 'learning to live' was one of eight selected to be a part of the 2018 *Sonic Tonic* series. Sarah takes an interest in fractured narratives, women's relationships, Joy Hester, intersectional feminist perspectives and realist fiction.

## **Goh, Qi Wei**

Goh Qi Wei is a second-year PhD student with the English division at the Nanyang Technological University of Singapore (NTU). She obtained her M.A. in English Literature at NTU in 2016 and has experience working in educational publishing and business information systems research. Her research interests include contemporary women's fiction, particularly in the short story form, and the fantastic in literature. Her PhD thesis is concerned with fantastical bodily transformations in contemporary women's short stories.

## **Hafizi, Sepehr**

Dr Sepehr Hafizi, BSc (Hons), MB BS, MSc, PGDipLATHE, DPhil, PhD (ad eundem), FHEA, FRCPsych, Consultant Psychiatrist, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust, Cambridge, UK; Affiliated Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge, UK; College Research Associate, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, UK. I am a consultant psychiatrist interested in the interface between medicine and literature.

## **Hill, Rebecca**

Rebecca Hill graduated from Sheffield Hallam University with a degree in English and a Masters in Writing, but is now retraining for a career in psychotherapy. With both an academic and personal interest in representations of mental illness and disability in fiction, she hopes to further her understanding through research and psycho-education. Her creative work has been published in a number of anthologies and journals, including *Matter* and *Zodiac Young Writers*, and most recently in *Test Signal: Northern Anthology of New Writers* (2021).

## **Ho, Hannah Ming Yit**

Hannah M. Y. Ho is an Assistant Professor with the English Studies programme at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Brunei Darussalam. She has held fellowships at the University of California, Berkeley and King's College London. Currently, she is a research fellow at the National University of Singapore, where she is working on oral stories that have been documented during the COVID-19 pandemic in Southeast Asia. She is also a section editor (Southeast Asia) of "The Year's Works in English Studies" published by Oxford University Press. She was invited as a panelist and moderator at the Asian Festival of Children's Content (2022) and Singapore's Writer's Festival (2022). She has also given keynote lectures at international conferences in literature. Her edited books include "Engaging Modern Brunei: Research on Language, Literature and Culture" (2021). Moreover, she has published journal articles in "Asiatic," "Global Society," "Southeast Asian Review of English," and "The Wenshan Review of Literature and Culture." Her article in "Kritika Kultura" is forthcoming. She has numerous book chapters published by Springer, Routledge, Palgrave-Macmillan and Brill. Her further publications on transnational Southeast Asia, COVID-19 stories from Southeast Asia and contemporary Southeast Asian fiction are in process.

## **Ho, Wen-Shing**

Dr. Wen-Shing Ho is a filmmaker, writer and academic. Her experiences with multidisciplinary art works (Film, Music, and Dance) have allowed her to cultivate an interest in oriental aesthetics. Dr. Ho's films have garnered acclaim through screenings at most prestigious film festivals. According to the VARIETY, Dr. Ho's film "TAKAO DANCER offers a refreshingly playful break from cinematic storytelling conventions." Dr. Ho's dissertation "Musical Composition Techniques of Maurice Ravel and Toru Takemitsu to the Conception and Direction of Digital Cinema" is officially selected by peer reviewed LABS Abstract Leonardo database. Her Jo-ha-kyo three parts script writing "Tear Love Smile" was officially selected at Torino Script and Pitch workshop with project merit scholarship in Italy.

Dr. Ho received the Doctor of Science from Global Information and Telecommunication Studies at Waseda University in Tokyo Japan, the graduate credits in Film Music at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University and a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Electronic Media at School of Communications, American University in Washington, DC. Dr. Ho was assistant professor at the Department of Performing and Fine Arts, DeSales University, USA (2001-2004); the pioneer professor for the School of Art, Design and Media at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (2005-2010); associate researcher at Waseda University Tokyo Japan (2013-2014). She acted as a visiting professor/artist, most notably at NYU Tisch Asia, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, China Academy of Fine Arts, and FAMU (Czech National Film-Art-Music University of Performing Arts and Theater, Department of Cinema and Photography). Currently, Dr. Ho is tenured associate professor at University of Southern California and Shanghai Jiao Tong University joint Institute of Cultural and Creative Industry in Shanghai, China.

## **Izumi, Yoriko**

Yoriko Izumi is a professor of English Literature at Tohoku Gakuin University, Japan. Her work focuses specifically on 20th-century British novels and short stories. She also works on the potential for bibliotherapy from a literary research viewpoint.

## **Jesuvadian, Mercy**

Mercy has over 20 years of experience in teaching and training in Singapore. She has taught in both secondary and tertiary institutions. She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PDGE) from NIE (1998). She graduated with a Master's in English Studies from the National University of Singapore (2002) and a Masters in Early Childhood Education from Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in 2007. Mercy earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Early Childhood Education from NIE, NTU in 2016. She is currently a lecturer in Psychology, and Child, and Human Development (PCHD) Academic Group at NIE. Her research interests include child development, family studies, home-school partnerships, parenting in urban settings, and research methodologies. Apart from her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing fiction, and creative non-fiction. She is currently working on a book on childhoods in Singapore.

### **Jin, Hengshan**

Hengshan Jin is a Professor of English and American Studies at the Department of English, School of Foreign Languages, East China Normal University

### **John Sekar, Jeyaraj**

JEYARAJ JOHN SEKAR is an experienced higher education teacher with 36 years of teaching English. He holds a PhD in English language teaching, a PG Diploma in Teaching of English from CIEFL, a PG Diploma in Communicative English from the University of Hyderabad, and a PG Diploma in Higher Education from IGNOU. Throughout his career, he has served in various leadership positions including Head of the Research Department, Dean of Academic Policies & Administration, and Dean for Curriculum Development & Research, as well as NAAC Coordinator at The American College in Madurai, Tamil Nadu. He has supervised and guided the research of 13 PhD and 65 MPhil scholars. He is the author of five in-house textbooks on Spoken English (1994), Conversational Skills (2014), Reading & Writing Skills (2014), Study Skills (2015), and Career Skills (2015). Additionally, he has written six commercial publications on English for Communication Skills (2019), English Usage: 1000 Doubts Cleared (2020), Research Methodology for English Studies: Nuts and Bolts (2022), and Developing Conversational Skills in English: 101 Tips for Group Communication (2022), Developing Reading Comprehension Skills: For Profit and Pleasure (2023) and Improving Academic and Professional Writing: Strategies for Writing Right and Tight (2023).

### **Kamata, Suzanne**

Suzanne Kamata is an American who has been living and teaching EFL in Japan at various levels for over thirty years. She currently teaches core English subjects and academic writing at Naruto University of Education. She is also the Coordinator of the Literature in Language Teaching Special Interest Group of the Japan Association for Language Teaching. In addition to academic papers on creative writing in the EFL classroom, she has edited three anthologies, and published three books for emerging readers, as well as several novels, a memoir, and a short story collection, *The Beautiful One Has Come* (Wyatt-Mackenzie Publishing). Her short stories sometimes incorporate Japanese folklore.

### **Kaur, Shreenjit**

Shreenjit Kaur is a Teaching Fellow at the National Institute of Education, Singapore

### **Kiriyama, Keiko**

Keiko Kiriyama earned a Master of Arts in English Literature from Osaka University in Japan in March 2000, and a Doctor of Arts in English Literature, Osaka University in March 2005. Dr. Kiriyama was a Lecturer in English Studies at Wakayama University in Japan, from April 2006 to March 2008, an Associate Professor in English Studies, Wakayama University from April 2008 to March 2018, and is currently an Associate Professor in English Studies at Kyoto Prefectural University in Japan.

### **Kumar, Sathish**

Mr. Sathish Kumar. R is a Research Scholar, at School of Social Sciences and Languages, VIT University, Chennai campus, India. The area of my research is Science fictions, especially Robotics and Space colonisation. i have completed my under graduate degree B.A in English Literature at Thiru Kolanjiyappar Govt. Arts & Science College, Tamilnadu and was graduated with my Post Graduations degrees M.A. & M. Phil at Bharathidasan University, Tamilnadu, India. My specialisations and area of study interests lie in Theatre studies, Fanatasy literature and Science fictions. I have five years of teaching experience that comprises both school and college level teaching. I worked as Asssistant Professor at St. Joseph's Institute of Technology and PSNA College of Engineering and Technology for two academic years each.

### **Kumari, Nivedita**

An Indian with a PhD in linguistics and an experience of teaching English to Japanese EFL learners for last 10 years and Thai EFL learners for two years. Taught Linguistics and Discourse Analysis as well. Research interests includes Discourse and Cultures; ELT; Asian Englishes; Pragmatics and Politeness.

### **Lathar, Vikas**

Dr. Vikas Lathar is Associate Professor of English at SM Government Girls College, Safidon, Haryana ( India). He has been teaching English under Higher Education Department, Haryana since July 2006. During his more than 15 years of teaching career, he has mainly taught rural area students in different colleges. Besides teaching he has also contributed in college administration. He has been associated with important college committees such as NAAC, IQAC, UGC. He has served Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra( Haryana) as academic council member. Currently he is a member of UG Board of Studies(English) in CRS University, Jind( Haryana). He has also significant contribution in research activities. He has presented papers in various national and international level conferences. His research papers have been published by various reputed international level journals. His main research areas are Indian Writing in English, Cultural Studies and Gender Studies. He is recipient of prestigious UGC Junior Research Fellowship( 2005) and IMRF award for English Studies( 2019).

### **Lee, Jackie Fung King**

Dr Jackie F. K. Lee is Associate Professor at the Department of Linguistics of Modern Language Studies of The Education University of Hong Kong, where she is responsible for teaching grammar courses to undergraduate and postgraduate students. She obtained her PhD degree at the University of New South Wales. Her research interests include language and gender, English language education, experiential learning, teacher education and grammar instruction.



**Li, Yunxiao**

My previous interests lie in 18th century English literature and affective studies. After being admitted into the Ph.D. program in East China Normal University, I have veered into American Studies and hence read extensively about critical theories and literary texts concerning postwar America society and culture, especially in the 1950s and 1960s.

**Liang, Iping**

I am specialized in Ethnic Studies, American Literature, Asian American literature, and Native American literature. I have recently turned to Southeast Asian literature in English and focused on the work of Charlson Ong. This will be my first time to attend the Short Story Conference.

**Liao, Weichun**

Weichun Liao is a professor of English at East China Normal University in Shanghai.

**Lynch, Gay**

Gay Lynch works as an adjunct academic in creative writing and English at Flinders University, publishing essays, hybrid pieces, memoir, novels, papers, and short stories. You can find her work in *Best Australian Stories*, *Bluestem Journal*, *Edições Humus Limitada*, *Island*, *Meanjin*, *Meniscus*, *Griffith Review*, *Westerly*, *TEXT* and *Sleepers Almanac*. She has recently been short and longlisted for the FISH Short Memoir; has presented and chaired at previous short story festivals in Adelaide, Lisbon, Melbourne and Perth. In 2016, she was runner-up for the British Council residency at the Small Wonder Short Story Festival, UK. From 2011-2015, she was Fiction and Life Writing editor at *Transnational Literature-ejournal*. The Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (ISAANZ) will launch her historical novel in December.

**MacGowan, Christopher**

Christopher MacGowan is William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English at the College of William and Mary. He has edited and published on the poetry of William Carlos Williams, as well as books on American Poetry and American Fiction for Wiley-Blackwell. His published articles include work on Denise Levertov, Sherwood Anderson, Ford Madox Ford, and Vladimir Nabokov.

**McIlroy, Tara**

Tara McIlroy, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at Rikkyo University in the Center for Foreign Language Education and Research in Tokyo, Japan. She is an active practitioner and has taught at the secondary and tertiary level. Her research interests are L2 language acquisition and the uses of literature in the language classroom.

**Mei, Xiaohan**

Mei Xiaohan, Ph.D. candidate of the Department of English at Fudan University. His research interest includes antebellum literature, early American literature, trans-atlantic literature and culture, Universal History and Historicism.

**Morrissey, Ted**

Ted Morrissey's novel excerpts, stories, poems, critical articles, reviews, and translations have appeared in more than one hundred publications (among them *Glimmer Train Stories*, *Paris Transcontinental*, *Southern Humanities Review*, and *North American Review*). He is the author of two collections – most recently, *Delta of Cassiopeia* (2023) – as well as several award-winning novels, including *The Artist Spoke* and *Crowsong for the Stricken*. Retired from full-time teaching, he is an adjunct lecturer in Lindenwood University's MFA in Writing program, and he continues to work as a librarian. See [tedmorrissey.com](http://tedmorrissey.com) and [twelvewinters.com](http://twelvewinters.com) (the press he founded in 2012).

**Ni, Zengxin**

Ni Zengxin is a PhD candidate in English literature at the School of Humanity at Nanyang Technological University. Her research interests lie mainly in the narrative and memory in modern and contemporary Irish literature, in addition to affect studies, gender studies and trauma theory.

**Novitz, Julian**

Julian Novitz is a senior lecturer in writing and literature at Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne, Australia. He is the author of an award-winning collection of short stories and two novels.

**Ouma, May**

May Ouma is a British-Kenyan doctoral student based in Tokyo, Japan. She holds a BA in English & Creative Writing, and an MA in English & American Literature. Ouma's research interests focus on literature, cultural competency and language acquisition.

**Ow, Yeong Wai Kit**

Ow Yeong Wai Kit is currently a PhD candidate at the National Institute of Education, Singapore. He has taught Literature and English at the secondary school level for several years, and served as an Academy Officer at the Academy of Singapore Teachers. He holds an MA in English from University College London, and he has edited four poetry anthologies, including *From Walden to Woodlands: An Anthology of Nature Poems*, published by Ethos Books. His writings have also been featured in the *Quarterly Literary Review* of Singapore (QLRS), *Tiger Moth Review*, and elsewhere. His research interests include Literature education and the

science of learning, as well as Singapore Literature in English. In 2019, he was presented the Outstanding Youth in Education Award by the Ministry of Education.

### **Palmeirim, Bernardo**

Bernardo Palmeirim is an Assistant Professor in American Studies at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Lisbon. He is a researcher in American Studies at ULICES (University of Lisbon Center for English Studies). He holds a PhD in Theory of Literature (ULisbon) titled “What is Poetic Attention” (2014). His research interests include American short forms (poetry, short story, song, flash fiction), US cultural history, theory of literature and philosophy of religion. He is also a songwriter with a number of releases and extensive music collaborations. His latest publications were “Stylizations of Being: Attention as an Existential Hub in Heidegger and Christian Mysticism” in *Open Theology* (De Gruyter, 2020) and his forthcoming “Literary Attachment and The American Spoken-word Song: An interarts-based reading pedagogy” in *Arts & Humanities in Higher Education* (SAGE, 2023), where he explains the methodology of his awarded arts-based research project, where students and teacher collaborate on spoken-word song recordings and performances.

### **Ram, Prasanthi**

Dr Prasanthi Ram is a full-time academic writing lecturer at Nanyang Technological University, where she completed her PhD in creative writing. Her short stories can be found in a variety of publications including *Best New Singaporean Short Stories: Volume Five* (Epigram Books: 2021), and her personal essays can be found in *What We Inherit: Growing Up Indian* (AWARE: 2022) as well as *Making Kin: Ecofeminist Essays from Singapore* (Ethos Books: 2021). She is also the co-founder and fiction editor of *Mahogany Journal*. Her debut short story cycle *Nine Yard Sarees* will be published by Ethos Books later this year.

### **Rugen, Brian**

Brian Rugen is a professor of English at Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan. His research interests include literature and language teaching; discourse and identity; and, literature and sport. In his spare time, he enjoys long-distance running, bicycle touring, and learning how to coach baseball in a foreign country.

### **Schildknecht, Flora K.**

Flora K. Schildknecht is the author of the short story collection *Megafauna* (2018). Her short fiction has appeared in various journals and has been twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She has served since 2020 as Associate Editor of *The Louisville Review*, and she served from 2016 as a part-time instructor for the English department at Bellarmine University where she taught courses in Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, and Playwriting. Currently a doctoral student in Comparative Humanities at the University of Louisville, much of Schildknecht’s creative writing and research focuses on intersections of contemporary global art and literature with issues of human rights. She received an MFA from Spalding University, where she studied

fiction and dramatic writing. Her love of travel has taken her to Japan, Tanzania, Argentina, Mexico, Great Britain, and to Scandinavia and much of Europe.

### **Sellan, Rajenthiran**

Rajenthiran Sellan is a Lead Assessment Specialist in the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board, Singapore.

### **Shieh, Hannah Wen-Shan**

Hannah Wen-Shan Shieh is Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Foreign Languages at Shih Chien University in Taipei, Taiwan. Her research interests include modernism, English short fiction, and medical humanities. She received her PhD in Creative and Critical Writing from the University of Sussex in 2013. Her publications include “Establishing a Relational Self in Collaborative Caring Relations: Alice Munro’s Illness Narrative of Alzheimer’s Disease” (in Chinese)(2020); “A Critique of Stigma Transformation in Alice Munro’s ‘Face’ and ‘Child’s Play’” (2018), and “The Uncanny, Open Secrets, and Katherine Mansfield’s Modernist Legacy in Alice Munro’s Everyday Gothic” (2017). Her paper “Restlessness Transformed: Revisiting the Metaphor of Tuberculosis in Katherine Mansfield’s Notebooks and Letters” (to be published in 2023) was shortlisted for the 2022 Katherine Mansfield Society Essay Prize.

### **Singh, Rahul**

A banker by the day and writer by the night, Rahul is an expert at connecting the three Is - idea, insight, and individual who sums up his life as ABC - author, banker, and community builder. Having an illustrious career in banking, he is the Assistant Director of Global Marketing & Strategy at Nanyang Technological University Singapore, Principal of Corporate Advisory Group at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Udaipur, and Academic Council Member of Jaipuria Institute of Management. He has authored several books on purpose including “You know the glory, not the story”, “Engineering to Ikigai”, and “An atheist gets the Gita”. His book on Corporate purpose “ESG: Putting purpose back in Finance” is scheduled for release in 2023. An inspiring personality and a thought leader, Rahul regularly speaks on topics that concern millennials such as careers in 21st century, conscious capitalism, and cross-cultural understanding. His books cover purpose from varied lens – ranging for micro memoirs of purposeful journeys to collective Ikigai and Organizational Purpose. His books have a touch of realism and connect to audience at a personal level motivating them to find their purpose in work, in relationship, and in self discovery. Besides writing, Rahul advises companies & start-ups on their ESG journey towards Sustainable Development Goals and has pushed for inclusion of Conscious Capitalism & ESG in university curriculums. He is the founding President of Indian Scholars' Association Singapore which represents Indian alumni of Singaporean Institutes of Higher Learning including NTU, NUS, SMU, and SUTD. He is also the youngest ever President of IIM Bangalore Alumni Association Singapore.

### **Singh, Tejash Kumar**

Tejash Kumar Singh is a postgraduate research student finishing up his Master of Arts in English at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English (Distinction) and pioneered a dedicated Singaporean English & Literature lecturing centre (The Arts & Humanities Tuition Services). His research interests include 19th century American literature, slavery narratives, and the study of Indian migrant bodies in Singapore.

### **Sung, Jenny**

Hi, this is Jenny, an MA student currently studying at National Taiwan Normal University. Currently taking a course that centers on Southeast Asian Anglophone literature, I'm fascinated by the diverse voices and perspectives that emerge from this region, and how they reflect the complex histories and cultures of its people. The course I'm now taking is just the beginning of my exploration of this field, and I'm eager to learn more and read more texts that would help me gain deeper insights.

### **Tan, Serene**

Serene Tan is an Assessment Officer in the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board, Singapore.

### **Tay, Verena**

A Singapore-based writer, editor, storyteller and theatre practitioner, Verena Tay ([www.verenatay.com](http://www.verenatay.com)) has published two collections of short stories and four volumes of plays, as well as edited twelve story anthologies. An Honorary Fellow at the International Writing Program, University of Iowa (Aug–Nov 2007), she was a Writer-in-Residence at Nanyang Technological University (Aug–Nov 2018). She holds three Masters degrees in English Literature (National University of Singapore), Voice Studies (Central School of Speech & Drama) and Creative Writing (City University of Hong Kong). She has just submitted her PhD thesis in Creative Writing with Swansea University; this thesis comprises her first novel that is about three generations of Singaporean Chinese women with a mythological layer (imagine: “Amy Tan meets Neil Gaiman”).

### **Venkataraman, Nina**

Dr Nina Venkataraman is a trained linguist and an armchair environmentalist, who is concerned with how we frame the climate crisis. When she is not teaching at NUS, she pens a line or two for her reluctant audience of her faithful mongrel and antipathetic son.

### **Vierra, Farah**

Farah Vierra is a Master of Education (English) student and a Research Assistant at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. For her Master's dissertation, she presents a critical-ethical post-truth pedagogy for the twenty-first century Literature classroom, providing suggestions on the interpretive strategies students can be taught in order to discern the veracity of perpetuated truth claims. Presently, she is assisting in the research of values education in Singapore through a study that examines the ways in which the connection between values and pedagogy is conveyed and enacted in two schools in Singapore. Outside of research, she is also an English Language and English Literature educator at secondary level in Singapore.

### **Weiss, Allan**

Allan Weiss is an Associate Professor of English and Humanities at York. He has published short stories, both mainstream and fantasy/science fiction, in various journals and anthologies. He has published two story cycles, *Living Room* (Boheme Press) in 2001 and *Making the Rounds* (Edge) in 2016. A third, *Telescope*, will be published by Guernica Editions in the fall of 2019. Among his scholarly publications are articles on various topics in Canadian fiction, including the short story and Canadian science fiction and fantasy, and *A Comprehensive Bibliography of English-Canadian Short Stories, 1950-1983* (1988). He is Chair of the biennial Academic Conference on Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy, and has edited three volumes of proceedings from the conference, most recently *The Canadian Fantastic in Focus*, which was published by McFarland in 2014.

### **Whetter, Darryl, Xu, Xi, & Hemley, Robin**

Professor Darryl Whetter is the author of two poetry collections and four books of fiction, most recently the climate-crisis novel *Our Sands* (Penguin RH). A Canadian, he was the inaugural program director of the first Creative Writing master's program in Singapore. Routledge for new book. [www.darrylwhetter.ca](http://www.darrylwhetter.ca)

Xu Xi: Xu Xi 許素細 has published 14 books of fiction and nonfiction and edited 5 anthologies. Newest title: *The Art and Craft of Asian Stories*. Founder of Mongrel Writers Residence™ and Authors at Large. Currently, Jenks Chair in Contemporary Letters at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

Professor Robin Hemley is Inaugural Director of the Polk School of Communications at Long Island University-Brooklyn, Co-Director of the MFA in Creative Writing, Parsons Family Chair in Creative Writing, and former director of the Nonfiction Writing Program at The University of Iowa. He has had artist residencies at The Bellagio Center at Lake Como, The Bogliasco Foundation, The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, the MacDowell Colony, and others.

### **Whitehead, Angus**

I have published fairly widely in fields of British Romanticism and Singapore literature. My research interests include archival recovery of the immediate social and historical contexts within which William and Catherine Blake lived and worked, early nineteenth century labouring class poetry and roads less hitherto never travelled in Singapore literary studies (notably poets Alfie Lee, Wong May and local migrant worker writings generally). I am

currently researching the comic in the works of Kelantan writer Che Husna Azhari, sexualities in contemporary millennial Singapore poetry and homosocial metaphor, wit and allusion in the song lyrics and other writings of Bob Dylan, Alice Cooper, Julian Cope and Mark E Smith. I have recently supervised doctoral research into Shakespeare and his engagements with contemporary architecture.

### **Wong, Kevin Martens**

Kevin Martens Wong is an award-winning gay, non-binary Kristang/Portuguese-Eurasian independent scholar born, bred and based in Singapore. He was formerly a Ministry of Education Teaching Scholar teaching H1 General Paper in Eunoia Junior College, and is the founder and director of the Kodrah Kristang language revitalisation initiative for his critically endangered heritage language Kristang, and the developer of a new creole/indigenous approach to the psyche known as Osura Pesuasang / Individuation Theory. He has been featured by the BBC, AFP, the Straits Times, Channel NewsAsia, and over 130 other international publications and media, as well as Singapore's 2018 National Day Parade celebrations, and was the 2017 recipient of both the President of Singapore's Volunteer and Philanthropy Award (Individual-Youth) and the Lee Hsien Loong Award for Outstanding All-Round Achievement, both pinnacle national awards awarded to a single individual. He is also a speculative fiction writer, with his first novel, *Altered Straits*, longlisted for the 2015 Epigram Books Fiction Prize and nominated for the 2018 Singapore Literature Prize. He currently runs his own freelance life coaching and consulting initiative known as Merlionsman Coaching & Consulting.

### **Xu, Tianyu**

Xu Tianyu is a PhD student from China at School of English Studies, Shanghai International Studies University, specializing in studies of postcolonial literature in English. She holds a Master of Arts degree in English Language and Literature from University of Chinese Academy of Sciences.

### **Zeng, Yu**

Zeng Yu is a first-year PhD student of English literary studies affiliated to the School of Humanities, NTU. She graduated from Tsinghua University in 2022 with a Master's degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures. Her research interest includes postcolonial literature, modern and contemporary English literature, and literary theory.

### **Zhang, Jiachen**

Jiachen Zhang is from Fudan University, China.

### **Zhang, Joan Qiong**

Joan Qiong Zhang, doctor and professor of English at Fudan University, Shanghai, China.