

LEAH MELL-CARRINGTON

Graduate Assistant
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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curriculum vitae

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (Poetry), UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS, Expected Graduation

Date: May 2025

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Relevant Coursework: Poetry Forms, Nonfiction Forms, Poetry Workshop, Nonfiction Workshop

B.A. with honors in English and Russian Language & Literature (*magna cum laude*), DAVIDSON

COLLEGE, May 2019

GPA: 3.98/4.0

Thesis Titles: “Drown, Darling: poems” (English), “‘again, not us:’ Translations of Contemporary Russian Women Poets” (Russian Language & Literature)

Relevant Coursework: Advanced Poetry Writing, Contemporary Poetry, World Literature, Queer Russia, Theory and Practice of Literary Translation, Honors Thesis in English

Foreign Languages: Russian – Advanced Proficiency score on an Oral Proficiency Interview (ACTFL),

German – Novice Proficiency

ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRY POSITIONS

Graduate Assistant in the English Department (2022 – present)

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV

- Teach ENG 101 as a Composition Instructor
- Create lesson plans and ensure that students are prepared for college-level writing moving forward
- Represent the University in both an academic and professional capacity at events and other functions

Engagement and Design Editor at *Witness Magazine* (2023 – present)

Black Mountain Institute, Las Vegas, NV

- Read and evaluate poetry, fiction, and nonfiction submissions weekly
- Create and execute effective social media strategies and engagement models
- Design and distribute all visual magazine materials
- Layout both print and online issues
- Engage in discussion and selection of the work with genre editors in regular table readings

Member of the Neon Lit Reading Series Planning Committee (2022 – present)

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV

- Collaborate with other committee members to successfully execute and grow the reading series
- Design and produce visual and marketing content to promote our events
- Assist with event set-up and tear down and manage audience engagement

PUBLICATIONS

- Mell, Leah. "Dear Bianca." *Roxane Gay's The Audacity*. 6 Dec. 2023. <https://audacity.substack.com/p/dear-bianca>
- Mell, Leah. "Hollywood Forever." *Kitchen Table Quarterly*, 12 Apr. 2023. <https://www.kitchentablequarterly.org/mell-hollywood-forever>
- Mell, Leah. "Ice Fishing on Europa." *The Baltimore Review*, 25 Jan. 2023. https://baltimorereview.org/winter_2023/contributor/leah-mell
- Mell, Leah. "American Baroque." *Rough Cut Press*, 1 Nov. 2022. <https://roughcutpress.com/issue-42/>
- Mell, Leah. Review of *In Memory of Memory*, by Maria Stepanova. *Lunate*, 11 Feb. 2021.
- Mell, Leah. Review of *Crushing It*, by Jennifer L. Knox. *Lunate*, 21 Oct. 2020.
- Mell, Leah. Review of *Maskwork*, by Gregory Leadbetter. *Lunate*, 23 Sep. 2020.
- Mell, Leah. "3-D Animation: Mina Loy's 'Collision.'" *Mina Loy: Navigating the Avant-Garde*. Edited by Suzanne W. Churchill *et al.* University of Georgia, Aug. 2018, mina-loy.com/new-frequencies/mina-loys-collision-3d-animation.
- Mell, Leah. "Digital Remediation of 'Songs to Joannes'" *Mina Loy: Navigating the Avant-Garde*. Edited by Suzanne W. Churchill *et al.* University of Georgia, January. 2017, mina-loy.com/new-frequencies/digital-remediation-of-songs-to-joannes/.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Winner of the Creative Division at the Graduate and Professional Student Association Research Forum**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2023)
- Winner of the First-Gen Essay Contest, Graduate Division**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2022) – sponsored by the Black Mountain Institute
- Vereen Bell Memorial Award for Creative Writing**, Davidson College (2019) – judged by Carl Phillips
- Member of Phi Beta Kappa**, Gamma Chapter of North Carolina (2019)
- George S. Leight Family Scholarship**, Davidson College (2015-2019) – academic scholarship
- Beinecke Scholarship**, a program of the Sperry Fund (2018) – competitive national scholarship that provides funding for graduate education
- Abbott Scholar**, Davidson College (2017) – competitive program in the English department that provides research & travel funding and connects scholars to notable writers and scholars

PUBLIC READINGS

Inauguration of Dr. Douglas A. Hicks, 19th President of Davidson College – Belk Arena, Davidson, NC, “Spring, Unraveling,” March 31, 2023 – commissioned to write and deliver the inaugural poem

Neon Lit Reading Series – The Writer’s Block, Las Vegas, NV, “Selected Poems,” September 30, 2022 - sponsored by The Black Mountain Institute

RESEARCH

Abernethy Endowment Grant for International Research (2018)

Davidson College, Davidson, NC

- Travelled independently to Edinburgh to visit University of Edinburgh’s Anatomy Museum and university archives, as well as to investigate significant graveyards in and around the city
- Produced a chapbook of poetry entitled “A Dark Forever Summer” informed by my travels abroad

Davidson Research Initiative Grant (2018)

Davidson College, Davidson, NC

- Modeled and animated a digital interpretation of Mina Loy’s short play *Collision* (<https://mina-loy.com/new-frequencies/mina-loys-collision-3d-animation/>)
- Contributed to the NEH-funded Digital Humanities project *Mina Loy: Navigating the Avant-Garde* (<https://mina-loy.com/>) in partnership with Dr. Suzanne Churchill and other seminal Loy scholars
- Attended the Digital Humanities Summer Institute in Victoria, Canada as a representative of the project

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Graduate and Professional Student Association Research Forum – University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV, “Faces, Beautiful: A lyrical reimagining of drag performance and queer family in the South” April 15, 2023.

Undergraduate Network for Research in the Humanities (UNRH) - The College of Wooster, Wooster, OH, “Mina Loy: Navigating the Avant-Garde,” February 23, 2019.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern and contemporary poetry, Russian and Slavic literature, Creative writing (poetry and creative nonfiction), Queer literature, Performance theory, Popular culture, Gender and sexuality studies, Women’s studies, Literary translation and translation theory, Memoir and the lyric essay, Modernist literature, Digital Humanities