

## **Martin Riker**

Department of English  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Campus Box 1122  
One Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

[mriker@wustl.edu](mailto:mriker@wustl.edu)  
[martinriker.com](http://martinriker.com)

## **EDUCATION**

2007 - University of Denver: PhD in English with Creative Writing and Rhetoric  
emphases (thesis advisor: Brian Kiteley)

2000 - Illinois State University: MA in English with Creative Writing emphasis  
(thesis advisor: David Foster Wallace)

1995 - Carnegie Mellon University: BA in English and Creative Writing  
(Phi Beta Kappa)

## **TEACHER**

Washington University in St. Louis, Senior Lecturer

The Literary Life (freshman seminar)  
The Business of Books  
Experimental Traditions  
Critic as Writer  
The Writer in the World (Philosophy of Style)  
Fiction Writing 1 & 2

## **PUBLISHER**

Publisher, Dorothy, a Publishing Project, 2010-present (awarded 2020 Golden  
Colophon Award for Distinguished Independent Publisher by the Council of  
Literary Magazines and Presses)

Associate Director, Dalkey Archive Press, 2007-2011

Editor, *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, 2007-2011

Senior Editor, Dalkey Archive Press, 2000-2004

Founding Managing Editor, *Context: A Forum for Literary Arts and Culture*, 2000-  
2004

## PUBLICATIONS

### Novels

*The Guest Lecture*. New York: Grove Press, forthcoming 2023.

*Samuel Johnson's Eternal Return*. Minneapolis: Coffee House Press, 2018.

Reviewed in *New Yorker* (3/11/2019), *New York Times Book Review* (11/11/2018), *Wall Street Journal* (10/11/2018), *Los Angeles Times* (10/26/2018), and elsewhere.

### Short Fiction

"Samuel Johnson's Eternal Return," *Conjunctions*, 2014

"Four Minutes and 33 Pairs of Sweatpants," *The Baffler*, 2007

### Book Reviews and Articles

"*The Walk Among the Crowd*, by Antonio Muñoz Molina," *New York Times*, 2021

"*Motley Stones*, by Adalbert Stifter," *Wall Street Journal*, 2021

"*Borges and Me*, by Jay Parisi," *Wall Street Journal*, 2020

"*Ducks, Newburyport*, by Lucy Ellman," *New York Times Book Review*, 2019

"*Hell*, by Dante, translated by Alasdair Gray," *Wall Street Journal*, 2019

"*I am God*, by Giacomo Sartori," *New York Times Book Review*, 2019

"Marcel Schwob," *Wall Street Journal*, 2018

"*The Chandelier* by Clarice Lispector," *New York Times Book Review*, 2018

"*Solar Bones* by Mike McCormack," *New York Times Book Review*, 2018

"Two by Fleur Jaeggy," *New York Times Book Review*, 2017

"Ales Steger's *Absolution*," *Times Literary Supplement*, 2017

"Guy de Maupassant," *Wall Street Journal*, 2017

"Marguerite Duras," *Wall Street Journal*, 2016

"Mezzrow's *Really the Blues*," *Wall Street Journal*, 2016

"Orhan Pamuk's 'A Strangeness in My Mind,'" *New York Times Book Review*, 2016

"Experimental Fiction Shortlist," *New York Times Book Review*, 2015

"Wolfgang Hilbig," *Wall Street Journal*, 2015

"Simon Leys's *The Death of Napoleon*," *Wall Street Journal*, 2015

"Joe Brainard and Georges Perec," *Wall Street Journal*, 2014

"Mina Loy," *Wall Street Journal*, 2014

"Daniel Anselme's *On Leave*," *New York Times Book Review*, 2014

"Amhet Hamdi Tanpinar's *Time Regulation Institute*," *New York Times Book Review*, 2014

"Mircea Cartarescu's *Blinding*," *London Review of Books*, 2014

"Imre Kertesz's *Dossier K*," *New York Times Book Review*, 2013

"Paul Auster and J.M. Coetzee," *New York Times Book Review*, 2013

"Jorge Amado," *Wall Street Journal*, 2012

"Gilbert Sorrentino." Entry for Blackwell's *Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century Authors*, 2011

"The Estonian Argument for English Translation," *The Guardian*, 2010

"Adventures in E-reading," *Critical Mass*, blog of the National Book Critic's Circle, 2010

"Translation and 'National Literature,'" *dalkeyarchive.com*, 2010, reprinted at Free Word, London, UK, 2011

"David Wallace," *Brooklyn Rail*, New York, 2008

"Notes on the Editing of Translated Literature," *Context 21*, 2008; abbreviated version reprinted in the *Chicago Tribune*, 2008

"Guantanamo," *Quarterly Conversation*, 2008  
"Reading Piotr Szewc's *Annihilation*," *Context*, 19, 2006  
"Patrik Ourednik's *Europeana*," *Chicago Review*, 2006  
"The Enamoured Critics: Douglas Glover Reads *Don Quixote*," *Denver Quarterly*, 2006  
"David Ohle and the Anti-Sequel," *Rain Taxi*, 2005  
"Three by Perec," *Rain Taxi*, 2005

### Interviews Given

"Martin Riker Discusses Fatherhood, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Literature, and the Beastie Boys.  
Stephen Sparks, *The Millions*, 2018  
"Beyond the Borders of American Realism: A Conversation by Jeff Jackson & Martin Riker." *BOMB*, 2018  
"Innovators in Lit." *Ploughshares*, 2011  
"The Future of the E-book." "Focus 580," WTTW, Urbana, 2010

### Select Interviews Conducted

"The Covering Cherub: interview with Joshua Cohen," *Paris Review Daily*, 2021  
"Witchcraft and Brattiness: interview with Amina Cain," *Paris Review Daily*, 2020  
"Interview with Merrill Gilfillan," *Believer Logger*, 2019  
"Interview with *Paris Review* editor Nicole Rudick," *Believer Logger*, 2018  
"Misplaced Logic: an interview with Joanna Ruocco," *Paris Review Daily*, 2017  
"After the Nouveau Roman: an interview with Donald Breckenridge," *Believer Logger*, 2017  
"Not Sorry: an interview with Jeremy Davies," *Paris Review Daily*, 2016  
"The Splendidly Cranky Utopian: an interview with Curtis White," *Paris Review Daily*, 2016  
"Fourteen Questions for Jean-Philippe Toussaint," *Quarterly Conversation*, 2009  
"Work and Play, an interview with Warren Motte," *Puerto del Sol*, 2008; reprinted at *Words without Borders*, 2010  
"Devin Johnston and Michael O'Leary of Flood Editions," *Trickhouse*, 2008

### Select Readings, Talks, and Panels

Craft Talk & Reading, Emerging Writer's Festival, Franklin & Marshall College, 2021  
Novel reading, Carnegie Mellon University, 2020  
Novel reading, University of Maine, 2019  
"Death in the Novel," *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, 2019  
"Crossing Borders, w/ Cristina Rivera Garza and Suzanne Jill Levine," Washington University, 2019  
"In conversation with NYRB editor Edwin Frank," New York, 2018  
"Translation, Publishing, and the Academy," Washington University in St. Louis, 2018  
"The Global Translation Initiative," presentation at Free Word Centre, London, UK, 2010  
"Publishing and Technology," panel at the University of Illinois, Champaign, 2010  
"Training Translators," panel at MLA, Philadelphia, 2010  
"Small Press Publishing," panel at Cal Arts, Los Angeles, 2010  
"Riker Rides Dalkey into the Future," interview in *Poets & Writers*, 2009  
"The Global State of Literary Translation," panel at the British Council, London, 2009  
"The Future of Publishing," panel at Printer's Row Book Fair, Chicago, 2008  
"Literary Translations," panel at Iranian Literature Festival, San Francisco, 2008  
"Literary Editing," panel at Miami Book Fair, 2007  
"Marketing Translations," panel at Deutcheshaus, NYU, New York, 2007

- “Teaching Other Traditions: Wayne Booth, Mikhail Bakhtin, and the Menippean Satire,” scholarly paper at CCCC (composition) conference, New York, 2007
- “David Antin and the Materiality of Talk,” scholarly paper at &NOW conference, Lake Forest College, Chicago, 2006
- “Fiction in the Attentive Mode,” scholarly paper at Attention/Inattention Critical and Creative Conference, University of Denver, 2005
- “Between TV and Utopia: Vedrana Rudan’s *Night*,” scholarly paper at ELL conference, University of Denver, 2005
- “Literary Publishing,” panel at Harold Washington Library, Chicago, 2004 “Translation and the Review Media,” panel at Goethe Institut, Chicago, 2003
- “Independent Publishing,” presentation at Summer Literary Seminars, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2003
- “Oulipo and Constraint-Based Literature,” presentation at School of the Art Institute, Chicago, 2002 (invited by Prof. Beth Nugent)
- “Independent Literary Presses and Magazines,” presentation at Notre Dame University, South Bend, 2002 (invited by Prof. Steve Tomasula)
- “Magazine and Journal Publishing,” presentation at School of the Art Institute, Chicago, 2001 (invited by Prof. Christine Hume)
- “The Future of Electronic Literature,” panel at Printer’s Row Book Fair, Chicago 2000

### **Published Symposia**

*Translation in Practice*. Dalkey Archive Press. Urbana: 2009.

Volume edited from a roundtable discussion I participated in at the British Council in London in 2009, sponsored by the British Centre for Literary Translation, Arts Council England, and The Society of Authors.

“‘Training Translators’ at the MLA,” published at *Inside Higher Education*, 2010.

Article recounts a panel I moderated with translators Suzanne Jill Levine, Bill Johnston, Laurence Venuti, Emmanuelle Ertel, Benjamin Paloff, and Edwin Gentzler.