

EDUCATION

1990 *M.F.A., Creative Writing*. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH.

1987 *B.A., English*. James Madison University. Harrisonburg, VA.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

The Alibis of Scarecrows. New York: Deadly Chaps Press, Forthcoming, 2019.

the sum of uncountable things. New York: Deadly Chaps Press, 2015.

illegible address. New York: Luquer Street Press, 2004.

Mechanical Birds. Edmund White, Introduction. Laurinburg, NC: St. Andrews College Press, 2001.

triptych. Edmund White, Consulting Ed. New York: The Commoner Press, 1999.

Blood Works. With Visual Artist Pietro Costa. New York: Luquer Street Press. Forthcoming.

ANTHOLOGIES

Construction People. Lee Bennett Hopkins, ed. Honesdale, PA: WordSong Boyds Mills Press, Forthcoming.

Traveling the Blue Road: Poems of the Sea. Lee Bennett Hopkins, ed. Lake Forest, CA: Seagrass/Quattro Books, 2017.

Brooklyn Poets Anthology. Jason Woo and Joe Pan, eds. Brooklyn, NY: Brooklyn Arts Press, 2017.

Contemporary Ghazals: An Anthology. RW Watkins, ed., Newfoundland, Canada: Nocturnal Iris Publications, 2014.

New America. James E. Tolan and Holly Messitt, eds. Pittsburgh: Autumn House Press, 2012.

America at War. Lee Bennett Hopkins, ed. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2008.

Poeti e poesia. Elio Pecora, ed. Rome: ediciones, 2007.

Good Poems for Hard Times. Garrison Keillor, ed. New York: Penguin, 2005.

Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry. Billy Collins, ed. New York: Random House, 2003.

The Brink: Post-Modern Poetry, 1965-Present. Noah Hoffenberg, ed. India: Yeti Books, 2002.

Ravishing Disunities: Real Ghazals in English. Agha Shahid Ali, ed. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan UP, 2001.

Ikons: Young Virginia Writers. Laurinburg, NC: St. Andrews College Press, 1997.,

SELECTED JOURNALS/MAGAZINES: POEMS

Adroit Journal, BigCityLit, Brooklyn Rail, Cairn, Caliban, The Chattahoochee Review, Contemporary Ghazals, Crux, Eastern Structures, Exquisite Corpse, Feedback, Field, Giants Play Well in the Drizzle, Hanging Loose, knockout, la petite zine, lift, Lily: A Monthly Online Review, Lingo, Lost and Found Times, LungFull!, Mid-American Review, New Virginia Review, Nexus, Nuovi Argomenti, Ontario Review, onthebus, Pindledyboz, Quarterly West, Rolling Stock, SOLO, Terminus Magazine, tight, Willow Springs, Winter Tangerine Review, WordImage, The Yale Review, ZuZu's Petals, and zzyzva.

A complete bibliography furnished upon request.

JOURNALS/MAGAZINES: INTERVIEWS

Knockout #2. "An Interview with Denver Butson." Print and online. Spring 2009.

Lily Online. "to live a life devoted to and in service to your art without compromise ... " May 2004.

MULTI-MEDIA

Poet of the Week, feature poem and interview. *Brooklyn Poets.* April 3 - 9, 2017.

<http://brooklynpoets.org/poet/denver-butson/>.

ArtScene with Erika Funke. "an interview with poet Denver Butson." WVIA public radio. Scranton, PA. June 2015.

NPR's *Writer's Almanac.* Produced and hosted by Garrison Keillor. St. Paul, MN. The following poems featured:

- "Never Mind," November 2011.
- "Tuesday 9:00 AM," January 2011.
- "despite it all," April 2009.
- "what she was wearing," February 2009 and July 2004.

- “Beauty or Flight,” February 2009 and February 2005.
- “my brother,” February 2005.
- “as the credits rolled,” October 2004.

Willow Springs Online, Issue 61. “Notes on the Drowning Ghazals.” 2009.

Poetry Dispatch No.27. “what she was wearing.” 23 Feb 2009.

Poetry Daily (poems.com). Poem of the day. “issues.” 4 Mar 2004.

Poetry 18. “Tuesday 9:00 AM.” Dir. Billy Collins. Library of Congress, Washington, DC. 2004

HONORS

Inaugural Poet-in-Residence. BACAS launch residency. Teggiano (Salerno), Italy. 2018.

Featured Poet. The Gathering at Keystone College. La Plume, PA. 2015.

Pushcart Prize Nominations: 2015 (Joseph Quintela, Deadly Chaps Press), 2013 (Peter LaBarge, *Adroit Journal*), 1999 (Joyce Carol Oates, *Ontario Review*).

Campbell Corner Poetry Prize. Distinguished Entry. Phillis Levin, Vijay Seshadri, and Sharon Dolin (judges). 2013.

Poetry 180 inclusion: Chosen by US Poet Laureate, Billy Collins. 2004.

Individual Artist Fellowship. New York Foundation for the Arts. 2003.

Featured Poet. Roanoke Island Residency. Manteo, NC. 2003.

William Butler Yeats Chair in Poetry. Ezra Pound Center for Literature at Brunnenburg Castle. Dorf Tirol, Italy. 2000.

Ronald H. Bayes Resident in Creative Writing. St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Laurinburg, NC. 1998.

Richard M. Devine Memorial Fellowship. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH, 1990.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Founder and Director. WritersWriting. New York, NY. 1999 – present.

Writing Coach. Clients include award-winning poets, children’s book authors, memoirists, novelists, and short-story writers. Brooklyn, NY. 2004 - present.

Visiting Poet. Volunteer. Run one-day workshops for public school students (K-12). PS 29, PS 32, MS51. Brooklyn, NY. 2010 - present.

Instructor of Poetry Workshops for Elementary Students. Volunteer. 10-week workshops on inspiration and poem-making. PS 29. Brooklyn, NY. 2010-2015.

Visiting Adjunct Professor. St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Laurinburg, NC. 1999 – Present.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Creative Writing. Ezra Pound Center for Literature at Brunnenburg Castle. St. Andrews College Studies Abroad. Dorf Tirol, Italy. 2000.

Creative Writing Instructor. Gotham Writers Workshop. New York, NY. 1997 – 1999.

Adjunct Professor of English. Virginia Commonwealth University. Richmond, VA. 1990 – 1997

Graduate Fellow. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH. 1988 – 1990.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

Literary Programming Curator. BACAS (*Borghi Antichi Cultura Arti Scienze*). Salerno, Italy. 2018-2019.

Co-Founder/Creative Director/Director of Literary Programs (US). BACAS (*Borghi Antichi Cultura Arti Scienze*). Salerno, Italy. 2016 - 2018.

Broker/Partner. VESPA Properties Group. Brooklyn, NY. 2007 – 2018.

Co-Director. VESPA Projects Gallery and Performance Space. Brooklyn, NY. 2007 – 2018.

Creative Director. Luquer Street Projects/Luquer Street Press Brooklyn, NY. 2003 – 2018.

Artistic Director. Vendôme Arts Association. New York, NY. 2001 – 2003.

Faculty Director. St. Andrews Presbyterian College Semester at Brunnenburg Program. Dorf Tirol, Italy. 2000.

Adjunct Representative to the Faculty Committee. Virginia Commonwealth University. Richmond, VA. 1994 – 1997.

Co-Director. Graduate Writers Committee. English Department. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH. 1991.

Co-Director. New Language and Music Festival. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH. 1990.

READINGS/EXHIBITIONS/PERFORMANCES

WritersWalking, a reading of the four writers-in-residence (Edmund White, Garnette Cadogan, Tiziana Rinaldi Castro, and Denver Butson), BACAS launch. Teggiano (Salerno), Italy. July 13, 2018.

The Treaty of Emotional Anatomy, reading and multi-media performance with Andrea “VJ Lapsus” Pennisi and musicians (with the visual art of Virginia Calderella). BACAS launch. Teggiano (Salerno), Italy. July 9, 2018.

The xy chromosome: a reading to accompany film and visual work by filmmakers Mark Street and Lynne Sachs. Court Tree Collective. Brooklyn, NY. May 24, 2018.

The Wind Will Undo Us: a Tribute to James Tolan. Poets House. Brooklyn, NY. November 11, 2018.

The Treaty of Emotional Anatomy: reading and multi-media performance with Andrea “VJ Lapsus” Pennisi and Marco Cappelli. *John Zorn Presents ... The Stone* at the Drawing Center. New York, NY. September 12, 2017.

“a very famous restaurant,” typewriter on cotton paper with kitchen stains,” at frosch and portmann gallery. Curated by Dennis Dawson. New York. 2015.

whatever the sky is, the sky is blue. Visual Artist Joseph A.W. Quintela's exhibition/installation in response to poems in *the sum of uncountable things*. VESPA Projects Gallery. Brooklyn, 2015.

the sum of uncountable things: Conversations/Interactions/Collaborations with the Poetry of Denver Butson, a month-long book launch and exhibition. Featuring thirteen visual artists, several poets and fiction writers, and musicians. Court Tree Collective. Brooklyn, 2015.

New York City Poetry Festival. Governor's Island, NY. July 2015.

SELECTED READING/EXHIBITION VENUES:

Book Court (Brooklyn), Douglass Street Collective (Brooklyn), Bernard Delacroix Gallery (Brooklyn), Keystone College (La Plume, PA), Georgia Perimeter College (Atlanta), Saratoga Springs Public Library (Saratoga Springs, NY), La Certosa di San Lorenzo (Padula, Italy), The Katonah Museum (Katonah, NY), The National Arts Club (NYC), Ezra Pound Center for Literature (Tirolo, Italy), and The Poetry Project at St. Mark's Church (NYC).

A complete list furnished upon request.

COLLABORATIONS

In which we all kiss something secretly. Handmade light boxes with photographs and poetry. With visual artist Maria Mercedes Martinez. 2017-18. Premiering at Court Tree Collective, Brooklyn. February 2019.

the sum of uncountable things: conversations/interactions/collaborations with the poetry of Denver Butson. Collaborators include: visual artists Gary Butson, Cedric N. Chatterley, Dennis Dawson, Melissa Goodling, Dean Haspiel, Maria Mercedes Martinez, Orazio, Joseph AW Quintela, Karen Revis, Walter Rossi, and Toni Ann Serratelli; musicians Marco Cappelli and Mat Maneri; fiction writers Patrick Ryan and Michael Carroll; poets Nicole Callihan, Lorrain Doran, Mara Jebsen, and James Tolan; filmmaker Eric Maierson; and actress Rhonda Keyser. May 2015.

Camera Amnesia. A working camera sculpture with words. With Cedric N. Chatterley. Forthcoming.

I was Working on a Tugboat: a cookbook with no recipes. With Chef Antonio Migliaccio. Forthcoming.

Poetry/Music. Various performances with Marco Cappelli, Mat Maneri, The Italian Surf Academy, VJ Lapsus and Marco Cappelli. Mat Maneri with Lucian Ban, Mat Maneri with Craig Taborn, Marco Cappelli and Mat Maneri. 2009 - present.

grace. Sculpture, Pietro Costa. Photographs, Cedric N. Chatterley. Ed. Lela Nargi. New York: Luquer Street Press, 2003.

an unpredictable thing. Dir. Rhonda Keyser. Feat. Rhonda Keyser. Writ. Tom Noonan. "Creative Consultant." Solange Productions. New York, 2001.

The Cigar Box Project. Visual Artist Maria Mercedes. 2000

SELECTED REMARKS

Elena Alexander

Denver Butson moves all things with an equal and passionate intensity.

Agha Shahid Ali

We know in our deepest selves that what he has seen, and sees, is enough for us to want to keep on seeing, to hear whatever he may wish to report to us . . . we are always, most willingly, with his beautiful and beguiling pronouncements, all of which are offered to us in an array of dazzling twists and turns.

Billy Collins:

Here is a poet who is wild, frenzied, and refreshingly mad. His imagination unlocks for us the cells of reason and sets us loose in a world of dizzying possibilities.

Theodore Enslin

The appearance of Denver Butson's first book is a cause for celebration . . . a thoroughly satisfying experience for an engaged reader. Bravo!

Forrest Gander

This is your invitation, reader. You can walk on into your ritual, or strike your imagination on the tinder of these poems.

Thom Gunn

Seldom do I read a book with such admiration and am struck by such energy and ingenuity.

Jim Harrison

Denver Butson's work is splendid and quite remote from the MFA-sodden factories.

X.J. Kennedy

Whenever I start reading a poet in quantity that I hadn't read much before, I first see if the work has energy. [Denver Butson's work] abounds in that, and yet there is a concision, a sense of control – power that doesn't sprawl, or short-circuit. All first-rate qualities. Making fans of everybody is going to be just a matter of time.

Zachary Lazar

the sum of uncountable things is a ghostly meditation on time, loss, betrayal, memory, desire – all the flavors of this world, which we will miss so dearly when they and we are gone. Lorca’s word for such poetic power was *duende*. Butson’s work has always possessed this power, which enlivens every word of this impassioned, new long poem.

W.S. Merwin

Subtle and evocative language.

Michael Mott

When this poet disturbs the words, he brings baffled joy one minute and an acute sense of menace the next. Yet Denver Butson knows, just as well, when to leave an image stark, serious: something we cannot avoid (an empty hand?) – something we have to fill for ourselves. To miss out on this would be a mistake.

Matthew Rohrer

Memory and dreams fuse. Coffee is brought unbidden. Come sit for a minute while Denver Butson juggles the past, present and future sitting in a café, waiting to plead his case to eternity.

Ned Rorem

Original, necessary, and musical.

Tomaž Šalumun

Denver Butson sings the paradise he has lost – the beloved body he has lost, the skin, the air, the views, the bruises – everything he has lost, or so he says. But he hasn’t lost; he has gained, and the reader wants to be there at the exact “lost” spot, transported on the magic carpet of the author’s words. It’s like coming home for me.

Edmund White

There are extravagant images in these poems, but there are also everyday things – birds, windows – that have been chilled by immersion in the infinite . . . it’s as if Denver Butson were weaving his tissue from both burlap and silk . . . these poems could be inscribed in a missal for mystical atheists.

SELECTED STUDENT REMARKS

Jesse Nissim, Poetry Student

Denver's style of teaching is so organic to who he is as a person and an artist day to day, that as a result of being around him for two years -- taking workshops and meeting one-on-one to discuss my work -- I learned more about reading and attentiveness than I had in college, and I gained longer-lasting poetic skills and instincts than I would in the years that followed in the classrooms of my MFA program.

Donald Matteson, Fiction Student

It was clear from the beginning that Denver not only possessed a mastery of his craft, but cared very much about helping others -- even those who often behaved as if they didn't need it -- to gain greater understanding of the writing process and of themselves.

Rebecca Metzger, Poetry Student

While working with Denver, I wrote more than I had ever written before -- and produced my best work -- because I felt inspired to write . . .

Whit Griffin, Poetry Student

The sheer joy he brought to his classes was infectious; he would share with students the work of poets he had discovered in his studies, and in so doing would foster in his students an appreciation for an until-then-known artist. In Denver's classes there was always a sense of discovery, and an acknowledgment of the power of language.