

**ASHLEY MACE HAVIRD**  
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### **Artist's Statement**

The natural world, environmental crises, family tensions, and relationships between humans and other species are major inspirations for my work. My debut novel, *LIGHTNINGSTRUCK*, and many of my poems are rooted in the swamps, farms, and pine woods of the American South. This ecological focus has deepened in recent years, reflected by significant poems in my recent collection, *WILD JUICE*. *SWIMMER*, my novel-in-progress explores the relationship between human beings and the environment we are commissioned to protect, yet seem hell-bent on destroying. My approach to craftsmanship is similar for both poetry and prose. As a poet who writes novels, I am attuned to the power of image, metaphor, syntax, diction, and sound textures—the rhythms and music of language.

### **Education**

MA in English, Emphasis in Creative Writing, University of Florida, 1978.  
 BA in English, University of South Carolina, 1975.

### **Grants, Awards, Fellowships, Residencies**

Dairy Hollow Writer's Colony Residency (Eureka Springs, AR), July 2023.  
 Julie Suk Award longlist finalist for *Wild Juice*, 2021.  
*Poet Laureate of Caddo Parish*, 2018-2021.  
 Red River Poetry Society (Centenary College), inaugural guest poet, March 5, 2021.  
 Writer's Residency, Kallenberg Artist's Tower, Shreveport, Louisiana, 2020.  
 Shreveport Regional Arts Council (SRAC) Artist Fellowship in Literature (Poetry), 2018, 2007, 2000 (\$2500).  
 National Award: Mary Jane Malone Lecture Series, Caddo Magnet High School, Shreveport, October 2017. Both novel and poetry were school-wide reads.  
 Chautauqua Institution, NY, Writer's Residency, July 2017.  
 Travel Grants (\$1000), Shreveport Regional Arts Council, 2016, 2017.  
 Literary Winner, Shreveport Regional Arts Council Critical Mass 4, for novel, *Lightningstruck*, 2016 (\$2000).  
 Winner, Ferrol Sams Award for Fiction, for *Lightningstruck*, 2015.  
 Finalist, Leapfrog Fiction Contest, for novel, *An Old Horse Named Troy* (renamed *Lightningstruck*), June 2014.  
 Steelville Arts Council Writer's Residency (Poetry), Steelville, Missouri, June 2014.  
 X. J. Kennedy Prize for Full Poetry Collection, Texas Review Press, 2013.  
 South Carolina Poetry Initiative Chapbook Award, 2008.  
 Pushcart Prize Nominee, 2002.  
 Louisiana Division of the Arts Fellowship in Literature (Poetry), 2002 (\$5000).  
 Louisiana Division of the Arts Professional Development Grant in Literature (Poetry), 1999-2000 (\$500).  
 First Place award, *Panacea* poetry competition, Shreveport Regional Arts Council, 2004 (\$750).

### **Books (novel)**

*Lightningstruck*, 2015 Ferrol Sams Award for Fiction, Mercer University Press, 2016. Historical Novel Society Editor's Choice.

### Books (poetry collections)

- Wild Juice* (Southern Messenger Poets Series), LSU Press, 2021.  
*The Garden of the Fugitives*, 2013 X. J. Kennedy Prize, Texas Review Press, 2014.  
*Sleeping with Animals* (chapbook), Yellow Flag Press, 2013.  
*Dirt Eaters* (chapbook), South Carolina Poetry Initiative Prize, Stepping Stones Press, 2009.

### Anthologies (poems)

- “Gone to Wild,” *Poetry Buffet Anthology*, ed. Gina Ferrara and Geoff Munsterman, New Orleans Poetry Journal Press, 2023.  
 “Earth Day,” *The Global South*, Indiana University Press (online), Fall 2023.  
 “The Dogs of Athens,” “Temple of the Olympian Zeus,” “Second Story,” “Last Judgment,” *Mediterranean Poetry* (online) Oct. 17, 2017.  
 “The Harvest,” *Nasty Women Poets: An Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse*, ed. Grace Bauer and Julie Kane, Lost Horse Press, 2017.  
 “At Stonewall” and “Lunar Eclipse,” *Hard Lines: Rough South Poetry*, ed. Daniel Cross Turner and William Wright, U of South Carolina Press, 2016.  
 “Migrant Worker,” “Sleeping with Animals,” “Mosaic,” and “Artemis,” *Mediterranean Poetry* (online) Oct. 20, 2015.  
 “Dirt Eaters” and “Sister Josephine Tells Your Fortune,” *Vision/Verse 2009-2013, An Anthology of Poetry from the Vision/Verse Art and Poetry Exhibits*, ed. J. Bruce Fuller and Erica McCreedy, Yellow Flag Press, 2013.  
 “Dirt Eaters,” “Sideshow,” “Resurrection: Ivorybill,” *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Vol. IV: Louisiana*, ed. William Wright, Texas Review Press, 2011.  
 “Mosaic,” *Knowing Stones: Poems of Exotic Places*, ed. Maureen Tolman Flannery, John Gordon Burke, 2000.

### Journals

#### • Poems

- “Yellow Dog,” *Verse Daily*, November 23, 2021.  
 “Alchemy” and “Festival,” *Susurrus*, 2 (2021)  
 “Bone Pit” and “Waterline,” *Literary Matters*, 13:2 (2021).  
 “Beach Music,” *LEON Literary Review*, 10 (2020).  
 “Habitat” and “Skull Mount,” *Literary Matters*, 13:1 (2020).  
 “Diving before Dawn,” *Chautauqua Literary Journal*, 17 (2020).  
 “Turtle and Snake,” *Literary Matters*, 12:2 (2020).  
 “Ghost Net,” “Golden Dawn,” and “Tour of Grief,” *Cold Mountain Review* (Fall/Winter 2019).  
 “Dementia: American Pickers” and “Suitcase,” *Literary Matters*, 12:1 (2019) .  
 “Advent,” “Earth Day, and “The Hound,” *American Journal of Poetry*, 7 (July 2019).  
 “Strays,” *Image*, 101 (Summer 2019).  
 “Babyland,” *Chautauqua Literary Journal*, 16 (2019).  
 “First Year,” *The Sewanee Review*, 127: 4 (Fall 2018).  
 “Perseids,” *Fleur de Lit* 1:1 (2017).  
 “Late for Reading” and “Fifty,” *Crab Orchard Review* 21: 1-2 (2017).  
 “The Gardener,” *Southern Humanities Review* 50:1-2 (2016).  
 “Fixing Junior,” *South Carolina Review*, 48: 1 (Fall 2015).  
 “Artemis,” *Lowestoft Chronicle*, 22 (Summer 2015).  
 “The Lost Boys,” *Verse Daily*, “Poem for Friday,” Jan. 23, 2015.  
 “Migrant Worker,” *Cumberland River Review*, 4:1 (Spring 2015).  
 “Proof,” *Cumberland River Review*, 3:4 (Winter 2014).  
 “Daughter, 14, with Scissors,” *Shenandoah* (Spring 2014).

"The Harvest" and "Feeding with the Whale Sharks," *Saranac Review* (Fall 2013).  
 "Second Story" and "Temple of the Olympian Zeus," *Illuminations* (Summer 2013).  
 "Thanksgiving," *The Cortland Review*, 57 (Oct. 2012).  
 "Pollard's Rock" and "Hurricane, Cayman Brac," *Town Creek Poetry* (Spring 2012).  
 "The Garden of the Fugitives," *WomenArts Quarterly Journal* (Fall 2011).  
 "Restitution: Swallowtails," *The Texas Review* (Fall/Winter 2011).  
 "Resurrection: Ivorybill," *Southern Humanities Review* (Fall 2009).  
 "Sleeping with Animals," *Tar River Poetry* (Spring 2009).  
 "The Legend of Petit Jean," "The Trip," "Pan's Shadow," *Yemassee* (Spring 2009).  
 "Dirt Eaters," *Shenandoah* (Spring 2007).  
 "Daughter," *The Chattahoochee Review* (Summer 2006).  
 "Daphne," *Southern Humanities Review* (Fall 2006).  
 "Cleaning the Garage," *New Delta Review* (Summer 2006).  
 "The Feast of Snails," *Calyx: A Journal of Art and Literature by Women* (Winter 2006).  
 "Ants in August," *Southern Poetry Review* (Spring 2005).  
 "On Cayman Brac," *Sow's Ear Poetry Review* (Spring 2005).  
 "Persephone's Crown," *Iris* (Fall/Winter 2004).  
 "Lunar Eclipse," "Ice Storm," and "1939: His Adoptive Mother," *Bayou* (2002).  
 "Sideshow," *The Southern Review* (Summer 2002).  
 "Yellow Dog," *Slant* (Summer 2002).  
 "Inheritance," *Midwest Poetry Review* (Spring 2002).  
 "Decoration," *The Texas Review* (Spring/Summer 2000).  
 "The Field," *The Texas Review* (Spring/Summer 1999).  
 "At Stonewall," "Housecleaning," and "Family Life, Louisiana," *Louisiana English Journal* (1999).  
 "When Time Stands Still," *The Texas Review* (Spring/Summer 1997).  
 "Rapture," *The Christian Century* (April 2, 1997).  
 "Hand Knit," *Hodge Podge Poetry* (Summer 1996).  
 "Carnival," "Vernix," "Dead Wood," "Lifeguard," and "Swamp," *Louisiana English Journal* (1996).  
 "November Dusk" and "Firefly," *The Kerf* (May 1996).  
 "Jeté," *Visions International* (1995).  
 "Walking in the Woods after Granddaddy's Funeral," *The Kerf* (May 1995).  
 "Wisteria," *First Things* (March 1995).  
 "The Victorious Ones," *First Things* (Aug./Sept. 1994).  
 "Take-off in Atlanta," *First Things* (June/July 1994).

- **Short Stories**

"Band Organ," *Fiction Southeast* (August 10, 2020).  
 "At Aunt Charlotte's," *The Virginia Quarterly Review* (Summer 1987).  
 "The Burial Ground," *The Virginia Quarterly Review* (Spring 1982).  
 "Autumn Rains and Forest Fires," *Sandlapper: The Magazine of South Carolina* (October 1975).

- **Essays**

"Such Houses: A Review of Claudia Emerson's Final Collections," *Nola Diaspora* (2017).  
 "Center Post: A Tribute to Smith Kirkpatrick," *The Christendom Review* 1:1 (2008).

### **Professional Experience, Teaching**

Instructor, Renzi Education and Art Center, 2005 to 2015

Creative Writing, Language Arts

Adjunct Instructor, Centenary College of Louisiana, 2007 and 2001

Advanced Creative Writing, Creative Writing

Instructor, Centenary College of Louisiana Division of Continuing Education, 1997

Writing the Short Story  
 Instructor, University of Virginia Division of Continuing Education, 1979-1980  
 Fiction Writing  
 Advanced Fiction Writing  
 Southern Women Writers  
 Instructor, St. Johns River Community College, 1978  
 American Literature II  
 Contemporary Literature

**Additional Professional Arts-related Experience and Activities**

South Carolina Academy of Authors, Judge for Fellowship and Student Competition, March 2024  
 Chautauqua Institution, NY: "Excavating Home:" Weeklong Prose Workshop, July 2017  
 Louisiana Book Festival, Baton Rouge: 2022, 2017, 2016, 2014  
*Lightningstruck* Book Tour (readings and workshops in LA, SC, GA, NC, MS, TX, NY) 2016-2017  
 "House of Poetry:" Workshops, Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, Waco, TX, Apr. 6, 2016  
 Workshop and Poetry Reading, Steelville Arts Council, June 2014  
 Literacy Volunteers: ESL Tutor Centenary College, 1999-2012  
 Numerous State and Regional Readings (poetry and fiction) sponsored by SRAC, the Louisiana Library Association, Yellow Flag Press, the University of South Carolina, Centenary College, Northwestern, Louisiana Tech, Louisiana State University (Shreveport), and Bossier Parish Community College, 2000-present  
 Fiction Writing Workshop, Louisiana Library Association Conference, LSUS, March 2008  
 Shreveport Regional Arts Council (SRAC) Artspace Exhibition Committee, 2005-2008  
 Artspace Faces of Katrina Exhibit, Fall 2006  
 Artspace Advisory Board, 2005-2006  
 Literary Curator/Workshop Facilitator, Arts in the Edge (SRAC), March 2003  
 Highway Haiku Participant, 2003-2005  
 Sewanee Writers' Conference (Poetry), July 2002  
 Fiction Writing Workshop, First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, Spring 2002  
 Writers' Guild of Acadiana Conference (Poetry Workshop Instructor), Lafayette, LA, 1998  
 River Cities Writers' Conference (Fiction Workshop Instructor), Shreveport, LA, October 1996  
 "Building Literary Bridges" (Poetry Reading/Workshop Instructor), LSU-Alexandria, September 1996  
 "Building Literary Bridges" (Poetry Reading/Workshop Instructor), LSU-Eunice, April 1996  
 South Central Conference on Christianity and Literature (Poetry Reading), Centenary College of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA, 1995  
 Fiction Reader, *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, 1979-1986