

## MARY VOLMER

PM Box 3076 • 1928 Saint Mary's Road • Moraga, CA 94575  
(925) 899-5117 • maryvolmer@gmail.com

### PUBLICATIONS:

#### Novel Publications

- *Crown of Dust*, HarperCollins UK, January 2006; released in the US by Soho Press, November 2010.
- *Reliance, Illinois*, Soho Press, May 2016.
- *Ramona and Grace* (in progress).

#### Selected Short Publications

- "Mrs. Thomas." *Arc Digital*. Spring 2019 (short story, reprinted from the *Farallon Review*).
- "You Are Not The Special One." *Mutha Magazine*. Spring 2019 (essay).
- "Hari Kunzru's *White Tears*." *New Orleans Review*. February 3, 2018 (book review).
- "Writing as Laborious Play." *Brevity*. Fall 2017 (craft essay).
- "Richard Bausch's *Living in the Weather of the World*. *Ploughshares*. July 7, 2017 (book review).
- "The Tourist, the Expat, and the Native: A Traveler's Approach to Crafting Historical Fiction." *The Fiction Writers Review*, Summer 2016; republished in *The Historical Novel Society Review*. Summer 2017 (craft essay).
- "A Short History of My Breasts." *Mutha Magazine*. Spring 2015 (essay, humor).
- "WE Are Not Pregnant." *Mutha Magazine*. Summer 2014 (essay).
- "Canyon." Orlando Prize Finalist, Fall 2010; performed by *Stories On Stage*, Sacramento Poetry Center, November 26, 2010; *The Farallon Review*, Spring 2011.
- "Superfans." *Women's Basketball Magazine*. Summer 2008 (feature article).

### EDUCATION:

**MFA** in Creative Writing, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, CA, 2005.

**MA** in Writing, *with Distinction*, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales, 2003.

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to Aberystwyth, Wales, 2001-2002.

**BA** in English with Biology minor, *Cum Laude*, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, CA, 2001.

Four-year scholarship athlete, NCAA division-I, women's college basketball.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

#### Distinguished Visiting Writer in Residence (fiction) Saint Mary's College (CA) Spring 2015

- Facilitate graduate fiction workshop; offer craft lecture; thesis reader and adviser.

#### Writing Courses Taught at Saint Mary's College (CA)

- English 025, Introduction to Creative Writing
- English 102, Creative Writing, Fiction
- English 324, Graduate Fiction Workshop
- English 334, Graduate Fiction Tutorial
- Jan Term, Sports Writing (fiction/creative non-fiction/feature writing)
- College Composition: *Practice in Writing (Engl 003)*, *College Composition (Engl 004)* and *Argument and Research (Engl 005)*

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### Literature and Cross-disciplinary Courses at Saint Mary's College (CA)

- Collegiate Seminar: *Greek Thought (Sem 001), Roman, Early Christian, and Medieval Thought (Sem 002), Renaissance, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Thought (Sem 103) and 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Thought (Sem 104); Critical Strategies and Great Questions (Sem 001), Western Traditions (Sem 002); Western Traditions (Sem 102, for transfers); Global Conversation (Sem 104).*
- Women of the California Gold Rush: an interdisciplinary history, literature, creative writing, and women's studies course.

### Other Courses and Workshops

- "Revising Your Prose in a Changed World." An online revision course for fiction and nonfiction writers at Left Margin Lit. Spring 2020 (craft class).
- "So You Want To Write a Novel?" –A writing workshop at Left Margin Lit. January 2020 (workshop).
- "The Cat and the Pickle Dish: Creating compelling narratives using details foreign and familiar." Sierra Writers Conference. January 2019 (craft class).
- "The Novel." Lakeshore Writers Workshop. January 2018 (workshop).
- Workshop Leader and Panelist. Squaw Valley Community of Writers Conference. Summer 2016.
- Speaker and Workshop Leader. Gold Rush Writer's Conference. May 2015.

### Selected Lectures and Conference Panels

- "A Fish Story." A lecture for the annual Festival of Women Authors. Berkeley, CA. February 2018.
- "Women of the Gold Rush." A lecture for the San Francisco Opera's "Girls of the Golden West" Premier Symposium. Fall 2017.
- "The Political Woman – Novelists Reimagine and Reclaim Women's Place in Politics." AWP Panel Moderator. Spring 2017.
- "Why Write Historical Fiction?" AAUW lecture. Amador County. January 2016.
- "The Fact of Fiction: Negotiating the Place of Historical Novels in Igniting an Interest in Women's History." WAWH Conference Panelist. May 2015.
- "The Tourist, the Expat and the Native: a traveler's guide to crafting historical fiction." Craft seminar as the visiting writer in fiction at Saint Mary's College. Spring 2015.
- "Women of the California Gold Rush: Imagining History's Lost Voices." Public Library Lecture Series: Eugene Public Library, Eugene OR; Redmond Library, Redmond WA; Pacific Beach/Earl & Birdie Taylor Library, San Diego CA; Lafayette Public Library, Lafayette CA. Fall 2011.

### Honors, Awards, Residencies

- Hedgebrook Writer's Residency, Whidbey Island, WA, 2010 & 2020.
- Distinguished Visiting Writer in Residence, Saint Mary's College, Spring 2015.
- Vermont Studio Center Residency, Johnson, VT, January 2009.
- Agnes Butler Scholarship for Excellence in Creative writing, 2004.
- Chester Aaron Scholarship for Excellence in Creative Writing, 2003.
- M.A. with *Distinction*, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, 2003.
- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to Wales, 2001-2002.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:**

**Bridging: A One-Day Writing Retreat Founding Director, 2016-present**

- Founded and directed a writing retreat serving diverse communities of women women from the SF Bay Area, and benefiting Hedgebrook.org and the Hedgebrook Scholarship for women authoring change at Saint Mary's College (CA).

**Women's National Book Association – SF Chapter, 2017-present**

- Board Member at Large for Events Planning. Designed, organized, moderated a series of events on behalf of the WNBA.

**Saint Mary's College Honors Program Founding Director, 2007- 2011**

- Founded and directed the Saint Mary's College Honors Program. Developed administrative infrastructure, budget, extra-curricular programming, and curriculum to challenge the college's most able students.