

Andrea J. Ballou

EDUCATION

2015	MFA in Creative Writing, Lesley University
1992	Ph.D. University of Chicago, Romance Languages and Literatures DISSERTATION: <i>Theatrical Discourse and the Public Sphere: The historical dramas of counter-memory in 20th century Spain and Latin America</i>
1988	Columbia University Exchange Scholar
1984	M.A. University of Chicago, Latin American Studies THESIS: <i>The Historical Dramas of José Martín Recuerda: Temporal, spatial and dramatic analogies</i>
1982	B.A. Rice University Spanish

PUBLICATIONS

Poetry

Other Times, Midnight (Persea Books, 2025)

My poems have appeared in *Barrow Street*, *Black Rabbit Quarterly*, *Copper Nickel*, *FIELD*, *The Ilanot Review*, *Plume*, *Plume 9 Anthology*, *Lily Poetry Review*, *The Missouri Review*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, and elsewhere. Below are links to some online publications:

- *Black Rabbit Quarterly*
<https://fliphtml5.com/mepog/olee/basic>
- *Plume*
<https://plumepoetry.com/soldiers-wife-in-the-aftermath/>
- *The Ilanot Review*
<http://www.ilanotreview.com/crisis/famine-road/>
- *The Missouri Review*
<https://www.missourireview.com/andrea-read-how-rebecca-got-lifted-up/>
- *Tupelo Quarterly*
<http://www.tupeloquarterly.com/announcing-the-winner-of-the-tq11-call-and-response-poetry-contest/>

Book Reviews, Articles & Podcasts

2022	Review of Orlando Menes's <i>The Gospel of Wildflower and Weeds</i> , in <i>Plume</i> , Issue #134 October 2022
2021	Interview with Steven Cramer, Lesley University's "Why We Write" podcast series
2021	Review of Steven Cramer's <i>Listen</i> , in <i>Plume</i>

- 2009 <https://plumepoetry.com/review-of-steven-cramers-listen-by-andrea-read/>
 “Newforest Institute: Restoring habitat for resilience and vision in the forested landscape,” *EcoSud Proceedings*
 1988 “El Festival Latino at the Public Theater,” *Hispanic Image*

GRANTS / AWARDS / RESIDENCIES

- 2025 Civitella Ranieri Fellowship
 2025 Somerville Arts Council, Artist Fellowship
 2020 Somerville Arts Council, Project Grant
 2019 Joya: AiR, Artist’s Residency, Spain
 2018 Somerville Arts Council, Artist’s Fellowship
 2017 Berkshire Poetry Prize for First Poetry Book (Finalist)
 2016 Thomas Merton Poetry of the Sacred Award (Honorable Mention)
 2016 Maine Postmark Poetry Contest (Finalist)
 1995 W.B. Yeats Society of New York Poetry Prize
 1986-88 National Resource Fellowship
 1984-86 Tinker Foundation Grant

PRESENTATIONS

- 2020** *The House of the Forest: Writing in a Time of Climate Anxiety*
 MFA Panel, Lesley University (Cambridge, MA)
- 2019** *Snow: The Poetics of Erasure*
 Dept of English Language and Literature, Bilkent University (Ankara, Turkey)
- 2010** *The House of the Forest: Rebuilding the relationship between human beings and trees*
 Uncommon Ground Lecture Series, Dept of Parks and Recreation, Arsenal Gallery, Central Park (New York, NY)
- 2009** *Newforest: Restoring habitat for resilience & vision in the forested landscape*
 ECOSUD (Chianciano Terme, Italy)
- 2006** *Memory, Desire and the Geography of Intimacy*
 NEW-CUE Environmental Writers Conference (Boothbay, ME)
- 2005** *Ecospirituality, Or How to Love the Earth: Poetry and the Language of the Spirit*
 Evidence of Things Unseen Lecture Series, OLC (Jersey City, NJ)
- 2000** *La voz poética y la geografía interior*
 XXIII Congreso del Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana
 Universidad de Salamanca (Salamanca, Spain)
- 1992** *Latin American Literature in the Public Sphere*
 Modern Languages Conference U of California, Irvine (Irvine, CA)

- 1988 *Facets of the Marginal in the Theater of Alejandro Sívoking*
Colloquium on Recent Latin American Literature, Rice University (Houston, TX)
- 1986 *El lenguaje del poder en 'Cambio de Armas' de Luisa Valenzuela*
6th Annual Conference on Romance Languages, Univ of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH)

ACADEMIC / TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018 - **Poetry Instructor, Poetry Lab @ VNA Senior Living** (Somerville, MA)
 - Teach poetry workshops for residents of an assisted-living facility, including close reading and discussion of poems and the tools of poetry, as well as improvisational writing exercises
 - Curate a series of guest poets who read from their work and lead participants in discussion and writing
- 2012-2013 **Creative Writing Instructor, Chevron** (Kuwait)
 - Taught creative writing workshops for families of Chevron employees, enlivening the creative process through improvisational writing exercises and discussion
 - Incorporated the close reading of poetry from a broad spectrum of styles, fostering a greater awareness of language and form
 - Worked with students to revise the writing generated in class into poems, short stories and creative non-fiction pieces
- 1996 **Guest Lecturer, Moravian College** (Dept of Modern Languages, Bethlehem, PA)
 - Lectured on Spanish and Latin American poetry, including elements of poetic form and the social function of poetry
 - Designed and taught writing workshops for undergraduate students and faculty
- 1989-1992 **Instructor, Stanford University** (Dept of Modern Languages, Palo Alto, CA)
 - Taught undergraduate and graduate level courses in introductory and conversational Spanish
- 1988 **Instructor, Stevens Institute of Technology** (Dept of Continuing Ed, Hoboken, NJ)
 - Designed and taught undergraduate course on the Latin American Short Story, exploring major Latin American writers from 1850-1980
- 1986 **Instructor, University of Chicago** (School of Continuing Education, Chicago, IL)
 - Designed and taught course on the Latin American Short Story, exploring major Latin American writers from 1850-1980
 - Students were working professionals in government, publishing, and journalism
- 1986-1987 **Instructor, Columbia College** (Dept of Humanities, Chicago, IL)
 - Designed and taught undergraduate level courses in introductory and conversational Spanish
 - Taught expository writing in English as part of the general Humanities Curriculum requirements
- 1985-1986 **Visiting Lecturer, Beloit College** (Dept of Modern Languages, Beloit, WI)
 - Designed and taught undergraduate level introductory and conversational Spanish
 - Introduction to Spanish and Latin American Literature for Spanish majors

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006-2012 Co-founder & Executive Director, Newforest Institute (Brooks, Maine)

Newforest Institute was an educational arts non-profit organization dedicated to land restoration, reforestation, and the art of rebuilding mutually sustaining relationships between people and the land. We built and maintained teaching and demonstration facilities located on 300 acres of forests, fields and permaculture gardens based on nature's patterns. Through land-based, interdisciplinary art projects, workshops and collaborations, our work sought to enliven human creative capacity in concert with nature.

- Worked with founding group to create vision, mission, strategic plan and supporting programs
- Renovated and built innovative, environmentally-sensitive teaching and residential facilities; created multiple permaculture gardens, including a four-acre food forest for research and demonstration
- Designed and piloted programs for elementary and high schools related to forestry, permaculture and sustainable food growing
- Created a rigorous and competitive apprenticeship program attracting dozens of talented students, post-graduates and mid-career professionals
- Designed and taught workshops on writing and nature for both children and adults
- Incubated and launched a series of public art projects and energy efficiency initiatives
- Helped to expand, professionalize and activate the board in the oversight and direction of the organization

CONTACT

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