

Fred L. Joiner

www.fredjoiner.com

fred.joiner@gmail.com/fred.curates@gmail.com

919.537.6890/+001 202 251 5044// fred.joiner3 (Skype)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fredljoiner>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fredjoiner>

Education

Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing - Poetry, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA 2015

Creative Thesis: *CODA*

Seminar: *Of Rage, Risk, and Revelation: Vulnerability in African American Male Poetics*

Thesis Advisor: Adrian C. Matejka

Director: Steven Cramer

Node Center for Curatorial Studies (online), Berlin, Germany 2014 - present

- Exhibition Design
- Creative Forms of Art Criticism and Writing
- Art Handling, Transport and Storage
- Curatorial Procedures: Contracts, Loans, and Official Documents
- Research Methods for Curators and Artists
- Cultural Theory For Curators

Curatorial, Administrative and Editorial Experience

Co-Founder, The Center for Poetic Thought, Washington, DC September 2013 – Present

Design and develop programming to attract , engage and educate learners of all age groups; Develop and maintain institutional partnerships for collaborative programming and special events ; Conceive, organize, and moderate panel discussions for public programs, multi-site programs and various activities in collaboration with institutions with similar visions or missions; Manage social media to promote all activities and programming; Draft and edit correspondence for marketing and promotion of public programming.

The Center for Poetic Thought is partnership between myself, Jon West-Bey, and The American Poetry Museum. This partnership allows the American Poetry Museum to have a home space for a wide array of public programming, activities, and workshops. It also provides a venue for Jon West-Bey and me to collaborate in presenting innovative interdisciplinary programming that investigates the intersections visual art, poetry, theater, literature, performance, architecture, and film.

Poetry Editor & Ambassador of the Arts, Tidal Basin Review, Washington, DC. 2010 –2012

Read, reviewed, selected and edited poetry and prose submissions for publication in the journal. Searched and researched art for cover art and art-related features.

Curator and Public Programs Coordinator, American Poetry Museum, Washington, DC.

January 2007 - 2012

Responsible for curatorial aspects of all public programming and event engagement including the selection of featured readers and presenters; Designed and developed collaborative initiatives aligned with the goals and mission of The American Poetry Museum; Conceived, organized, and moderated panel discussions for in-house programming and multi-site programs in collaboration with constituents and partners; Utilized social

media to promote all activities and programming; Management of American Poetry Museum website & blog American Poetry Museum Tumblr, Facebook, and other social media; Developed and maintained relationships with community-based, national and international literary and visual arts organizations for partnership and collaborative projects; Responded to public inquiries; Conducted research on American poetry, literature and other media for exhibitions and public programming; Worked closely with the external partners and collaborators to provide literary and cross-disciplinary interpretive programming and content including talks and discussions, workshops, tours, curricula consultation and augmentation for K–12, college, and adult audiences; Assisted in developing public programs on topics regarding American poetry, with specialty in African American Poetry and Poetics.

Workshop Facilitator/ Co-Curator at Honfleur Gallery and Belfast Exposed, Washington, DC and Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK. January 2007 - December 2012

Conducted a series of workshops in which a group of Washington DC-based poets produced work as companion pieces to the photographic images. The culmination of this workshop resulted in a mixed media exhibition and a monograph entitled ANACOSTIA EXPOSED, designed by International Arts& Artists in Washington, DC. Between 2007 -2012, I traveled to Belfast to lead workshops, present public readings and continue work on other cultural exchange projects, sponsored or funded by Belfast Exposed and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. A major element of my work in Belfast was conducting inter-generational and cross-community creative writing and photography workshops as means of fostering tolerance, understanding, conflict resolution, and peace-building.

Creative Writing Editor, Words Beats, and Life, Washington, DC. 2007 -2013

Developed a network of poets, writers, and literary critics exploring hip-hop culture and other relevant themes; Solicited and approved all literature-related content for publication, including the selection of the Featured Poet (or other creative writer, such as a prose/short story writer, etc.); Represented the publication to the public at-large through events such as academic/literary symposia and conferences related to literature/literary inquiry and hip-hop; Assisted the Editor-in-Chief in recruiting and retaining potential/active peer review board members; Recommended new editorial staff members to the Editor-in-Chief; Contributed to the Editor's quarterly reports to be submitted to the Cipher Director, Executive Director and Board of Directors; Reviewed/approved final literature-related content post-layout to ensure the absence of errors in style, format, spelling, grammar, etc.; and (9) Solicited and/or wrote, and approved critique and commentary of literary works (poetry, novels, poetic/lyrical/song analysis, short stories) pertaining to hip-hop culture and other relevant themes.

University and Other Teaching Experience

Artist House Resident/ Poet-in-Residence, English Department, St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, MD October 2007 - November 2007

Conducted poetry workshops for Dr. Michael Glaser and Dr. Jeffrey Lamar Coleman. In Dr. Glaser's class, I introduced the participants to writing in persona. I provided them with various examples and approaches to writing persona poetry. As an extension of the persona exercise, I added an ekphrastic component by taking the students into SMCM's Boyden Gallery to write persona poems based on the photography of Chicano photographer, Jesus Manuel Mena Garza. In Dr. Coleman's class, I introduced participants to poetic forms developed by writers of color, including The Bop (Afaa Michael Weaver), the Gigan (Ruth Ellen Kocher) and others.

Teaching and Research Interests:

Creative Writing, Poetry and Poetics, Ekphrasis, Literary Architecture, Hybrid and Experimental Forms, Documenting and Archiving as Activist and Curatorial Practice, Digital Poetics, West Central African Visual Art, Culture, and Literature.

Awards, Grants, & Honors

Smithsonian Divine Comedy Ekphrastic Poetry Contest for “Below as Above,” winner, 2015
Pushcart Prize Nomination for “Consume/d,” *Fledgling Rag* #13, 2014
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Individual Artist Fellowship, 2014
Studio Award from CulturalDC and The Bozzuto Group September 2013
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Larry Neal Writers Award, “For the Letter H,” 2012
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Larry Neal Writers Award, 2007

Judging, Volunteering, & other Service

Moving Words Student Poetry Competition (judge), Fairfax County, Virginia, 2011
Poetry Out Loud, National Endowment for the Arts (judge). Washington, 2010, 2011, 2013
Mayors Arts Award (judge/panelist), Washington, DC, 2012

Selected Publications: Poetry

The Next Verse Poets Mixtape Volume One: the 4 X 4 - Central Square Press: June 4, 2016
Authors: Melanie Henderson, **Fred L. Joiner**, Lisa Pegram, Enzo Silon Surin
THE NEXT VERSE POETS MIXTAPE is a chapbook poetry anthology.

“the sound of St. Mary’s City,” “Speakin’ in Tongues,” “How do you keep your heart soft?,”
”“Austerity.” *Delaware Poetry Review*. (Spring 2016). Web

“f(risk).” *pluck!* (Summer 2015): 47. Print, Digital, and Web.

"a human is not a stone," "Walled," and "Consume/d" *Fledgling Rag* 13. (February 2014).Print

“half-note” and “Solidarity” *Gargoyle*, #57. 2011 Print

"Solidarity" and "Song for Anacostia." *DC Spotlight Online Newspaper* June 2011. Web

“Dap,” “Grandma Trio, at Boiling Point.” *Warpland: A Journal of Black Literature and Ideas*.
Chicago State University). 2005

“greater love.” *Callaloo* Vol. 30 No. 2. 2007. Print

“Song for Anacostia.” *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* Vol. 7, No.3, Summer 2006. Web

“Home is Where the War is.” *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* - The Wartime Issue Vol. 7, No.2,
Spring 2006. Web

“Isolation” and “Touch.” *Fingernails Across the Chalkboard: Poetry and Prose on HIV/AIDS from the Black Diaspora* (Third World Press) 2007. Print

“Sermon on the 94,” “Trane’s Blues @ Nagasaki,” “In the Belly of Blackness or Monk on Friendship,” “Be Specific,” “Grandma Trio, at Boiling Point.” *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* Vol. 8, No. 3, Summer 2007. Web

“Song For Anacostia.” *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* – Audio Issue Vol. 9, No.4, Fall 2008. Web

“Trane’s Blues @ Nagasaki” *All About Jazz*, 2007. Web

"Song for Anacostia" *Full Moon on K Street: Poems About Washington DC*, (Plan B Press), 2009. Print

Selected Publications: Interdisciplinary Activities and Special Projects

Digital Archiving and Documentation Project- Ongoing: This is a long-term documentary project that seeks to use affordable professional digital recording devices to document, archive, and preserve various types of events including concerts, readings, lectures, and symposia for further study and as teaching resources. The archive is now approximately 40 Gigabytes of digital recordings.

“Seven Ways of Looking at Black Flowers” Ceremonies of Dark Men (CoDM), Washington DC 2014 : CoDM is a public art project curated by critic A.M. Weaver, funded by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities 5 X 5 Public Art Project, including poets Afaa Michael Weaver, E. Ethelbert Miller, Major Jackson, Kenneth Carroll.

“Peace on Earth”: Tribute to John Coltrane. Bohemian Caverns, Washington, DC. Sept. 2012. In collaboration with Bassist Luke Stewart, I presented my poems as a part of a large ensemble performance of John Coltrane's composition “Peace on Earth.”

"Untitled (for Ella)." Goethe-Institut, Time Shadows Translation Project, 2011
"Untitled (for Ella)" was translated into German and Chinese. This project was a collaboration between the Goethe-Institut, the Confucius Institute, George Mason University, The Writers Center, and DC Public Library. After the conclusion of the project, I was asked to continue working as a co-curator.

“Grandma's Trio at Boiling Point” Reginald F. Lewis Museum, January 2010
Paired Romare Bearden’s *Baptism* (1975); The poem was featured in an audio tour of the exhibition “From Process to Print: Graphic Works by Romare Bearden.”

Publications: Reviews

“(Inter/Re)view of Gregory Pardlo’s *TOTEM*” with Abdul Ali, *POST NO ILLS*, 5 Aug. 2008, Web.

Rev. of *Gravity, USA*, by Jacqueline Jones Lamon. *Mosaic*. Issue 18. 28 Feb 2007. Print.

Selected Readings, Lectures, Media, and Curatorial Activities

Selected Readings & Lectures

- “Black Ink Hanzi: African American Poets on Living and Writing in China,” panel discussion with Kyle Dargan, Hoke (Yao) Glover and Afaa Michael Weaver, The Center for Poetic Thought, Washington, DC. (moderator and host) 17 January 2015
- “The Art of Poetry.” Ekphrastic poetry workshop in the museum with items in the permanent collection, Smithsonian American Art Museum Luce Foundation Center, 21 April 2013.
- “Where Poetry is found?” TEDxPotomacLive, presenter, 2012
- “The Poetics of Collaboration.” TEDxWDC, featured speaker, 2012
- “Nation and Neighborhood,” panel discussion with Kenneth Carroll, Myra Sklarew, Associated Writing Programs Conference, Washington, DC. (moderator) ,2011
- “Cross-discipline Collaboration: How writers and artists are working together to push boundaries and engage the public.” (Panelist) , Split This Rock Conference, Washington, DC. 2010
- “Dissidence, Memory, and Music in African American Poetry.” (Panelist), Split This Rock Conference, Washington, DC. 2010
- “Washington Meets Wales,” Washington, DC, featured reader, 2009
Featured with Welsh writers Catrin Dafydd, Owen Sheers, Fflur Dafydd, Tom Anderson and Eurig Salisbury, and DC-based poets, Ethelbert Miller and Kyle Dargan.
- “Lenses of Liberation: New Voices of Personal and Political Protest.” (Panelist) College Language Association Conference, Cambridge, MD 2009

Selected Interviews

- “Dialogue with Dr. Kwame Dawes,” “ Furious Flower III: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 2014
- “Q&A with Fred Joiner.”, CulturalDC, October 2013
<http://www.culturaldc.org/2013/10/qa-with-fred-joiner/>
- “The Poet and the Poem” with Grace Cavalieri, for the Library of Congress, August 2011.
<http://www.loc.gov/poetry/media/avfiles/poet-poem-roberts-joiner.mp3>
- “First Person with Fred Joiner.” National Endowment for the Arts - NEA Arts Magazine, 2010
<https://www.arts.gov/NEARTS/2010v2-arts-capital/first-person-fred-joiner>

Selected Curatorial Activities

Collaborations with Washington Performing Arts Society (WPAS), The Center for Poetic Thought, Washington, DC 2015. Developed programming in collaboration with WPAS panels about literary Washington DC and the first Poet Laureate of Washington DC, Sterling A. Brown.

“Friendship, Citizenship: The Art of Amadou Sanogo and Ibrahim Konate,” Medina Galerie et Mediatheque, Bamako, Mali. 2015

The intention of this exhibition of works by Sanogo and Konate was twofold. First, to show their friendship and brotherhood. Second, to examine ideas about citizenship for young Malians living in Bamako.

"Sterling Brown, DC's First Poet Laureate," reading and panel discussion with Dr. Tony Medina, A.B. Spellman and Shakeema Smalls, District of Literature Festival, Library of Congress, Washington, DC (curator and moderator). 2013

“Paper Dolls: Poetic Responses to the Artwork of Ulysses Marshall,” Prince Georges African American Museum and Cultural Center, Brentwood, MD. 2012

Paper Dolls: Poetic Responses to the Artwork of Ulysses Marshall is an exciting new interactive exhibition that features the paintings of renowned artist and Prince George’s County resident, Ulysses Marshall. The exhibit featured the work of poets: Joy Matthews Alford, Angela Abadir, Hoke (Brother Yao) Glover, Patrick Washington, Derrick Weston Brown. The exhibition was a collaboration between the American Poetry Museum and Prince Georges African American Museum and Cultural Center. Visitors were encouraged to create their poetic responses to the paintings. Other programs associated with the exhibition include poetry readings, lectures, events for kids K-12 learners.

Time Shadows/Trialogue Translation Project, Goethe-Institut, Washington, DC, 2011-2013.

Worked as part of a curatorial team, including scholars from Goethe-Institut, the Confucius Institute, George Mason University, and the University of Maryland, to select poets and poems for inclusion in the translation project, as well as the subsequent reading series and related events.

“Cave Canem Fellows Reading,” Charles H. Sumner School, Washington, DC (co-sponsor/co-host), 2011

This reading was co-hosted by the American Poetry Museum in conjunction with The Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) 2011 Conference and it featured E.J. Antonio, Reginald Dwayne Betts, Remica Bingham-Risher, Derrick Brown, Erica Doyle, Jonterri Gadson, Yalonda JD Green, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Niki Herd, Randall Horton, Linda Susan Jackson, Marcus Jackson, Brandon Johnson, Bettina Judd, Rickey Laurentiis, Robin Lewis, January Gill O’Neil, Iain Pollock, Nicole Sealey & Wendy S. Walters.

“HOME Reading Series,” International Arts & Artists Hillyer ArtSpace, Washington, DC. 2008 - 2010

Fred L. Joiner
Curriculum Vitae

I curated various poetry readings, performances, panel discussions and visual art presentations for the Hillyer ArtSpace reading series.

“Martin Luther King Day / Obama Inauguration Reading,” Charles H. Sumner School, Washington, DC (moderator/co-curator) 2009.

The readers included Cave Canem fellows: Samiya Bashir, Reginald Dwayne Betts, Dorothy E. Davis, Nehassaiu deGannes, Joel Dias-Porter, Brian Gilmore, Myronn Hardy, Randall Horton, Brandon D. Johnson, Jacqueline Johnson, Bettina Judd, Alan King, Mendi Lewis Obadike, Venus Trash and Sharon Dennis Wyeth. Co-sponsored by the American Poetry Museum and Cave Canem.

“With a Poet's Eye,” The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC. 2009

Selecting works from the Phillips permanent collection, I developed a docent tour using original poetry as companion pieces to the works, including Jacob Lawrence, Horace Pippin, Gene Davis, Elizabeth Murray, and others.

“The Sickness: The Art of Aniekan Udofia,” Dissident Display Gallery, (curator), Washington, DC. 2009

I co-curated this exhibition and wrote an exhibition essay

“Poetic Voices Series,” The Phillips Collection, (curator), Washington, DC. 2008- 2009

Working with the Education Department of The Phillips Collection, I curated a series of panels and performances including; Poetic Voices from the Harlem Renaissance to Today - featuring literary activist, E. Ethelbert Miller, and historian, Hari Jones. This event was a part of the Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series presentation; Hip-Hop Here and Now, featuring poet-scholars Dr. R. Scott Heath, Kyle Dargan, and Shani Jamila O'Neal; Jazz Harmonies - Featuring Brandon D. Johnson, Brian Gilmore and the Marshal KeysTrio; Poetic Voices 2.0 was a YouTube reading featuring Hari Jones and Samuel Miranda responding to Countee Cullen's poem "Heritage" part of the traveling Man Ray exhibition, “Man Ray: African Art and the Modernist Lens.”

“Africa In Motion,” Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, (co-curator/moderator), Washington DC. 2010

Class Invitations

John Wilson, Views on Contemporary Africa, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Catonsville, MD. February 2016

Using poems from my blogs fredjoiner.com and boomforrealbamako.com about my recent move Bamako, Mali and other travels as a point of departure, Professor Wilson invited me to speak to his class about my experiences as an African American and a poet while living in West Africa.

Diarapha Diallo, Civil Rights poetry reading and lecture, Lycee Français Libertie, Bamako, Mali April 2014

Fred L. Joiner
Curriculum Vitae

Ms. Diallo's students had just visited the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. She invited me to give a reading and lecture on the Civil Rights Movement her students. I used Dr. Jeffrey L. Coleman's recent anthology *Words of Protest, Words of Freedom: Poetry of the American Civil Rights Movement Era* and *Black Fire: An Anthology of Afro-American Writing* edited Amiri Baraka and Larry Neal, to give the students a range of creative work that engaged the Civil Rights Movement.

Chelsea Wilson, AP English and English 9 workshop and lecture, American International School of Bamako, Bamako, Mali. January 2014

Kyle Dargan, Writers in-Print and in-Person, lecture and panel discussion, American University
October 2011

Joseph Ross, Creative Writing class and One-on-One Sessions, Archbishop Carroll High School,
Washington, DC. October 2009

Professional Affiliations

American Poetry Museum, Board of Directors, Washington, DC. January 2016 – Present
Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP), member. Arlington, VA. 2013 -2015
Modern Language Association (MLA), member, New York, NY 2013-2015.
Interactivity Foundation, panelist and discussion facilitator, January 2011 – January 2012
Arch Development Corporation, Board of Directors, Washington, DC 2008 – Present

Web sites and URL's

www.fredjoiner.com

www.instagram.com/fjoiner

<http://fredjoiner.tumblr.com>

<http://twitter.com/fjoiner>

www.boomforrealbamako.com

www.centerforpoeticthought.org

www.americanpoetrymuseum.org

<http://apoemmuseum.tumblr.com>

<https://twitter.com/ampoetrymuseum>

<https://www.facebook.com/American-Poetry-Museum-7940269797/>