**John Tait**

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**Education**

Ph.D. in English (Creative Writing -- Fiction), University of Missouri-Columbia, 2002

-- Primary Areas: 20th-Century American Fiction and American Film

M.F.A. (Creative Writing -- Fiction), University of New Orleans, LA, 1997

M.A., English Literature and Language.  University of Toronto, 1993

B.A., English Specialist, Philosophy minor.  University of Toronto, 1992

**Professional Experience**

2008 – Present

Associate Professor of Fiction Writing. University of North Texas.

2002 – 2008

Assistant Professor of Fiction Writing. University of North Texas.

**Publications**

**Short Fiction**

“Dad’s Trying to Be Cool Again.” *Fiction* (Spring 2012).

“Face and Fix It.” *Iron Horse* (Fall 2008).

“The Byte Bastard.” *Chariton Review* (Fall 2008): 25-38.

“Halfrica.” *Crazyhorse* (Spring 2008): 9-22.

“The Poplars, 1983.” *The Sun* (January 2008): 16-22.

“Lisbon.” *Triquarterly* (Spring 2007): 169-177.

“Jane from Cameroon.” *Michigan Quarterly Review* (Spring 2007): 316-327.

“Nothing Will Happen That I Don’t Tell You About.” *Meridian* (Spring / Summer

2006): 92-108.

“Reasons For Concern Regarding My Girlfriend of Five Days, Monica Garza.”

*Crazyhorse* (Spring 2006): 87-92.

“I Will Soon Be Married.” *The Sun* (September 2005): 24-31.

“Canton NY.” *Prairie Schooner* (Summer 2002): 107-120.

“Heavy Metal Love.” *Bellingham Review* (Spring 2002): 50-65.

“The Girl on the Mailbox.” *Dogwood* (May 2001): 42-56.

“Cementhead.”  *The Sun* (June 2000): 40-46.

“Starvation, Class Struggle, Etc.”  *River City* (Winter 2000): 108-124.

“Stepdaughter.”  *The New Orleans Review* (Fall / Winter 1997): 98-108.

“O’Reely is Dead and O’Reilly Don’t Know It.”  *Sonora Review*  (Fall / Winter

1997):  47-57.

**Grants, Awards, Honors and Republications**

2011-- Everett Southwest Literary Award ($5000) for a novel manuscript, judged by

Sandra Cisneros

2010 -- “Reasons for Concern Regarding . . .” republished in *Crazyhorse 50th*

*Anniversary Issue*

2009 -- “I Will Soon Be Married” republished in *The Mysterious Life of the Heart* (Sun

Publishing, 2009)

2006 -- “Reasons for Concern Regarding . . .” selected for *New Stories from the*

*Southwest 2006* anthology (University of Ohio Press, 2007)

2006 -- “I Will Soon Be Married” cited as one of “100 Other Distinguished Stories” in

*Best American Short Stories 2006*

2006 -- Two nominations for a Pushcart Prize

2006 -- First Prize ($1000) in the H.E. Francis Literary Competition (Judged by Verlyn

Klinkenborg)

2005 -- Canada Council for the Arts Grant ($9000 Canadian) for Emerging Writers

2002 -- The Tobias Wolff Award ($1000) for Fiction (Judged by Lan Samantha Chang)

2001 -- First Prize ($500) in the *Dogwood* Fiction Awards

2000 -- Nominated for a Pushcart Prize

1999 -- First prize ($2000) in the *River City* Short Story Competition (Judged by Francine

Prose)

1997-2001 -- Creative Writing Fellowship (Fiction), University of Missouri

1997 -- Fiction Fellowship for the Prague Summer Writers’ Workshops

**Teaching**

**Courses Taught**

Graduate Fiction Workshop

Graduate Creative Nonfiction Workshop

Form and Theory in Fiction (Graduate)

Intermediate Undergraduate Fiction Workshop

Advanced Undergraduate Fiction Workshop

Introductory Undergraduate Fiction Workshop

Freshman Writing

Remedial Writing

Introduction to Film

Introduction to World Literature

Introduction to American Literature

Genres: The Novel

**Conferences and Readings**

Invited Lecture. Parr Library Young Writers Group. Plano TX. October,

2012.

Everett Literary Award Reading. University of Central Oklahoma. Edmond OK. April 2011.

Editors’ Roundtable Panel Discussion. Richland College Literary Festival. Dallas TX. March 2011.

Story Reading. Texas Association of Writing Teachers Conference. Forth Worth TX.

October 2010.

“Literary Publishing in Uncertain Times.” Invited Lecture. Writer’s Guild of Texas.

Richardson TX. March 2010.

“The Pros and Cons of Poetry and Fiction Contests.” Panel Discussion. *Associated*

*Writing* Programs Annual Conference. Austin TX. March 2006.

Story Reading. *Professor’s Corner Lecture Series*. Denton TX. May 2004.

Story Reading. *North Texas Review* Reading Series. Denton TX. March 2003.

Story Reading. Faculty Reading Series. University of North Texas English

Department. October 2002.

“Profs and Panderers.” Panel Discussion. Aesthetics vs. Cultural Studies Academic

Conference. University of Missouri-Columbia. March 2001.

Story reading.  Legacy Art Gallery.  Columbia, MO.  September 2000.

"The Punk Club and the Lyceum."  Disruptive Disciplines Academic Conference.

Michigan State University.  April 1999.

Story reading.  University of Missouri English Department Reading Series. March

1998.

Story reading.  University of New Orleans English Department.  May 1997.

**Service**

University of North Texas English Department Personnel Affairs Committee (2014-

present).

Fiction Editor, *American Literary Review* (2002-present).

Website Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2008-2011).

University of North Texas English Department Executive Committee (2007-2014).

Editor, *American Literary Review* (2003-2004 and 2005-2011).

Search Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2010-2011).

Website Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2008-2011).

Search Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2008-2009).

Search Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2007-2008).

University of North Texas English Department Undergraduate Committee (2005-2007).

Search Committee, University of North Texas English Department (2004-2005).

Search Committee, University of Missouri-Columbia English Department (2001-2002).

Faculty Co-Facilitator for “America in Context” Freshman Interest Group (F.I.G.) (2001).

Senior Advisor at *The Missouri Review* (1999-2001).

Reader / Judge for the Editor’s Prize in Fiction, *The Missouri Review* (1999-2000).

Reader / Judge for the Tennessee Williams One Act Play Competition. New Orleans (1995-1997.)

Freshman Advisory Committee, University of New Orleans English Department (1995-

1997).

**References**

Professor David Holdeman, Chair, Dept. of English, University of North Texas-Denton

(940) 565-2050 holdeman@unt.edu

Professor Corey Marks, Director of Creative Writing, University of North Texas-Denton

(940) 594-5974 [corey.marks@unt.edu](mailto:corey.marks@unt.edu)

Professor Barbara Rodman, Acting Director of Creative Writing, University of North

Texas-Denton (940) 565-4670 [brodman@unt.edu](mailto:brodman@unt.edu)

Professor Speer Morgan, Director of Creative Writing, University of Missouri-Columbia

(573) 882-4460 MorganR@missouri.edu

Professor Frederick Barton, Director of Creative Writing, University of New Orleans

  (504) 280-6268   fbarton@uno.edu