

L. LAMAR WILSON

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Department of English and Comparative Literature, 2015
African American and Multi-ethnic Literature in the Americas
Dissertation: *Quare Poetics: Black Maternity and the Arc of Protest in the African American Elegiac Tradition*
Committee Members: Neel Ahuja (Chair), GerShun Avilez, Minrose Gwin,
Fred Moten (University of California-Riverside), and Ruth Salvaggio

M.F.A., Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Virginia Tech), Department of English, 2010
Creative Writing
Master's Thesis: *All-American: Poems*
Committee Members: Erika Meitner (Chair), Bob Hicok, and Lucinda Roy

B.S., Florida A&M University (FAMU), School of Journalism, Media and Graphic Communication, 2001
Newspaper Journalism/English Minor, summa cum laude

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Scholarly Articles

" 'She Is Twenty-Three Months Pregnant': The Quaring of Black Maternity in Bob Kaufman's Surreal Migration Narratives." (Under review)

Book Reviews

Brother Mine: The Correspondence of Jean Toomer and Waldo Frank. *Callaloo* 37.3 (Summer 2014): 735-739.
"The Beauty of Troubled Tongues." *Post No Ills*. 22 January 2010.

Peer-Reviewed Nonfiction Essays & Journalism (as L.L. Wilson, Lamar Wilson and L. Lamar Wilson)

"Queer Black Avant-Garde Poetics: On Being Guilty of Excessive Darkness in the First Degree." *The Force of What Is Possible: Writers on Accessibility and the Avant-Garde Writers on Accessibility and the Avant-Garde*. Ed. Amy King and Lily Hoang. Nightboat Books: Brooklyn, 2014.
"Thes Mythologizing Is: On Tending to the Past and Autobiography." Poets' Roundtable on Person and Persona. *Los Angeles Review of Books*. 22 October 2013.
"Silence and Shame in the Black Church." *The Root*. 26 October 2011.
" 'The Help': Missed Opportunities." *The Root*. 13 August 2011.
"One Man's Horizons Opened Through E. Lynn Harris's Unabashed Romances." *Washington Post*. 24 July 2009.
"Q&A/NIKKI GIOVANNI: 'You have to learn to trust yourself.' " *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. 30 January 2007.
"Morrison brings us face to face with the blood, pain of slavery." *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. 24 May 2003.
"Singing with dignity and defiance: Simone's songs, style demanded attention." *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. 22 April 2003.
"Seeing 'Souls of Black Folk' through prism of a century." *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. 4 April 2003.

CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Books

Sacrilegion (Carolina Wren Press Poetry Series #16). Durham, N.C.: Carolina Wren Press, 2013.

- 2012 Carolina Wren Press Poetry Series Prize
- 2013 Thom Gunn Award Finalist
- 2013 Independent Publishers Award – Bronze
- 2010 *Crab Orchard Review* Open Competition Finalist
- Reviewed or favorably mentioned in *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Lambda Literary Online*, *Muzzle*, *Ploughshares* blog, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Pedestal*, and at The Poetry Foundation

Co-Authored Collections

Holnes, Darrel Alejandro; Jones, Saeed; Laurentiis, Rickey; Williams Phillip B; Wilson, L. Lamar. *Prime: Poetry & Conversation*. Ed. Bryan Borland. Alexander, Ark.: Sibling Rivalry Press, 2014. 45-67, 86-93.

Poetry (in Anthologies)

- "We Do Not Know Her Name." *Please Excuse This Poem: 100 New Poets for the Next Generation*. Eds. Brett Fletcher Lauer and Lynn Melnick. New York: Viking Penguin, 2015. 92.
- "Ratiocination" and "I Can't Help It." *Black Gay Genius: Answering Joseph Beam's Call*. Eds. Steven G. Fullwood and Charles Stephens. New York: Vintage Entity Press, 2014. 190, 295.
- "Times Like These: Marianna, Florida," "Resurrection Sunday," and "Substantia Nigra." *The Queer South: LBGTQ Writers in the American South*. Ed. Douglas Ray. Alexander, Ark.: Sibling Rivalry Press, 2014. 270-279.
- "What of a Body." *White Space Poetry Anthology*. Ed. Maya Washington. Minneapolis: White Space Poetry Project, 2014. 49.
- "(Moan): Robert McFerrin Sr." *A Face to Meet the Faces: An Anthology of Contemporary Persona Poetry*. Eds. Oliver de La Paz and Stacey Lynn Brown. Akron, Ohio: University of Akron Press, 2012. 127-28.
- "What I Should Have Told the Homeless Man in Cleveland Who Mistook Me for Mary's Son." *Mighty Real: An Anthology of African-American Same Gender Loving Writing*. Eds. R. Bryant Smith and Darius Omar Williams. Cleveland: Effusses/Sangha Publishing, 2011.
- "Ars Poetica: Nov. 7, 2008." *The 100 Best African American Poems (But I Cheated)*. Ed. Nikki Giovanni. Naperville, Ill.: Sourcebooks, 2010. 4-7.
- "We Do Not Know Her Name." Poetry Society of America's *Ars Poetica* companion/online exhibition. Curator: Rachel Eliza Griffiths. March 2010.

Poetry (in journals)

- "Cake," "Dreamboys," "The First Shower," "In Search of Abe in DuPont Circle," "Touch: A Letter to the Mother." *The Good Men Project*. September 2014-February 2015.
- Featured Poet. *PoemoftheWeek.org*. Ed. Andrew McFadyen Ketchum. 18-25 November 2014.
- "Substantia Nigra." *The New Sound*. 2:1 (Spring 2013): 100-102.
- "Touch: A Letter to the Mother." *The Feminist Wire*. 13 March 2013.
- "Times Like These: Marianna, Florida." *Poetry Daily*. 11 March 2013.
- "Dear Uncle Sam." *The Poetry Blog*. 21-28 December 2012.
- "Family Reunion, 1993" and "To Green Polka Dot Muumuu Mother Loved to See Her Mother Wear." *African American Review* 45:1-2 (Spring/Summer 2012): 238.
- "Legion: Human Immunodeficiency Virus." *Los Angeles Review* 12 (Fall 2012): 118.
- "Resurrection Sunday." *Vinyl* 4. (Fall 2011, Nominee for the Pushcart Prize)
- "I Can't Help It." *jubilat* 20:1 (Fall 2011): 26.
- "Ratiocination," "Cystoscopy as Transfiguration," "A Prayer for the Phlebotomist." *Cream City Review* 35.1 (Fall 2011: 2011 Beau Boudreaux Poetry Prize winner): 190-194.
- "What of a Body." *Tidal Basin Review* (Summer 2011): 60.
- "It Could Happen to Anyone, or a Letter to the Boy," "Woe Unto You, Sons," "Cripple," "Tarry" and "Oblation." *No Tell Motel*. 21-25 Feb. 2011.
- "Finding Fault," "In Search of Abe in Dupont Circle," "Giving Up the Ghost." *Connotation Press Online*. Feb. 2011.
- "In the Lion's Den" and "What I Should Have Told the Homeless Man in Cleveland Who Mistook Me for Mary's Son." *Lambda Literary Online*. 13 Jan. 2011.
- "June 26, 2009: The Morning After" and "Dust to Dust: Blacksburg, Virginia (After Feb. 13, 2010)." *Tidal Basin Review* (Fall/Winter 2010): 111-112.
- "Picky: Izola Ware Curry" and "Times Like These: Marianna, Florida." *Callaloo* 33.4 (Fall 2010): 1005-1007.
- "Le Petit Mort," "Drapetomania: Morning Dew," "Chooseday!" *Mythium*. 1.2 (Spring 2010): 83-86.
- "You Da Only Man I Ever Loves, Daddy: Lot's Daughters," "I Am Black & Comely" and "Touch." *Obsidian*. 10.2/11.1 (Fall/Winter 2009-Spring/Summer 2010): 230-232.
- "Dreamboys." *Rattle* 31 (Summer 2009): 142-43.
- "We Do Not Know Her Name" & "Lost & Found." *Crab Orchard Review* 14.2 (Summer/Fall 2009): 224-26.
- "Drive-by." *Reverie* 3 (Spring/Summer 2009): 28-29.
- "HeLa" and "Ghazal of the Naptime Blues." *Obsidian* 9.2 (Fall/Winter 2008): 89-90.

AWARDS/HONORS

- 2012 Pushcart Prize nominee, *Vinyl*, "Resurrection Sunday"
- 2012 North Carolina Press Association Award, Headline Writing (*Charlotte Observer*, *Raleigh News & Observer*)
- 2011 Beau Boudreaux Poetry Prize, *Cream City Review*
- 2010, 2008 *New Letters* Poetry Prize Finalist

2010, 2007 National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence Award for Copy-editing (*Washington Post*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*)
 2009 International Reginald Shepherd Memorial Poetry Prize Finalist, *Knockout*
 2008 Emily Morrison Poetry Prize, *Virginia Tech*
 2004-2006 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Best of Quarter headline commendations
 2001 Florida A&M University SJMGC Top Graduate
 2000 Hearst Foundation Editorial Award nominee, *The Famuan*

FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS

2015 Chancellor's Doctoral Advancement Award, UNC-Chapel Hill
 2015 Initiative for Minority Excellence Travel Grant, UNC-Chapel Hill
 2010-2014 Graduate Teaching Fellowship, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
 2013 W. Bruce Lea Jr. Graduate Award Fund Travel Grant, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
 2010-2012 Blyden Jackson Fellowship, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
 2013, 2011 Graduate Research Consultant Fellowship, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
 2011, 2009, 2008 Cave Canem Foundation Fellowship
 2011, 2008 Hurston/Wright Foundation Fellowship
 2010, 2007 *Callaloo* Writers Workshops Fellowship
 2008, 2000 Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Scholarship
 2007-2010 Alfred E. Knobler Fellowship, Virginia Tech
 2002 National Conference of Editorial Writers Fellowship
 2000 Peggy Peterman Scholarship, Poynter Foundation & *St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times*
 1997-2001 Florida A&M University Presidential Scholarship and Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
 1999 National Association of Black Journalists Scholarship

READINGS, INTERVIEWS, & PERFORMANCES

"Visiting Writer Series: L. Lamar Wilson," University of Southern Mississippi. Hattiesburg, Miss. 28 January 2015.
 "The Poetry Society of America at McNally Jackson: L. Lamar Wilson, Wendy Xu, Rachel Zucker." New York, N.Y. 2 December 2014.
 "FAMU Younger Poets Series: Ansel Elkins and L. Lamar Wilson." Reading and Craft Lecture. Florida A&M University. Tallahassee, Fla. 29-30 October 2014.
 "*Sacrilegion*: The Gospel Truth." Reading Queer Festival. Headliner. Miami Beach Botanical Garden. 30 August 2014.
 "Salon Sundays @ Carolina Actors Studio Theater." Featured Reader. With Dorianne Laux, Joe Millar, and Beth Brown. 20 April 2014.
 "'Let the Church Say ...': Cave Canem Poets on Faith and Irreverence." Featured Reader. With Destiny Birdsong, Donika Ross, and Cedric Tillman. Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, N.C. 10 April 2014.
 Featured Reader. Virginia Tech Department of English. 26 March 2014.
 "New Southern Poetry." Featured Reader. With Lilah Hegnauer and Douglas Ray. Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival. New Orleans, La. 22 March 2014.
 Featured Reader. North Carolina Poetry Society. Weymouth Center for the Arts & Humanities. Southern Pines, N.C. 18 January 2014.
 "Queer Poetry, Queer Differences: 'I Am the What-Are You?' " Featured Reader. With Eduardo Corral, Parker Phillips, and Maureen Seaton. Miami Book Fair International. 23 November 2013.
 Featured Poet. Eudora Welty Writers' Symposium. With Mitchell L. H. Douglas, Elizabeth Hughey, and Adam Vines. Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, Miss. 25 October 2013.
 "Interview: Lee Ann Brown and L. Lamar Wilson." With Jeff Davis. *Wordplay*. Asheville FM. 15 June 2013.
 "L. Lamar Wilson: *Sacrilegion*." Interview with Darnell L. Moore. *Lambda Literary Online*. 11 March 2013.
 "Cave Canem @ AWP: Off-Site Reading." Simmons College. Boston. 8 March 2013.
 "Carolina Wren Press and Etruscan Press @ AWP." Featured Reader. With Remica L. Bingham, Lee Ann Brown, and Tim Seibles. Church of Boston. Boston. 7 March 2013.
 "Cave Canem Presents New Works: francine j. harris, Randall Horton, and L. Lamar Wilson." The New School, New York. 12 February 2013.
 "An Interview with L. Lamar Wilson (2012)." *American, British and Canadian Studies* (Academic Anglophone Society of Romania, Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu) 18 (June 2012)

- "YesYes Books: Reading and Celebration of Jonterri Gadson's *Peppered Girl*." Featured Reader. New York, N.Y. 21 September 2012.
- "The Phantastique Five with Jericho Brown." Featured Reader. Association of Writers and Writers Programs @ Harold Washington College. Chicago. 1 March 2012.
- "The *Heavy Petting* Tour Bus." Featured Reader. The Warehouse, Tallahassee, Fla. 16 September 2011.
- "An Interview with L. Lamar Wilson: Part 1 and Part 2," *Blast Furnace*. 14 June 2011 and 25 July 2011.
- "'Hierophant' and Other Poems." Courting Risk Reading Series. Association of Writers and Writers Programs Conference. Washington, D.C. 3 February 2011.
- "*The Color Purple*: On Location, 25 Years Later." WUNC's "The State of Things with Frank Stasio." 15 December 2010.
- "73 Poems for 73 Years: Celebrating the Life of Lucille Clifton." Reader, "wind on the st. marys river." James Madison University, 21 September 2010.
- "Parable of the Schoolteacher: Chooseday!" "Rev. Glenn Orr & Nikki Giovanni Presents 'Make a Joyful Noise: An Evening of Spirituals & Poetry.'" St. Paul AME Church, Blacksburg, Va., December 2009.
- "'A Prayer for the Phlebotomist' and Other Poems." Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va., February 2009.
- "'Ghazal of the Naptime Blues' and Other Poems." Reader. Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va., March 2008.
- "'In Search of Abe' and Other Poems." Reader. *Callaloo* Writers Workshop, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, August 2007.

SCHOLARLY PAPERS AND LECTURES

- "Remixing Ethnicity, Place, and Creative Writing." "Love and Loss in Modernist Poetry." "Excavating the Voice: Literature of Nineteenth-century African-American Women." Northeast Modern Language Association Conference. Toronto, Ontario. 1-2 May 2015.
- "Hush, Somebody's Calling Me Out of My Name: The Fact of Quareness." Critics' Roundtable: "Going Too Far: The Queer Poetics Distraction from Issues of Race and Class." With Jericho Brown, Dawn Lundy Martin, Mendi Lewis Obadike, and Roger Reeves. Furious Flower Poetry Conference. Harrisonburg, Va. 27 September 2014.
- "Electronic Corpse: The Role of Social Media in Collaborative Poetry-Making." Furious Flower Poetry Conference. Harrisonburg, Va. 27 September 2014.
- "'Feels Their Meters, Pronounces Them Queer': Ancestral (Re)Vision of the Migration Narrative in Bob Kaufman's Quare Elegies." Whose Beloved Community? Conference, Atlanta, Ga. 28 March 2014.
- "'He Is Beat': Ancestral (Re)Vision of the Migration Narrative in Bob Kaufman's 'Grandfather Was Queer, Too.'" Emerging Scholar Series Lecture, Virginia Tech, Department of English. 26 March 2014.
- "Harvesting *Cane*: A Meditation on Poetics, Gender/Genre Border Crossing, and Quare Female Sexuality." Unleashing the Black Erotic Conference: Gender and Sexuality – Passion, Power, and Praxis. College of Charleston: Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. 19 September 2013.
- "The Blues of 'Disremembering': Brenda Marie Osbey's 'The Evening News' as Womanist Elegy." Northeast Modern Language Association Conference. Boston, Mass. 22 March 2013.
- "'Our Sable Race': Queer Linguistic Play and Proto-Womanist Protest in the Poetics of Lucy Terry and Phillis Wheatley." Society of Early Americanists' Biennial Conference. Savannah, Ga. 28 February 2013.
- "Mired in the Muck of an Unsteady Middle Ground: Wallace Stevens's Disquieting Stroll Through Southern 'Decorations in a Nigger Cemetery.'" South Atlantic Modern Languages Association Conference. Durham, N.C. 11 November 2012.
- "The Life In-Between: The Economic Quandary of the Mulatto in a New Negro World." Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference. Raleigh, N.C. 29 September 2010.
- "Navigating 'This Maze of Daedal Paths': An H.D. Primer on Desire." Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. February 2010.
- "Embracing the Elephants in Your Classrooms: How Linda Flower's Theories on Intercultural Rhetoric Can Deepen Composition Students' Literacy About Difference." Expanding Literacy Studies Conference, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, April 2009.
- "The Allure of the Alley and Forbidden Love in Helene Johnson's Poetics." Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. February 2009.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Davidson College (Davidson, N.C., Spring 2015)

Adjunct Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English

ENG 203: Introduction to Writing Poetry

WRI 101: Quare Harmonies: Rethinking "Queer" Through African American Poetics

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, N.C.)

Instructor, Department of English & Comparative Literature

ENGL 129: Literature and Cultural Diversity (Spring 2013)

ENGL 101, 102, 105: Composition and Rhetoric (Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2013, Spring-Fall 2014)

Teaching Assistant, Department of English & Comparative Literature

ENGL 140: Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Literature (Fall 2013)

ENGL 142: Introduction to Film Analysis (Spring 2012)

Graduate Research Consultant, Department of English & Comparative Literature

ENGL 486H: Literature and Its Environments (Spring 2011)

ENGL 086: The Cities of Modernism (Fall 2011)

Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Blacksburg, Va.)

Instructor, Department of English

ENGL 2744: Introduction to Creative Writing (Spring 2010)

ENGL 1105: Introduction to College Composition (Spring 2008, Spring 2009)

ENGL 1106: Writing From Research (Fall 2009)

Bennett College (Greensboro, N.C.)

Instructor, Journalism & Media Studies Department

JMS 170: Language Skills for Journalists (August 2011)

Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Blacksburg, Va.)

Tutor, Upward Bound Program

English Tutor, Grades 6-8 & 10 (Monthly, 2008-2010)

ACADEMIC SERVICE (LITERARY EDITORIAL POSITIONS)

Judge. *Backbone*. Inaugural Issue (January 2013)

Fiction Reader. *Carolina Quarterly*. University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (Sept. 2010-Aug. 2013, July 2014-Present)

Assistant Poetry Editor. *Toad*. Virginia Tech (May 2010-Sept. 2011)

NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL POSITIONS

McClatchy Publishing Center Universal Desk Editor (August 2011-Present)

New York Times Wire Editor (January-August 2011)

Washington Post Style Copy Editor/Freelance Feature Reporter (May 2008-November 2010)

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Copy Editor/Line Editor/Freelance Feature Reporter (January 2004-August 2007)

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Features Copy Editor/Freelance Feature Reporter (October 2001-January 2004)

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Business Copy Editor (June-August 2001)

Capital Outlook Black History Editor (January-August 2001)

Tallahassee Democrat News Copy Editor (September-December 2000)

St. Petersburg Times Metro Desk Copy Editor – Peggy Peterman Scholar, Dow Jones Scholar (June-August 2000)

Philadelphia Inquirer Features Copy Editor (June-August 1999)

Unity News Copy Editor/Reporter, UNITY '99 Conference, Seattle (July 1999)

Ocala Star-Banner General Assignment Reporter/Copy Editor (May-July 1998)

The Famuan, Managing Editor, Columnist, Copy Desk Chief, Assistant Copy Desk Chief, Assistant News Editor, Staff Writer (August 1997-December 2000)

AFFILIATIONS

College Language Association, Society of Early Americanists, Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States, South Atlantic and Northeast Modern Language Associations, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Kappa Tau Alpha Honor Society

