#### LISA OLSTEIN

#### Department of English

University of Texas at Austin

lisaolstein@gmail.com

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, M.F.A., Poetry, 2003, *summa cum laude*

Barnard College, Columbia University, B.A., English, 1996, *magna cum laude,* honors, thesis honors

Additional study: Harvard Divinity School, Harvard College, San Francisco State University in

Athens, Aegean Center for the Fine Arts

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books:**

*Little Stranger,* Copper Canyon Press, May 2013

*Lost Alphabet*, Copper Canyon Press, July 2009

*Radio Crackling, Radio Gone*, Copper Canyon Press, November 2006

**Anthologies:**

“Mango,” *The Book of Scented Things,* Literary House Press, forthcoming 2014

“Dream in which I Love a Third Baseman,” *The Heart of the Order*, Persea Books, forthcoming 2014

“This is a Test of the Emergency Broadcast System,” “Man Feeding Bear an Ear of Corn,” Space Junk,” *The Bloomsbury Anthology of Contemporary Jewish Poetry,* Eds. Deborah Ager & Matthew Silverman, 2013

“Marooned,” *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, special edition chapbook anthology, Ed. Meghan Dewar, Pilot Books, 2012

“Evenings, a Tiger’s Roar Is Friend,” *Morning Song*, Ed. Susan Todd, St. Martins Press, 2011

“Bloom,” *Poem in Your Pocket*, Ed. Elaine Bleakney, Harry N. Abrams, 2009

“Species at Rest,” *When You Think of It*, notnostrums (documentary film), 2009

“My Only Life,” “Sometimes They Worship Fire,” *The PoetrySky Anthology of Contemporary American Poetry 2005-2008*, bilingual: English/Chinese,Poetry Sky Press*,* 2009

“Blue Warp, Black Weave,” “Another Story With a Burning Barn In It,” “Steady Now,” *New Voices: Contemporary Poetry from the United States*, Ed. Harvey Hix, Irish Pages, 2008

“Radio Crackling, Radio Gone,” *The Pushcart Prize Anthology XXXI*, Pushcart Press, 2006

“We Still Have Basketball, Sara,” *Motion: American Sports Poems*, Univ. of Iowa Press, 2001

**Periodicals:**

“Air Rights,” “Your Country Needs You,” “What We’re Trying to Build Is a Community of Dreamers,” “Run Every Race as if It’s Your Last,” “I Saw a Brand New Look” (reprint), *PEN America*, forthcoming 2014

“Blue Stragglers,” “Unknown Beloved,” “The Only Thing Our Girls Wear Is a Smile,” “Watchable,” *Ampersand Books Review*, forthcoming 2014

“Blue Water Navy,” “All These Constellations Are Yours,” *The Awl*, forthcoming 2014

“Form is the Habitat of Life,” *Columbia Poetry Review*, forthcoming 2014

“Symptom Pool,” “Run Every Race As If It’s Your Last,” *Birdfeast*, February 2014

“Consider Yourselves All Debbie,” *The Awl*, December 2013

“Space Junk,” “Blood, Bread, Spoons,” *Reflection: Gonzaga University Journal of the Arts*, featured micro interview and poems (reprint), November, 2013

“Dream in which I Love a Third Baseman,” Silver Birch Press, October, 2013

“You Can Tell a Tiger by its Stripes,” “When You’re a Top Predator You Have to Survive,” “Space Junk,” “December Was Inconsolable,” *Narrative Magazine*, spring 2013

“Necessary Monsters,” *Fou*, fall 2013

“Elegy,” “The Brain Is an Operations Center,” “Themselves Performing Small Brave Acts,” “Cold Satellite,” “This Season Its All About 3D,” *Crosscurrents Review*, spring 2013

“I Want to Save this Whale,” *Whole Terrain*, spring 2012

“Teaching Farm,” “This is a Test of the Internal Emergency Broadcast System,” *jubilat*, spring/summer 2012

“To Where,” “My Eyes Were Harbors,” *Event*, spring 2012

“Bomblet,” “Zombie Problems II,” “I’m Writing You a Telegraph and the Pony and the Pony Express Man Are Waiting by the Door,” “Silver Whips of Trees,” *Free Verse: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry & Poetics,* Dec/Jan 2011-12

“Every Boy, Every Blood,” *Women’s Studies Quarterly*, fall 2011

“Traveling in a Herd is the Best Protection,” *Strange Machine*, issue 6, winter/spring 2011

“Ibex Have Evolved for Life at the Top,” *The Nation*, November 15, 2010

“Aubade,” “Space Junk,” “[my only life],” “[white spring],” “[but new snow is forever falling on the old],” “[the dark one with the seed in its beak],” “[the usual dead],” “That Magnificent Part the Chorus Does About Tragedy,” “Dear One Absent This Long While,” *Polutona Magazine,* fall 2010 (Russian language translation, Contemporary American Poetry feature)

“Control Group,” “A Mr. and Mrs. Rajik Once Existed and Lived Happily in Kalisz,” *Indiana Review*, fall 2010

“Helpmeet, Handmaiden,” “I Think You Should Have a Feeling About Me,” “Here I Am,” *Medaille* *Prelude*, winter 2010

“Furniture Music,” “Different Habitats Make for Good Neighbors,” “This Waking Life II,” *Glitterpony*, fall 2009

“Was to Have Been Called Whip-poor-will,” *Fourteen Hills: The SFSU Review*, vol. 15.2, 2009

“Today the Sky Belonged to Lola,” *jubilat,* No. 15, 2008

“Joyful Participation in the Sorrows (and Happiness) of the Living,” (essay), *Massachusetts Review*, December 2008

“From This Vantage Point Your View Will Be Clear,” “Some Superior Heaven,” “When the Consolations Grow Too Few,” “Those Who Have Eyes To See,” “The Million,” “A Path We Long Have Known,” *jubilat*, No. 14, 2008

“Master Thunder,” “Any Such Bold Claim,” “Myriad Myriad Forms,” “Unsated Sallow,” *The Fairy Tale Review*, The Violet Issue, 2008

“Dreamy Little Savage,” “White Spring,” “The Small Brain is Very Old,” “For a Moment I Was Cured,” “If You Are Here You Have Already Come Too Far,” “Species at Rest,” “Wings Are Folded in Myriad Ways,” *Notnostrums.com*, 2007

“Deserter’s Information Center,” “Aubade,” *Narrative Magazine*, Fall 2007

“In the Meantime,” “The Butterflies Are Coming,” “Still Early,” “Rumors,” *Oregon Literary Review*, Summer 2007

“Immaculate Homomelina,” *Forklift Ohio*, No. 15, 2006

“Through A Half-opened Door,” *Barrow Street*, Summer 2006

“Instar,” *Orion*, Nov/Dec, 2006

“My Only Life,” “Sometimes They Worship Fire,” *Poetry Sky*, Fall 2006

“Another Story with a Burning Barn in It” “Jupiter Moon May Hold Hidden Sea,” *The Iowa Review*, Vol. 35, No. 2, 2005

“Begin,” “In the Meantime,” *The Cream City Review*, Vol. 29, No. 1, 2005

“Radio Crackling, Radio Gone,” *Crowd*, No. 5/6, 2005

“Dear One Absent This Long While,” *University of Massachusetts Magazine*, Winter, 2005

“Windy Today,” *The Massachusetts Review*, Vol. XLV, No. 4, 2004-2005

“I Grew Up in the Dust of Many Horses,” “These are the Days of Awe,” *Prairie Schooner*, Vol. 78, No. 3, 2004

“Down to the Finest Particles of Every Spiraling Strand,” *Denver Quarterly*, Vol. 39, #2, 2004

“Searching Everywhere.” *LIT*, No. 8, Winter 2003-2004

“Blue Warp Black Weave” “Man Feeding Bear an Ear of Corn,” *Forklift Ohio*, No.12, 2003

“Milk and Sweet Hay,” *Orion*, Sept/Oct, 2003

“Still Early,” “Parable of Grief,” *Spinning Jenny*, No. 7, 2003

“The Hypnotist’s Daughter,” *American Letters & Commentary*, No. 14, 2002

“Hypnos is the God of Sleep,” “3/4 Ballad, ” *Crazyhorse*, No. 62, 2002

“If the Wind Shifts,” *Poetry International*, No. VI, 2002

“That Magnificent Part the Chorus Does About Tragedy,” *580 Split*, No. 4, 2002

“Negotiation,” *The Iowa Review*, Vol. 31, No. 3, 2001-2002

“Carrier Pigeon #44,” “A Practical Guide to Self-Hypnosis,” “One by One Examples Line Up by the Kitchen Window,” *can we have our ball back?* 2001

“The Butterflies Are Coming,” *Nimrod*, Vol. 45, No. 1, 2001

“Currency,” “On Paros,” *Nimrod*, Vol. 44, No. 2, 2001

“Carrier Pigeon #23,” *Salamander*, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2001

“Big White House,” *The Sow’s Ear Poetry Review*, Vol. X, No. 3, 2000

“Bulloughs Pond,” *Sierra Nevada College Review*, Vol. XI, 2000

“Long Distance Swimming,” Poetry Motel, Vol. 27, 1999

“Skin,” *Spillway*, No. 9, 1999

“Swamp,” “German Submarine,” “Memory,” *The MacGuffin*, Vol. XV, No. 11, 1998

**Albums:**

*Cavalcade* (co-written with Jeffrey Foucault), 2013 (U.S. & Europe)

*Cold Satellite* (co-written with Jeffrey Foucault), 2010 (U.S.), 2011 (Europe)

**EDITORIAL PROJECTS**

Guest Editor, *Common Threads*, Massachusetts Poetry Festival 2013-2014

Contributing Editor, *jubilat*, 2003-present

Co-Editor, “Grace Paley,” special issue, *The Massachusetts Review*, 2008

**HONORS & AWARDS**

Top 40 of 2013 (*Little Stranger*), *Coldfront Magazine*, 2013

Five Favorite Books of 2013 (*Little Stranger*), *Columbus Alive*, 2103

Women Who Killed It: Favorite Poetry Books of the Year (*Little Stranger*), *Black Warrior Review*, 2013

Lannan Literary Selection (*Little Stranger*), 2013

Juror, Poetry Fellowship Competition, Sustainable Arts Foundation, 2013

Promise Award, Sustainable Arts Foundation, 2012

“Real Life Rock Top Ten,” by Greil Marcus, #1 Cold Satellite (lyrics), #10 “Radio Crackling Radio Gone” (poem, audio version), *The Believer*, February, 2011

Best Book of the Year selection (9 best poetry books of 2009), *Library Journal*, April 2010

Mass Books of the Year/Poetry selection, recommended reading, Massachusetts Book Awards, 2010

Best Poem of the Year selection (5 best poems of 2009/2010), *Narrative Magazine*, November 2010

Distinguished Academic Outreach Award nomination,University of Massachusetts,2009

Artist’s Residency, Centrum Foundation, 2007 & 2006

Finalist, Bread Loaf Fellowship in Poetry, 2007

Pushcart Prize, 2006 (Pushcart Prize nominations, 2008, 2004, 2003)

Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship/Poetry, 2006

Hayden Carruth Award, Copper Canyon Press, 2005  
University of Massachusetts Graduate School Fellowship, 2001-02  
1st Prize, Ruth Lilly Poetry Contest, University of Massachusetts, 2002   
Daniel & Merrily Glosband Poetry Fellowship, University of Massachusetts, 2000

**INTERVIEWS, PROJECTS & FEATURES**

“Aubade,” *Live Journal*, Poem of the Day feature, November 2013

Guest Poet (class interview on craft and process), Poetry Workshop, Antioch College, August 2013

Featured interview, “New Books in Poetry,” July 2013

“Ibex Have Evolved for Life at the Top,” *Verse Daily* Poem of the Day feature, July 2013

“Space Junk,” *Poetry Daily* featured poem, June 16, 2013

Featured interview, *The Valley Advocate*, May 2013

Featured Guest Contributor, *Crosscurrents Review*, spring 2013

“In the Meantime,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, September 18, 2012

“Radio Crackling, Radio Gone,” PBS News Hour Weekly Poem, November 21, 2012

Featured poet, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, an exhibit of paintings and companion poems, Flying Object, opening June 9, 2012

Featured interview, Joe Milford Poetry Show, summer, 2011

“Control Group,” featured in Poetry Dress Project, Massachusetts Poetry Festival, 2011

“Radio Crackling, Radio Gone,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, April, 2011

Featured interview, *Coldfront Magazine*, June 2010

Featured book/poet *Open Loop Press*, May-June, 2010

“I’m Writing You a Telegraph and the Pony and the Pony Express Man Are Waiting by the Door,” limited edition broadside, Brave Men Press, 2009

On Elizabeth Bishop’s “Little Exercise,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the day feature, 2009

“The Hypnotist’s Daughter,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, November 4, 2009

Featured Poet, “If You Think of It,” documentary film, notnostrums, 2009

“Was to Have Been Called Whip-poor-will,” *Verse Daily* Poem of the Day feature, August 24, 2009

“Receding Sphinx,” Verse Daily Poem of the Day feature, August 17, 2009

“White Spring,” Academy of American Poets Poem of the Day feature, June 11, 2009

“That Magnificent Part the Chorus Does About Tragedy,” *Narrative Magazine*/Narrative.com Poem of the Week feature, January 5, 2009

“All the Idolaters in the World,” limited edition broadside, *The Manila Broadsides,* Rope A Dope Press, 2008

“Another Story with a Burning Barn in It,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, September 15, 2008

“That Magnificent Part the Chorus Does About Tragedy,” Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, May 1, 2008

“Radio Crackling, Radio Gone,”Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, March 1, 2008

“Dear One Absent this Long While,”Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day feature, February 11, 2008

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Academic:**

Associate Professor, New Writers Project & Michener Center for Writers, Department of English, University of Texas at Austin (2013-present)

Associate Director, MFA Program University of Massachusetts at Amherst (2004-2013)

*Courses taught include:* graduate and undergraduate poetry workshops and seminars; teaching

creative writing; applied literary arts; special topics craft classes; independent studies in reading and

writing poetry and 20th century literature.

**Other:**

Associate Director, MFA Program for Poets and Writers & Co-director, Juniper Initiative, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2005-2013: With faculty, responsible for development and implementation of curriculum, policy, and programming for graduate creative writing program and affiliated literary arts outreach and programming organization. Responsibilities include teaching; supervision of creative writing teaching associates; analysis and implementation of curriculum and policy; advising; publicity and outreach; grant writing; and direction of diverse literary programs for local, regional, and national audiences including public reading series, a literary festival, a writing institute, a writers in the schools project, a literary arts internship project, and other programs.

Director, Juniper Summer Writing Institute,University of Massachusetts, Amherst,2003-present: Responsible for the direction and ongoing development of annual residency program offering workshops, craft sessions, readings, studio courses, and manuscript consultations for adult and high school aged writers. Areas of responsibility include development and implementation of program identity and content; curriculum development; selection and facilitation of faculty and writers in residence; website and promotional materials development; creation and implementation of national advertising and publicity campaign; admissions; funding and scholarship development; supervision of staff; budgets and salaries; and coordination of events.

Co-founder and Coordinator, Juniper Initiative for Literary Arts & Action,University of Massachusetts, Amherst,2001-2004:Responsible for development and execution of missionand programming for University-based literary arts organization presenting campus, local, regional,and national programming. Programs include multiple public reading series, career forums, outreachand arts education projects in preK-12 classrooms, and an annual literary festival. Additional areas ofresponsibility include individual and foundation development; grant writing; publicity; promotion;event planning; campus and community relationship building; curricular integration of artsprogramming; and supervision of multiple interns and assistants.

Managing Editor, *jubilat*, 2000-03: Responsible for development and implementation of operations for critically acclaimed literary magazine. Responsibilities include: editing; desktop publishing; direction of production and distribution schedules; management of submissions and subscriptions databases; publicity, fundraising, and advertising campaigns; grant writing; website development; supervision of office staff; and facilitation of communication amongst editors, authors, staff, and vendors.

Workshop Leader, 21st Century After-school Program, Holyoke Community Center, 2003: Development and leadership of writing workshops for youth survivors of trauma.

Coordinator, Pioneer Valley Poetry in Motion, 1999-00: Responsible for public relations, fundraising, art development, content selection and program implementation of pilot of the Poetry Society of America’s public arts initiative placing poems on public transportation.

**SELECTED READINGS & PRESENTATIONS**

Featured Poet, Women and Their Work Gallery: Arcadian Jam, winter 2014

Featured Poet, KGB Monday Night Reading Series, fall 2013

Featured Poet, Gonzaga University Visiting Writers Series, fall 2013

Featured Poet, Kraken Poetry Series, fall 2013

Featured Poet, Fun Party Poetry Series, fall 2013

Featured Poet, Womanbooks, fall 2013

P.S. Reading Series, Department of English, University of Texas at Austin, fall 2013

Poetry on the Plaza, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin, fall 2013

Writer in Residence, Juniper Summer Writing Institute, summer 2013

Featured Poet, Bryant Park Reading Room Poetry Series, summer 2013

Featured Poet, “Specimens & Artifacts,” Massachusetts Poetry Festival, spring 2013

Featured Poet, “Sentimentality & Its Absence in Contemporary Poems About Pregnancy & Motherhood,” Massachusetts Poetry Festival, spring 2013

Featured Reader, “Copper Canyon Press: The Next 40 Years,” Associated Writing Programs Conference, spring 2013

Featured Panelist/Reader, “The New (England) Guard: 4 Women Poets Under 40,” Associated Writing Programs Conference, spring 2013

Featured Poet, “Lamplighter Sessions,” fall Club Passim, 2012

Writer in Residence, Juniper Summer Writing Institute, summer 2012

Featured performer, “These Fine Mornings: Elizabeth Bishop & The New Yorker,” *Elizabeth Bishop at 100*, Harvard University, spring 2012 (with Robert Pinsky, Lloyd Schwartz & Katie Peterson)

Featured Poet, Blacksmith House Poetry Series, fall 2011

Featured Poet, Concord Public Library Reading Series, fall 2011

Featured Poet, Poetry Society of America/New York Botanical Garden’s, spring 2011

Featured Poet, Salem State University, 2011

Featured Poet, Green Street Poetry Series, 2011

Featured Poet, Danny’s Reading Series, 2010

Featured Poet, Real Art Ways/Inescapable Rhythms, 2010

Writer in Residence, Juniper Summer Writing Institute, 2010

Featured Poet, KGB Monday Night Reading Series, 2009

Visiting Poet, Pratt University, 2009

Featured Poet, Collected Poets Series, 2009

Featured Poet, Deep Moat Reading Series, 2009

Featured Poet, Massachusetts Poetry Festival, 2009

Featured Poet, Amherst Literary Series, 2009

Writer in Residence, Juniper Summer Writing Institute, 2009

Featured Poet, Visiting Writers Series, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2009

Featured Poet & Speaker, Emily Dickinson Poetry Walk, NEA Big Read program, 2009

Featured Poet, So & So Reading Series, 2008

Featured Poet, Forbes Library, 2008

Panelist/Reader, Copper Canyon Press 35th Anniversary Panel, Associated Writing Program, 2008

Writer in Residence, Juniper Summer Writing Institute, 2007

Visiting Poet, Putney Institute at Amherst College, 2007

Visiting Poet, Tupelo Press/Crazyhorse Summer Publishing Institute, 2007

Featured Poet, Poetry Flash, Berkeley City College, 2007

Featured Poet, Ashland Public Library, 2007

Visiting Poet, American Scholastic Enterprises, 2006

Featured Poet, Visiting Writers Series, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2006

Featured Poet, Ellen LaForge/Grolier Poetry Series, Harvard University, 2006

Featured Poet, Commonwealth Series, Massachusetts Cultural Council, 2006

Featured Poet, Brattleboro Literary Festival, 2006

# Featured Speaker, LILA Retreat, College of Charleston, 2005

**SERVICE & MEMBERSHIPS**Member, Creative Writing Committee, English, University of Texas at Austin, 2013-present

Member, Ruth Stephan Poetry Collection Working Group, University of Texas at Austin, 2013-present

Co-chair, Art & Culture Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst Sesquicentennial, 2012-13  
Co-chair, MFA Program 50th Anniversary Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst 2012-13  
Member, Massachusetts Poetry Festival Selection Committee, 2012-13  
Member, Massachusetts Poetry Festival Board, 2011-present  
Member, Dean’s Committee on the Arts, 2009-2011  
Co-founder, Going Public Lit Series, 2009-2010  
Member, Massachusetts Poetry Festival Advisory Committee, 2009  
University Representative, Five College PoetryFest, 2005-2009  
Reader, Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship, Poetry selection committee, 2008

Judge, Glosband Fellowship competition, 2007

Member, Dean’s Committees on Creative Economy & on Writing, 2006-07

Member, Ad-hoc Committee for Undergraduate Creative Writing Specialization, 2004-06

Member, Associated Writing Programs, 1998-present