

Anastacia-Reneé C.V. 2024

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Anastacia-Reneé (She/They) is a queer writer, educator, interdisciplinary artist, playwright, former radio host, TEDX speaker, and podcaster. She is the author of *(v.)* (Gramma/Black Ocean), *Forget It* (Black Radish); *Sidenotes from the Archivist* (HarperCollins/Amistad,), and *Here in the (Middle) of Nowhere* (HarperCollins/Amistad).

Side Notes From The Archivist was selected as one of “NYPL Best Books of 2023,” and, The American Library Associations (RUSA) “Notable Books of 2024.” Anastacia-Renee is a recipient of the James W. Ray Distinguished Artist Award and, she was selected by NBC News as part of the list of “Queer Artist of Color Dominate 2021's Must See LGBTQ Art Shows,” for “(Don’t Be Absurd) Alice in Parts” an installation at the Frye Art Museum. Anastacia-Renee served as Seattle Civic Poet (2017-1019) during Seattle’s inaugural year of UNESCO status. Renee was also Hugo House Poet-in-Residence, and Jack Straw Curator. Renee was the 2021 Distinguished Visiting Writer In Residence at Seattle University and has been a visiting guest writer at The University of Washington, Western University, New York University, Parsons, James Madison University, Seattle Pacific Lutheran College and Tacoma University. Her work has been anthologized in: *The Future of Black: Afrofuturism, Black Comics and Superhero Poetry*, *Home is Where You Queer Your Heart*, *Furious Flower Seeding the Future of African American Poetry*, *Teaching Black: The Craft of Teaching on Black Life and Literature*, *Joy Has A Sound*, *Nonwhite and Woman: 131 Micro Essays on Being in the World*, *Spirited Stone: Lessons from Kubota’s Garden*, and *Seismic: Seattle City of Literature*. Renee’s work has appeared or is forthcoming in, *Superstition Review*, *Underbelly*, *Inkwell*, *BOMB*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Evergreen*, *Hobart*, *Foglifter*, *Auburn Avenue*, *Catapult*, *The Fight and The Fiddle*, *Alta*, *Torch*, *Cascadia Magazine*, *Bellingham Review* *Ms. Magazine* and others. They have received fellowships and residencies from Cave Canem, Hedgebrook, 4Culture, VONA, Ragdale, Mineral School, and The New Orleans Writers Residency.

Selected Awards, Recognition, Residencies and Curation

- American Library Association, (RUSA) Notable Books of 2024 (2024)
- NYPL Best Books of 2023 (2023)
- Prairie Schooner Glenna Luschei Poetry Award (2023)
- Black Arts Legacies (2022)
- NBC News Queer Artist of Color Dominate 2021 Must See LGBTQ Art Shows (2021)
- Jack Straw Writers Program Curator (2020)
- ARC Fellow (2019)
- James W. Ray Distinguished Artist Award (Literature) (2018)
- Seattle Civic Poet (2017-2019)
- Visiting Distinguished Writer, Seattle University (2017-2018)
- Poet-in-Residence, Hugo House (2015-2017)
- NAACP Award Nomination (2006)
- San Diego Journalism Press Club Award, “War Torn” (2004)

Selected Fellowships and Writing Retreats

- Mineral School (2022)
- New Orleans Writers Residency (2020)
- Ragdale Fellowship (2014, 2017, 2019)
- VONA (Voices of our Nation) (2011)
- Hedgebrook (2010)
- Cave Canem Fellow (2007, 2008, 2009)

Selected Workshop Facilitation and Faculty

- VONA (Faculty)
- Seattle University (Distinguished Visiting Writer/Faculty)
- New York University (Guest Faculty)
- Poets House (Faculty)
- Port Townsend Writers Conference (Faculty)
- Catapult (Faculty)
- Mendocino Coast Writers Conference (Faculty)
- The New School (Visiting writer)
- StudioELL (Faculty)
- Cave Canem Master Class (Faculty)
- Skagit River Poetry Festival (Faculty)
- James Madison University (Visiting writer)
- Pacific Lutheran University (Visiting writer)
- Seattle Art Museum
- Northwest Alliance for Psychoanalytic Study
- Frye Art Museum
- Women Writers in Bloom
- Hedgebrook Master Class (Faculty)
- Chukonaut Writers Conference (Faculty)
- Northwest African American Museum
- Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute

Selected Radio, Television Appearances, Podcasts & Talks

- PBS News Hour, *My Brief But Spectacular Life* Series
- TEDX Speaker
- 9 & 10 News, The Morning Show
- The Deep End Podcast W/Anastacia-Renee and Reagan Jackson
- Food For That W/Tommy Pico
- For the Record, with Bill Radke KUOW, (NPR)
- “Word on the Street,” LiveWire! with Luke Burbank (NPR)

Selected Publications

- “Etymologies: The Black Woman “Mainly B’s”, “ **Underbelly** (2024)
- “Crest,” “Cloven Hoofed Fortune Teller,” “Retrospect,” **BOMB** (2023)
- “The Water” and “What If My Heart Is Wintering In North Africa” **Prairie Schooner** (2023)
- “Birdwatching,” **Cascadia Field Guide** (2022)
- “Don’t Ask Me,” **Nonwhite and Woman: 131 Micro Essays on Being in The World** (2022)
- “Teaching From The Front Porch,” **Teaching Black: The Craft of Teaching on Black Life and Literature** (2021)
- “Apocalypse 400,” “Copycat Universe,” “Universe,” **The Future of Black: Afrofuturism, Black Comics and Superhero Poetry** (2021)
- “Keep it Moving, A Choreopoem for Six Voices,” **Joy Has a Sound** (2021)

- “Her Life (The Black Girls) in Unedited Episodes,” **Obsidian Literature and Arts in the African American Diaspora** (2020)
- “Daughter,” “Aunt Jemima is the Picture of the American Dream,” “In Case You Forgot, I Am Not Your Negro,” “Low & Leaving,” **Alta**, (2020)
- “Crest,” **Crab Creek Review** (2020)
- “Shivering in the Summertime,” **Catapult** (2020)
- “Prayer for the Unseen,” **Furious Flower: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry** (2020)
- “What’s Your Favorite Color,” “Narrate,” “A New Nail Polish Line,…” **Auburn Avenue** (2020)
- “Out There Now,” **The Volta** (2020)
- “Snow Globe,” “Chef’s Table for Two,” “Before Being a Mother Artist was so Cool,” **Cascadia Magazine** (2019)
- “There is Freedom in the Garden,” **Spirited Stone, Lessons from Kubota’s Garden** (2019)
- “Erasure of the Black Woman (1),” **Foglifter: Vol. 4, Issue 2** (2019)
- “We Don’t () Anymore,” “The Little Girl is Her Own Crucible,” **The A-Line** (2019)
- “Again & Again,” “Wearing a Cape,” “As Told By a Child,” **Ms. Magazine** (Ms. Muse) (2018)
- “Well the Black Girls Don’t Seem to be Talking Today in Class,” “Signs,” **Berkeley Poetry Review** (2018)
- “Dishes” **Sinister Wisdom: Black Lesbians We are the Revolution** (2018)
- “It Was There! Now it’s gone, No Wait There it Is,” **Women of Resistance: Poems for a New Feminism**, (2018)

Selected Workshops

- **Readying Your Chapbook**

You already have an advanced understanding of poetry, and you have written and edited a group (any size) of poems you’re proud of. Now you’ve decided you want to complete, assemble, and submit a chapbook! We’ll write two additional poems and go over chapbook dos and don’ts, collectively workshop your chapbook poems in a supportive environment, and focus on revising. Examples will be made available of contemporary chapbook authors. We’ll prepare chapbooks for submitting to chapbook presses and then send them off!

- **Time Traveling and Time Keeping: Conversations with Audre Lorde and Octavia Butler**

In this course, we will be in conversation with Audre Lorde and Octavia Butler. We will write and examine multi-genre writing and poetic craft elements to build poems that bend, restructure, and reimagine form. We will be creatively inspired by the notion that “paranormal” is normal and traditional fiction can inhabit a poem. The goal for all workshop participants is to complete the course with 1-2 second draft poems and confidently share what you’ve written. Text for this class will be provided.

- **When Theater Meets Poetry: Creating the Choreopoem**

We will closely read, discuss, excavate and “model” (to create new work), Audre Lorde’s *Need: A Chorale for Black Women Voices*, Ntozake Shange’s *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*, and Eve Ensler’s *The Vagina Monologues* to create your own choreopoems. While we meticulously craft choreopoems, we’ll use Lorde’s, Shange’s and Ensler’s poetry, fiction, and, nonfiction as inspiration (through visual, text and musical writing prompts) to generate new poems, fiction and nonfiction.

Selected Books, Plays, Documentaries, Art Installations and Recordings

- *Here in the (Middle) of Nowhere*, HarperCollins (2024)
- *Side Notes from the Archivist*, HarperCollins, (2023)
- *Dear Seattle Central Students Documentary* (2022) *writer/co-director*
- *Alice in Parts*, Short Film, (2021) *writer/actor*
- *Don’t be Absurd: Alice in Parts*, (2021)
- *Alice is Spinning*, Art Installation (2020)
- *Queer, Mama, Crossroads Play* (2019) *writer/director*
- *(v.)*, Black Ocean Press, (2017)
- *Forget It*, Black Radish Press, (2017)
- *Answer(Me)*, Argus Press, (2017)

- *Kiss Me Doll Face*, Gramma Press, (2017)
- *9 Ounces, A One Woman Show*, (2017) *writer/actor/director*
- *The Fabric of Our Lives Installation* (2015)
- *Not My Size Play* (2006) *writer/director*
- *Gotbreast? Documentary* (2006) *writer/director*

Selected Features, Panels, and Performances

- The Lincoln Center, NY
- UNESCO World Poetry Reading, WA
- UNESCO Creative Cities Network Annual Conference, Fabriano, Italy
- Eyes Are On It, Poetic Encounters, Heidelberg Germany
- Carnegie Hall, NY
- The Atlantic Festival, DC
- Manhattanville Poetry Festival, NY
- Bureau of General Services-Queer Division, NY
- Bowery Poetry, NY
- Beaubourg, New Orleans
- AWP: Conference, Association of Writers Conference, OR, WA, CO, MN
- Texas Book Festival, TX
- Iowa Lit. Festival, IA
- Town Hall, WA
- Seattle Arts and Lectures, WA
- Bryant Park , NY
- Beryl's, Brooklyn Poetry Shop, NY
- Seattle Arts Museum
- Blue Stockings Book Store, NY
- Potters House DC
- Brooklyn Museum, NY
- New Orleans Poetry Festival, New Orleans
- Skagit River Poetry Festival, WA
- Powell's Books OR
- Revolution Hall, OR
- Fred Wildlife Refuge, WA
- Third Place Books, WA
- Open Books, WA
- Seattle University, WA
- Bellevue Art Museum, WA
- Elliott Bay Bookstore, WA
- Nyurcian Café, NY

Selected Links

<https://www.nypl.org/books-more/recommendations/best-books/adults>

(Don't be Absurd) Alice in Parts, Exhibition Close Up https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AqEnA1oD_U

Alice in Parts video Frye exhibition: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJpxUfT5bKU&t=3s>

<https://www.kuow.org/stories/what-are-we-scared-of>

https://artisttrust.org/index.php/award-winners/artist-profile/anastacia-renee_tolbert

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBgn0pTn15U>

<https://tedxseattle.com/events/tedxseattle-2018/>

<http://msmagazine.com/blog/2018/08/07/ms-muse-anastacia-renee-poems-living-body-women-writers-need-raising-fist/>

<https://fightandfiddle.com/>

<https://www.citiesoflit.com/heidelberg>
<https://vimeo.com/274869565>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brPKphB1djc&t=33s>
<https://podtail.com/en/podcast/live-wire-with-luke-burbank/-word-on-the-street-with-ken-jennings-john-roderic/>
<http://artbeat.seattle.gov/2017/07/31/anastacia-renee-tolbert-selected-as-seattles-next-civic-poet/>
<http://www.thestranger.com/books/2017/06/28/25252354/anastacia-renee-is-doing-something-almost-no-writers-do-publishing-three-books-in-one-year>
<https://www.seattleweekly.com/arts/anastacia-rene-is-ubiquitous-and-worth-it/>
<http://www.cityartsonline.com/articles/linguistic-gymnast>
<http://crosscut.com/2016/12/strong-gifted-and-black-a-local-writer-raises-her-voice/>
<http://kuow.org/post/poet-anastacia-tolbert-what-tell-my-sons-after-trayvon-martin>
<http://jackstraw.org/blog/?p=897>
<http://www.plu.edu/english/news/anastacia-tolbert-the-writers-we-need/>
<https://www.citiesoflit.com/heidelberg>
<https://vimeo.com/274869565>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brPKphB1djc&t=33s>

Education

University of Missouri Kansas City
BA, English, Creative Writing

*Recommendations and References Furnished Upon Request