

Caroline Harper New

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Topics: affect; alienation; corporeality; death studies; ecological relationality; entanglement; environmental humanities; extinction; human-animal relations; intimacy; multimodal ethnography; poetry & poetics; temporality; translation studies

Areas: Brazil; Madagascar; U.S. South

EDUCATION

- 2024-present **Ph.D. Pre-Candidate in Anthropology**; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Expected Graduation: 2031
Certificate: Critical Translation Studies
Certificate: World Performance Studies
- 2020-2022 **M.F.A. Creative Writing, Poetry**; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Dissertation: *Wet Endeavors: The Violence in Devotion*
Dissertation Committee: Linda Gregerson, Tung Hui Hu
- 2013-2017 **B.A. Anthropology**; Davidson College, NC, *magna cum laude*
Regional focus: Sub-Saharan Africa / Minor: International Studies: Middle East
Honors Thesis: *Of Silver, Of Scars: The Silence of Historical Trauma Among the Antankarana*
Thesis Committee: Fuji Lozada, Matt Samson
- 2016 IES Study Abroad: Morocco, Rabat
Courses: MSA Arabic, Darija Arabic, Maghrebian Literature, Islam in North Africa
- 2015 SIT Study Abroad: Madagascar: Urbanization and Rural Development, Antananarivo
Courses: Community Development, Malagasy, French, and Ethnographic Methods

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & RESIDENCIES

- 2026 **LACS Tinker Field Research Grant**, University of Michigan (\$2500)
- 2026 **World Performance Studies Grant**, University of Michigan (\$4000)
- 2025 **Rackham Language Training Award**, University of Michigan (\$6,000)
- 2025 **Rackham Conference Travel Grant**, University of Michigan Rackham (\$900)
- 2023-2024 **Creative Careers Residency**, Arts Initiative, University of Michigan (\$40,000)
- 2022-2023 **Helen Zell Writers Fellowship**, University of Michigan (\$35,000)
- 2022-2023 **Dzanc Writer-in-Residence**, Dzanc Books (\$6,400)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Graduate Student Instructor

Aug 2024-present

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- COMPLIT322: Translating World Literatures: Translation and Migration (Winter 2026)
- COMPLIT322: Translating World Literatures: A Workshop for Humans (Fall 2025)
- Received pedagogical training in upper-level writing

Teaching Artist

June 2023-present

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- Advised a cohort of graduate students working on “resistance” themed arts projects
- Design thematic poetry workshops for various departments, including:
 - “Erasure” – Hatcher Graduate Library (Winter 2026)
 - “Gathering” – Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs (Winter 2026)
 - “Paper Trails” – Stamps Art Gallery (Fall 2025)
 - “Narrative Medicine” – UM Medical School (Winter 2025)
 - “Bodies of Water” – Water@Nexus Symposium (Winter 2025)
 - “Poetry Nature Walk” – Arts Initiative (Fall 2024)
 - “Poetic Justice” – Education Department (Winter 2024)
 - “Fireside Workshop Series” – Arts Initiative (biannually)

Graduate Student Instructor of Record

Aug 2021-April 2022

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- ENG223: Intro to Creative Writing (Spring 2022)
- ENG125: Writing and Academic Inquiry (Fall 2021)
- Received pedagogical training in first-year writing and creative writing

Poetry / Nonfiction Reader

Aug 2020-April 2022

Michigan Quarterly Review

Ann Arbor, MI

- Read 60+ poetry and non-fiction pieces weekly
- Wrote biannual reviews for new poetry collections
- Judged the 2020 Davidson Clayton Emerging Poets Prize

FIELDWORK

Ethnographic Researcher

Maroantsetra, Madagascar

Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork

June 2025

- Conducted informal interviews about effects of climate change and vanilla industry narratives
- Studied the Betsimisaraka dialect

Ethnographic Researcher

Georgia, U.S.

Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork

July-Aug 2025

- Conducted informal interviews around the Okefenokee Swamp & Barrier Islands
- Learned to conduct prescribed burns and surveyed bird species

Videographer & Artist

Florida and Georgia, U.S.

“Archives of the Altamaha”

May-June 2023

- Gathered sculptural materials and video footage for art installation

Videographer & Writer*“Prometheus in the Pyrocene”*

Wyoming & South Dakota, U.S.

April-June 2021

- Gathered film footage of oil refineries and recent wildfire sites
- Led writing workshops for musicians and visual artists
- Developed proficiency in video and audio editing using Adobe Premiere Pro

Ethnographic Researcher*Undergraduate Thesis Fieldwork*

Ambilobe, Madagascar

Nov-Dec 2015

- studied Malagasy (Ofisiely and Antankarana dialects)
- conducted formal and informal interviews with local residents and musicians

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 “Wor(l)ds: Translating Body, Space, and Time in Madagascar,” Guest Lecture, Comparative Literature Department, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 “Brackish Hauntings: The Southern Gothic of Extinction,” American Anthropological Association – New Orleans, LA
- 2017 “Of Silver, of Scars: How Antankarana Ethnic Relations are Shaped by Embodied Memory,” Southern Anthropological Society – Carrollton, GA

PUBLICATIONS**Books**

(under review) *The She-Hound Sings*, full-length poetry collection
Semifinalist for the 2026 Jake Adam York Prize

2026 *If I Call this Cave a Garden*, poetry chapbook, YesYes Books (forthcoming)
Winner of the 2024 Vinyl45 Chapbook Prize
Finalist for the 2024 Burnside Review Chapbook Prize
Finalist for the 2024 Cow Creek Chapbook Prize by Pittsburg State University
Finalist for the 2024 Black River Chapbook Competition by Black Lawrence Press
Finalist for the 2022 Adrift Chapbook Contest by Driftwood Press, judged by Carl Phillips

2024 *A History of Half-Birds*, full-length poetry collection, Milkweed Editions
Winner of the 2025 Housatonic Book Award
Semifinalist for the 2025 Levis Reading Prize by Virginia Commonwealth University
Winner of the 2023 Ballard Spahr Prize for Poetry, judged by Maggie Smith
Finalist for the 2022 Lexi Rudnitsky Book Prize by Persea Press

2020 *Tantely Tapa-Bata: Fanangonana Tononkalo sy Andrana (Half-Filled Honey Pot)*, poetry anthology, edited with Henri Rafidiniaina (distributed in Madagascar)

Ethnographic Writing

(accepted) “Brackish Beginnings,” “The Mermaids Have Gone Extinct,” & “Bouclage” in *Anthropology and Humanism*

(under revision) “Ostreidae” in *Anthropology and Humanism*

Poems

- 2026 “The Museum of Natural History” in *North American Review*
 “The Ornithologist” in *Only Poems*
 “Love Poem for My Bird Dog” in *PoetTreeTown 2026*
- 2025 “The Aquariums Keep Exploding” in *Southern Humanities Review* (58.3)
 “Loom” & “My Love for Geography is an Act of Mourning” in *The Massachusetts Review*
 “Fieldnotes on Juniper” in *PoetTreeTown 2025*
- 2024 “Five Mile Swamp Fire” & “Run Away!” in *Hood of Bone* (2)
 “Salt Lick” and “If I Teach Tomatoes to Climb Stalagmites, I Can Call This Cave a Garden” in *Colorado Review* (51.1)
 “Auguries by Mouth” in *PoetTreeTown 2024*
 “The Bathtub” and “Driving Through Dunedin” in *2024 Driftwood Press Anthology*
 “Fieldnotes on the Red-Bellied Woodpecker” in *LitBowl*
 “Patients Regain Song Before Speech” in *Washington Post, Book World Newsletter*
- 2023 “Notes on Devotion” in *Cincinnati Review* (20.1)
 “Etymology of Chlorophyll” in *Bellevue Literary Review* (44)
 “Interview with a Cervidologist” in *Malabat Review* (222)
 “Elk Lake, MI” in *Palette Poetry*
 “Moon Song for My Mother” in *San Diego 2023 Poetry Annual*
 “Have You Missed the Color Red?” in *Driftwood Press 2023 Anthology*
- 2022 “Widdershins” in *American Poetry Review* (51.6)
 “Taxonomy: Bird” in *Ruminate* (62.1)
- 2021 “How Women Smell Blood” in *Southern Humanities Review* (54.4)
 “The Archaeology Magazine” in *PRISM International* (59.4)
 “Phantom Cry Phenomenon” in *Another New Calligraphy* (6)
- 2020 “They Banned Abortion in Georgia” in *The Racket* (23.1)
- 2019 “M-I-S-S-I-S-S-I-P-P-I” and “Snake Children” in *Louisiana’s Best Emerging Poets*
- 2018 “Gray” in *North Carolina’s Best Emerging Writers*

Reviews

- 2022 “‘The Hispanic Invasion of Texas’ by Maria Esquina,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- 2021 “‘At the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River’ by Erin Slaughter,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- 2021 “‘Dangerously Close to Living: *Ghost Of*, by Diana Khoi Nguyen,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*

Visual Arts

- 2023 “Archives of the Altamaha” film stills ft. in *Cincinnati Review*
- 2023 “Archives of the Altamaha” film stills ft. in *MQR Mixtape*
- 2020 Three paintings ft. in Southwest Georgia Art Show at Firehouse Gallery, Bainbridge, GA
- 2018 Solo Exhibition: *Alchemy of Gold* at Studio 209, Thomasville, GA
- 2017 Paintings ft. in Hulu series “The First”
- 2017 Paintings ft. in various commercials by Leo Burnett Company
- 2017 Paintings ft. in *Hobart Park Annual Literary Review*

AWARDS

Anthropology

- 2025 2nd place, Ethnographic Poetry Competition, Society of Humanistic Anthropology, AAA
- 2025 3rd place, Ethnographic Prose Competition, Society of Humanistic Anthropology, AAA
- 2017 Top Undergraduate Research Paper, Southern Anthropological Society
- 2017 Franz Boas Award, Highest Achieving Anthropology Student, Davidson College

Poetry

- 2026 Anne Halley Poetry Prize, *Massachusetts Review*
- 2026 James Hearst Poetry Prize, finalist, *North American Review*
- 2026 Leonard Cohen Prize, finalist, *Only Poems*
- 2025 Auburn Witness Poetry Prize, runner-up, *Southern Humanities Review*, judged by Nicole Sealey
- 2025 Hopwoods Graduate Poetry Prize, University of Michigan, judged by Franny Choi & Craig Santos Perez
- 2025 Helen S. and John Wagner Prize, University of Michigan
- 2025 Theodore Roethke Prize, finalist, University of Michigan, judged by Mary Biddinger & Tarik Dobbs
- 2024 Adrienne Rich Award, semifinalist, *Beloit Poetry Review*, judged by Marie Howe
- 2023 Open Season Award, *Malabat Review*, judged by Ki'en Debicki
- 2023 In-House Poetry Contest, *Driftwood Press*
- 2022 Robert & Adele Schiff Award, *Cincinnati Review*, judged by Rebecca Lindenberg
- 2022 John & Eileen Allman Prize, *Bellevue Literary Review*, judged by Phillip B. Williams
- 2022 Love & Eros Prize, 3rd place, *Palette Poetry*, judged by Carl Phillips
- 2022 Steve Kowit Poetry Prize, *San Diego Poetry Annual*. Second Runner-Up, judged by Kim Addonizio
- 2022 Theodore Roethke Prize, finalist, University of Michigan, judged by John Murillo & Tracy Brimhall
- 2022 Meader Family Award, University of Michigan, judged by Victoria Chang & Aireal D. Matthews
- 2021 Sappho Poetry Prize, finalist, *Palette Poetry*, judged by Maggie Smith
- 2021 Bain-Swiggett Poetry Prize, University of Michigan, judged by Tariq Luthun & Mairead Small Staid
- 2021 Theodore Roethke Prize, finalist, University of Michigan, judged by Srikanth Reddy
- 2021 Witness Literary Awards, finalist, *Witness Magazine* judged by Phillip B. Williams
- 2016 Vereen Bell Award, 1st place, Davidson College, judged by A. Van Jordan

Nonfiction

- 2025 Hopwoods Graduate Nonfiction Prize, 4th place, University of Michigan, judged by Kristi Coulter & Sarah Viren
- 2017 Charles E. Lloyd Award in Nonfiction, 2nd place, Davidson College, judged by Cynthia Hogue
- 2016 Charles E. Lloyd Award in Nonfiction, 2nd place, Davidson College, judged by Randy Fertel
- 2015 Vereen Bell Award in Nonfiction, 3rd place, Davidson College, judged by Tony Earley
- 2014 R. Windley Hall Award in Nonfiction, 1st place, Davidson College, judged by Phillip Gerard

Drama

- 2022 Hopwood Prize in Drama, judged by Marisa Carr & Khadijah Queen

Visual Arts

- 2017 1st Place, Davidson College Annual Student Art Exhibition, Audience Choice
- 2017 1st Place, Davidson College Annual Student Art Exhibition, judged by Endia Beal

Choreography

- 2015 Choreography selected for ACDA Southeast Regional Gala, by Edisa Weeks and Bill Evans, American College Dance Association
- 2015 Choreography selected for ACDA Southeast Regional Conference, by Allison Bory, Davidson College

MULTIMEDIA COLLABORATIONS

- 2024 "Strange House," sculpture-poetry collaboration with artist Abigail Lowe (writer)
- 2023 "Archives of the Altamaha," music-poetry collaboration, composed by Lyana Cremnitz, vocals by Emily Becker (writer)
- 2022 "Dear Altie, Love Esti," poetry-film collaboration, acting and vocals by India Gupta (director, writer, videographer)
- 2022 *Maya's Shot*, children's book by Nyrie Iskandarian (illustrator)
- 2021 "Slow Coal" and "Burn Site," film collaboration in Wyoming and South Dakota with Ellie Schmidt; music by Jonathon Letts, Samuel Dunlap, Peter Formanek, and Jacob Patron (videographer, writer)
- 2021 "Rava/Ruins," subtitled slam poetry performance by poet Ku-Di-Art Ntsarety (translator)
- 2017 "Sweetened & Steeped," choreography performed by Nora Wartan, Kanise Thompson, and Mary Catherine McKeithen (choreographer)
- 2017 "When God Created the Animals" choreography-poetry collaboration with Sarah Anne New; featured at American College Dance Association (writer)

INVITED TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- 2026 Poetry Master Class, Western Connecticut State University – Honesdale, PA (forthcoming)
- 2026 "Into the Void," Unfold Writing Community – Remote (forthcoming)
- 2026 "Erasure Poetry," Hatcher Graduate Library, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2026 "Gathering," UM Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2026 "Fireside Workshop Series," UM Arts Initiative – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 "Paper Trails: Documenting the Self through Poetry," UM Stamps Art Gallery – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 "Creative Ethnographic Salon," Society for Humanistic Anthropology – New Orleans, LA
- 2025 "Real Poems Reading People III," Chrysalism Press – Detroit, MI
- 2025 "An Evening of Ecopoetry," Literati Books – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 "Bodies of Water," Workshop, Water@Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 "Narrative Medicine," UM Medical School – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2024 "Visiting Writer Series Talks," Davidson College – Davidson, NC
- 2024 "Nature Poetry Walk," UM Arts Initiative – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2024 "Water's Edge: Poets on Landscape, Loss, and Extinction" – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2024 "Poetics of Justice," UM Marsal Family School of Education – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2024 Milkweed Book Tour: Georgia, North Carolina, Michigan, Washington, & Washington D.C.
- 2023 "Community Celebration of Washtenaw Poets," PoetTreeTown – Ann Arbor, MI
- 2022 "Poets for Palestine Reading" – Ypsilanti, Michigan
- 2019 "Madagaslam Poetry Festival," International Guest Poet – Antananarivo, Madagascar
- 2018 Delivered Welcome Speech (in Malagasy), U.S. Embassy – Antananarivo, Madagascar

SELECTED PRESS

- 2025 “Fieldnotes on the Love Songs of Whales,” review by Johnny Payne, *Merion West*
 2025 “A History of Half-Birds,” review by Grace Ezra, *Hood of Bone*
 2025 “The Art of Seeing the World,” interview with Truly Render, *Discover Rackham*
 2024 “A History of Half-Birds,” by Rebecca Morgan Frank, *Poetry Foundation*
 2024 “Learning ‘How / to make a house of our ruin,” by Matthew Del Busto, *Michigan Quarterly Review*
 2024 “Counterclockwise: Mythical Connotations,” by Mikal Wix, *West Trade Review*
 2024 “A History of Half-Birds Explores Human-Animal Interplay,” by Martha Stuit, *Pulp*
 2023 “Open Season Awards,” interview with David Eso, *The Malabat Review*
 2023 “Spring Poetry Reading,” interview with Abba Belgraves, *Bellevue Literary Review*
 2023 “The Multi-Artist: Caroline Harper New,” interview with Haley Crigger, *Cincinnati Review*
 2023 “Have You Missed the Color Red?” interview with Jerrod Schwarz, *Driftwood Press*
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LANGUAGES

Malagasy (advanced) / dialect: Antemoro
 French (intermediate)

Arabic (beginner) / dialect: Darija
 Portuguese (beginner) / dialect: Brazilian

VOLUNTEER WORK

Editor

Take Action for Refugees

Remote

May 2024-present

- Offer feedback on graduate school application essays for students in countries of war

Organizer/Editor-in-Chief

Concours National des Écrivains Émergents

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Feb 2019-Mar 2020

- Founded and hosted a national creative writing competition for emerging Malagasy writers
- Organized a team of American and Malagasy readers to assist in editing
- Published final works into an anthology and distributed publication to students, schools, and libraries around Madagascar
- Planned a six poetry workshops on a national circuit for June-July 2020 (interrupted due to COVID-19)

English Teacher

Lycée and C.E.G Nato

Nato, Madagascar

Sept 2018-Mar 2020

- Taught 5th, 6th, and 10th grade English classes at the local middle and high schools
- Trained local English teachers and education volunteers in TEFL pedagogy and cultural integration
- Facilitated an English music club for high school students

Americorps Volunteer

Playworks

New Orleans, LA

Aug 2017-Sept 2017

- Taught conflict resolution strategies to elementary school students through play, focused on racial conflict

Writing Instructor

Centre des Femmes

Rabat, Morocco

Jan 2016-May 2016

- Taught weekly writing classes to Arabic-speaking primary school students

Project Manager

Kansas City, MO

*Uzazi Village**May-Aug 2015*

- Designed a midwifery school, which included drafting official policies, organizing curriculum, hosting meetings about school progress, hiring teachers, and achieving accreditation
- Assisted with Chocolate Milk Café, a breastfeeding support group for women of color
- Organized a WOC national speaking circuit on maternal issues by Hakima Tafunzi

Ferme de la Gaule

Trois St. Rives, QC, Canada

*WWOOF Volunteer**May-Aug 2014*

- Provided daily care for 100+ chickens, 20+ calves, and various other animals
- Assisted with fence building, wheat harvest, building repairs, and weeding

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Poetry Instructor**

Aug 2022-May 2023

Dzanc Books – Ann Arbor, MI

- Developed weekly curriculum for 5th and 6th grade poetry workshops
- Edited an anthology of children's poetry; organized a book launch and public reading event

Director / Writing Coach

Jan 2022-May 2023

Gilliam Writers Group – New York, NY (remote)

- Designed and taught recurring 8-week adult poetry workshops
- Coached adults on creative writing practices and revision techniques
- Consulted for in-progress poetry manuscripts

English Teacher

Sept 2018-Mar 2020

Lycée and C.E.G Nato – Nato, Madagascar

- Taught 5th, 6th, and 10th grade English classes at the local middle and high schools
- Organized an English Music Club for high school students
- Represented the southeast region of Peace Corps Madagascar at semi-annual conferences
- Trained local English teachers and education volunteers in TEFL pedagogy and cultural integration

Editor

Feb 2019-Mar 2020

Fifaninanana Tanora Malagasy Mpanoratra (Contest for Young Malagasy Writers) – Madagascar

- Hosted a national creative writing competition for high school and college students
- Organized a team of Malagasy readers to assist in editing in French, English, and Malagasy
- Published a final anthology and distributed publication to students, schools, and libraries
- Planned six poetry workshops across Madagascar for June-July 2020 (interrupted due to COVID)

Extracurricular Teacher

Sept 2017-April 2018

Little Scholars – New Orleans, LA

- Taught after-school art and science classes at French-immersion middle and elementary schools