

Marie-Helene Bertino

mariehelenebertino.com

Education

Brooklyn College of The City University of New York, Brooklyn, NY

Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing, Fiction, December 2008

Awarded Himan Brown Award for Creative Writing, 2007

Designed new class implemented into curriculum, Spring 2007: *Enhanced Realism*

Creative thesis: *Safe as Houses*, Stories

Villanova University, Villanova, PA, *Bachelor of Arts, English*, May 1999

Teaching

Temple University, MFA Program, Philadelphia, PA

Writer-in-Residence, Fall 2022

New York University, MFA and Undergraduate Writing Programs, New York, NY

Adjunct Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction Professor, Thesis Mentor, *Workshops and Prose*

Seminars, Spring 2014 to present

The New School, MFA and Undergraduate Writing Programs, New York, NY

Adjunct Fiction Professor, Thesis Mentor, *Workshops and Prose Seminars*, Fall 2018 to present

New York University, MFA Program in Paris, Paris, France

Visiting Teacher, craft lecture and reading, Summer 2022

Texas Workshops, Writing Workshops in Paris, Paris, France

Faculty Instructor, fiction workshop, reading, craft lecture, Summer 2022

Kenyon College, Summer Writing Workshop, Gambier, OH

Faculty Instructor, fiction workshop and reading, Summer 2022

Tin House Summer Writers Workshop, Portland, OR, online

Faculty Instructor, fiction workshop, reading, craft lecture, Summer 2021

New York University, College of Arts and Sciences, Proud to Be First Program, New York NY

Advocate, mentorship program that helps first-generation college students successfully transition to

NYU while cultivating engagement in the University community, Fall 2021 to present

Electric Literature, “**Disrupting Realism**,” online

Instructor, master class (Powerpoint presentation, lecture and writing prompts) on using the uncanny in realistic work, panel with Mira Jacob, Mitchell Jackson, others, attended by 1,300 people, June 2021

Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Low-Residency MFA Program, Santa Fe, NM

Faculty member, Fiction, Summer 2014 to Spring 2021

University of Montana, MFA Program, Missoula, MT

Distinguished William Kittredge Visiting Writer, Spring 2020

University College Cork, MA in Creative Writing, Cork, Ireland

Frank O'Connor International Short Story Fellow, Visiting Professor, Fall 2017

Cork International Short Story Festival, Cork, Ireland
Instructor, Fiction workshop, September 2017

Catapult, New York, NY
Workshop Instructor, Advanced Fiction Writing, Fall 2015 and 2016

One Story, Brooklyn, NY
Workshop Instructor, Advanced Fiction Writing, Spring 2016

One Story Summer Workshop for Emerging Writers, Brooklyn, NY
Founder/ Workshop Instructor, Summer 2010-2015

Center for Fiction, New York, NY
Workshop Instructor, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, “*Craftwerk*,” workshop

Publications

Books

- *Beautyland*, novel, forthcoming, (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Winter 2024)
- *Parakeet*, novel, (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, June 2020), in Italy (Bollati Boringhieri, 2021, under the title *If You Don't Know You're Alive*), translated by Sara Fruner, and Greece, (Kaktos, 2021)
- *2 a.m. at The Cat's Pajamas*, novel, (Crown, Random House, August 2014), in the UK (Picador, 2014), France (Kero, 2015), translated by Edith Soonckindt, and Turkey (Marti, 2017). Forthcoming in Brazil and Sweden
- *Safe as Houses*, short story collection, (University of Iowa Press, Iowa Short Fiction Prize, 2012)

Selected Short Fiction

- “**A Woman Driving Alone**,” Selected Shorts Anthology of Short Fiction, Algonquin Books
- “**Michael in Light Colors**,” BOMB Magazine, Summer 2020
- *Parakeet*, excerpted in *Guernica* and *The Brooklyn Rail*, Fall 2020
- “**Can Only Houses Be Haunted?**” *Tin House*, Fall 2019
- “**In The Basement of Saint John The Divine**,” *American Short Fiction*, 2019
- “**The Idea of Marcel**,” *The Common*, Fall 2012, performed at NPR’s Selected Shorts, May 2018
- “**Edna In Rain**,” *Gulf Coast*, Fall 2014, performed at NPR’s Selected Shorts, February 2017
- “**Exit Zero**,” *Epoch*, Summer 2015 and *O. Henry Prize Anthology*, 2016
- “**Marie-Helene Bertino Buys a Bookshelf**,” *Tin House*, *The Guardian UK*’s Flash Friday, April 2016
- “**Marry The Sea**,” *Time Out New York*, Fiction Issue, October 2014
- *2 a.m. at The Cat's Pajamas*, excerpted in *Granta*, *Guernica*, and *Harper's UK*, August 2014
- “**In The Unlikely Event of a Water Landing**,” *Gigantic*, Issue 5, 2013, *Gigantic Anthology: The First Five Years*, Spring 2015
- “**Great, Wondrous**,” *Five Chapters*, Fall 2012
- “**Carry Me Home, Sisters of Saint Joseph**,” *American Short Fiction*, 2010
- “**Sometimes You Break Their Hearts, Sometimes They Break Yours**,” *The Indiana Review*, 2010
- “**North Of**,” *Mississippi Review*, Winter 2007, *Pushcart Prize Anthology XXXIII*, Winter 2008, *Electric Literature's Recommended Reading*, September 2012, *Mississippi Review 30: Anthology of 30 Years*, 2012, *Gunzo*, translated by Sachiko Kishimoto, Japan, Spring 2015, and *Gunzo's Anthology of American Authors*, translated by Sachiko Kishimoto, 2016
- “**Free Ham**,” *North American Review*, Spring 2007 and *Storyville*, October 2012
- “**This is your will to live**,” *Inkwell*, Spring 2008
- “**Safe as Houses**,” *West Branch*, 2011 and *Esquire Russia* (translated by V. Babkova), 2014

Selected Non-Fiction

- *The New York Times*, “In a Remote Society, Motherhood is Prize and Peril,” book review, 2022
- *The New York Times*, “A Young Wife Becomes Pregnant with an Owl,” book review, 2021
- “On Magic,” *Electric Literature*, academic craft essay, Fall 2021
- Letter to *McSweeney’s*, *McSweeney’s* Issue 63, Summer 2021
- A Year in Reading, *The Millions*, essay, January 2021
- “This is an Essay About Stranger Things For The Girls Who Love River Phoenix,” *Catapult*, creative non-fiction essay, 2016
- “American Daughter,” *Better Than Fiction: Lonely Planet Anthology*, essay, October 2015
- “Parakeet,” *Wildsam Field Guides: Brooklyn*, creative non-fiction essay, June 2015
- “Dancing About Architecture,” *Huffington Post*, essay, August 2014
- “Stuck in Mother Nature’s Vestibule,” *Wall Street Journal*, essay, August 2014

Awards and Fellowships

- *New York Times* Editor’s Choice, *Parakeet*, 2020
- Joyce Carol Oates Prize, longlist, *Parakeet*, 2021
- Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence, longlist, *Parakeet*, 2021
- Distinguished William Kittredge Visiting Writer, University of Montana MFA Program, Spring 2020
- *Sunday Times* UK Short Story Award, longlist, 2018 and 2019
- Frank O’Connor International Short Story Fellow, Munster Literature Center, Ireland, Fall 2017
- O. Henry Prize, “Exit Zero,” short story, *O. Henry Prize Anthology*, Fall 2016
- Pushcart Prize, “North Of,” short story, *Pushcart Prize Anthology XXXIII*, Fall 2008
- Pushcart Prize Special Mention, “Exit Zero,” short story, 2017
- Pushcart Prize Special Mention, “Carry Me Home, Sisters of Saint Joseph,” short story, 2011
- Sewanee Writers Conference, Walter E. Dakin Fellowship, Teaching Fellow to Richard Bausch and Randall Kenan, July 2016
- Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Pick, 2 a.m. at *The Cat’s Pajamas*, 2014
- MacDowell Colony Residency Fellowship, Peterborough, NH, May 2014
- Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, longlist, *Safe as Houses*, 2013
- Iowa Short Fiction Award, *Safe as Houses*, judged by Jim Shepard, 2012
- The Story Prize, Outstanding Collection, *Safe as Houses*, 2012
- Emerging Writers Fellowship, New York City’s Center for Fiction, 2010
- *Mississippi Review* Short Story Prize, “North Of,” short story, 2007
- Kurt Vonnegut Award for Short Story, *North American Review*, “Free Ham,” short story, 2007
- Hedgebrook Writer’s Residency Fellowship, Puget Sound, WA, Summer 2008

Guest Lecturing and Panels

Brooklyn Book Festival, Brooklyn, NY, September 2012 and 2021

Panelist, “Another fine mess you’ve gotten me into: *Magic in Fiction*,” with Karen Thompson Walker and Earl Thompson, “*The Short Story*” with Deesha Philyaw, Sarah Gerard, and Peter Kispert

Tin House, Brooklyn, NY, Fall 2017, Summer 2018, and Spring 2019

Instructor, “Eternal Structure of the Spotless Story,” master class on structure

AWP (Associated Writing Programs)

Organizer and Panelist, “Fiction in the Age of Trump,” (Manuel Gonzales, Angela Flournoy, Helen Philips, Kelly Link, 2018), “Speculative Fiction” (Aimee Bender, Ramona Ausubel and Manuel Gonzales, 2016), “Weird Girls” (Amelia Gray, Karen Thompson Walker and Deb Olin Unferth, 2014)

Panelist, “Concision in Stories,” (Tampa, 2018), “Award winning story collections” (2014), “Read The Essay, Buy The Book?” (2016), “Seeing the Forest For the Trees; Compiling a Short Story Collection,” (Washington D.C., 2017), “Take Back the Narrative; Female Protagonists,” (Portland 2019), “Story Laboratory,” (Philadelphia 2022)

Brooklyn College MFA Program, Brooklyn, NY, Fall 2013
Guest Lecturer, “Enhanced Realism Across Genre”

Cork International Short Story Festival, Cork, Ireland, Fall 2013 and 2015
Reader and Panelist, as a guest of The Munster Literature Centre

Ithaca College New Voices Festival, Ithaca, NY, Spring 2013
Reader, Panelist, and Workshop Instructor

University of Pennsylvania, Kelly Writer’s House, Philadelphia, PA, November 2010 and 2011
Guest lecturer

Selected Press

- *The New York Times Style Section*, “4 Writers to Watch This Summer,” profile, 2020
- *The New York Times Book Review*, Editor’s Choice, *Parakeet*, article, 2020
- *The New York Times Book Review*, “Life Advice from a Dead Grandmother Who Has Returned as a Bird,” *Parakeet*, book review, 2020
- *The New York Times Book Review*, “13 Books to Watch for in June,” article, 2020
- *Gulf Coast*, “Using the Surreal to Convey Women’s Experience: Marie-Helene Bertino’s *Parakeet*,” by Sarah Jane Cody, academic essay, 2020
- *The Observer*, “Marie-Helene Bertino on *Parakeet* and the Radical Act of Being an Ambivalent Bride,” interview, 2020
- *Huffington Post*, “Bertino’s *Parakeet* is a Funny and Devastating Novel about Trauma,” 2020
- *ALA Booklist, Kirkus, and Library Journal, Parakeet*, starred pre-pub reviews, 2020
- *2 a.m. at The Cat’s Pajamas*, listed in “**Best Books of 2014**,” NPR Books, December 4th, 2014, *School Library Journal*, December 3rd, 2014, and *Popsugar*, November 28th 2014
- “**It’s 2 A.M., Do You Know Where Your 5th Grader Is?**” NPR, review, August 5th, 2014
- “**3 Lives Collide at The Cat’s Pajamas**,” NPR Weekend Edition with Scott Simon, interview, 2014
- “**Tender Spirits, A Conversation with Marie-Helene Bertino**,” *The Paris Review*, interview, January 2013.
- “**Space Aliens, Nuns and Bob Dylan Populate SAFE AS HOUSES**,” Tor.com, review, October 2012

Professional Writing and Editing

The Pushcart Prize Anthology Series, **Contributing editor**, 2008 to present

PEN America’s Best Debut Short Stories, **PEN/Robert J. Dau Award for Emerging Writers, Judge** (with Nina McConigley and Kelly Link), 2017

Catapult Literary Magazine, **Editor-at-Large**, New York, NY, 2015 to 2018

Michael Floemenhaft, LLP, Finkelstein and Partners, New York, NY, 2009 to 2013
Biographer of people living with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), I worked for plaintiff attorneys who specialize in TBI cases. I interviewed the client (if possible), the client’s family members, friends, community members, and caretakers and distilled my research into 40-50 page biographies that acutely detailed how injury upended the shape of their lives.

One Story literary magazine, **Associate Editor**, Brooklyn, NY, 2004 to 2011

The Deli Magazine, **Music Writer**, New York, NY, Interviews and Reviews, 2002 to 2005