

# PETER MOUNTFORD

4136 Meridian Ave N  
Seattle, WA 98103

www.petermountford.com

240-277-2092  
peter\_mountford@yahoo.com

## EDUCATION

MFA Creative Writing (Fiction), University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2006.

BA International Relations, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA, 1999.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Books**

*The Dismal Science*, a novel, Tin House Books, 2014.

*A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism*, a novel, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011.

### **Short Fiction**

"You Have to Continue, You Have to Hurry," *Missouri Review*, Winter 2017.

"The House We Stole," *Green Mountains Review*, Spring 2015.

"La Boca Del Lobo," *Southern Review*, Fall 2014. (Also selected as a "notable" story in *Best American Short Stories 2015*, ed. T.C. Boyle.)

"We Have Faith That This Will Work Out," *City Arts Magazine*, February 2014.

"Safari in the Bayou," *ZYZZYVA*, Spring 2013.

"Chapter 30," *The Alexis Hotel*, a novel in 36 voices (Open Road Media) 2011.

"Pig," *City Arts Magazine*, January 2011.

"Two Sisters," *Phoebe: A Journal of Literature and Art*, Fall 2010.

"Mr. McNamara's Suit," *Seattle Review*, Spring 2010.

"Out on the Cold Road," *The Dudley Review*, Harvard University, Summer 2009.

"A Room on the Eighth Floor," *Conjunctions*, Fall 2008.

"Horizon," *Best New American Voices 2008*, ed. Richard Bausch (Harcourt) 2008.

"Dried Bones" *The Death Mook: How do we Die?* (Vignette Press) 2008.

"Horizon," *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Fall 2007. (Also selected as a "notable" story in *Best American Short Stories 2008*, ed. Salman Rushdie.)

“Barbarians’ Fantasies,” Boston Review, March/April 2007.

### ***Personal Essays and Features***

“Ye Olde Canterbury” Seattle Weekly, November 23, 2016. Anthologized in *Ghosts of Seattle Past*, ed. Jaimee Garbacik (Chin Music Press) 2017.

“The Laughter Club,” The Sun, June 2015.

“Circle Dancing,” *Extraordinary Rendition, American Writers On Palestine*, ed. Ru Freeman (O/R Books; also released by Olive Branch Press) 2015.

“Peter Mountford on David Shields,” *Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers*, ed. Ryan Boudinot (Sasquatch Books) 2015.

“Lessons From the Chef,” The Brooklyn Quarterly, Summer 2015.

“Around The Corner,” Tin House online, May 12, 2015.

“A Table Set for the Past and the Future,” The New York Times, January 18, 2015.

“Life in the Group Room,” The New York Times Magazine, March 23, 2014.

“Guide to AWP for People Who Don't Know What an AWP Is,” The Stranger (cover story), February 26, 2014.

“Northwest Passage,” The Guardian (cover story the weekend supplement), May 25, 2013.

“The Ghost of Scowling Past,” The Weeklings, December, 2012. Republished in The Good Men Project, December 2012.

“Steal My Book! Why I’m abetting a rogue translation of my novel,” The Atlantic, November 2012. Translated and republished in Russian, Italian, Spanish, Romanian, and French. Anthologized under the title in *What to Read in the Rain 2015* (BFI Publications), 2015.

“The Man Who Wasn’t There: A Meditation on Mitt Romney,” The Weeklings, November 2012.

“Lessons from a Hustler,” Granta, December 2011.

“Selling Furniture to Celebrities,” Salon, December 12, 2011. Anthologized under the title “Pawing the Mink” in *What to Read in the Rain 2013*, (826 Publications), 2013.

“Land of Secrets: Confessions of a Fake Sri Lankan Journalist,” The Atlantic online, May 27, 2011.

“Ecuador’s Economic Troubles Inspire a Novel,” Speakeasy/The Wall Street Journal, April 9, 2011.

### ***Opinions and Editorials***

“Men and Their Novels,” City Arts Magazine, May 2015.

“Staying in The Elevator,” New Ohio Review, Spring 2015. Anthologized in *Writing Craft: A Creative Writing Textbook on (Non) Fiction and Poetry*, ed. Cheryl Cardiff (Great River Learning) 2016.

“Arrested Development Is Assassinating My Joy” The Weeklings, October 30, 2013.

“I’m Not A Hero For Taking Care of My Kids,” Slate, July 10, 2013. Republished in Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand, also in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and The Columbia Daily Tribune.

“Madness in The Penguin House,” The Weeklings, December 13, 2012.

“The Occupy Movement: How the Left almost had its own tea party, but blew it,” The Seattle Times, December 11, 2011.

“Before Republicans start budget-slashing, take a lesson from Bolivia,” The Christian Science Monitor, January 20, 2011 (republished by Yahoo! News, January 21, 2011).

“Sri Lanka’s human-rights and free-speech problems need international attention,” Seattle Times, February 28, 2010 (republished in Sri Lanka Guardian; and The Sunday Leader).

“Reform in a Dollarized Ecuador,” Providence Journal, October 18, 2000.

“Ecuador’s Dollarized Recovery,” (with Margalit Edelman) The Christian Science Monitor, June 20, 2000.

“Learning To Love The Dollar In Ecuador: Dollarization Must Be Accompanied By Sweeping Economic Reforms,” Reuters, June 15, 2000.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Gar LaSalle Storyteller Award, 2016 winner. An annual Artist Trust juried prize worth \$10,000, the 2016 award was open to fiction writers living in Washington State.
- 4Culture Individual Artist Grant, 2016 winner. For *In The Rush of Everything*, a novel.
- Washington State Book Award in Fiction, 2015 (finalist). For *The Dismal Science*.
- Katharine Bakeless Nason Fellowship in Fiction, Bread Loaf Summer Workshop, 2015.
- *The Dismal Science* named a New York Times Editor’s Choice, 2014.
- 2013 Seattle Magazine Spotlight Award in Literature (winner).
- Hugo House Writer-in-Residence, 2012-14 (a two year appointment).
- Washington State Book Award in Fiction, 2012, (winner). For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- VCU Cabell First Novelist Award, 2012, (one of three finalists). For *A Young Man’s Guide to*

### *Late Capitalism.*

- Seattle’s Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, CityArtist Grant, 2012. For *The Dismal Science*.
- Nobbie Award, 2011 winner. For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- 4Culture Individual Artist Grant, 2011 winner. For *The Dismal Science*.
- Keynote Speaker at The University of Illinois – Springfield’s Verbal Arts Festival, 2011.
- Seattle’s Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, CityArtist Grant, 2010. For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- The Elizabeth George Foundation Grant, 2010 winner. For *A Young Man’s Guide to Late Capitalism*.
- The Corporation of Yaddo, Wallace Residency for a Distinguished Writer, 2010.
- Film Independent Screenwriter’s Lab, 2009 Fellow, for “I Am Not Werner Erhard,” co-written with Steven Schardt.
- Bread Loaf Summer Workshop, Work-Study Scholarship, 2009.
- *Best New American Voices 2008* (ed. Richard Bausch), contributor with short story “Horizon.”
- New Letters 2008 Alexander Patterson Cappon Fiction Award (finalist, for the story “Beware the Angry Hordes”).
- The Corporation of Yaddo, The LeSage-Fullilove Endowed Residency for an Emerging Writer of Exceptional Promise, 2008.
- Boston Review 2007 Fiction Contest, judged by George Saunders and Junot Diaz (2nd place prize, for the short story “Barbarians’ Fantasies”).
- The Florida Review 2007 Editor’s Prize, finalist for short story “Horizon.”

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Creative Writing Faculty, Sierra Nevada College’s low-residency MFA program,  
Lake Tahoe, NV, 2014 - ongoing.

- Formulate curriculum for long-distance instruction in introductory and advanced creative writing at the graduate level.
- Read student work, and provide mentorship.
- Taught elective at summer residency, 2016.

Acting Instructor in Creative Writing, University of Washington,  
Seattle, WA, 2017.

- Taught 200-level, 300-level, and 400-level creative writing courses for undergraduates.
- Substitute-taught for David Shields in 300-level, 400-level, and 500-level (graduate) seminars and workshops between 2014 -16.

Events Curator, Creative Writing Instructor, and Writer-in-Residence, Hugo House, Seattle, WA, 2008 - ongoing (Writer-in-Residence term 2012-14).

- Arrange readings with nationally celebrated authors including Meg Wolitzer, Charles Baxter, Luis Alberto Urrea, Kay Ryan, and scores of others. Emcee events and conducted Q&As with authors on stage.
- Formulate curriculum for quarterly and yearlong courses and workshops on aspects of prose writing.
- As writer-in-residence: mentored writers and aspiring writers in the greater Seattle area during weekly office hours.

Creative Writing Instructor, Writers in the Schools, Seattle Arts & Lectures, Seattle, WA 2008 - ongoing.

- Design creative writing curriculum and syllabi for students at Seattle area high schools.
- Collaborate with the students' Language Arts teachers on implementing curriculum on the elements of style in fiction writing.
- Write annual blog entries and reflective essays for Seattle Arts and Lectures.

### **VOLUNTEER/SERVICE WORK**

- 2017 Artist Trust Arts Innovator Awards selection panel member (selected two \$15,000 winners).
- Judged Bread Loaf Summer Workshop applications for fellowships and tuition scholarships in 2016, and 2017.
- Took a leadership role in the administration of the Barry Lopez Residency for an author of color (2016-present).
- Member of Seattle7Writers, a non-profit literary organization that promotes literacy in the Pacific Northwest (Fall 2010-present).
- Arranged and led a team of Seattle-based writers to judge and award \$40,000 – on behalf of The Loft in Minneapolis – the 2014 Minnesota Emerging Writer's Grant.
- Organized and oversaw the administration of the 2013-14 "Made At Hugo" fellowship, a yearlong program for emerging writers of exceptional promise. Arrange and led monthly meetings, multiple readings, and panels of special guests (agents, editors, etc.).
- Workshop Leader, Out of the Margins Literary Arts Workshop for Seattle area's homeless, Real Change, 2006.
- Co-curator of the Castalia reading series, 2005-06.
- Reader, *Seattle Review* 2005-06.
- Volunteer reader for Ken Sherman and Associates, a literary agency, in 2004.