



January

MATC student Tate English's short film received rave reviews in the December 18 issue of the **Austin Chronicle**.

MFA fiction student Sean Trolinder has three short stories forthcoming in 2010. "Projects in Need of Funding," an experimental work, will appear in the Spring 2010 issue of **Edge**; "Separating a Butcher's Son from His Tangerine Grove" is set to come out in the Spring 2010 issue of **Muse & Stone**; and "Jazz Reunion" will be published in the 2010 issue of **Oracle**.

Deanna Ledezma, who in May 2009 completed her degree in English and who is now completing a second degree in Art History, will present "Written at His 'Desk of Well-Being and Thinking': Gender and Psychoanalysis in Jack Kerouac's **The Subterraneans**" at the 2010 meeting of the Southwest/Texas Popular & American Culture Associations, to be held in Albuquerque this coming February. Deanna wrote the essay for Steve Wilson's recent English 3343 course, which focused on Jack Kerouac.

MFA fiction student Gwynne Middleton and a few colleagues have launched **Precipitate**, a literary arts journal that supports writers and artists who are approaching place/environment in innovative ways.

At the Modern Language Association meeting in Philadelphia this past December, Rob Tally presided over a panel he organized on "Geocriticism" and presented "Poe's Nomadology" at a panel sponsored by the Poe Studies Association.

MFA poetry student Laura Decker Young will present "Patterns of Renewal and Resurrection in Two Tapahonso Poems: 'Red Star Quilt' and 'Dawn Boy'" at the Native American Literature Symposium, taking place in Albuquerque on March 4-6.

Two poems by Steve Wilson, "The Hag of Beara" and "Purgatory Road," have been accepted for the

2010 issue of **New American Writing**.

MFA poetry student Laura Decker Young will present “This Woman Has No Hobbies: Poetry Politics, Gendered Anthologies, and the Necessity of Labels” at the Women and Gender Studies Conference to be held at the University of Texas February 19. Laura wrote the paper for Steve Wilson’s “Form and Theory of Poetry” class this past fall.

Rob Tally’s manuscript, **A Poetics of Descent: Edgar Allan Poe’s Subterranean American Literature**, is now under contract with Cambria Press. His article “Nomadography: The ‘Early’ Deleuze and the History of Philosophy” has been accepted for a forthcoming special issue of **The Journal of Philosophy: A Cross-Disciplinary Inquiry** focusing on the work of Gilles Deleuze.

A story on the film **Dance with the One**, co-written by Jon Marc Smith, appeared in a recent issue of the **Austin American-Statesman**.

MFA poetry student Colin Pope was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by **Blood Orange Review**, for his poem “On the Disappearance of Bees, Spring 2009”; this is Colin’s second Pushcart nomination for 2009. His poem “Noah, Pulling the Blankets Over His Head” has been accepted by **Word Riot**.

An article on **Front Porch**, the online literary journal edited by MFA students, appears in the latest issue of **Hillviews**.

At the Modern Language Association meeting in Philadelphia this past December, Graeme Wend-Walker presented “The Inexplicable Moon and the Postsecular Moment: Turkish and American Experiences of the Lunar Landing in Two Picture Books.”

Nelly Rosario will be a featured speaker at CCCC in Louisville, Kentucky this March, offering a presentation entitled “DeeJaying the Siren Song: Research & Fiction.” The premier issue of **Kweli Journal** features my her non-fiction piece, “Judging A Cover By His Books: An Annotated Bibliography Of The Intellectual MacDaddy.”

February

MATC Alumnus and current Fulbright Scholar Michael Trice has contributed “Going Deep: What Online Sports Culture Teaches About the Rhetorical Future of Social Networks” to the collection, **Digital Generation: Essays on New Media Rhetoric**, published by McFarland Press. His work on the essay began in a class with Dr. Deb Balzhiser.

Octavio Pimentel has been reappointed to serve as a reviewer for the Bill and Melinda Gates Scholarship.

Charlene Gill's essay, "Hardy Camaraderie: Boy Sleuthing and Male Community in the Hardy Boys Mysteries," has been accepted for publication in **Essays on the Fiction of Boy Detectives**, to be published by McFarland Press in spring 2011.

Steve Wilson's collection of poems about Ireland, **The Lost Seventh**, will be published next year by Interbirth Books, which produces hand-sewn, letterpress books in limited editions. His poem "Of Marriage" will appear in the next issue of **Beloit Poetry Journal**.

A series of five poems by MFA poetry student Heather Robinson, entitled "Toward Closeness," was accepted by **Women Writers**. Her poem "Feeding at the North Shore" will appear in a future issue of **Blood Lotus**.

MFA fiction student Marc Watkins' story "A Wooden Nickel Life" will appear in an upcoming issue of **Story Quarterly**. A digital recording of the story will be available on the journal's website.

An article on Tomas Morin's Spring 2010 section of ENG 3311, exploring letter writing, appeared in the January 26 **University Star**. He also recently had a poem accepted by **Threepenny Review** and will be interviewed by National Public Radio for a segment called "Portrait of the Artist."

Three MFA graduate students will present at the upcoming meeting of the Southwest Texas Popular Culture Association's in Albuquerque: Caitlin McCrory will discuss "The Identity of the I in Rosmarie Waldrop's *Inserting the Mirror*"; A.J. Ortega will present "Deconstructing J. J. Abrams's *Lost Narrative: A Burkeian Analysis*"; and Gwynne Middleton will offer "Hope Amidst Modernity's Rubble: Embedding the Postmodern Utopia in Le Guin's **The Lathe of Heaven** and Atwood's **Oryx and Crake**."

Chris Margrave, an MFA fiction student, will present "Certainty and Uncertainty as 'Human Noise' in Don DeLillo's 'Midnight in Dostoevsky'" at the English Graduates for Academic Development Conference, to be held at Texas A&M University-Commerce on February 26. He wrote the essay for Debra Monroe's Form and Theory of Fiction course last fall. At the same conference, MFA poetry student Heather Robinson will discuss "How Language of Consciousness Builds an Historical Community," which she wrote for Cyrus Cassells' fall Form and Theory of Poetry class.

MATC student Amanda King's proposal on Victorian Mariology has been accepted for this year's DeBartolo Conference, "Medievalizing Britain," taking place at the University of South Florida in Tampa on April 2.

Pinfan Zhu's article, "Graphic Problems that Affect International Business," will appear in the June issue of the **Journal for Global Business Education**.

John Blair and Jon Marc Smith – along with MFA fiction graduate, and now novelist and screenwriter, Owen Egerton – recently spoke to students about careers in writing for an event sponsored by Career Services.

A story on the Writing Center's new drop-in tutoring service appears on the Texas State homepage.

Tim Peoples, a recent graduate from the MA Literature program, has posted his thesis as a PDF file on the Internet Archive.

MFA fiction student Sean Trolinder's story, "Tuba Men Pride," has been accepted for publication in Spring/Summer issue of **The MacGuffin**.

Chris (C.J.) Martin has an essay on the cosmetic in Rob Halpern's poetry in the second issue of **ON: Contemporary Practice**, as well as a review of Rachel Blau Duplessis' **Pitch: Drafts 77-95** forthcoming in **Jacket Magazine**.

Dance with the One, a film co-written by Jon Marc Smith, will be premiering at SXSW. The film also received mention in The New York Times.

March

Two poems by MFA poetry student Jared Walls have been accepted for publication: "A Little Jacksonian" in **New Delta Review** and "Let Zygotes be Zygotes" in **The Furnace Review**. In addition, his short story "Missed Connection: The Office of Dr. Peter Gregory, D.C." is forthcoming from **Staccato Fiction**.

"The Undergraduate Writing Major: What Is It? What Should It Be?," by Deborah Balzhiser and Susan H. McLeod, appears in the February issue of **College Composition and Communication**.

MFA poetry student Heather Robinson's poem "Under Trees" will appear in the spring issue of **River Poets Journal**. Her poem "We met twice" will appear in the online journal **The Orange Room Review** this April.

The March/April edition of **Tikkun Magazine** features Graeme Wend-Walker's article "Reaching for the Moon: A Children's Book Author Challenges the Separation of Science and Religion." Graeme will also be the featured author in the March 22 edition of the magazine's Monday Night Phone Forum.

Andy Besa, MARC graduate student, will present his work at the New Directions Conference, which will be held at the University of Arizona.

In early March, Jon Marc Smith and several colleagues from across the university conducted a Faculty Development workshop exploring "Plagiarism: Handling Incidents in Online and Face-to-Face Classes."

The American Academy of Arts and Letters – established in 1898 by, among others, Henry James, Theodore Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson – announced its annual literature prizes this month. Among the recipients is our colleague Tim O’Brien, who has won the Katherine Anne Porter Award, a \$20,000 prize for “a writer of prose whose achievements and dedication have been demonstrated.”

Texas State’s Center for International Studies has named Steve Wilson and Dan Lochman Honorary Professors of International Studies, a three-year appointment that comes with a travel stipend and the opportunity to take part in the activities of the Center. Selected faculty who are awarded this title must be full, tenured professors; have experience in teaching international or comparative courses; and have a research interest in international topics.

Rob Tally threw out the first pitch at a recent Texas State softball game against UT-Arlington. He was nominated for the honor by shortstop (and English 2359 student) Lindsey Matt. Rob notes that his “pitch was a bit high, though certainly hit-able.”

Tomas Morin’s poem, “On the Lam,” will appear in a future issue of **Poetry International**.

Texas State MFA grads Amelia Gray and Stacy Muszynski host Best of Austin’s FIVE THINGS, an every-other-month reading series that takes five brave readers to create a new five-minute work based on a theme.

Steve Wilson’s poem “Ephemera,” which appeared in **The Midwest Quarterly** a few years ago as well as in the journal’s 2009 fiftieth-anniversary issue, is reprinted on the welcome page of Clarion University of Pennsylvania’s online “brochure” exploring ephemera in library collections.

Sue Beebe was recognized recently at the Texas State Alumni Association’s annual awards dinner as this year’s recipient of the Association’s Teaching Award of Honor. President Trauth presented the official award to Sue last fall at the university convocation.

Dale Hudson has obtained multicultural designation from the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies for his English 3301 and 5384 classes.

Ogaga Ifowodo recently traveled to Nigeria to speak and read at events marking the 60th birthday of a major Nigerian and African poet, Odi Ofeimun, whom Ogaga considers his mentor and “elder brother.” Ofeimun was named this year’s recipient of the Fonlon-Nichols Award by the African Literature Association (Ogaga’s tribute to him, “Sixty Lines by the Lagoon,” was published in the Sunday edition of the leading Nigerian newspaper, **The Guardian**, on 21 March).

MFA poetry graduate Kristy Peloquin has accepted the position of Coordinator with the Holocaust and Genocide Commission of Texas, which is under the umbrella of the Texas Historical Commission. Her primary duties will be reaching out to survivors and liberators of the Holocaust

and other genocides, recording their stories, and assisting in educating the public (especially in rural areas) about the Holocaust.

MFA fiction student A.J. Ortega's poem "I Kept You In A Jar" appears in the Spring 2010 issue of the **Rio Grande Review**.

A podcast on the Greater Austin Creative Alliance's website offers Jon Marc Smith, his fellow screenwriter and the movie's director talking about **Dance with the One**, which premiered at the SXSW film festival.

Rob Tally's article "Nightmare of the Unknowable, or, Poe's Inscrutability" appears in the inaugural issue of the online journal, **Studies in Gothic Fiction**.

MFA fiction student Marc Watkins' story "A Life too Vivid for Thought" appears in the Spring 2010 issue of the **Rio Grande Review**.

April

Nelly Rosario has been awarded a \$25,000 Howard Fellowship from the George A. and Eliza Gardner Howard Foundation, which makes unrestricted gifts each year to "promising individuals at the crucial middle stages of their careers in the liberal and creative arts." Awards for the 2010-2011 academic year were made in the field of "Creative Writing in English: Fiction and Poetry."

On March 22, **Tikkun** interviewed Graeme Wend-Walker, whose article "Reaching for the Moon: A Children's Book Author Challenges the Separation of Science and Religion" appears in the current issue.

Texas State's Academic Computing Committee has awarded the Writing Center \$14,760 to buy new computers. Congratulations to Nancy Wilson for writing the outstanding proposal that led to this result.

Twelve poems by Steve Wilson, translated into the Slovene by Slovenian poet Kristina Kocan, appear in the March / April issue of **Poetikon**, a review of poetry and poetics that is published in Ljubljana.

Two poems from Ryan Bayless' longer series, "Moment by Moment," have been published in the latest issue of **Alba: A Journal of Short Poetry**.

Laura Decker Young, who is graduating with an MFA in poetry this May, has accepted a grant in the amount of \$2700 from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Laura will be studying The New Negro Movement – the convergence of politics and art as well as teaching strategies for

the classroom – July 12-30, at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. She will work with Dr. Gerald Early. The grant is designed to cover travel, living, and book expenses.

Prism Review has accepted MFA poetry student Colin Pope's poem, "Snorting the Powdered Remains of a Moth and Pretending I'm Tony Montana," for their spring issue.

Miriam Williams and Octavio Pimentel will serve as guest editors on a special issue of the **Journal of Business and Technical Communication** entitled "Race, Ethnicity, and Technical Communication: Examining Multicultural Issues within the United States." The special issue will appear in July 2012.

The Ballad of Friday and June, a short film by MATC graduate student (Jeremy) Tate English, was screened at the TX State Student Film Festival on April 5. **The Austin Chronicle** called it "one of the most exquisite short films to come out of Austin in ages."

Octavio Pimentel has been selected to serve as a pre-doctoral fellow mentor to Aja Martinez from the University of Arizona.

UT-Austin's **Inside Our Campus** website published a long review of the film **Dance with the One**, co-written by Jon Marc Smith and featured at the recent SXSW film festival.

Kitty Ledbetter has been named the 2009-2010 Sigma Tau Delta Outstanding Professor of the Year. On April 16 Kitty will serve as the plenary speaker at the Victorian Studies Conference, presented by the Humanities Institute at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Her talk will be entitled "The Industrial Revolution and the Private Sphere: The Technology of 'Things' for Women."

Twister Marquiss will participate in the 2010 Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute, sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies. During the Institute, he will transform English 3345/5345 (Southwest Studies I: Defining the Region).

Laura Decker Young created a panel consisting of herself, Heather Robinson, and Aaron Deutsch – all third-year MFA poets graduating this May – for the 2010 UTSA English Graduate Symposium, "Wild Tongues: Concepts of the Untamed in Scholarship, Teaching, Writing, and Beyond," which takes place May 1. The panel is titled "Wild Ways of Viewing Contemporary Confessional Poetry," and is comprised of the following presentations: "Why I'm Proud to be a Coal Miner's Daughter and Other Realizations: Viewing Country Music as Confessional Poetry" (Aaron Deutsch, written for Cyrus Cassells' 5395 course on confessional poetry); "Interdependence: How Public and Private Spheres Coalesce to Inform Identity in Monica Ferrell's **Beasts for the Chase**" (Heather Robinson, written for Ogaga Ifowodo's poetry workshop last fall); and "When the Lights Go Out: Otherness and Africanness in David Mura's **The Colors of Desire**" (Laura Decker Young, also written for Cassells' 5395 course).

Libby Allison's promotion to the rank of professor has been approved by President Trauth.

Recent MFA poetry graduate Jessica Talamantez will pursue her PhD in Philosophy at Tufts University starting this fall.

MFA fiction student Chris Margrave will present “‘Eden in the Bed of Eros’: Style as Act of Transgression in Barry Hannah’s ‘Get Some Young’” at the 2010 UTSA English Graduate Symposium, “Wild Tongues,” taking place on May 1. Chris wrote the essay for Debra Monroe’s Form and Theory of Fiction course last fall.

Travis Smith, MFA poetry graduate, has his first book in print. **The Salt Flowers** has just been published by MTpages, a new and small press out of Houston.

Twister Marquiss will be guest speaker at the South Texas Press Association’s annual conference, taking place April 23-24 at the San Marcos Convention Center.

Mary McCulley, former MARC student, has been accepted into the PhD program in English – Concentration in Rhetoric – at Texas Christian University, and awarded a Graduate Instructorship (full funding and a stipend). She will begin in fall 2010.

MA Literature graduate Erin Clair, who went on to earn a PhD at the University of Missouri, has been hired as a tenure-track assistant professor of English at Arkansas Tech University. Erin’s husband, playwright David Eshelman, who graduated from the Michener program at UT-Austin, is also in a tenure line – in Theater – at ATU.

MFA poetry student Colin Pope’s poem “Goodwill” has been accepted at **The Los Angeles Review**.

The Journal of Technical Writing and Communication has accepted “Linking Contextual Factors with Rhetorical Pattern Shift: Direct and Indirect Strategies Recommended in English Business Communication Textbooks in China” for its March 2011 issue. The article was co-authored by Pinfan Zhu and Junhua Wang, a professor from the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Susan Morrison has been selected as a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of English Studies, University of London, for the 2010-2011 academic year. Susan will spend the year on leave from Texas State, working on her new book on Waste Studies.

Tomas Morin’s poem “At the Supermarket” has just been published by **Narrative**; his poem, “My Life As a Woman,” was accepted for publication in a forthcoming anthology entitled **A Face Among the Faces: An Anthology of Contemporary Persona Poetry**; his poetry manuscript was a semi-finalist in the **Crab Orchard Series Open Competition**; and his lecture “No Fun with Dick and Jane: Comics, Soap Operas, and Literacy in a Spanish-Speaking Home,” which he presented at the Writing Center’s literacy series.

MFA fiction student David Norman has short stories appearing this summer in **The Ledge** and

online at **Rio Grande Review**.

MA Literature student Teri Holtzclaw will present “Marginalizing the Marginalized: Waste Studies in Chaucer’s London” at the Literary London 2010 conference, taking place July 7-9 at The Institute of English Studies, University of London.

May

Scott Blackwood’s novel **We Agreed to Meet Just Here** has won the Texas Institute of Letters Jessie Jones Award for best fiction and is a semi-finalist for the Cabell First Novelist Award. Scott is a graduate of the MFA program in fiction whose short story collection **In the Shadow of Our House** (based on his MFA thesis, directed by Debra Monroe) was published in 2001. Since leaving Texas State, he has coordinated the writing centers at St. Mary’s University and UT-Austin. He is currently director of the MFA Creative Writing Program at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Scott was awarded a Dobie Paisano Fellowship in 2004-2005.

MFA fiction student Marc Watkins’ story “Two Midnights in a Jug,” which appeared in the Spring 2009 issue of **Boulevard**, has been selected for inclusion in the 2011 **Pushcart Prize Anthology**.

Steve Wilson’s poem, “O Bluedark Dream,” has been accepted by **The Christian Century**.

Rob Tally’s article, “Sartre, Marcuse, and the Utopian Project Today,” appears in **CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture**, an online journal from Purdue University Press.

At the Graduate Student Symposium, “Wild Tongues,” hosted by UT-San Antonio on May 1, MA Literature student Heather Anastasiu presented “In Her Image: Redemptive Female Spirituality in Ana Castillo’s **So Far From God**.”

MFA poetry student John Fry’s poem, “drunk at dodge city on karaoke night watching him play pool,” will appear in **Breadcrumb Scabs**, and **Blood Orange Review** has accepted the poem, “oneiromancy, late afternoon.”

Gwynne Middleton, an MFA fiction student, has been awarded a National Sigma Tau Delta Graduate Scholarship as well as a Young Women’s Alliance Foundation Higher Education Scholarship.

Pinfan Zhu’s “Cultural Blunders in International Professional Writing from a Semantic Perspective” appeared in a recent issue of **Technical Communication**.

John Blair’s latest poetry manuscript, “The Occasions of Paradise,” has been chosen as a finalist in the National Poetry Series Open Competition. Roughly 50 finalists were selected from the 1250

entries. The five winners will be announced in mid-July.

Teri Holtzclaw, an MA Literature student, will present “**Sons and Lovers: Lawrence’s Psychological Transference of Carbs, Colors and Calories**” at the 2010 Midwest Modern Language Association Conference in November.

Two poems by MA Literature student Heather Anastasiu, “The Sensory Christ” and “Ever Marching Cold,” appear in the Spring 2010 issue of **Blue Earth Review**.

Tom Grimes’ forthcoming book **Mentor: A Memoir** has won a Barnes & Noble Discover Award. The book will appear in 1300 Barnes & Noble stores nationwide, from August to October. The book received a starred review in the current issue of **Publisher’s Weekly**, and has been selected by the editors of **Kirkus Reviews** to be a featured work at Book Expo America.

Susan Rauch, current MAL/MATC double major, has been awarded the Fall 2010 graduate Women’s Scholarship sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies.

MFA fiction student Sean Trolinder’s story “A True Champion Never Quits” has been accepted for publication in a recent issue of **Helix Magazine**.

Laura Decker Young, who graduated from the MFA poetry program this May, has accepted a teaching position at McLennan Community College in Waco.