

Rebecca Johns
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EDUCATION

- MFA, Iowa Writers' Workshop, 2003
- BJ/AB University of Missouri, 1993

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, tenured 2014, DePaul University, Department of English, 2010-present
- Assistant Professor, tenure-track, Northern Michigan University, Department of English, 2008-2010
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Northern Michigan University Department of English, 2003-2004 (one-year term), 2007-2008 (three-year term converted to tenure-track)

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Novels

- *The Countess*. Crown Books (US), October 2010
Garzanti (Italy), February 2011
Ediciones B (Spain), May 2011
Record (Brazil), September 2011
ASA (Portugal), September 2011
Editura Alfa SRL (Romania), September 2011
Moonhak Soochup (South Korea), 2012
Artemis (Turkey), 2012
IDC (Albania), 2013
Pascal (Poland), August 2013
Broadway paperback (US), September 2011
Audible audiobook (US and UK), November 2011
- *Icebergs*. Bloomsbury USA, April 2006
Bloomsbury UK, January 2007
DTV, Germany, February 2009
Johns, Rebecca. "Icebergs: A Novel Excerpt." *WordPlaySound* audio journal, Spring 2012, posted March 15, 2012. Accessed October 7, 2013. (<http://www.wordplaysound.com/icebergs-rebecca-johns/>)

Short Fiction

- "This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things," *StoryQuarterly* Prize Issue. 1/48. January 2015. Forthcoming.

- “Customs,” *Printers Row* fiction supplement. *Chicago Tribune*. 2/74. July 14, 2013, pp 1-21.
- “*The Resurrectionist: An Excerpt*” (from the novel retitled *Mortified*). *WordPlaySound* audio journal, Fall 2013. Posted September 5, 2012. Accessed October 7, 2013. <http://www.wordplaysound.com/the-resurrectionist-rebecca-johns/>
- “Perpetua in Glory,” *Ploughshares*. Winter 2010-11. 36/4. pp 44-57.
- “Pietà,” *The Mississippi Review*. 37/1/2, MR Prize 2009 (Spring, 2009), pp. 59-68. Summer Prize Issue. Reprinted in *The MR 30-Year Anthology*, 2012. 39/1-3 (2012), pp. 823-829.
- “The Banyan Tree,” *American Way*, 27/10. (May 15, 1994). pp 84-93.

Essays and Journalism

- “Grayslake, Illinois, 1974,” *Narrative* magazine, Spring 2013. Web journal. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://www.narrativemagazine.com/issues/spring-2013/grayslake-illinois>
- More than 100 articles and essays in magazines and newspapers such as *American Baby*, *Bride's*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Crain's Chicago Business*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Fitness*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Mademoiselle*, *Parenting*, *Parents*, *Self*, *Seventeen* and *Woman's Day*

Academic and Professional Writing

- “Outside the Margins: A Freelancer Takes on a Second Life as a Fiction Writer,” *ASJA Monthly*, June 2012, Vol 61, No 6, p. 10. Journal.
- “Socially Adept: How authors can incorporate social media into their promotional plans—and lives,” *ASJA Monthly*, March 2012, Vol 61, No 3, pp C1-C3. Journal.
- “A Stranger Comes to Town,” in *Naming the World: And Other Exercises for the Creative Writer*, Bret Anthony Johnston, ed., Random House. New York, NY. January 2008. pp 269-271. Book chapter.
- “Let Me Introduce Myself,” *Passages North*. Northern Michigan University. Vol. 28, Winter/Spring 2007. pp 15-16. Journal.

Book Reviews

- Kirkus Reviews, July 2014-present
- “*The Pesthouse* by Jim Crace,” *Harvard Review*, Summer 2008, Vol 34, pp 199-201. Journal.
- “*The Border of Truth* by Victoria Redel,” *Harvard Review*, Fall 2007, Vol 33, pp 207-208. Journal.
- “Picks and Pans Review: *On Agate Hill* by Lee Smith,” *People* magazine, October 9, 2006, Vol 66, No 15. Magazine. <http://www.people.com/people/archive/article/0,,20060702,00.html>

CONFERENCES, READINGS, PUBLIC TALKS, AND INTERVIEWS

Conferences

- Johns, Rebecca; Buckley, Carla; Johnston, Tim; McHugh, Laura; Wisniewski, Mark. "Writing Well Yet Writing to Sell: The Art of the Literary Page-Turner." Association of Writers and Writing Programs Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN. April 2015. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca; Samantha Chang; Julia Fierro; Marie Myung-ok Lee. "The (She) Devil Inside: Unlikable Women in Fiction." Association of Writers and Writing Programs Annual Conference. Seattle, WA. February 2014. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca; Miles Harvey. "Stoke Your Creative Momentum: Rebecca Johns in Conversation with Miles Harvey." Content Connections Chicago. The American Society of Journalists and Authors. Chicago, IL. November 7, 2013. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca. *The Countess*. Iowa City Book Festival. Iowa City, IA. October 13, 2013. Reading.
- Johns, Rebecca; Ellen Bryson; Goldie Goldbloom; Frank Tempone. "Historical Fiction." Printer's Row Literary Festival. Chicago, IL. June 3, 2011. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca; Rick Barber. "The Rick Barber Show." KOA Denver. October 30, 2010. Radio broadcast. MP3 available at <http://illiterati.typepad.com/blog/2010/10/late-night-radio-with-attendant-weirdness.html>
- Johns, Rebecca; Wendy Webb. "Research for Novelists." Iowa City Book Festival. Iowa City, IA. July 14, 2010. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca; Gina Frangello; Peter Orner; Billy Lombardo. "First-Time Charmers." Printer's Row Book Fair. Chicago, IL. May 28, 2006. Panel.
- Johns, Rebecca; Jacquelyn Mitchard; Elizabeth Rosner; Laura Kasischke. "Women's Fiction." Ann Arbor Book Festival. Ann Arbor, MI. May 10, 2006. Panel.

Readings, Public Talks, and Seminars

- Readings at Sunday Salon Chicago; Prairie Lights Bookstore, Iowa City, IA; Barnes & Noble, Skokie, IL; Boswell Books, Milwaukee, WI; The Book Stall, Winnetka, IL; The Book Cellar, Chicago, IL; Sulzer Regional Library, Chicago, IL; Michigan Women's Media Network; Abroad Writers' Conference, Hever Castle, UK; Warren-Newport Library, Gurnee, IL; Berwyn Public Library, Berwyn, IL; Winnetka Public Library, Winnetka, IL.
- "Psychos, Stalkers, and She-Devils: Using Bad Characters to Create Good Fiction." Schaumburg (Ill.) Public Library (2014); Niles (Ill.) Public Library (2014), Off-Campus Writers' Workshop (Winnetka, Ill.) (2014).

Interviews and Guest Articles

- Sneed, Christine. "Christine Sneed on Fact Vs. Fiction." *Chicago Tribune*. October 3, 2014. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/lifestyles/books/ct-prj-inventing-fiction-20141003-story.html#page=1>
- Christie, Nancy. "One on One With Fiction Writer Rebecca Johns." October 1, 2014. <http://www.nancychristie.com/oneonone/2014/10/01/one-on-one-with-fiction-writer-rebecca-johns/>
- Johns, Rebecca. "Dracula Revealed" Featurette. *Fright Night 2: New Blood*. Eduardo Rodriguez, dir. 20th Century Fox. Released October 1, 2013. DVD.

- Chojecka, Katarzyna. "Wywiad z Rebeką Johns, autorką powieści Hrabina. Tragiczna historia Elżbiety Batory." Web site. September 13, 2013. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://kacikzksiazka.blogspot.com/2013/09/wywiad-z-rebeka-johns-autorka-powieosci.html>
- Johns, Rebecca. "Summer Reading Simplified," *Chicago Tonight*, WTTW Chicago, June 27, 2013.
- Johns, Rebecca. "Why I Love Unreliable Narrators." *Historical Tapestry*. Web site. November 19, 2011. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://historicaltapestry.blogspot.com/2011/11/why-i-love-unreliable-narrators-by.html>
- Johns, Rebecca. "MFA Spotlight: The University of Iowa." *Niche* magazine. November 9, 2011. Web journal. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://www.nichelitmag.com/4/post/2011/11/mfa-spotlight-the-university-of-iowa.html>
- Johns, Rebecca. "The Female Perspective." *Historical Fiction Connection*. Web site. October 7, 2011. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://www.hf-connection.com/2011/10/giveaway-murderess-guest-post-from.html>
- Johns, Rebecca. "Rebecca Johns on her story 'Perpetua in Glory.'" February 24, 2011. *Ploughshares* blog. Web site. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://word.emerson.edu/ploughshares/2011/02/24/rebecca-johns-on-her-story-perpetua-in-glory/>
- Carcello, Enzo. "Intervista a Rebecca Johns." *Corpi Freddi*. Web site. April 29, 2011. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://corpifreddi.blogspot.com/2011/04/intervista-rebecca-johns-la-contessa.html>
- Storti, Andrea. "Intervista a Rebecca Johns." *De Mele di Silenzio*. Web site. January 3, 2011. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://lemeledelsilenzio.blogspot.com/2011/03/intervista-rebecca-johns.html>
- Wisniewski, Mary. "Chicago Lit: Rebecca Johns, author of *The Countess*." *Chicago Sun-Times*. November 28, 2010.
- Goldsmith, Belinda. "Book Talk: Rebecca Johns tackles first female serial killer." Reuters News Service. October 13, 2010. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2010/10/13/us-books-authors-johns-idUSTRE69C1WL20101013>
- Johns, Rebecca. Interview. WGN News at Noon. WGN-TV Chicago. October 12, 2010.
- Valeri, Laura. "Interview with Rebecca Johns, author of *The Countess*." The Mojito Literary Society. Web site. October 10, 2010. Accessed October 9, 2013. <http://themojitoliterarysociety.blogspot.com/2010/12/interview-with-rebecca-johns-author-of.html>

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Instructor, StoryStudio Chicago, Fall 2012-Winter 2014
- Instructor, Iowa Summer Writing Festival, 2005-7, 2009-13, 2015
- Writing Instructor, Warren-Newport Public Library, 1998-2015
- Online Instructor, UCLA Extension Writers' Program, Los Angeles, Calif., January-November 2007. Novel Writing I (two quarters); Novel Writing II (one quarter).
- Writing Consultant, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, August 2006-May 2007. Tippie

School of Business, Department of Accounting. Worked with professors of accounting to grade student papers for grammar, clarity, and content; worked with students directly to improve writing skills.

- Visiting Instructor, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Mich., Summer 2006. Two-week graduate fiction workshop in point-of-view issues.
- Instructor, Iowa Young Writers' Studio, Iowa City, Iowa, Summer 2006, 2005. Intensive two-week creative writing courses for high-school juniors and seniors.
- Teaching Assistant, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, Fall 2001-Spring 2003. Interpretation of Literature (general-education English course) Three semesters. Creative Writing Studio Workshop (three-genre course) Two semesters.
- ChinaOnline.com, Chicago, Ill. April-August 2001. Copy Editor.
- UNext.com, Deerfield, Ill., August 2000-March 2001. Contract Editor. Developed business course curriculum for online degree-granting university; wrote and edited courses.
- *The Journal of the American Dietetic Association*, Chicago, Ill., December 1998-July 2000. Editor. Acting Editorial Director, January-May 2000.
- Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago, Ill., October 1997-December 1998. Writer/Editor.
- Penguin Putnam Inc., New York, NY, August 1996-September 1997. Copywriter.
- *Woman's Day* Magazine, New York, NY, April 1994-August 1996. Assistant Editor.
- *Highlights for Children* Magazine/Boyd's Mills Press, Honesdale, Pa., August 1993-April 1994. Editorial Assistant.
- *LIFE Magazine*, New York, NY, summer 1992. American Society of Magazine Editors internship.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- *StoryQuarterly* Fiction Prize, First Runner Up, 2014 (“This Is Why We Can’t Have Nice Things,”) chosen by Elizabeth McCracken
- *The Mississippi Review* Fiction Prize, Finalist, 2009 (“Pietà”), chosen by Frederick Barthelme
- PEN/Hemingway Finalist, 2007 (*Icebergs*), chosen by Ha Jin, Elizabeth Berg and Sue Miller
- VCU First Novel Semifinalist, 2007 (*Icebergs*)
- Michener-Copernicus Society of America Fellowship, 2004-5 (*Icebergs*)
- Fellow, Sun Valley Writers' Conference, 2003
- Robert F. Kennedy Foundation Citation for Human-Rights Journalism, 1992
- Ray Bradbury Writing Award, 1989

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Association of Writers and Writing Programs
- PEN America
- Society of Midland Authors

- American Society of Journalists and Authors
- Authors Guild

Contest Judging

- Michener-Copernicus Society of America Fellowship, 2007-13
- Tulane University Student Fiction Contest, 2009
- *Passages North* Wassmode Fiction Contest, 2009-10