

Summary

Airea D. Matthews's first collection of poems, *Simulacra*, received the 2016 Yale Series of Younger Poets Award (Yale University Press, 2017). Her work has appeared in *Best American Poets 2015*, *American Poets*, *The Rumpus*, *Four Way Review*, *The Indiana Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and elsewhere. She received the 2016 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award and was awarded the Louis Untermeyer Scholarship in Poetry from the 2016 Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She received her B.A. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, her M.P.A. from the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy, and her M.F.A. from the University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program. Ms. Matthews is working on her second poetry collection, *under/class*, which explores poverty.

Education

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|---|-------------|
| Zell Postgraduate Poetry Fellow | 2013 - 2014 |
| University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program
Post-MFA fully-funded fellowship | |
| Master of Fine Arts in Poetry | 2011 - 2013 |
| University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program
Rackham Merit Fellow | |
| Master of Public Administration | 2002 - 2003 |
| University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy
Rackham Merit Fellow; Concentration in Social Policy | |
| Bachelor of Arts in Economics | 1991 - 1994 |
| University of Pennsylvania | |

Work Experience

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|--|-------------------|
| Assistant Professor of Creative Writing | 07/2017 - ongoing |
| Bryn Mawr College | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teach beginning/intermediate or advanced-level undergraduate creative writing courses each year in poetry and a secondary genre• Teach a critical thinking and college seminar course for first year students.• Co-administer the Creative Writing Program, including the annual Reading Series. | |
| Assistant Director | 05/2015 - 10/2016 |
| University of Michigan, The Helen Zell Writers' Program | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage the program budget and gifts of \$750K per year• Establish internal processes to evaluate against benchmarks• Manage marketing initiatives and the Zell Visiting Writers' Series• Cultivate community relationship for program support and development and for establishing a professional network for graduate students | |
| Lecturer | 09/2014 - 05/2015 |
| University of Michigan, Department of English Language and Literature | |

- Taught a 3:3 load of Rhetoric and Argumentation
- Designed the course "Writing, Politics and Culture" as the foundation of Rhetoric and Argumentation

Zell Fellow

05/2013 - 05/2014

University of Michigan, Helen Zell Writers' Program

- Organized and led community writing workshops during cross-country poetry tour

Lecturer

09/2012 - 05/2013

University of Michigan, Department of English Language and Literature

- Introduction to Writing and Academic Inquiry
- Introduction to Creative Writing "Performance of Words"

Artist-in-Residence

2008 - 2011

Y-Arts

- Developed and delivered performance and poetry curriculum for elementary through high school
- Implemented training for new artists
- Launched poetry pilot for political refugees through Freedom House

Editorial Experience

Co-Executive Editor

10/2014 - 04/2016

The Offing, a channel of the Los Angeles Review of Books

- Co-led and managed March' 15 launch
- Managed two departments and content delivery
- Delivered timely and audience-targeted content
- Responsible for fundraising \$10K goal

Associate Editor

09/2013 - 09/2014

shufpoetry.com

- Managed social media and digital presence
- Collaborated with editorial team on review and decision

Selected Honors and Awards

2017

- James Merrill House Residency

2016

- Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award
- Louis Untermeyer Scholar in Poetry, Bread Loaf Writers Conference
- Yale Series of Younger Poets Winner
- Academy of American Poets, Poem of the Day

2015

- Kresge Literary Arts Fellow
- *Best American Poets* Anthology
- Pushcart Prize Nominee

2014

- Cave Canem Fellow

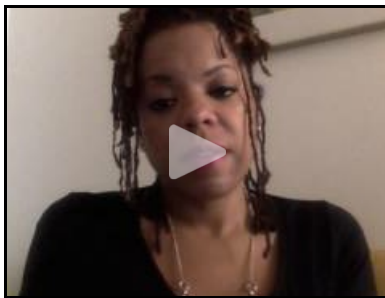
- *Best New Poets* Nominee
- Cannes Lions Festival, Screening of poem "Wisdom"
- Pushcart Prize Nominee

2013

- Pushcart Prize Nominee
- Callaloo Fellow

2012 and earlier

- Cave Canem Fellow | 2012
- Michael R. Gutterman Poetry Prize | Hopwood Award | 2012
- Rackham Merit Fellow | Helen Zell Writers' Program | University of Michigan | 2011
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Runner Up | 2010
- National Organization of Women, Special Recognition Award | 2010
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, 3rd Ranked | 2008
- Detroit Grand Poetry Slam Champion | 2008
- Rustbelt Regional Poetry Slam Champion, Individual Competition | 2008
- Rackham Merit Fellow | Ford School of Public Policy | University of Michigan | 2002



2016 Rona Jaffe Foundation Wr...



2015 Kresge Literary Arts

Published Work

Poetry Collection

April 2017

Simulacra, 2016 Winner of the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, Yale University Press

Poetry

2017

- "Con (the remix) | *The Rumpus* | January 2017
- "Sekhmet's Conceit" "Pious" | *The Harvard Advocate* | forthcoming
- "Closed Captioning for the Black Animus | *Cordite Review* | forthcoming
- "Temptation of the Composer" | www.poets.org Academy of American Poets | forthcoming

2016

- "Descent of the Composer" | www.poets.org (Poem of the Day) | forthcoming
- "Confessions from Here" (reprinted from Academy of American Poets), "On Meeting Want Next Time," "Letters to My Would-Be Lover on Dolls and Repeating" | *Callaloo*
- "Confessions from Here" | www.poets.org (Poem of the Day)

2015

- "Gryllacridadae" | *The Volta*
- "If My Late Grandmother Were Gertrude Stein" | *Best American Poetry*
- "Sexton Texts from a Bird Conservatory," "Confessions from Here" | *American Poet*
- "Sexton Texts on Independence Day," "Sexton Texts During Polar Vortex" | *Four Way Review*

2014

- “-lcity” | *Vinyl*
- “Prelude,” “Hero(i)n” | *Muzzle*
- “Positive Curvature,” “Black Hole Observed Over Time” | *The Indiana Review*
- “Narcissus Tweets” | *The Baffler*
- “March 1969” | *Women’s Studies Quarterly*
- “Swindle” (online poem of the week) | *Missouri Review*
- “If My Late Grandmother Were Gertrude Stein” | *KINFOLKS*
- “Letters to My Would-Be. . .” | *Callaloo*

Flash Fiction/Essays

2014

- “The Cost of The Floss” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “The Cross or The Pill” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “Meeting Wittgenstein at The Playscape” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “Animalia Repeating” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “The Case of the Disaporic Haints” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*

2013

- “The Dentist’s Wife,” “The Dog Whisperer’s Wife,” “The Mine Owner’s Wife” | *SLAB*

Reviews

2014

- *Dear Lil Wayne* by Lauren Ireland | *Scout Poetry*
- *Patter* by Douglas Kearney | *Scout Poetry*

Production Credits/Appearances

Featured Artist

2015

“Dead of Winter Non Sequitur,” Directed by Cass Corridor Films

2014

Roadtrip Nation, PBS

2008-2010

Poetry Slam Inc., Women of the World

Executive Producer/Artist

2009

Venus Disrobed (Performed Poetry Collection), Directed by Steve Coy

Lectures

2016

University of Michigan Writing Race Series

“I’ll Take That: Cultural Appropriation in Creative Work”

2014

Poetry and Pie Series, Rochester, NY

“The Non-Sequitur and Poetry”

Pink Door Womens' Writing Retreat, Rochester, NY

"Get Free: Negative Capability in Poetry"

2013

University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

"The Hardest Part: Narrative in Poetry"

2010 and earlier

Women of the World Poetry Slam, Detroit, MI and Columbus, OH

"Getting Ugly on Stage"

Oakland County Community College, Auburn Hills, MI

"Bare Bones: The Use of Voice and Psychological Gesture in Performance Poetry"

Detroit Womens' Economic Council, Detroit, MI

"Freeing the Mind: Incarcerated Women and the Arts"

Oakland County Community College, Royal Oak, MI

"Getting Naked on Stage: Performing and Escaping Inhibitions"

Prison Creative Arts Linkage Conference, Ann Arbor, MI

"Performing Art"

National StopMax Conference, Philadelphia, PA

"Art as a Means of Struggle and Survival"

Invited Readings and Performances

2017

- The Poetry Project, NYC, NY (April)
- Midwest Writers Walk, Chelsea, MI (April)
- City University of New York, Staten Island, NY (May)

2016

- Callaloo 40th Anniversary Reading with Gregory Pardlo and Yusef Kourmankyan, NYC, NY (Oct.)
- Rona Jaffe Writers' Foundation Reading, NYC, NY (Sept.)
- Louis Untermeyer Poetry Scholar Reading, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Ripton, VT
- Literary Detroit, Signal Return, Detroit, MI
- Reading with Rickey Laurentiis and Ladan Osman, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Reading with Tarfia Faizullah and Tamar Boyadjian, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Off-Site Reading with The Offing, AWP Los Angeles

2014

- Write-A-House, MOCAD, Detroit, MI
- Cannes Lions Festival, Filmed Poem Screening, Cannes, France
- "Social Justice and Art: Unconventional Alumni in Profile" Panel, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- "Poet, Citizen, Artist, Process," Michigan Literary Network Radio, Detroit, MI
- "All My Pretty Ones" Reading Tour, Denver, Salt Lake City, Omaha, Columbus
- Literary Detroit: Signal Return, Detroit, MI

2013

- Robert Hayden Centennial, Ann Arbor, MI
- "Season of the Witch" Reading Tour with Rachel McKibbens, San Francisco, Berkeley, Portland, Seattle
- Zell Fellow 3rd-Year Reading, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Oakland Community College Literary Festival, Auburn Hills, MI

- Zell Fellow 2nd-Year Reading, Helmut Stern Auditorium, Ann Arbor, MI

2012

- Skazat, Sweetwaters, Ann Arbor, MI
- Writing Wrongs, Columbus, OH
- Seattle Poetry Series, Town Hall, Seattle, WA
- Zell Fellow 1st-year Reading, Ann Arbor, MI

2010 and earlier

- Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit, ART/Work Exhibit
- National Organization of Women, Women's Equality Day
- Detroit Women's Economic Council, Detroit, MI
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Columbus, OH
- Oakland County Community College, Department of English Literature Festival, Auburn Hills, MI
- Go! Comedy Ferndale Improv Show, Royal Oak, MI
- Seattle Poetry Series, Seattle WA
- United Nations Association Greater Detroit, Detroit MI
- Writing Wrongs Poetry Series, Columbus, OH
- Central United Methodist Poetry Show, Detroit, MI
- National Congress of Negro Women Anniversary, Detroit MI
- Cantab Poetry Series, Boston, MA
- Scarab Club, Springfed Literary Series, Detroit, MI
- Red Comma Cafe presents The ShapeShifters, Birmingham, MI
- University of Michigan Artist Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Detroit, MI
- Oakland County Community College, Dept. of English LitOut Loud Series
- Vancouver Poetry Series, Vancouver, BC
- Drake Underground, Toronto, ON
- Nuyorican Poetry Cafe, New York, NY
- The Last Poets, Ann Arbor, MI
- Boll Family YMCA Poetry Show, Detroit, MI
- Michigan State University, Lansing, MI
- National StopMax Conference, Philadelphia, PA
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Detroit, MI
- Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor MI
- The Filmore (Former State Theatre) Detroit, MI
- National Public Radio, Detroit, MI
- Max M. Fisher Music Theatre, Detroit, MI
- Music Hall, Detroit, MI
- Zoae Arts Series, Bowery Poetry Club, NY, NY

Reading Tours

2014

- "All My Pretty Ones" with Rachel McKibbens | Las Vegas | Denver | Omaha | Columbus

2013

- "Season of the Witch" with Rachel McKibbens | San Fran | Oakland | Berkeley | Portland | Seattle

Volunteer

Executive Board Member

2015 - Present

Write A House

Serve in executive advisory role for the first non-profit in Detroit that seeks to offer free houses to writers through a national competitive process.

Executive Board Member

2014 - 2016

InsideOut Arts Organization

Help to define and evaluate long-term strategies for Detroit's largest literary arts nonprofit.

Executive Board Member/Workshop Leader

2006 - 2011

Prison Creative Arts Project (PCAP), University of Michigan

Led workshops at Huron Valley Correctional Institute for 8 incarcerated women and assisted the organization in mapping their goals and priorities.