

DR. JULIA B. KOETS
Assistant Professor
University of South Florida
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EDUCATION

PhD, Creative Writing and Literature, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH (2012-2016)

Comprehensive Exams: Creative Nonfiction, Gender & Queer Performativity and
The History of the Queer Love Lyric

MFA, Creative Writing, Poetry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC (2006-2009)

BA, English, Creative Writing Emphasis, Visual Art (minor), Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC
(2001-2005)

Prague Summer Program, Creative Writing, Western Michigan University and Charles
University, Praha, Czech Republic (Summer 2009)

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

PLNE. Evansville: University of Southern Indiana Review Press, 2021. (April 2021).

Poetry.

The Rib Joint: A Memoir in Essays. Los Angeles: Red Hen Press, 2019. (November 2019)

Nonfiction. 2020 Lambda Literary Award Finalist.

Hold Like Owls. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press (April 2012). Poetry

WEBSITE

www.juliakoets.com

JOURNAL & ANTHOLOGY PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS: CREATIVE NONFICTION

- “Someone Will Remember Us,” *Southern Indiana Review* (Spring/Summer 2021), 2022 Best American Essays Notable Essay, 2022 Pushcart Prize Special Mention
- “Azalea,” *Miracle Monocle* (Fall 2019, Issue 13)
- “The Rib Joint,” *Creative Nonfiction* (August 2019), 2020 Best American Essays Notable Essay
- “How to Ignite,” *The Journal* (online, Spring 2018)
- “Astronomy of the Closet: Seven Axioms,” *Portland Review* (Spring 2016)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS: POETRY

- “The Science of _____,” *Parks Stewardship Forum: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Place-Based Conservation*, University of California-Berkeley, vol. 39/2 (May 2023)
- “Field Notes on Loving a Girl in Secret,” *Get Bent: An Anthology from Bending Genres* (February 2023)
- “On Distance,” *Good River Review* (Spring 2022)
- “Field Notes for Loving a Girl in Secret,” featured in *Verse Daily* (July 22nd, 2021)
- “Eros as Asteroid,” featured in *Verse Daily* (July 16th, 2021)
- “A Villanelle for Jodie Foster,” “Eros as Asteroid,” “Alternate Names for Winter,” *Southern Indiana Review* (Fall 2020)
- “Eros, as fish,” “The Boathouse,” “Solstice,” “Slim Light of Stars,” “A Sure Break,” “A Love Poem to Sally Ride,” *Connotation Press* (2019), Pushcart Prize Nomination for “The Boathouse”
- “The Science of _____,” *QU Literary Journal* (Spring 2018), Pushcart Prize Nomination
- “Moon Prayer,” “One Theory of Loss,” “Moon Wedding,” *Miracle Monocle* (Spring 2017)
- “Eros, as recliner,” *Portland Review* (Spring 2016)
- “The Thinnest String,” *Nimrod* (Spring 2016)
- “Preservation” *The Minnesota Review* (Fall 2014)
- “Love in an Efficiency Apartment,” “A Welcome to the Neighborhood,” “Overgrowth,” *The Frank Martin Review* (Fall 2014)
- “Plumage,” “Bullfrog Drawl,” *The Carolina Quarterly* (Spring 2016)
- “Paper Birds,” *Verse daily* (2012)
- “Shrug of Broken Egg, Frozen Shell,” *Indiana Review* (Summer 2011)
- “Paper Birds,” *The Los Angeles Review* (February 2011)
- “For Julia in Little Armenia,” *undefined Magazine* (Summer 2010)
- “Gentle Corners of the Night,” *Euphony* (Spring 2010)
- “Fallen,” *Cutthroat*, Issue VIII (Spring 2010)
- “Plasmon Band,” “In Vivo,” “Poiesis,” *Breakthrough*, University of South Carolina Research and Health Sciences Journal (Winter 2008)

BOOK REVIEW ESSAYS

- Koets, Julia. “The Pleasure of Digression: Michael Griffith’s *The Speaking Stone: Stories*”

Cemeteries Tell.” *The South Carolina Review*, Clemson University Press, Volume 53, Number 2, Spring 2021, pp. 154-156.

- Koets, Julia. Review essay and drawings of Leah Poole Osowski’s *Hover Over Her* (Kent State University Press, 2016), *The Bind*, May 2017.
- Koets, Julia. “The Sounds of Catherine Pierce’s *The Tornado Is the World* (Saturnalia Press, 2016),” *The Bind*, August 2017

INTERVIEWS

- “Language of Identity: An Interview with Li-Young Lee,” *Yemassee*, Vol. XVI, Number 1 (Fall 2008)

WORKS IN ANTHOLOGIES AND TEXTBOOKS

- “Boys,” *The Practice of Creative Writing: A Guide for Students, Fourth Edition*, Sellers, Heather, Bedford/St. Martin's, September 2020.
- “Bruise,” “Beauty Secrets,” “Oconee Bells,” “Hold Like Owls,” “My Quixote,” “Joy, the Elephant,” “Stitching the Sides of a Story Together,” “Woman Drawn with Stars,” “December Hemlock,” “Ruin,” *Seven Strong*, ed. Kwame Dawes, University of South Carolina Press (2012)
- “Humphrey,” *Found Anew*, ed. R. Mac Jones and Ray McManus, University of South Carolina Press (2015)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Literature, \$25,000

2023 Pushcart Prize XLVII, Special Mention for nonfiction essay “Someone Will Remember Us”

2022 Best American Essays 2022 Notable for nonfiction essay “Someone Will Remember Us”

2022 Best Book Award for *PINE*, 19th Annual American Book Fest

2022 Humanities Institute Summer Grant, University of South Florida, \$5000

2022 Florida Book Awards, Silver Medal for *PINE*

2022 Pushcart Prize Nomination for “The Science of _____”

2022 Pushcart Prize Nomination for “The Boathouse”

2022 Pushcart Prize Nomination for “Someone Will Remember Us”

2021 Julie Suk Award finalist, best book of poetry by a literary press, for *PINE*

2021 Forward INDIE Poetry Award Finalist for *PINE*

2021 McKnight Junior Faculty Development Fellowship (2021-2022), full-year paid sabbatical to work on research

- 2020** Lambda Literary Award Finalist for Lesbian Memoir/Biography
- 2020** Best American Essays 2020 Notable for “The Rib Joint”
- 2019** Winner of the 2019 Michael Waters Prize for *PINE*
- 2019** Winner of the McCray Nickens Fellowship
- 2019** Semi-Finalist for the 2019 Miller Williams Poetry Prize for *Pine*
- 2018** Finalist for the 2018 Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize for *Pine*
- 2018** Individual Excellence Award, Ohio Arts Council Grant
- 2017** Winner of the 2017 Red Hen Press Nonfiction Award for *The Rib Joint: A Memoir in Essays*
- 2017** Finalist for the Alice James Award for *Pine*
- 2017** Finalist for the University of Wisconsin Press Brittingham Prize for *Pine*
- 2016** Finalist for the Pleiades Press Lena-Miles Wever Todd Prize for *Pine*
- 2016** First Place, Robin Sheets Critical Essay Prize for “I Turned My Notebook Sideways’:
Queer Temporality in D.A. Powell’s *Tea*”
- 2015** Darwin T. Turner Scholar’s Program Teaching Award, University of Cincinnati
- 2011** Winner of the South Carolina Poetry Book Prize, University of South Carolina Press
- 2009** John Woods Scholarship, Prague Summer Program
- 2009** Writer-in-Residency Fellowship, South Carolina State Parks Program
- 2009** The James Dickey Award, University of South Carolina
- 2008** National Science Foundation (NSF) Writing Grant, Poet for Nanotechnology
Interdisciplinary Project, University of South Carolina
- 2007** National Science Foundation (NSF) Writing Grant, Poet for Nanotechnology
Interdisciplinary Project, University of South Carolina
- 2005** Summa Cum Laude, Presbyterian College, 2005

INVITED READINGS, LECTURES & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Invited Panelist, USF Workshop for Fellowships in the Humanities, February 17, 2023
- Invited Visiting Writer (Craft Talk, Reading, and Individual Conferences with Graduate Students) McNeese State University’s Visiting Writers Series, Lake Charles, LA, October 21-23, 2022
- Invited Guest Speaker, South Carolina Governor’s School, Virtual, Greenville, SC, September 14, 2022
- Invited Guest Faculty, “The Architecture of Memory: Archives, Maps, and Houses in

Nonfiction,” Sandhill Writers Retreat, St. Leo University, Tampa, Florida, Faculty Craft Lecture and Reading, May 10, 2022

Featured Reader, Tombolo Bookstore, St. Petersburg, Florida, Florida Book Award Winner Reading with Gloria Muñoz and John Davis, April 25, 2022

Invited Reader, Frostburg State University’s Center for Literary Arts’ Reading Series, Frostburg, Maryland, April 21, 2022

Featured Presenter, Word of South: Festival of Literature and Music, Tallahassee, Florida, April 9, 2022

Conference Presenter, “Research & Reckoning: How Nonfiction Research Allows Us to Reckon with the Past,” AWP Conference 2022, Philadelphia, PA, March 25, 2022, virtual event

Invited Reader with Meg Day and Jenny Johnson, Suffolk University, Boston, Massachusetts, April 24th, 2021

Conference Presenter, “Queer Nature,” Glitterary 2021 Festival, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, April 17th, 2021

Featured Reader with Scott Gould, Hub City Bookshop and Press, Spartanburg, South Carolina, April 13th, 2021

Featured Reader with Lisa Summe and Madeleine Wattenberg, University of Cincinnati Elliston Room, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 9th, 2021

Featured Reader with Natalie Scenters-Zapico and Anne Barngrover, Tombolo Books, April 8th, 2021

Invited Reader with Daisy Hernández, Clemson University’s Women’s Sexuality, and Gender Studies Department, April 6th, 2021

Featured Reader with Tyree Daye and Ruth Awad, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, April 5th, 2021

Featured Reader, University of South Carolina’s MFA Shark’s Parlor Reading Series, Columbia, South Carolina, April 2nd, 2021

Invited Reader with Alicia Mountain and Q&A, 14th Annual Clemson Literary Festival, Clemson, South Carolina, March 24th, 2021

Invited Class Speaker to Lesbian Continuum Course with Professor Sarah Cooper, Clemson University, February 16, 2021

Invited Class Speaker to Memoir Class with Professor John Drury, University of Cincinnati, January 25, 2021

Invited Craft Lecturer & Reader, “The Architecture of Memory: Archives, Maps, & Houses in Nonfiction,” Converse College MFA Program, Spartanburg, South Carolina, January 5th, 2021

Co-host of Book Launch of Heather Sellers’ *The Practice of Creative Writing* and Panel on Jobs in Publishing, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, October 23, 2020

Invited Master Class on Creative Nonfiction and Reading from *The Rib Joint*, Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina, September 21-22, 2020

Invited Reader with Julie Marie Wade, Books and Books, Coral Gables, Florida, September 20, 2020

Featured Reader, University of South Florida’s MFA Virtual Reading Series, Tampa, Florida, September 11, 2020

Featured Reader, University of South Carolina MFA Shark’s Parlor, Columbia, South Carolina, April 3, 2020*cancelled due to COVID-19

Featured Reader, Books and Books, Coral Gables, Florida, March 22, 2020 *cancelled due to COVID-19

Featured Speaker, “Exploring LGBTQ Stories and Histories,” Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, Virginia, March 18-22, 2020 *cancelled due to COVID-19

Featured Reader, AWP 2020, San Antonio, Texas, Red Hen Press Omnibus Reading, March 6, 2020 *unable to attend due to COVID-19

Featured Reader, Read Herring Reading Series, Tampa, FL, February 19, 2020

Featured Reader, House Reading and Book Signing for *The Rib Joint*, Summerville, South Carolina, November 16, 2019

Invited Reader, University of Cincinnati reading from *The Rib Joint*, Elliston Room, November 22, 2019

Featured Presenter, 27th Annual Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading, reading from *The Rib Joint*, St. Petersburg, Florida, November 9, 2019

Invited Reader, University of Central Florida, Writers in the Sun Reading Series, reading from *The Rib Joint*, Orlando, Florida, November 7, 2019

Featured Reader, USF Writer’s Harvest, Oxford Exchange, reading from *The Rib Joint*, Tampa, Florida, November 4, 2019

Featured Reader, Mac’s Backs-Books on Coventry, reading from *The Rib Joint*, Cleveland, Ohio, October 24, 2019

Conference Presenter, “When Relying on Conventions Blocks Creativity in the Classroom,” AWP Conference, Portland, Oregon, March 30, 2019

Invited Reader, Clemson University Literary Festival, April 5, 2018

Conference Presenter, “Beyond 140 Characters and the Canon: The Growth of Undergraduate Creative Writing,” (panel moderator), AWP Conference, Tampa, Florida, March 9, 2018

Invited Presenter, Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, OH, July 28, 2017

Conference Presenter, “Story as Survival: LGBTQ Memoir,” (panel) AWP Conference, Los Angeles, California, March 2016

Invited Reader, Presbyterian College, Master Class in Poetry and reading from *Hold Like Owls*, Clinton, SC, September 24, 2015

Featured Presenter, “The Book as Dwelling Place: Queer Temporality/Spatiality in Creative Nonfiction,” ZinZinn Collective Lecture Series, Cincinnati, OH, May 2, 2015

Featured Reader, Piccolo Spoleto reading, Charleston, SC, June 4, 2015

Conference Presenter, “The Lyric Poem as Parallel Universe: Queer Temporality & The Queer Love Lyric,” Trans Writ Large: Writing Difference Conference, The University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, March 28, 2015

Conference Presenter, “(Impossible) Lesbian Little Women: Girlhood Erasure in Sarah Schulman’s *Rat Bohemia*,” Transforming Access Conference, The University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, March 8, 2014

Conference Presenter, “When a Poem Can’t Tell the Whole Story: Why Poets Are Taking up Nonfiction,” (panel) AWP Conference, Seattle, WA, February 2014

Featured Reader, Elliston Room Poetry Reading, University of Cincinnati, Spring 2013

Conference Presenter, “The End of the Line: A Workshop on the Line Break,” Winter Wheat: The *Mid-American Review* Festival of Writing Conference, Bowling Green, OH, November 2013

Featured Reader, South Carolina Book Festival (panel), Columbia, SC, Spring 2012

Featured Reader, Cesar Chavez Day, Pomona, California, April 17, 2010

Featured Reader, Ypsilon Theater, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2009

Featured Reader, Carnival of the Animals, The Koger Center for the Arts, Columbia, SC, October 3- 4, 2008

Featured Presenter, Fire and Transformation (panel), Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC, September 2008
Featured Reader, South Carolina Governor's School of the Arts and Humanities, Greenville, SC, June 2008, July 2008
Featured Reader, Richland County Library, Columbia, SC, March 2008
Featured Reader, University of South Carolina, Sumter, SC, March 2008
Featured Reader, Reading with Li-Young Lee, Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC, March 2008
Featured Presenter, Carnival of the Animals, School of Music, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, March 2008
Featured Presenter, Art of Jazz, Lab Theatre, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC February 2008
Featured Presenter, Echoes of the Great War, McKissick Museum, Columbia, SC, November 2007
Featured Reader, Hush, Columbia, SC, Fall 2007
Featured Reader, Prosetry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, Fall 2007
Featured Presenter, McMaster Gallery, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, October 2007
Featured Presenter, *Material Terrain* exhibit at the Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC, August 2007
Featured Presenter, *The Unicorn, the Gorgon, and the Manticore*, The Koger Center for the Arts, Columbia, SC, April 2007

REVIEWS, INTERVIEWS, AND PUBLICATION RECOGNITION

Interviews, articles, and reviews of *The Rib Joint: A Memoir in Essay*:

NBC News. "25 Best LGBTQ books of 2020, according to Lambda Literary."
<https://www.nbcnews.com/select/nbc-out/best-lgbtq-books-lammy-awards-lambda-literary-ncna1215746>

Oprah Magazine. "These Are the Finalists for the 2020 Lambda Literary Awards, Announced Exclusively on OprahMag.com"
<https://www.oprahdaily.com/entertainment/books/a31261320/lambda-literary-awards-finalists-2020/>

Brevity review of *The Rib Joint*. December 19, 2019
<https://brevity.wordpress.com/2019/12/19/the-rib-joint/>

WVXU Cincinnati radio interview about *The Rib Joint*, August 7, 2020.
<https://www.wvxu.org/books/2020-08-07/local-author-julia-koets-talks-about-her-recent-memoir#stream/0>

Book Riot's "20 Must-Read Queer Essay Collections." March 9, 2021.
<https://bookriot.com/queer-essay-collections/>

Medium's "Your Pride Month Legible Reading List: 5 Books Celebrating LGBTQ+ Voices." June 8, 2021. <https://medium.com/legible-media/your-pride-month-legible-reading-list-5-books-celebrating-lgbtq-voices-e8a23c5fa3e3>

Cville article. March 18, 2020. <https://www.c-ville.com/taking-covers-your-social-distancing-reading-list/>

The Tampa Bay Times. Article by Colette Bancroft. October 25, 2019. <https://www.tampabay.com/arts-entertainment/arts/books/2019/10/25/julia-koets-the-rib-joint-a-lyrical-memoir-of-coming-out-or-not/>
University of Louisville's *Miracle Monocle* journal interview. <https://louisville.edu/miraclemonocle/issue-13/q-a-with-julia-koets>
Presbyterian College news article. "Alumna Reads Award-Winning Work Virtually." October 16, 2020. <https://www.presby.edu/about/2020/10/16/alumna-reads-award-winning-work-virtually/>
Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance. Book recommendations. <https://sibaweb.com/blogpost/1157249/333910/What-s-on-Lady-Banks-Bookshelf-in-November>

Interviews, articles, and reviews of *PINE*:

The Rumpus. Interview with Julie Marie Wade. "On Genre and Angle: A Conversation with Julia Koets." April 9, 2021. <https://therumpus.net/2021/04/the-rumpus-interview-with-julia-koets/>
The Los Angeles Review. Book review of *PINE* by Amie Whitemore. <https://losangelesreview.org/review-pine-amie-whitemore/>
Colorado Review. Book review by C.E. Janecek. <https://coloradoreview.colostate.edu/reviews/pine/>
Lambda Literary's "April's Most Anticipated LGBTQ Books." March 29, 2021. <https://lambdaliterary.org/2021/03/aprils-most-anticipated-lgbtq-books/>
The Oracle press release about *PINE*. "USF Professor explores LGBTQ experiences in *PINE*." April 5, 2021. <https://www.usforacle.com/2021/04/05/usf-professor-explores-lgbtq-experiences-in-poetry-book-pine/>
Heavy Feather Review. Book review by Carolyn Oliver. August 26, 2021. <https://heavyfeatherreview.org/tag/julia-koets/>
University of Southern Indiana Review interview. "Inventing Words is a Form of Longing: An Interview with Julia Koets." <https://www.usi.edu/sir/sir-press-authors/julia-koets/inventing-words-is-a-form-of-longing-an-interview-with-julia-koets/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

August 2020 – present

Assistant Professor

Professor of undergraduate and graduate creative writing courses in creative nonfiction and poetry, 2 courses per semester. Director of MFA theses.

CRW 3221, Nonfiction II: Love, Desire, & Heartbreak (Fall 2023)

CRW 4930, Nonfiction Workshop (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

CRW 4930, Form & Technique of Nonfiction (Fall 2022)

CRW 6236, Graduate Craft of Nonfiction: Research in Nonfiction (Fall 2020)

CRW 6236: Graduate Nonfiction Workshop: To Digress, To Imagine, & To Reckon With (Fall 2022)

CRW 6236: Graduate Nonfiction Workshop: Narratives of the Body
(Fall 2023)

CRW 6352, Graduate Craft of Poetry: Poet as Architect (Spring 2023)

CRW 3311, Form and Technique of Poetry (Spring 2021)

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

August 2019 – May 2020

Visiting Assistant Professor

Professor of undergraduate and graduate creative writing courses in creative nonfiction and poetry, 2 courses per semester. Director of MFA theses.

CRW 4930, Creative Nonfiction (Spring, 2020, Fall 2019)

CRW 6236, Graduate Creative Nonfiction Workshop: Narratives of the Body
(Spring 2020)

CRW 3312, Poetry I (Fall 2019)

Clemson University, Clemson, SC

January 2018 – Summer 2019

Lecturer

Instructor for undergraduate creative writing, literature, and composition courses, eight courses per year.

English 4490, Upper-Level Creative Nonfiction Workshop

English 3480, Introduction to Creative Writing: Screenwriting

English 2120, World Literature: Gender and Sexuality (both in-person and online)

English 2150, Literature in 20th and 21st Century Contexts

English 1030, Composition and Rhetoric

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

August 2016 – December 2017

Adjunct Assistant Professor

Instructor for undergraduate intermediate composition courses, five sections per year.

English 2089, Intermediate Composition

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

August 2012 – July 2016

Graduate Teaching Instructor

Instructor for undergraduate courses in creative writing, literature, and composition, including multi-genre creative writing, poetry, and creative nonfiction, three sections per year. Please find a list of courses I have developed and taught below:

English 2017, Introduction to Creative Writing Workshop

English 2002, Story as Survival: Sexuality & Gender in Creative Nonfiction

English 2089, Intermediate Composition (both in-person and online)

English 1001, English Composition and Rhetoric

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

August 2007 – June 2009

Graduate Teaching Instructor

Instructor for undergraduate courses in creative writing, literature, and composition, including multi-genre creative writing, poetry, and creative nonfiction, three to four sections per year.

Please find a list of courses I have taught below:

English 360, Multi-Genre Creative Writing Workshop (poetry, creative nonfiction, and fiction)

English 102, Literature and Composition

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

The South Carolina Poetry Initiative, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, 2007-2009,
Program Coordinator

As Program Coordinator for the South Carolina Poetry Initiative, I organized and facilitated literary events both on and off campus, corresponded with visiting writers, and assisted in the day-to-day operations of the organization.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Editor, Black Lawrence Press, 2016- present

Staff Book Reviewer, *The Bind*, 2017- 2021

Digital Archive Transcriber, The Elliston Poetry Project, Summer 2014

Manuscript Reader, *The Cincinnati Review*, 2013

Poetry Editor, *Yemassee*, 2008-2009

Research Assistant, The University of South Carolina's Art Institute, 2007

Writing Center Tutor, The University of South Carolina's Academic Writing Center, 2006-2007

Editorial Board, *Writing Centered*, Presbyterian College, 2004-2005

Writing Center Tutor, Presbyterian College, Academic Writing Center, 2001-2005

English Department Assistant, Presbyterian College, 2004-2005