

PETER MOUNTFORD

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EDUCATION

MFA Creative Writing (Fiction), University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2006.

BA International Relations, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA, 1999.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Dismal Science, a novel, Tin House Books, 2014.

A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism, a novel, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011.

Short Fiction

"Pay Attention," *Paris Review*, Winter 2017.

"You Have to Continue, You Have to Hurry," *Missouri Review*, Winter 2017.

"The House We Stole," *Green Mountains Review*, Spring 2015.

"La Boca Del Lobo," *Southern Review*, Fall 2014. (Also selected as a "notable" story in *Best American Short Stories 2015*, ed. T.C. Boyle.)

"We Have Faith That This Will Work Out," *City Arts Magazine*, February 2014.

"Safari in the Bayou," *ZYZZYVA*, Spring 2013.

"Chapter 30," *The Alexis Hotel*, a novel in 36 voices (Open Road Media) 2011.

"Pig," *City Arts Magazine*, January 2011.

"Two Sisters," *Phoebe: A Journal of Literature and Art*, Fall 2010.

"Mr. McNamara's Suit," *Seattle Review*, Spring 2010.

"Out on the Cold Road," *The Dudley Review*, Harvard University, Summer 2009.

"A Room on the Eighth Floor," *Conjunctions*, Fall 2008.

"Horizon," *Best New American Voices 2008*, ed. Richard Bausch (Harcourt) 2008.

"Dried Bones" *The Death Mook: How do we Die?* (Vignette Press) 2008.

"Horizon," *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Fall 2007. (Also selected as a "notable" story in

Best American Short Stories 2008, ed. Salman Rushdie.)

“Barbarians’ Fantasies,” *Boston Review*, March/April 2007.

Personal Essays and Features

“Ye Olde Canterbury” *Seattle Weekly*, November 23, 2016. Anthologized in *Ghosts of Seattle Past*, ed. Jaimee Garbacik (Chin Music Press) 2017.

“The Laughter Club,” *The Sun*, June 2015.

“Circle Dancing,” *Extraordinary Rendition, American Writers On Palestine*, ed. Ru Freeman (O/R Books; also released by Olive Branch Press) 2015.

“Peter Mountford on David Shields,” *Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers*, ed. Ryan Boudinot (Sasquatch Books) 2015.

“Lessons From the Chef,” *The Brooklyn Quarterly*, Summer 2015.

“Around The Corner,” *Tin House* online, May 12, 2015.

“A Table Set for the Past and the Future,” *The New York Times*, January 18, 2015.

“Life in the Group Room,” *The New York Times Magazine*, March 23, 2014.

“Guide to AWP for People Who Don't Know What an AWP Is,” *The Stranger* (cover story), February 26, 2014.

“Northwest Passage,” *The Guardian* (cover story the weekend supplement), May 25, 2013.

“The Ghost of Scowling Past,” *The Weeklings*, December, 2012. Republished in *The Good Men Project*, December 2012.

“Steal My Book! Why I’m abetting a rogue translation of my novel,” *The Atlantic*, November 2012. Translated and republished in Russian, Italian, Spanish, Romanian, and French. Anthologized under the title in *What to Read in the Rain 2015* (BFI Publications), 2015.

“The Man Who Wasn’t There: A Meditation on Mitt Romney,” *The Weeklings*, November 2012.

“Lessons from a Hustler,” *Granta*, December 2011.

“Selling Furniture to Celebrities,” *Salon*, December 12, 2011. Anthologized under the title “Pawing the Mink” in *What to Read in the Rain 2013*, (826 Publications), 2013.

“Land of Secrets: Confessions of a Fake Sri Lankan Journalist,” *The Atlantic* online, May 27, 2011.

“Ecuador’s Economic Troubles Inspire a Novel,” *Speakeasy/The Wall Street Journal*, April 9, 2011.

Opinions and Editorials

“Men and Their Novels,” *City Arts Magazine*, May 2015.

“Staying in The Elevator,” New Ohio Review, Spring 2015. Anthologized in *Writing Craft: A Creative Writing Textbook on (Non) Fiction and Poetry*, ed. Cheryl Cardiff (Great River Learning) 2016.

“Arrested Development Is Assassinating My Joy” The Weeklings, October 30, 2013.

“I’m Not A Hero For Taking Care of My Kids,” Slate, July 10, 2013. Republished in Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand, also in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and The Columbia Daily Tribune.

“Madness in The Penguin House,” The Weeklings, December 13, 2012.

“The Occupy Movement: How the Left almost had its own tea party, but blew it,” The Seattle Times, December 11, 2011.

“Before Republicans start budget-slashing, take a lesson from Bolivia,” The Christian Science Monitor, January 20, 2011 (republished by Yahoo! News, January 21, 2011).

“Sri Lanka’s human-rights and free-speech problems need international attention,” Seattle Times, February 28, 2010 (republished in Sri Lanka Guardian; and The Sunday Leader).

“Reform in a Dollarized Ecuador,” Providence Journal, October 18, 2000.

“Ecuador’s Dollarized Recovery,” (with Margalit Edelman) The Christian Science Monitor, June 20, 2000.

“Learning To Love The Dollar In Ecuador: Dollarization Must Be Accompanied By Sweeping Economic Reforms,” Reuters, June 15, 2000.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Gar LaSalle Storyteller Award, 2016 winner. An annual Artist Trust juried prize worth \$10,000, the 2016 award was open to prose writers living in Washington State.
- 4Culture Individual Artist Grant, 2016 winner. For *In The Rush of Everything*, a novel.
- Washington State Book Award in Fiction, 2015 (finalist). For *The Dismal Science*.
- Katharine Bakeless Nason Fellowship in Fiction, Bread Loaf Summer Workshop, 2015.
- *The Dismal Science* named a New York Times Editor’s Choice, 2014.
- 2013 Seattle Magazine Spotlight Award in Literature (winner).
- Hugo House Writer-in-Residence, 2012-14 (a two year appointment).
- Washington State Book Award in Fiction, 2012, (winner). For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- VCU Cabell First Novelist Award, 2012, (one of three finalists). For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- Seattle’s Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, CityArtist Grant, 2012. For *The Dismal Science*.

- Nobbie Award, 2011 winner. For *A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- 4Culture Individual Artist Grant, 2011 winner. For *The Dismal Science*.
- Keynote Speaker at The University of Illinois – Springfield's Verbal Arts Festival, 2011.
- Seattle's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, CityArtist Grant, 2010. For *A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- The Elizabeth George Foundation Grant, 2010 winner. For *A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- The Corporation of Yaddo, Wallace Residency for a Distinguished Writer, 2010.
- Film Independent Screenwriter's Lab, 2009 Fellow, for "I Am Not Werner Erhard," co-written with Steven Schardt.
- Bread Loaf Summer Workshop, Work-Study Scholarship, 2009.
- *Best New American Voices 2008* (ed. Richard Bausch), contributor with short story "Horizon."
- New Letters 2008 Alexander Patterson Cappon Fiction Award (finalist, for the story "Beware the Angry Hordes").
- The Corporation of Yaddo, The LeSage-Fullilove Endowed Residency for an Emerging Writer of Exceptional Promise, 2008.
- Boston Review 2007 Fiction Contest, judged by George Saunders and Junot Diaz (2nd place prize, for the short story "Barbarians' Fantasies").
- The Florida Review 2007 Editor's Prize, finalist for short story "Horizon."

EMPLOYMENT

Creative Writing Faculty, Sierra Nevada College's low-residency MFA program,
Lake Tahoe, NV, 2014 - ongoing.

- Formulate curriculum for long-distance instruction in introductory and advanced creative writing in prose at the graduate level.
- Read student work, and provide mentorship.
- Taught elective at summer residency, 2016. Workshops summer 2017 and winter 2018.

Creative Writing Instructor, Events Curator, and Writer-in-Residence, Hugo House,
Seattle, WA, 2008 - ongoing (Events Curator 2014-18; Writer-in-Residence 2012-14).

- Formulate curriculum for quarterly and yearlong courses and workshops on aspects of prose writing.

- Arranged readings with nationally celebrated authors including Maggie Nelson, Susan Orlean, Roxane Gay, Kevin Young, Karen Russell, Kay Ryan, and hundreds of other authors. Emcee events and conducted Q&As with authors on stage.
- As writer-in-residence: mentored writers and aspiring writers in the greater Seattle area during weekly office hours.
- Design curriculum and teach teens in the “Scribes” summer writing camp.

Acting Instructor in Creative Writing, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2017.

- Taught 200-level, 300-level, and 400-level creative writing courses for undergraduates.
- Substitute-taught for David Shields in 300-level, 400-level, and 500-level (graduate) seminars and workshops between 2014-16.

Creative Writing Instructor, Writers in the Schools, Seattle Arts & Lectures, Seattle, WA 2008 - ongoing.

- Design creative writing curriculum and syllabi for students at Seattle area high schools.
- Collaborate with the students’ Language Arts teachers on implementing curriculum on the elements of style in fiction writing.
- Write annual blog entries and reflective essays for Seattle Arts and Lectures.

VOLUNTEER/SERVICE WORK

- 2018 judge for Writer-in-Residence applications for Hugo House.
- 2017 Artist Trust Arts Innovator Awards selection panel member (selected two \$25,000 winners).
- Judged Bread Loaf Summer Workshop applications for fellowships and tuition scholarships in 2016, and 2017.
- Took a leadership role in the administration of the Barry Lopez Residency for an author of color (2016-present).
- Member of Seattle7Writers, a non-profit literary organization that promotes literacy in the Pacific Northwest (Fall 2010-present).
- Arranged and led a team of Seattle-based writers to judge and award \$40,000 on behalf of The Loft in Minneapolis for the 2014 Minnesota Emerging Writer’s Grant.
- Organized and oversaw the administration of the 2013-14 “Made At Hugo” fellowship, a yearlong program for emerging writers of exceptional promise. Arrange and led monthly meetings, multiple readings, and panels of special guests (agents, editors, etc.).
- Workshop Leader, Out of the Margins Literary Arts Workshop for Seattle area’s homeless, Real Change, 2006.
- Co-curator of the Castalia reading series, 2005-06.
- Reader, *Seattle Review* 2005-06.
- Volunteer reader for Ken Sherman and Associates, a literary agency, in 2004.