

# Stephanie Ellis Schlaifer

(314) 725-7825 | Saint Louis, MO  
stephanieschlaifer@gmail.com | criticalbonnet.com

## education

MFA English

**University of Iowa, Writers' Workshop, 2001-2003**

Dual Degree: BA English, BFA Art

**Washington University in Saint Louis, 1995-1999**

## experience

### **Communications Coordinator, 2016-Present**

***Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis***

Apply my knowledge of art education, history, and contemporary practice to assist with the development and creation of materials for internal and external communications. Write and edit copy for web, print, and email. Create and maintain social media campaigns on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, often generating platform-specific content and humorous, end-of-the-week videos (#tGIF). Provide project management for special endeavors, such as recruitment and academic competitions. Help maintain web pages (WordPress & Drupal) and create email campaigns (Constant Contact). Other duties include photography, archiving, and light design work (Adobe Suite).

### **Freelance Writer & Editor**

***St. Louis, MO, 2000-present***

Provide writing, editorial, and creative services to a variety of businesses, organizations, and individuals. Projects include video scripts, web copy, marketing, email blasts, catalogs, newsletters, essays, grant writing/editing, concept work, print advertising, and more. Clients have included Brown Shoe, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Build-A-Bear, Soft Surroundings, CPI Corp., Continental Research Corp., A.G. Edwards, Corporate Express, Island Press, and Washington University, among others.

### **Adjunct Lecturer and Visiting Writer**

***Washington University in St. Louis, MO, 2004***

Taught two sections of Writing 1, an introductory course in English composition in which students tackle the principles of effective communication and critical analysis. Teaching responsibilities included developing and grading assignments, organizing research activities, and meeting with students for individual tutorials. Also served as a visiting poet in Writing 1 classrooms. Taught two sections of English Composition for high school students in the Summer Scholars program.

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

***University of Iowa, 2001-2003***

Independently taught sections of Intro to Rhetoric, a required, first-year course in composition and argumentation, and Intro to Poetry Writing, an evening course for traditional and returning students. Responsibilities included creating syllabi, selecting supplemental readings, developing and grading assignments, and meeting with students for individual tutorials.

### **Editor**

***Delmar Magazine, St. Louis, MO, 1999-2006***

Reviewed and selected submissions from hundreds of manuscripts for publication in not-for-profit literary magazine. Managed production, created cover design, and composed introduction. Worked with program specialists at the Missouri Arts Commission and the Regional Arts Council to develop new marketing and distribution strategies. Planned benefits, readings, and outreach programs to serve the community.

## related professional activities

### **Greyfriar Writer-in-Residence, Siena College, fall 2016**

As part of Siena College's Living Literature Series, conducted class visits, delivered a craft talk on hybrid practice and ekphrasis, and gave a public reading over the course of a three-day visit.

### **University City Arts & Letters Commission, 2014-present**

Serve as a member of this government body that oversees the planning and development of arts and literary events in the city, including the University City Public Art Series—a longtime partnership with the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University.

### **Olive Boulevard Beautification Committee, 2015-present**

Serve as a member of this municipal task force created by the University City Department of Community Development. Help to develop and implement creative strategies for beautification, economic development, and community engagement. Possible future projects include creating community gardens, urban farms, shared creative spaces (artist studios, commercial kitchens, etc.), multi-use parks, public art installations, new business development, and much more.

### **Co-Curator, Observable Readings Series, 2013-2015**

Select and invite 18 local and national poets of note to read in this celebrated monthly series sponsored by the St. Louis Poetry Center. Assist with travel arrangements, fundraising, marketing & promotion, etc.

## **publications**

### **books**

*Cleavemark*, a full-length poetry collection, **BOAAT Press**, 2016

*Strangers with a Lifeboat*, a limited-edition chapbook illustrated by Jeff Pike, **Virginia Arts of the Book Center**, 2014

### **poems**

"Cataract" **1913: A Journal of Forms**

"Des Peres: Zoological Fantasy" **AGNI**

"Childproofing" **Augury Books**

"From the Cabinet of Counterweights & Measures" **Best New Poets 2015**

"Piedmont-EF4, 2011" **Baltimore Review**

"When People Ask" & "Mid-South" **The Bitter Southerner**

"The Cabinet of Reason" **The Burnside Review**

"Native Plants & Animals," "Swath," and "From the Old Northwest" **Carolina Quarterly**

"Elevation" North," "Elevation: East," & "If she is a wall we build" **Chicago Review**

"Rolling Living Room" **Cimarron Review**

"—Not growing" & "The tiles are pink the tiles are black" **Colorado Review**

"From the Cabinet of Unconsciousness (Natalie & the Waves)" & "No Man's Land," **Columbia: A Journal** (forthcoming)

"From the Press Secretary of the Interior" and "The Minister of the Cabinet of Self-Preservation," **Diagram**

"Swath" (a letterpress broadside designed by Cheryl Wassenaar & All Along Press) **Drunken Boat**

"Continuing Tap," "At First," "Genevieve," "Susanne Cawood," & "Spine" **Delmar**

"The Chamber of Chronicles" **Denver Quarterly**

"Everything you want to know about dishes" **Fence**

"Where to Live to Avoid a Natural Disaster" & "Tilia Cordata (Algos)" **Florida Review**

"From the Press Secretary of the Interior (re: Gravitational Waves)" **Georgia Review** \*nominated for Pushcart

"Modified Continuous Wave: UNANSWD/UNHRD," **Harvard Review** (forthcoming)

"When the eye saw it appeared" & "Cleavemark Dr." **Kestrel**

"From the Curator of Special Collections of the Interior: Portraits in Aporia" **LIT**  
"The Bones of Me" & "Upwards" **Midway Journal**  
"Elevation: West" **Observable Books Anthology**  
"From the Minister of the Cabinet of Ordinary Affairs" **Omniverse**  
"Pictures of the Floating World" **Smartish Pace**  
"Tender" **SpringGun**  
"Similitude" **Sugar House Review**  
"The Minister of the Cabinet of Talismans and Amulets" & "The Cabinet of Lesser Offenses" **Tarpaulin Sky**  
"The Simulation Is an Understatement" **Verse**  
"Swath" **Verse Daily**  
"You Call It a Cloud," "Cloudproof," "The Cloud Was not Withholding/Was" "Bulletins from the Cloud Cabinet," **Yew**

#### **art**

"The Mouse in Me," a stop-motion animation of a poem, letterpress printed in salt, **Catch & Release, The Literary Blog of Columbia: A Journal**, 2014

Images from *Cleavemark Drive*, a collaborative installation with Cheryl Wassenaar, **The Offing** (forthcoming)

#### **essays & reviews**

##### **Proof (Island Press, Contemporary Print Editions & Artist Projects)**

Essays on artist Paula Wilson's *In the Desert* series and artist Beverly Semmes' *Golden G* series, 2016

##### **The Temporary Art Review**

"A Clearing of Measures," a review of Lisa Bulawsky's exhibition at the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollins University, 2015 (Reprinted in *Graphic Impressions*, summer 2015)

##### **The Wilson Quarterly**

"Bulletins from Immortality," a review of Brenda Wineapple's *White Heat: The Friendship of Emily Dickinson and Thomas Wentworth Higginson*, 2008

#### **honors & awards**

Selected for **Best New Poets 2015**

Winner, **BOAAT Press**, Open Reading Period, 2015

Semi-Finalist, **The Discovery/Boston Review Prize**, 2015

Honorable Mention, **Tupelo Press**, Open Reading Period, 2014

Semi-finalist, **42 Miles Press Prize**, 2014

Semi-finalist, **The Word Works, The Washington Prize**, 2014, 2015

Honorable Mention, **Coconut Books**, 2014

Finalist, **The Iowa Review Prize**, 2014, 2010

Finalist, **Colorado Prize for Poetry**, 2014, 2012

Finalist, **Tupelo Press: First/Second Book Award**, 2013, 2012, 2011

Semi-finalist, **The Florida Review Prize**, 2013

Finalist, **Rescue Press, Black Box Prize**, 2013

Finalist, **Augury Books**, 2013

Finalist, **Omnidawn, Open Competition**, 2013  
Finalist, **New South Writing Contest (Poetry)**, 2013  
Finalist, **Burnside Review Book Prize**, 2013  
Semi-finalist, **Persea, Lexi Rudnitsky First Book Prize in Poetry**, 2013  
Third place, **Smartish Pace, Beullah Rose Poetry Prize**, 2012  
Finalist, **SpringGun Press**, 2012  
Semi-finalist, **Sarabande Books, Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry**, 2012  
Semi-finalist, **Crab Orchard Series in Poetry, Open Competition**, 2012  
Semi-finalist, **Gold Line Press: Chapbook Competition**, 2011  
Semi-finalist, **Slope Editions: 10th Annual Book Prize**, 2011  
Semi-finalist, **Saturnalia Books: Poetry Prize**, 2011  
Semi-finalist, **The University of Wisconsin Press: Brittingham and Felix Pollak Prize**, 2011, 2010  
Finalist, **Alice James Books: Beatrice Hawley Award**, 2010  
**Norma Lowry Prize for Poetry**, Washington University, 1996  
**James Merrill Prize for Poetry**, Washington University, 1996

## **readings & exhibitions**

**BOAAT Press reading at AWP**, Washington, DC, 2017 (scheduled)  
**Tupelo Quarterly Reading at AWP**, Washington, DC, 2017 (scheduled)  
**Greyfriar Living Literature Series at Siena College**, solo poetry reading, Albany, NY, 2016  
**Small Press Expo Kickoff (Pulitzer Arts Center)**, solo poetry reading inside raumlaborberlin's installation, 4562 Enright Avenue, Saint Louis, MO, 2016  
**The Only Tenn-I-See**, a poetry reading with Tawnesha Greene and Matt Hart, Knoxville, TN, 2016  
**How to Grieve and Dream at the Same Time (Pulitzer Arts Center)**, a poetry reading with local poets and Bhanu Kapil, Saint Louis, MO, 2016  
**Ruth Reese Gallery**, a poetry reading with Ted Mathys, Justin Philip Reed, and Allison Rollins, St. Louis, MO, 2016  
**Homegrown: A Sustainability-Minded Fundraiser for Critical Mass**, a poetry reading with Jessica Baran, Jeff Hamilton, and Buzz Spector, Saint Louis, MO, 2015  
**Cleavemark Drive**, a collaborative art installation with Cheryl Wassenaar, Fort Gondo Compound for the Arts, Saint Louis, MO, 2014  
**Women of the Kemper**, artist talk with Cheryl Wassenaar, Fort Gondo Compound for the Arts, Saint Louis, MO, 2014  
**You Call It a Cloud (Vanderbilt University)**, a poetry reading with Rick Hilles at the art exhibit by Jana Harper at Nashville, TN, 2014  
**Poetry at the Point**, Saint Louis, MO, 2014  
**I-70 Series, Bank Projects**, Saint Louis, MO, 2013  
**Fort Gondo Poetry Series**, Saint Louis, MO, 2013  
**Reading at The Royale: Eight Poets & a Sculpture**, Saint Louis, MO, 2012  
**Re/Collect**, a collaborative installation with artist Cheryl Wassenaar at The Sheldon Galleries, Saint Louis, MO, 2010

**Observable Readings**, Saint Louis, MO, 2016, 2011, 2009, 2005

## **interviews & press**

**Sundress Roundtable Series**, panelist & moderator: *Hybrid Practice: Poems in Space, Double Ekphrasis, and Art Outside the Silos* (forthcoming)

**"Cleavemark Dr. at Fort Gondo,"** Temporary Art Review, essay by Amelia-Colette Jones, 2014

**The Forest and the Trees**, the literary and art blog of poet Genevieve Kaplan, 2014

**Literature for the Halibut**, interviewed by Nikki Rainey at KDHX, Saint Louis, MO, 2013

**Women in the Arts**, interviewed by Dr. Barbara Harbach & Lindsay Shadwell for The U—UMSL Student Radio, 2013

**This Reading**, 52nd City Blog, reviewed by Andrea Avery, 2005