

MANISHA SHARMA

LECTURER, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN, VA

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EDUCATION

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University - M.F.A. in Creative Writing (fiction), fully funded as an Alfred Knobler Scholar. May 2009.

Jai Narain Vyas University, India - Ph. D. English Literature, Indian English, fully funded by a research scholarship. May 2005.

Jai Narain Vyas University - M.A. English Literature, British Literature, Graduated with distinction. August 1999.

Jai Narain Vyas University - B.A. in English Literature, History, and Philosophy. May 1997.

RESIDENCIES

Vermont Studio Center, funded in part by a merit scholarship and work study, Nov. 2017

AWP Writer to Writer Mentorship Program, Poetry mentee, Spring 2016

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, General Contributor, August 2010

AWARDS & GRANTS

The Greenbelt Review Prize for Fiction "Aunty Lakshmi" Greenbelt Review (2009)

Best New American Voices Nomination for "Godhara" (2008)

(First Runner-up) Virginia Tech Fiction Prize, "Godhara" (2008)

TedX, Virginia Tech, Shortlisted (2014, 15)

"Gendered Arrangements: Vanishing," An Interdisciplinary Poetry Project, Autodesk, \$ 10,000 (2015)

"Gendered Arrangements," Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology, Virginia Tech, \$3,000.00 (2013)

Creative consultation, social issues in humanities courses. Griffith University, Brisbane, AU \$550 (2015)

PUBLICATIONS

Works in Progress

The Vanishing, poetry collection (in submission)

Poetry

- "Notes from the Field" *Puerto Del Sol*, featured poem of the week (December, 2017)
- "A Mother's Confession to Her Daughter", "Bhaiya, Bhaiya", "Names" *The Aerogram* (2017)
- "When God is the Groom" *TAB: The journal of poetics & poetry*, (January 2017), print issue
- "Would You Still Blame Me?" " Dear Daughter" in *The Saturday Poetry Series*, in *As it Ought to Be* (2016)
- "Indian Girl Crumbling" *New Asian Writing* (2016)
- "Five Poems" *The Bombay Review* (2016)
- "My Dreams, re-published on Meduim.com, National Poetry Month, (2017)
- "Yoga", "Handle with Care", *Silhouette* 31.1. Pages 6, 43 (2007)

Fiction

- "Aunty Laxshmi", short story *The Greenbelt Review* (2009)
- "Godhara", *Superficial Flesh* 3.2 (2008)

Creative Nonfiction

- "Maneka Gandhi's Baseless Marital Rape Theory...", *The Huffington Post* (2011)
- "Dickens in Paris", *The Common* (2007)
- "Heavenly Beauty Reborn", *Pinnacle Living Mountain Homes Southern Style* (2007)
- Editorial. *The New River Journal of Digital Writing and New Media* (2008)

Book Reviews

- "An Epic in Prose: *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese", *The Common* (2015)

Scholarly Writing

- "Understanding perspectives on sex-selection in India: an intersectional study" *The Lancet*. (2014)
- What's Next: "Blurred Images, Better Futures" By Suzie Boss *Stanford Social Innovation Review*. Featured research, (2014)
- "Gendered Arrangements: India" Change Observer: *Design Observer*. Featured article (2013)

Book Chapters

“...The Lingering Problem of Female Infanticide” *At Issues: Gender Politics*, Greenhaven Publishing, Cengage (2017)

“Children’s Literature in India: Genres, Reading, Education and the Demands of the Digital Age.” In *The Anthology on Literature for Children: A Reader*. Eds. Sharad Rajimwale and Kalpana Purohit, New Delhi, India: Sarup Books & Publishers. (2011)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Lecturer, Department of English, New River Community College (August 2017-

Writing Coach, NuVu Innovation Studio, Cambridge, MA (2016 -) *volunteer position*

Faculty Fellow, Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA (2011-2016)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Women’s and Gender Studies, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Creative Writing, Writing & Rhetoric, Writing Center, Department of English, Virginia Tech (2006-2009)

Managing Co-Editor, *The New River Journal of Digital Writing and New Media* (2008)

Instructor, English as a Second Language, Virginia Tech Language and Culture Institute (2009-2010)

Lecturer, Freshman English, Jai Narain Vyas University—Jodhpur, India (2000-2002)

Teacher, English Language, Literature, Delhi Public School (Middle-High) —Jodhpur, India (1999-2002)

Adjunct faculty, Queensland Conservatorium and Research Center, Griffith University, Brisbane, AU (2015)

Affiliate Faculty, Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech (2013-2014)

COURSES TAUGHT

ENF 2: Preparing/College English II

ENF 3: Preparing/College English, New River Community College (Fall 2017)

ENG 111: College Composition I, New River Community College (Fall 2017)

WGS 2224: Women and Creativity, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech (2011-16)

WGS 1824: Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech (2011-16)

ESL Instructor, Virginia Tech Language and Culture Institute, Virginia Tech (2010)

ENGL 1105, 1106, (First Year Writing, Writing from Research), Department of English Virginia Tech (2006-09)

ENGL 2744: Introduction to Creative Writing, Department of English Virginia Tech (2009)

Tutor, Writing Center, Department of English, Virginia Tech (Fall 2006)

Compulsory English, Jai Narian Vyas University, India (2000-02)

PROJECTS

The Vanishing, Poetry, Sound & Art Installation

Brisbane, Sydney, AU Virginia Tech, USA Jaipur, India

Co-collaborators: Dr. Kim Cunio, Senior Lecturer, Australian National University, & Akshay Sharma, Chair, Industrial Design, Virginia Tech

In 2014, I spent a year in India, doing field interviews. Based on ethnographic research, poems in *The Vanishing* imagine Indian girls that were never born. It is a research-based project that explores the issue of gender imbalance in India. About 7 million girls were not born in India between 2001-2011. “The most plausible explanation for the “missing” girls in the 2011 census is prenatal sex determination followed by selective abortion of female foetuses.”

— Prabhat Jha, Maya A. Kesler *The Lancet* Volume 377, No. 9781, pp 1921-1928, 4 June 2011
[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(11\)60649-1/abstract](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(11)60649-1/abstract)

INSTALLATIONS, SPEAKER, DISCUSSIONS

ICAT Playdate, *The Vanishing* Project, ICAT, Virginia Tech (April 2016)

The Vanishing, Art Installation, (Brisbane, Sydney, Australia; Jaipur, India) (2015)

Art Week, Queensland Conservatorium Research Center, Griffith University, in Australia (2015)
Attended by approx. 500 people

The Vanishing - A Social Issue, Community event, A discussion on Social Issues, City-Fringe Art Gallery, Sydney, Australia (2015)
Attended by 100 people

Meet the Makers, *The Vanishing*: Tech talk and immersive listen of the project followed by a Q & A , Queensland Conservatorium Research Center, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, (2015)

Women’s Forum, Queensland Conservatorium Research Center, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia,

Invited Speaker, 'Law Mantra' on 'Female Foeticide: A Challenge to Indian Society' Law College, Rajasthan University, Jaipur, India (2015)

Invited Speaker, Message NGO, International Women's Day, Jaipur. "Perspectives on female foeticide" (2015)

Invited Speaker, Through Feminist Eyes Speaker Series, Women's Center, WGS, Virginia Tech, Robeson Hall. Guest Scholar (2012)

SERVICE

Contributing Editor, Aerogram Magazine (2017-

Reader, Los Angeles Review (2008)

Manuscript Reviewer, Sociological Compass (2013)

Scholarship Reviewer, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Tech (2013)

Presider and Moderator, Human Rights Forum, Virginia Tech (2014) 21 July 2017

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Pedagogy

Compositional Pedagogy, 2006-2007

Composition Practicum, Fall 2006

Contemporary Pedagogy

Creative Writing Practicum, 2008-2009

Advanced English Composition Literary

Appreciation & Principles of Literary Criticism, 1998

Form and Theory

Form and Theory of Poetry, Fall 2006

Form and Theory of Fiction, Spring 2007

Form and Theory of Playwriting, Fall 2006

Creative Writing Workshops

Fiction Workshop, Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2008.

Poetry Workshop, Spring 2007, Fall 2008

Playwriting Workshop, Fall 2007

New Media (Digital) Writing Workshop, Fall 2007

Writing Fiction for Young People

Literature

Critical Theory, Fall 2006

Modern Poetry, 1998

British English Prose, 1998

Shakespeare and his Contemporaries, 1998
British English Poetry from Chaucer to 1798 , 1998
Post Shakespearean Drama, 1999
English Poetry from 1798 to the Present, 1999
British & American (English) Fiction, Austen, Henry James, James Joyce...., 1999
Indian English Literature, 1999

Professional

Preparing Future Professoriate, Fall 2008

Interdisciplinary

Origins of Innovation: Advanced Topics in Technology Studies, Spring 2016

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Yoga and Meditation Teacher, Instructor , Internationally Certified
Yoga & Meditation Instructor, Vermont Studio Center, (Nov. 2017)
Yoga Instructor, India, (1999-2002)
Yoga Instructor, Rec Center, Blacksburg, VA, (Fall 2006)
Yoga, Meditation Instructor, Virginia Tech, (Spring 2007)

5 February 2018