

# OSCAR S. SCHWARTZ

## Curriculum vitae

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## EXPERIENCE

### WRITING

COLUMNIST for The Ethics Centre (February 2018 – present).

**Responsibilities** I write three articles per month for The Ethics Centre, an independent not-for-profit organization that has been working for over 25 years to help the public navigate the complexity and uncertainty of difficult ethical issues.

COMMISSIONED AUTHOR for Scribe (June 2017 – present).

**Responsibilities** I have been commissioned by Scribe to write a non-fiction book about automation and the future of work. Forthcoming, 2019.

FREELANCE CONTRIBUTOR to *The Atlantic*, *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Sydney Review of Books*, *The Age*, *Vice*, *Smith Journal*, *The Australian Book Review*, among others (January 2012 – present).

**Achievements** I won *The Lifted Brow's* prize for non-fiction in 2015; invited to writers festivals across Australia, including the Melbourne Writers Festival, Brisbane Writers Festival, Emerging Writers Festival, Digital Writers Festival and Jewish Writers Festival.

STAFF WRITER at Dumbo Feather Magazine (January 2014 – August 2016).

**Responsibilities** I pitched and contributed features for the quarterly magazine; wrote profiles of prominent historical figures; organized and conducted interviews.

### EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT, *The Monthly* (July 2008 – July 2011)

**Responsibilities** I copy edited and fact checked feature articles; wrote copy for websites, social media, email marketing campaigns; formatted articles and maintained house style.

EDITOR, *Gazing at the Stars*, memoir of Holocaust survivor, Eva Slonim.

### CONTENT PRODUCTION

PRODUCER for Spun live storytelling platform and podcast (June 2016 – January 2018).

**Responsibilities** I solicit and produce first-person stories into live story-telling events and podcasts; participate in production and editorial meetings; assist in organization of live story-telling event; social media strategy.

CONTENT PRODUCER at Right Angle Studio (September 2012 – July 2014).

**Responsibilities** I provided written and video content input in a cross-disciplinary product design team; provided content strategy for consumer products across food, travel, cultural events and fashion.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

Oscar Schwartz. *On Being Replaced: Human Purpose in a Machine World*. London: Scribe. under contract 2019.

Oscar Schwartz, 2017. *The Honeymoon Stage*. Sydney: Giramondo.

### Edited volumes

Gabriel Garcia Ochoa, Rebecca Jones and Oscar Schwartz, 2014. *Verge: Everything and Nothing*. Melbourne: Monash University Publishing.

### Articles

Oscar Schwartz, 2018. "Automated Essay Scoring." *The Monthly*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "Lucky Luke: The Darwin Poet Whose Muse is a Dialysis Machine." *The Monthly*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "How 'Self-Driving' Trucks Connected the Australian Outback." *The Atlantic*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "What I'm Reading." *Meanjin*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "The Joys and Misery of Cybersex." *Sydney Review of Books*.

Sandra D'Urso and Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "Diffused Attentions." *Sydney Review of Books*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2016. "Get Your Wiki On: Bringing Wikipedia to Remote Regions of Australia." *The Monthly*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2016. "#PrisonLife: How the Internet is Infiltrating Prisons." *The Monthly*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2016. "Captive Audience." *Smith Journal*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2016. "Profile: Eddie Koiki Mabo." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Live the Lie: How Narrative is Used in Crowdfunding." *The Wheeler Centre Notes*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Humans Pretending to be Computers Pretending to be Human." *The Lifted Brow*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Profile: John Dewey." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Profile: Nora Ephron." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Profile: Viktor Frankl." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "How to Get Around Data Retention Laws." *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "What Happens to Your Online Presence When You Die." *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "How to Make Contact With Aliens." *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Six Things That Happened in Space This Year." *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "The Four Greatest Internet Mysteries." *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Swipe Right: Stories from Tinder." *The Lifted Brow*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "What Happens to Your Online Presence When You Die?" *Junkee*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "A Turing Test for Poetry." *Australian Poetry Journal*. vol 4. no.2.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Profile: Rachel Carson." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Profile: Simone Weil." *Dumbo Feather*.

Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Profile: Maya Angelou." *Dumbo Feather*.

- Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "Profile: Harriet Taylor Mill." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Jaron Lanier is a Humanist." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Eva Slonim is a Survivor." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Maria Popova is a Brain Picker." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Profile: Martin Luther King." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Profile: Tibor Kalman." *Dumbo Feather*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "Like Dicks in the Night: Why Men Use Omegle." *Vice*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2013. "UnAustralian English." *Cordite Poetry Review*.

## Reviews

- Oscar Schwartz, 2018. "A Review of Season Four, Black Mirror." *The Lifted Brow*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2017. "Untying the Knot: On John Safran's *Depends What You Mean By Extremist*." *The Monthly*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2016. "Doomed to Violence: On Jia Zhangke's *A Touch of Sin*." *Fireflies*, Issue 3.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Jennifer Maiden's *The Fox Petition*." *The Saturday Paper*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Pi O's *Fitzroy: The Biography*." *The Saturday Paper*.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2015. "Justine Clemens' *The Mundiad*." *Southerly Journal*. vol. 75 no. 1.  
 Oscar Schwartz, 2014. "David Walsh's *A Bone of Fact*." *The Lifted Brow*.

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Literary Studies, Monash University, Melbourne, 2017.

<b>Research</b>	Interdisciplinary thesis focused on the use of computational technology in literary text generation. I developed a website that functioned as a Turing test for literature, and did statistical analysis on what type of texts readers believe are "human" or "computational". I conducted archival research into the pre-digital history of computational text generation. Research areas included computational creativity, literary history, history of technology, AI, electronic and digital literature and networked cultures.
<b>Skills</b>	Quantitative and qualitative analysis; archival research; conceptual and technical understanding of AI and natural language processing; cross-cultural analysis; basic programming; research and information management; outstanding written and oral communication ability.
<b>Achievements</b>	I received the Australian Postgraduate award to conduct this research; a portion of my thesis has been accepted for publication in <i>Digital Culture and Society Journal</i> ; I have been invited to numerous international conferences including the Electronic Literature Organization conference (Porto, 2017). My research has been widely reported on in international publications, including <i>The Washington Post</i> , <i>The Huffington Post</i> and <i>Der Spiegel</i> .

B.A. (Hons first class), English & Philosophy, Monash University, Melbourne, 2011.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2018 Live Darwin Arts Grant, Northern Territory Government.  
 2017 Mollie Holman Doctoral Medal Nomination, Monash University.  
 2016 Leader of Tomorrow nominee, St. Gallen Symposium, Switzerland.  
 2013 Australian Postgraduate Award, Monash University.

- 2011 Faculty of Arts Merit Scholarship, Monash University.  
2011 Cecile Parrish Memorial Prize for Honours Research, Monash University.  
2008/9 Dean's Honors for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Monash University.

## **SELECTED INVITED TALKS, PANELS AND CONFERENCES**

- 2017 "The Evolution of Digital Literatures," panel at Digital Writers Festival, Melbourne, October 26.  
2017 "The Aeolian Poetics: Computation as Metaphor for Poetic Invention in English Romanticism," Electronic Literature Organization Conference, University Fernando Pessoa, Porto, Portugal, 18-22 July.  
2016 "Can Twitterbots be Authors?" Literature and Technology, Australasian Association for Literature, University of Western Sydney, July 11-12.  
2016 "Money, artificial intelligence and personhood," keynote at Macquarie Legal Global Conference, Canberra, October 13-14.  
2016 "Robots and Physical Space. Bots and Virtual Space," guest lecture University of Melbourne School of Architecture, August 18.  
2016 "Is Technology Degrading Language?" panel at Emerging Writers Festival, Melbourne, June 21.  
2016 "Technology and Ethics," panel at Melbourne Knowledge Week, Melbourne, May 6.  
2015 "A Turing Test for Poetry," Aesthetics After Finitude, University of New South Wales, February 5-6.  
2015 "Can a Computer Write Poetry?" TEDx Sydney, 21 May.  
2015 "The Future of the Internet" panel with Sarah Jeong, Joanne McNeil and Sam Cooney, Digital Writers Festival, February 18.

## **EXHIBITIONS**

- 2014 Curatorial Advisor, "Poetry Will Be Made By All," LUMA Westbau Löwenbräukunst complex, Zürich, January 30 – March 30.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Charles Darwin University**, Darwin, Australia.  
Lecturer, Communication, Technology, Culture, 2017.

**University of Melbourne**, Melbourne, Australia.  
Lecturer, Writing and Editing for Digital Media, 2015.

**Victoria University**, Melbourne, Australia.  
Lecturer and Unit Coordinator, Writing for Online Media, 2015.

**Monash University**, Melbourne, Australia.  
Tutor, Creative Writing, 2014.

## **ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS**

Associated researcher, Monash University Centre for the Book, 2014.  
Member, Society for the History of Technology, Baltimore, 2017.

## **SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE**

- 2017 'Poetry in motion,' Future Tense on Radio National Australia, February 5.

- 2016 'Computer Generated Poetry,' The Books and Arts Show on Radio National Australia, January 26.
- 2015 'Imagine' The Digital Human show on BBC Radio UK, November 16.
- 2015 'Bot or not: can computer write convincingly human poetry?' CBC Radio Canada, July 28.
- 2014 'Can you tell the different between a human writer and a robot?' Caitlin Dewey in *The Washington Post*, March 4.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- 2015 Creator, The Future is Now, podcast.
- 2014 Co-creator, Bot or Not, online Turing test for poetry.
- 2012 Presenter, The Sub-Dwellers, radio show for PBS 106.7, Melbourne.
- 2012 Founder, Dialogues, urban lecture series, Melbourne.