

**JAMES SHEA**

Associate Professor & Director, Creative & Professional Writing Programme  
Department of Humanities & Creative Writing (HMW)  
Director, International Writers' Workshop  
Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU)

**EDUCATION**

MFA in Poetry, Iowa Writers' Workshop, The University of Iowa, 2001  
BA in English and Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, Loyola University Chicago, 1998

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2013–present **Hong Kong Baptist University**  
Associate Professor & Director, Creative and Professional Writing Programme,  
Department of Humanities and Creative Writing (2020–present)  
Director, International Writers' Workshop (2025–present)  
Associate Director, International Writers' Workshop (2018–2025)  
Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Creative Writing (2014–2020)  
Fulbright Scholar, Department of Humanities and Creative Writing (2013–2014)  
Spring 2025 Department Associate (Poet-in-Residence), Neafsey Lab, Department of  
Immunology and Infectious Diseases, T.H. Chan School of Public Health,  
Harvard University  
2010–2014 **Nebraska Wesleyan University**  
Assistant Professor, Department of English  
2008–2010 **The University of Chicago**  
Visiting Lecturer, The Committee on Creative Writing  
2003–2010 **Columbia College Chicago**  
Visiting Assistant Professor, MFA Program in Poetry & Department of English  
(2009–2010)  
Instructor, Department of English (2003–2009)  
2003–2009 **DePaul University**  
Lecturer, Department of English & Department of Modern Language  
1999–2001 **The University of Iowa**  
Graduate Instructor, Department of Rhetoric

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books (authored)**

2025 *Last Day of My Face*. Iowa City, Iowa: University of Iowa Press. Collection of  
poetry. Selected by Brenda Shaughnessy for the 2024 Iowa Poetry Prize.  
2014 *The Lost Novel*. Albany, NY: Fence Books. Collection of poetry.  
2008 *Star in the Eye*. Albany, NY: Fence Books; reprinted in 2017. Collection of  
poetry. Selected by Nick Flynn for the Fence Modern Poets Series.

**Books (translated)**

- 2025        *Applause for a Cloud*. Translations of poems by contemporary Japanese poet Sayumi Kamakura. Boston, MA: Black Ocean.
- 2022        *Moving a Stone: Selected Poems of Yam Gong*. Translations of poems by contemporary Hong Kong poet Yam Gong. Co-translated with Dorothy Tse. Brookline, MA: Zephyr Press.

**Books (edited)**

- 2023        *The Routledge Global Haiku Reader*. Co-edited with Grant Caldwell (University of Melbourne). Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

**Academic Publications (Selected)**

- 2024        “Self-Domestication: Wan Kin-lau’s Self-Translations at the Iowa Writers’ Workshop,” *Babel: An International Journal of Translation* 70, no. 4: 554–574.
- 2021        “‘Radical’ Translation: Teaching Poetry Writing in Hong Kong.” In *The Rise of Creative Writing in English in Asia*, 116–128. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.
- “Oulipo in Hong Kong: Welcoming Unconventional Forms in Multilingual Poetry Writing Workshops.” *Poetry in Pedagogy: Intersections Across and Between the Disciplines*, 27–43. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.
- 2020        “Co-opting the International Writing Program during the Cold War: Gu Cangwu, the Baodiao Movement, and *Minjian* Activism.” *Prism: Theory and Modern Chinese Literature* 17, no. 1: 79–103.

**AWARDS AND HONORS (SELECTED)**

- 2024        Iowa Poetry Prize (University of Iowa Press) for *Last Day of My Face*
- 2024        President’s Award for Outstanding Performance in Teaching, HKBU
- 2022        *Moving a Stone: Selected Poems of Yam Gong* selected for One City One Book Hong Kong, a community reading program
- 2020        National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Literature Fellowship for Translation
- 2020; 2018   Hong Kong Arts Development Council Grant
- 2019        Vermont Arts Council Creation Grant
- 2019        Artist Residency at the Tomaž Šalamun Poetry Centre, Slovenia (July 8–15)
- 2015        *The Lost Novel* named as a Book of 2015 by *The Volta*

**COURSES TAUGHT (SELECTED)**

Poetry Writing Workshop; The Art of Creating Stories; Writing for New Media (HKBU); Poetry Workshops; Creative Nonfiction Workshop: Nonfiction from a Poet’s Perspective; (Nebraska Wesleyan University); Literary Translation Workshop; Poetry Workshops (University of Chicago); MFA Craft Seminars: The Art of Translation; Experiments in Classical Japanese Poetry; and The Historical Avant-Garde; MFA Poetry Workshop (Columbia College Chicago).