



Dr Dorothy Lehane

Independent Researcher

Profile

In my critical and creative practice, I have been attentive to the materiality of language whilst summoning broad historical, scientific, and intellectual vistas. I have seven poetry publications, all of which reflect my interest in the challenges and outcomes arising from interdisciplinary engagement and the processes occurring at the intersection of science and the arts.

I hold a PhD in Poetry: Text as Practice from the University of Kent where, until the summer of '23, I was a Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing and Director of Creative Writing. I am currently writing a non-fiction and poetry book about caves, funded by the British Academy / Leverhulme, Society of Authors, and the Arts Council, England.

I have developed versatile communication skills over thirteen years in my capacity as an academic at the University of Kent, teaching on contemporary, traditional and innovative Creative Writing undergraduate and postgraduate modules, as well as short certificate courses, taster sessions with partnership schools and outreach community projects.

Work Experience

Independent Scholar & Freelance Creative Consultant

Creative consultant for projects; workshops facilitator; poetry, non-fiction, fiction 1:1 manuscript reviews; funding, job and PhD applications; content creator and proofreader on business documentation and media content; sound workshops, event hosting.

July 2023-date

University of Kent

Director of Creative Writing & Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing

Research; teaching seminars; lecturing; researching; internal marking and moderation; supervision at BA, MA, PhD level; pastoral support and supervision of academic advisees; securing research funding; dissemination of writing at symposia / conference; publishing critical and creative work; panel selection for CHASE PhD scholarships; interviewing PhD, MA candidates; hosting the Creative Writing Reading Series and the Open Seminar; and as Director running the Creative Writing Centre.

Sept 2010 - July '23

PACE, University of Cambridge

External Examiner

Attending and writing reports for exam boards, agreeing marks and discussing assessment policy and practices.

Sept 2019 - July 2022

London South Bank University

Sessional Lecturer in Creative Writing

Cover teaching for a module where students designed and delivered community workshops with stakeholders and partners.

Jan 2016 - May 2016

Barbican Arts Centre

Poetry Co-tutor

Leading poetry sessions for the Barbican Young Poets to inspire creativity and literary appreciation among participants aged 14-25. Preparing and directing numerous showcases with the young poets.

Sept 2009 - April 2012

Contact

🏠 Florence, Hartley Road,
Cranbrook, TN17 3QT

☎ +44 (0) 7889242299

✉ dorotheylehane@gmail.com

🌐 linkedin.com/in/dorothy-lehane

Education

University of Kent

2020 PhD: Poetry, Text Practice as Research

2019 PGCHE

London South Bank University

2014 MA in Creative Writing
(Distinction)

2010 BA in English and Creative Writing
(First)

Awards / Grants

2023 Society of Authors Grant £2000

2023 British Academy /
Leverhulme Award Small
Research Grant £7000

2022 Arts Council, Developing
Your Creative Practice,
Grant £10,000

2014 Ph.D. School Scholarship, Full Award £45,000

2013 MA Vice Chancellor
Scholarship Award £10,000

2013 Arts Council England
Grant for Litmus
Publishing £3,000

Publications

Poetry collections and pamphlets

- *8 songs of [Mothering] & [Capacity]* (Guillemot Press, 2023)
- *House Girl* (Aquifer Press, 2021)
- *I'm very interested in falling in love with you* (Run Amok Press, 2021)
- *Bettbehandlung* (Muscaliet Press, 2018)
- *Umwelt* (Open House Editions, Leaf Press, 2016)
- *Places of Articulation* (dancing girl press, 2014)
- *Ephemeris* (Nine Arches Press, 2014)

Individual poems: (forthcoming 2026)

- "chirality bacteria / mirror bacteria" and "bloodfluke schistosoma" forthcoming in *Microscopic Life in Early-Twentieth-Century and Twenty-First-Century Literature and Performance* (Cambridge: Open Book Publishers)
- *Cave-Lore: A Lament for a Changing World* (ongoing non-fiction and poetry) 2021- date

International UK based print and online journals

- 4 poems in *Blackbox Manifold*, issue 35, (Winter 2025)
- "Cave-Lore 1,2,3" in *Shearsman*, 145-146 (October 2025)
- "Hebephilia" *Painted, Spoken* (2021)
- Three poems from *House Girl*, *Golden Handcuffs Review* (2021)
- 2 pages from *House Girl*, *Molly Bloom* (Jan 2021)
- "House-girl" 5 poems in *Glasfryn Project*, (March 2020)
- "Chiuso Morbo" 1 poem in *DisAbility, Westerly Magazine*, (May 2019)
- *Bettbehandlung* 3 poems in *Molly Bloom* (July 2018)
- *Bettbehandlung* 2 poems in *Painted Spoken* (June 2018)
- "A pastoral note on Brexit" *Poem*, Taylor & Francis, (May, 2017)
- *Bettbehandlung* 12 poems in *Journal of Poetics Research*, (April, 2017)
- "past nostrum / part vermifuge" *Blackbox Manifold* (Jan 2017)
- "For the Miners", *Blackbox Manifold* (Jan 2017)
- "art of hygiene in scripture" *Blackbox Manifold* (Jan 2017)
- "if you were here" *Tears in the Fence* (issue 65)
- "Threat to Body", *Kent Review* (2016)
- Three poems in *The Cordite Review* (Feb, 2016)
- Two poems in *datableed* (issue 2, 2016)
- "With Your Permission" *Long Poem Magazine* (issue fourteen, 2015)
- "Visuo-motor" *Shearsman* (105-6)
- "damned good mouth" *Shearsman* (105-6)
- "your stumbling/your stalled/your parataxis", *Shearsman* (105-6)
- "Debriefed" *Tears in the Fence* 62 (Sept, 2015)
- "Sombrero Galaxy" *Best British Poetry 2015* Salt Publishing, (Autumn 2015)
- "Jargon Aphasia" *Molly Bloom* (May 2015)
- "Lautbilder/Sound Pictures" *Molly Bloom* (May 2015)
- "isoglosses" *Molly Bloom* (May 2015)
- "Clinical Mothers" *Molly Bloom* (May 2015)
- "Broca's Aphasia With Concomitant Agrammatism" *Molly Bloom* (May 2015)
- "Carrington Event" *SNOW* 3 (January 2015)
- "Braided" *SNOW* 3 (January 2015)
- "Whiskey in Orbit" *SNOW* 3 (January 2015)
- "coda", "Retrieval States", "Carrying Capacity" *SNOW* 3 (January 2015)
- "Stroke", "Semantic", "Schizophonetic" *Glasgow Review of Books* (June 2014)
- "Prattle", "Utterance", "home for the developmentally" *Zone Magazine* (May, 2014)
- "aleph", "aphasia" *HARTS & Minds, The Journal of Humanities and Arts* Vol. 1, No. 4 (Spring 2014)
- "ALL IN" *Oxford Poetry* XIV.3 (Summer 2013)

Publications, continued

Essays and Reviews

- “Review of Joanna Emenev’s *The Rise of Autobiographical Poetry in the Medical Humanities*”, *Modern Philology*, University of Chicago Press, (May 2019) <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/705694>
- “Information and Poetry: Encountering the Informationists” *Glasgow Review of Books*, (July 2015) <https://glasgowreviewofbooks.com/2015/07/12/information-and-poetry-encountering-the-informationists-dorothy-lehane/>
- “Review of (0)” by So Mayer, *Tears in the Fence*, No. 63, (2016)

Commissions and Projects

- 2026: Judging Maidstone Lit Fest Poetry Competition (forthcoming)
- 2026: *Writing from Constraints: Women, Spaces and the Poetics of Gossip* seminar, CIEE Study Abroad.
- 2025: *Girl, Woman, Other* seminar, CIEE Study Abroad.
- 2025: Maidstone Lit Festival hosting talk *Bookish - How Reading Shapes Our Lives* with Lucy Mangan.
- 2025: Arvon at Home - *Through the Bodymind* (month long course for Disabled/ D/deaf /neurodivergent writers).
- 2024: *On Writing / Being a Writer*, CIEE Study Abroad.
- 2022: Editing *FreeVerse* issue 32 and 33.
- 2021: Collaborative student led Zine project with UKC, CCCU, UCA.
- 2021: Consulting for Gulbenkian and ICCI Creative Kent.
- 2021: Edited *Litmus - the lichen issue*.
- 2020: Commissioned manuscript review for *The Book You Need to Read to Write the Book You Need to Write*, for Bloomsbury Publishing.
- 2020: Judged SaveAs Writers' International Writing Competition.
- 2019: Sky Arts School Britannia Project.
- 2018: Benenden School Masterclasses for staff.
- 2018: Judging creative writing competition for Benenden School.
- 2018: Community outreach projects with UKC partners such as facilitating a workshop on *Murderous Medway* Workshops, at Rochester Literary Festival.
- 2018: Invited to consult for Wellcome Trust Arts and Health Workshop.
- 2018: Oversaw and led a student-led collaborative project with students from UKC & Pilgrims Hospice.
- 2018: Focus group for AHRC Innovative Poetry and Mental Health project alongside patients and specialists in medical practice, innovative poetry and charity care provision facilitated by School of Literature and Languages, Surrey University.
- 2017: Edited *Litmus - the diagnostics issue*.
- 2017: St. Anselm's School workshops.
- 2017: Hosted and judged the Canterbury Festival Poet of the Year.
- 2016: Creative Writing as Public Art module for London South Bank University.
- 2015: Edited *Litmus - the haematological issue*.
- 2014: Edited *Litmus - the neurological issue*.
- 2014: Edited *Litmus - the forensic issue*.
- 2013: *Writing Bomberg* (Consultant/Creative Writing Workshop Facilitator) David Bomberg exhibition in the Borough Road Gallery, London South Bank University.
- 2013: -date/ Founder and editor of Litmus Publishing, Arts Council England supported journal.
- 2013: Curated the *Poetry Meets Biomedical Science* project, an interdisciplinary collaborative project between 10 professors of biomedical science and 10 poets. Edited and launched anthology *sequences and pathogens* at Keats House.
- 2012: *Unleashed* (Poetry Leader) Barbican Arts Centre, large scale multi-platform event in response to London riots.
- 2011: The Drawing Shed (Workshop Facilitator) Walthamstow Community Project for participants in E17 estates.
- 2011: Consulted on collaboration between Barbican Young Poets, Ian McMillan, Luke Carver Goss and Guild Hall.
- 2010: Judged Canterbury Poet of the Year.
- 2010: *Your Writing, Your Performance* (Seminar Facilitator) Canterbury Christ Church University.
- 2010: Consulted on workshops and performance of Barbican Young Poets responding to an art exhibition by Ron Arad.

Papers at Conferences

- Roundtable panel at *Microbiology Poetry* at BioCriticism, Universite Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris. (Oct 2023)
- *The Medical Humanities Research Network* conference paper: "Memoir & Autoimmunity". (2021)
- "Trouble at the borders: geopathic stress, global toxicity and geographies of the self in the poetry of Eleni Stecopoulos." *Health Beyond Borders Conference*, Paris: Columbia University. (June 2019)
- Birkbeck, *Therapy & Experimental Poetry*, Roundtable (Sept 2019)
- Maidstone Hospital Medical Humanities Network Conference, paper "Representations of Autoimmunity and Embodied Acts of Perception". (March 2019)
- "Complicit Audiences: encountering the aberrant body in reciprocal performance spaces" *Postgraduate Medical Humanities Conference*, University of Exeter. (June, 2017)
- Presented at the *Sex, Lives and Conspiracy* symposium, Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies for Reproduction (2016).
- "Autoimmunity: a phenomenological poetics" Creative Collaboration with Dr Elinor Cleghorn: *Body Talk: Whose Language, Arts & Medical Humanities Conference*, Greenwich. (July 2016)
- "Phenomenological poetics: encountering the aberrant body in representational practice" *The Symposium of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*, Liverpool Hope University. (Dec 2015)
- "Rethinking Ethics in Representational Practice", *Dangerous Currents: Risks and Regulations* at the Association for Medical Humanities conference, Falmouth University. (June 2015)

UKC Teaching on the following modules

Teaching, marking, moderation for undergraduate:

ENGL3390: Creative Writing Foundations
ENGL6740: Contemporary Poetry: Traditions and Innovations
ENGL8680: Contemporary Poetry: Context and Innovation
ENGL6630: The Book Project
ENGL7300: Reaching Out: Engaging Communities in Literature and Creative Writing

MA Teaching, marking and moderation (both Paris and Canterbury):

ENGL8920: Poetry 1
ENGL8940: Poetry2 (Sequences)
ENGL9100: MA Non-fiction: People.
Dissertation Supervision
Study Skills Session in Paris

Guest lectures and seminars for colleagues :

ENGL6770: *The Contemporary* lecture on Anne Boyer's *The Undying*
MA EN9090: Medical Humanities Seminar on Eleni Stecopoulos's *Geopathy*.
MA ENGL8420: *Reading the Contemporary* Seminar

PhD Supervision and Internal Moderation

Poetry: Text Practice as Research
Narrative Non-Fiction
Contemporary Novel

Notable Performances and Readings

- Maidstone Lit Fest (Oct 2024, Oct 2025)
- Xing Poetry (2024, 2019, 2013)
- Microbiology Poetry at *BioCriticism*, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris (Oct 2023)
- *Poetry Jamboree*, Aquifer Press (Nov 2020)
- *voix outré*, Daylight Music, The Union Chapel (November 2019)
- *Poetry Camarade* Collaborative Improvisation with Theo Chiotis at the Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury (March 2019)
- Birkbeck, *Therapy & Experimental Poetry*, Roundtable (Sept 2019)
- *Ivy Writers*, Paris (March 2018)
- *Medicine in its Place* Conference, as Poet in Residence, at the University of Kent (July 2016)
- *Magnetic South Arts & Music Festival*, London collaboration with musician Matthew Bourne (April 2016)
- *Impaired/Heightened Sense*, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris (Jan 2016)
- *Refracted Light: 20 poets on Jackson Mac Low's Light Series* Wellcome Trust (May 2015)
- *I am Become Words: Science and Poetry Special Editions*, Poetry Library, South Bank Centre (Oct 2014)
- *Exponential Horn/Archive of the Now/Litmus*, Science and Poetry Event, Science Museum (June 2014)

Volunteering

AgeUK Telephone Friendship Volunteer (2022-2024)

References

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Amy Sackville | Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing
Goldsmiths University
University of London
New Cross
London SE14 6NW
Email : a.sackville@gold.ac.uk |
| Dr David Herd | Director of Impact / The Berry Chair of Literature & Human Rights
St. Andrews University
Fife
KY16 9AJ
Scotland
Email : d.herd@st-andrews.ac.uk |