

## ELISSA WASHUTA

Curriculum Vitae  
February 2020  
Washuta.2@osu.edu

### CURRENT POSITION

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Assistant Professor of English, MFA Program in Creative Writing, The Ohio State University.

### EDUCATION

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M.F.A, Creative Writing (Fiction), University of Washington, 2009.

B.A., English, University of Maryland, 2007, *summa cum laude*.

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### **Books**

*White Magic*. Tin House Books. Forthcoming 2021.

*Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers*. Co-edited with Theresa Warburton. University of Washington Press, 2019.

*Starvation Mode: A Memoir of Food, Consumption, and Control*. Instant Future-Future Tense Books, 2015. Chapbook.

*My Body Is a Book of Rules*. Red Hen Press, 2014.

#### **Essays in Anthologies**

“Incompressible Flow,” *Advanced Creative Nonfiction: A Writer’s Guide and Anthology*, editors Jessica Hendry Nelson and Sean Prentiss, Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2021.

“Apocalypse Logic,” *Evergreen: Fairy Tales, Essays, & Fables from the Dark Northwest*, editor Sharma Shields, Scablands Books, forthcoming 2020.

“Apocalypse Logic,” *Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers*, editors Elissa Washuta and Theresa Warburton, University of Washington Press, July 2019.

“Congratulations! You Have a New Match,” *Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter and Booze*, editors Kate Lebo and Sam Ligon, Sasquatch Books, November 2017.

“Undergraduate Admissions Essay Draft,” *This Is the Place: Women Writing about Home*, editors Margot Kahn and Kelly McMasters, Seal Press, November 2017.

- “White City,” *Ghosts of Seattle Past*, editor Jaimee Garbacik, Chin Music Press, April 2017.  
 “Elissa Washuta on Vi Hilbert,” *Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers*, editor Ryan Boudinot, Sasquatch Books, 2015.

### Essays in Periodicals

- “Bulking,” *Gulf Coast*, Vol. 32, Issue 1, Winter/Spring 2020.  
 “White Witchery,” *Guernica*, February 14, 2019.  
 “The Sun Disappears,” *Canadian Art*, Fall 2018.  
 “Incompressible Flow,” *Triangle House Review*, online, February 5, 2018.  
 “Wednesday Addams Is Just Another Settler,” *Electric Literature*, online, November 22, 2017.  
 “Unpacking the *Razorblade Suitcase*: 21 Years of Complicated Love for Bush,” *The Stranger*, May 24, 2017.  
 “Shark Girl,” *City Arts*, April 25, 2017.  
 “White City,” *The Offing*, online, March 2, 2017.  
 “Apocalypse Logic,” *The Offing*, online, November 21, 2016.  
 “The American Fencing Handbook,” *Ninth Letter*, Fall/Winter 2016.  
 “I Will Write a Bestselling Native American Biography,” *Black Warrior Review* 43.1, Fall/Winter 2016.  
 “They Just Dig: On Writing, Coal Mining, and Fear,” *Literary Hub*, March 16, 2016.  
 “Consumption,” *Okey-Panky*, online, June 22, 2015.  
 “This Indian Does Not Owe You,” *BuzzFeed*, September 22, 2014.  
 “I Am Not Pocahontas,” *The Weeklings*, September 4, 2014.  
 “Violence against Indigenous Women: Fun, Sexy, and No Big Deal on the Big Screen,” *Racialicious*, September 3, 2014.  
 “Bred to Binge,” *As/Us: A Space for Women of the World*, Issue 3, February 2014.  
 “The destructive legacy of the first Thanksgiving: how Europeans hurt the American diet,” *Salon*, November 28, 2013.  
 “The wrongheaded obsession with ‘vanishing’ indigenous peoples,” *Salon*, November 24, 2013.  
 “I regret my ‘Naughty Native’ Halloween costume,” *Salon*, October 23, 2013.  
 “How Much Indian Was I?, My Fellow Students Asked,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 2013.  
 “Prescribing Information,” *Third Coast*, May 2013.  
 “Preliminary Bibliography,” *Filter Literary Journal*, June 2011.

### Short Fiction in Periodicals

- “Toxic Megacolon and the Single Girl,” *Revolution House* 4.1, May 2014.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Assistant Professor, MFA Program in Creative Writing, Department of English, The Ohio State University, 2017-Present.

- Native and Indigenous Literatures, Autumn 2019.
- Honors Seminar: Nonfiction Magic, Spring 2019.
- Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing, Autumn 2017, Autumn 2018, Spring 2020.
- Creative Nonfiction Graduate Workshop, Autumn 2017, Spring 2019, Spring 2020.
- Forms of Creative Nonfiction: The Lyric Essay, Spring 2018.

Port Townsend Writers Conference, July 2019.

Tin House Winter Workshop, February 2019.

Nonfiction Faculty, Low-Residency MFA in Creative Writing, Institute of American Indian Arts, 2014-2017.

- Creative Nonfiction Mentorship, Autumn 2014, Spring 2015, Autumn 2015, Spring 2016, Autumn 2016.
- Thesis Mentorship, Spring 2015.

Lecturer, Department American Indian Studies, University of Washington, 2010-2014.

- Images of Natives in the Cinema and Popular Cultures, Spring 2014.
- American Indians in Cinema, Winter 2014.
- The *Twilight* Series: Native Image and Myth, Summer 2013.
- American Indian Memoir and Autobiography, Summer 2010, Summer 2011.
- Contemporary American Indian Novels, Spring 2012, Summer 2012, Spring 2013.

Instructor, Richard Hugo House

- Essential Elements of Memoir: Narrative Momentum, Winter 2014, Autumn 2014.
- Found Stories and Fake Texts: Literary Artifice, Autumn 2014.
- Writing Your Darkest Days, Autumn 2013.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Academic Counselor, Department of American Indian Studies, University of Washington, July 2010 – June 2017.

Youth Programs Coordinator, Richard Hugo House, December 2010 – July 2011.

## GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

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Creative Capital Award (\$50,000), 2019.

Special Mention, *Pushcart Prize XLI*, 2017.

National Endowment for the Arts Literature Creative Writing (Prose) Fellowship (\$25,000), 2018.

Artist Trust Arts Innovator Award (\$25,000), 2016.

Made at Hugo House Fellowship, 2012-2013.

4Culture Art Projects Award, 2013.

Potlatch Fund Native Arts Grant, 2012.

Artist Trust GAP Grant, 2012.

## RESIDENCIES

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Fremont Bridge (residency with commissioned project, \$10,000), Seattle, WA, 2016.

Hedgebrook, Whidbey Island, WA, 2016.

## INVITED READINGS AND TALKS (SELECTED)

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- 2019 Texas Book Festival, Austin, TX (October 26, 2019)
- 2019 Olympia Timberland Library, Olympia, WA (October 12, 2019).
- 2019 University of Missouri, Columbia, MO (September 5, 2019).
- 2019 Field Museum, Chicago, IL (August 6, 2019).
- 2019 Seattle Public Library, Central Branch, Seattle, WA (July 22, 2019).
- 2019 University of Washington, Seattle, WA (May 1, 2019).
- 2019 Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA (April 30, 2019).
- 2019 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (March 14, 2019).
- 2019 Ashland University, Ashland, OH (February 27, 2019).
- 2019 Interlochen Arts Academy, Interlochen, MI (February 21, 2019).
- 2018 SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY (October 17, 2018).
- 2018 Otherwise Literary Series, Pasadena, CA (August 31, 2018).
- 2018 Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH (April 16, 2018).
- 2018 Wright State University, Dayton, OH (March 27, 2018).
- 2018 Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA (February 12, 2018).
- 2017 Kenyon Writers Festival, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH (Nov 11, 2017).
- 2017 Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA (May 23, 2017).
- 2017 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (May 13, 2017).
- 2017 Cooley Art Gallery, Reed College, Portland, OR (March 4, 2017).
- 2017 Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO (March 2, 2017).
- 2016 WORD Christchurch Literary Festival, Christchurch, New Zealand (August 24-27, 2016).

- 2016 Portland Community College Southeast Campus, Portland, OR (May 19, 2016).
- 2016 Get Lit! Festival, Spokane, WA (April 14, 2016).
- 2015 Western Washington University (December 2, 2015).
- 2015 University of Washington, Tacoma, WA (November 18, 2015).
- 2015 University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA (March 30, 2015).
- 2015 Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois (February 4, 2015).
- 2014 University of Maryland, College Park, MD (December 3, 2014).
- 2014 UCLA, Los Angeles, CA (October 27, 2014).

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

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Roundtable discussant, “Grounded Indigenous Feminisms and the Work for Thriving Indigenous Futures,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, November 2019.

Roundtable discussant, “Indigenous Studies in Unexpected Places: Retaining the Roots of Native and Indigenous Studies in Research Across Disciplines,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Hamilton, New Zealand, June 2019.

Panelist, “#saferLIT: Fighting Sexual Misconduct in the Literary World,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Portland, OR, March 2019.

Panelist, “Reclaiming the Mine: Nonfiction Writers Explore Mining as Method and Metaphor,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Portland, OR, March 2019.

Panelist, “On Collections” (Conference Welcome Panel), NonfictionNOW, Phoenix, AZ, November 2018.

Panelist, “The Essay as Ecosystem,” NonfictionNOW, Phoenix, AZ, November 2018.

Panelist, “Health Research and Indigenous Studies,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, May 2018.

Panelist, “This Is Not a Memoir: Thoughts on the Linked Essay Collection,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Tampa, FL, March 2018.

Panelist, “Speculative Nonfiction: The Act of Invention in the Context of Reality,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Tampa, FL, March 2018.

Panelist, “Written on the Body: Women Writers Reinventing Nonfiction Forms,” NonfictionNOW Conference, Reykjavik, Iceland, June 2017.

Panelist, “The Fifty-First Minute: Beyond the Therapist’s Office and onto the Page,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Washington, DC, February 2017.

Panelist, "Home: A Four-Letter Word," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Washington, DC, February 2017.

Panelist, "There's No I in We: Writing Creative Nonfiction about the Groups We Belong To," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Los Angeles, CA, March 2016.

Breakout Session Instructor, "Choosing Collage: Meaning Before Form," Chuckanut Writers Conference, Bellingham, WA, June 2015.

Panelist, "Drawing from the Well of Life," Chuckanut Writers Conference, Bellingham, WA, June 2015.

Panelist, "Breaking the Body: Women Writers Reconfiguring Creative Nonfiction Forms," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Minneapolis, MN, April 2015.

Panelist, "Literary Reading: Elissa Washuta & Erika T. Wurth," Thinking Its Presence: The Racial Imaginary, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, March 2015.

Panelist, "Generation and Genre: Reading by Native American Women Writers," Thinking Its Presence: Race & Creative Writing Conference, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, April 2014.

Moderator, "Weaving Stories from Strands of Truth: Native Writers on Nonfiction," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, February 2014.

Panelist, "Four Ways Blogging Benefits a Writer," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, February 2014.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

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Planning committee member, Flyover Fest, August 2019 – present.

Judge, *The Pinch* Literary Awards (Nonfiction), May 2019.

Judge, *Hunger Mountain* Creative Nonfiction Prize, April 2019.

Judge, PEN/Open Book Award, September 2018 – February 2019.

Board of Directors Member, VIDA: Women in Literary Arts, September 2016 – October 2018.

Judge, *Ninth Letter* 2018 Literary Award, May 2018.

Judge, Sundress Academy for the Arts & VIDA Fellowship, May 2018.

Juror, Poetry on Buses: Your Body of Water, 4Culture, October 2016.

Saturday Editor, The Rumpus, February – October 2016.

Judge, Penelope Niven Creative Nonfiction Award, Center for Women Writers, Salem College, May 2016.

Guest editor, The James Franco Review Issue 6, 2016.

Organizing Committee Member, Lit Crawl Seattle, April 2015 – June 2016.

Faculty Adviser, Mud City Journal, Institute of American Indian Arts, January 2015 – present.

Judge, Minnesota Emerging Writers Grant, The Loft Literary Center, June – July 2014.

Co-coordinator, “The Living Breath of wələbʔaltx<sup>w</sup>” Indigenous Ways of Knowing Cultural Food Practices and Ecological Knowledge Symposium, University of Washington, May 2013, Seattle, WA.

Curator, InPrint, Richard Hugo House’s quarterly forum the writing life, November 2009 – November 2010.

Host, Works in Progress, Richard Hugo House’s monthly open mic series, January 2009-July 2010.

Curator, the Castalia reading series, October 2008 – June 2009.

Prose submissions reader, *Seattle Review*, October 2007 – June 2008.