



# Jessica Mehta



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JessicaMehta.com

## AWARD-WINNING WRITER & OWNER OF MEHTAFOR

I'm the author of 13 books, all published by traditional small presses. I've received the Barbara Deming Award in poetry, Potlatch Award for Native artists, and 40 Under 40 award from the National Center for American Indian Entrepreneurial Development. As a fellow at Halcyon Art Labs in Washington DC and a co-hort member of the Poetry Foundation's Poetry Incubator, I'm currently working on a poetic pop-up virtual reality experience, *Red/Act*.

### RESIDENCIES



**North Street Collective**, Poet-in-residence (2019)

*Willits, California*

**National Parks Art Foundation**, Poet-in-residence (2019)

*Gettysburg, Pennsylvania*

**@Art4U Residency** (virtual), Poet-in-residence (2018)

**Kimmel Harding Nelson Center**, Poet-in-residence (2018)

*Nebraska City, Nebraska*

**Hosking Houses Trust**, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Post (2018)

*Stratford-Upon-Avon, England*

**Paris Lit Up**, Poet-in-residence (2017)

*Paris, France*

**Women's International Study Center**, Poet-in-residence (2017)

*Santa Fe, New Mexico*

### AWARDS



**Independent Publisher Book Award (2019)**

*Gold for The Wrong Kind of Indian*

**Literary Arts Writers of Color Showcase Winner (2019)**

**Willamette Writers Kay Snow Award (2018)**

**Peter K. Hixson Award for Creative Writers (2018)**

**Potlatch Fund for Native Artists (2017 and 2018)**

**Barbara Deming Award in poetry (2017)**

**National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development**

*40 Under 40 recipient, 2017*

**Portland Story Theater**

*Top 10 Pick of the Year for "Indian Burns," 2016*

**American Business Awards Startup of the Year Bronze (2015)**

**Nina Mae Kellogg Award in Poetry (2005)**

### FELLOWSHIPS



**Open Signal New Media Fellow (2019–2020)**

*Portland, Oregon*

**Eccles Centre Visiting Fellow (2019–2020)**

*The British Library, London, England*

**Everett Helm Visiting Fellow (2019)**

*Bloomington, Indiana*

**Halcyon Arts Lab Fellow (2018–19)**

*Washington, DC*

**Poetry Foundation's Incubator Fellow (2018)**

*Chicago, Illinois*

### GALLERY EXHIBITIONS



**Heavy Souls Queerology: "So Hungry" (2019)**

*Emergency Gallery in Vevey, Switzerland*

**Parallelism: "Red/Act" (2019)**

*IA&A at Hillyer in Washington DC*

**Umbra New Prints for a Dark Age: "Red/Act" (2019)**

*International Print Center New York City*

**yəhaw' Exhibition: "Red/Act" (2019)**

*King Street Station in Seattle, Washington*

### GRANTS



**PDXWIT (Portland Women in Technology)**

(2019)

**Beaverton Arts Diverse Art Offerings (2019)**

**Regional Arts & Culture Council (2018 & 2019)**

**Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity**

(2016 & 2018)

### EDUCATION



**MSc Writing & BA Literature (2001 – 07)**

Portland State University, Oregon

*Internship at UK-US Fulbright Commission*

## EDITING & REVIEW POSITIONS

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### **Exclamat!ion: A peer-reviewed journal**

Exeter, UK (2017 – Present)—Creative Writing Editor

### **Airlie Press: A non-profit poetry publisher**

Portland, OR (2017 – Present)—Poetry Editor

### **Bending Genres Literary Journal**

(2017 – Present)—Associate Poetry Editor

### **Foreword Reviews**

(2016 – 2017)—Poetry reviewer

## COMMISSIONED WORKS

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### **P.ort.al (2019)**

“Winter in Gardens Rose”

### **The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (2017)**

“Stratford’s First Black Cleopatra”

## PANELS, READINGS, & LECTURES

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### **Women’s Transatlantic Prison Activism Since 1960 Symposium at Oxford University**

Oxford, UK (2019) – Panelist on “Poetic ‘Justice:’ Incarcerated Indigenous Women in America”

### **US Department of State’s Ralph J. Bunche Library National Poetry Month**

Washington DC (2019) – Featured poet

### **Devil’s Den off-site reading for AWP**

Portland, Oregon (2019) – Featured speaker

### **Open Studios at Halcyon Arts Lab**

Washington DC (three events 2018 – 2019) – Featured artist

### **Book signing for Unsolicited Press at AWP**

Portland, Oregon (2019) – Featured poet

### **Yale Union reading with Submission Reading Series for off-site AWP event**

Portland, Oregon (2019) – Featured poet

### **Night of Ideas at the Smithsonian Hirshhorn hosted by La Maison Française (Embassy of France)**

Washington DC (2019) – Featured speaker on indigenous incarceration

### **Crazy Horse Memorial Summer Arts and Culture Program**

Crazy Horse Memorial, Crazy Horse, South Dakota (2018) – Talking Circle Lecturer

### **Mother Foucault Bookstore**

Point Circle Literary Journal, Portland, Oregon (2018) – Featured Poet

### **Potlatch Convening**

Bi-annual Potlatch convening, Darby, Montana (2018) – Lecturer on current SEO best practices for indigenous artists

### **KBOO “Poetry and Everything” segment**

Portland, Oregon (2018)—Featured poetry author

### **Association of Writers and Publishers (AWP) Conference**

AWP Annual Conference, Tampa, Florida (2018) – Panelist on “Heads in the Cloud: A Consideration of Poetics and Technology, hosted by Submittable”

### **Women’s International Study Center (WISC) Acequia Madre House Fellow Presentation**

Acequia Madre House, Santa FE, New Mexico (2017) – Reading from poetry manuscript

### **International Poetry Festival: Crossing Borders**

Poet’s Arbour, Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK (2017) – Workshop leader on Native American poetics

### **Literary Arts Writers of Color Reading**

Literary Arts, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Reading from poetry collections

### **Weekly Poetry Reading**

Jade Lounge, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Reading from poetry collection

### **PSA: Providing Support Through Art**

The Ford Gallery, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Reading from poetry collections

### **Many Voices of Women’s Fiction Book Club**

## TEACHING

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### **Tualatin Valley Arts & Leadership Incubator**

Faculty (2019 – 2020)

### **Chemeketa Community College** in Oregon

Visiting poet (2018 – 19)

### **The Loft Literary Center** in Minnesota

Poetry instructor (2017 – 2018)

### **Literary Arts** at Grant High School in Oregon

Teaching artist (2016)

### **Oregon Writing Festival** in Oregon

Workshop teacher (2016)

### **Politecnico College** in San José, Costa Rica

Writing instructor (2011 – 12)

### **Sogang University** in Seoul, South Korea

Writing instructor (2007 – 08)

Women's Fiction Writer's Association, virtual (2017) – Featured novelist for Q&A session with readers

**Unchaste Readers Series**

Literary Arts, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Reading from poetry collections with other female writer

**Yellow Dog Bookstore Reading**

Yellow Dog Bookstore, Columbia, Missouri (2017) – Reading from poetry collections and novel

**International Women's Center Summer Conference**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2017)—Workshop leader on writing as craft

**BooksOrBooks Reading**

BooksOrBooks Bookstore, Las Vegas, Nevada (2017) – Reading from poetry collections and novel

**Another Read Through Reading and Launch Party**

Another Read Through Bookstore, Portland Oregon (2017) – Launch party for *The Wrong Kind of Indian*

**Lunch and Learn with Jessica Mehta: Native American Heritage Month**

Metro regional government offices, Portland, Oregon (2016) – Keynote speaker

**Night Circus, Lit Crawl**

The Sentinel Hotel, Portland, Oregon (2016) – Closing performer reading poetry

**Sauvignon Tongued Devils Spoken Word Night**

Devil's Den Wine Bar, Portland, Oregon (2016) – Host

**Transmit Cultures Monthly Speaker Series**

Portland State University, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Featured speaker on Native Americans in publishing

**Ooligan Press' Write to Publish Conference**

Portland State University, Portland, Oregon (2017) – Panelist discussing diversity in the publishing world

**Urban Teller's Wordstock Edition Performance**

The Fremont Theater, Portland, Oregon (2016) – Spoken word urban storytelling performer

**Wordstock**

Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oregon (2015 and 2016) – Featured poet at the Northwest's largest literary festival

**Berl's Poetry Bookshop Reading**

Brooklyn, New York (2016) – Featured poet with Ananda Lima and Emily Pryor

**JenningsWire Podcast**

United States, (2015) – Featured author discussing "Make 6 Figures with Your Writing Degree"

**World Outsourcing Solutions Podcast**

United Kingdom (2015) – Featured author on "Work at Home Success"

**Poetry Brothel**

Dante's, Portland, Oregon (2016) – "Poetry whore" for an international show featuring an immersive, interactive poetry experience in a "bordello" environment offering one-on-one intimate readings

**Portland State University MFA in Poetry Spring Colloquium**

Portland State University, Portland, Oregon (2016) – Featured speaker discussing being a working writer

**Mt. Hood Cherokee Summit**

Portland, Oregon (2015) – Keynote speaker on what it means to be a Native American writer

**Wilson High School's Literary Event Festival**

Portland, Oregon (2015) – Keynote speaker on being a Native American female writer

**Unknown Words with Matthew Anderson Podcast**

United States (2014) – Featured poet

**University of Maryland Baltimore (UMBC) Symposium on Learning Strategies (McNair Scholars)**

Baltimore, Maryland (2005) - Featured McNair Scholar presenting my dissertation on "Poetry as Therapy"

## COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERISM

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**Pidgeonholes Literary Journal**

(2019–present) – Volunteer poetry reader

**NYC Midnight Creative Writing and Screenwriting Competition**

(2019) – Judge

**VoiceCatcher Journal and Non-profit**

(2016–2017) – President of the Board of Directors

**Grant Poetry Slam**

(2017) – Judge for Grant High School’s annual Poetry Slam Competition

**Eric Hoffer Book Awards Judging Panel**

(2017) – Poetry judge for the 2017 awards

**Small Business Philanthropy**

(2013 present) – As part of my business model, I offer complimentary writing and editing services to Native Americans and non-profits based in the Northwest

**The Jessica Tyner Scholarship Fund**

(2013 present) – Founder of the sole scholarship in the US providing funding to Native American graduate students pursuing an advanced degree in writing or a related field

**Get it Ohm!**

(2013 present) – Founder of a karma yoga movement in Portland offering free yoga classes to students that don’t have access to traditional studios or don’t feel comfortable in such environments

**Contemporary Literary Review India**

(2013 2015) – Poetry reviewer

## ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

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**RYT-500® (registered yoga teacher with 500 training hours):** The Bhaktishop in Portland, Oregon

**E-RYT-200® (experienced registered yoga teacher with 200 training hours):** Peak Beings in Limón, Costa Rica

**RCYT® (registered children’s yoga teacher):** Lotus Seed in Portland, Oregon

**YACEP® (Yoga Alliance continuing education provider):** Yoga Alliance in Arlington, Virginia

**TESOL/TEFL (teaching English as a second/foreign language):** Center for Teacher Development in San José, Costa Rica

**CPT (certified personal trainer):** National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) in Chandler, Arizona

**CPR/AED (cardiopulmonary resuscitation/automated external defibrillator):** CPR Lifeline in Portland, Oregon

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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*I only maintain a bibliography of books (all published via traditional print publishers), poetry, and fiction. A full bibliography would entail thousands of publications. For links to some of my business-related writing work, please visit [mehtafor.com](http://mehtafor.com).*

### Books

Mehta, Jessica. *Bad Indian*. Brick Mantel Books, 2020.

Mehta, Jessica. *Antipodes*. Weasel Press, 2020.

Mehta, Jessica. *Savagery*. Airlie Press, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. *You Look Something*. Wyatt-MacKenzie Publishing, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. *Gimme the Familiars*. Musehick Publications, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. *American Baby*. Musehick Publications, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. *Drag Me Through the Mess*. Unsolicited Press, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. *Constellations of My Body*. Musehick Publications, 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. *Secret-Telling Bones*. The Operating System, 2017.

Mehta, Jessica. *The Wrong Kind of Indian*. Wyatt-Mackenzie Publishing, 2017.

Tyner, Jessica. *Orygun*. Tayen Lane Publishing Smooth Stone Press, 2016.

Tyner, Jessica. *What Makes an Always*. Tayen Lane Publishing Smooth Stone Press, 2014.

Mehta, Jessica. *100 Ways to Make \$100K with Your English Degree*. Moonshine Cove, 2015.

Tyner, Jessica. *The Last Exotic Petting Zoo*. Tayen Lane Publishing Smooth Stone Press, 2014.

## Chapbooks

Mehta, Jessica. *Fingers in the Foxglove*. Zoetic Press, 2018.

## Anthology Inclusions

Mehta, Jessica. "To Colonize." Ed. Denise Fletcher. *The Barbara Project*. The Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, 2020.

Mehta, Jessica. "Pablo Neruda." Ed. Jennifer Goldring. *Bodies of Words*. december, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Untitled." Ed. Helen Dryden. *Whatever I Feel Like I Wanna Do, Gosh!* Leeds Art University, 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Relativity." Ed. Aileen Frisch. *Microtext 3*. Wallingford: Medusa's Laugh Press, 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "All the Ways." Ed. David Meischen. *Poetry of the American Southwest #3: Weaving the Terrain*. Ed. Scott Wiggerman. Dos Gatos Press: 2017.

Mehta, Jessica. "A Priest and an Indian Walk Into a Bar." Ed. Jenny Forrester. *Unchaste Anthology: Volume 2*. Unchaste Readers, 2017.

Mehta, Jessica. "Recipe for an Indian." Ed. Grace Bauer. *Nasty Women Poets: An Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse*. Ed. Julie Kane. Sandpoint: Lost Horse, 2017.

## Textbook Inclusions

"Columbidaea." Ed. Jeremy Trabue. *Listening to Poetry: An Introduction for Readers and Writers*. Chemeketa Press, 2019.

## Journal/Magazine Publications

Mehta, Jessica. "Prey Better Pray." *Glint Literary Journal*, October 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Panic Building Walls." *The Social Justice Review*, July 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Sustenance and Sustainability." *Oregon Home Magazine*, July 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Found: PRO DECEPTIONS." *The Menteur*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Found: PRO DECEPTIONS." *The Menteur*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Hollow Bones." *Flash Frontier*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Dear Sylvia (You're Such a Gas)." *Gravitas*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Great Grace and Sharp Wings." *Gravitas*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "FOUND: PRO DECEPTIONS." *The Menteur*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "To Colonize." *Quarter After Eight*, June 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Hollow Bones." *Flash Frontier*, May 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. ~~"MURDERED & MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN."~~ *HCE Review*, April 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "Horn OK Please." *Euphony Journal*, March 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Suckling of Lizards." *The Coil*, January 2019.

Mehta, Jessica. "To Dear Sir." *Quiddity*, December 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Pulitzer Prize Pig." *Pennsylvania English*, December 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Savagery." *Anti-Languourous Review*, October 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Orygun." *Anti-Languourous Review*, October 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Cage Seeks Bird." *Constellations*, September 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Arachnophobia." *Constellations*, September 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Place Settings." *The Pangolin Review*, September 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Dominican Man." *The Pangolin Review*, September 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Disarming." *The Pangolin Review*, September 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Salt Lick." *Not Very Quiet*, September 2018.

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Mehta, Jessica. "Bodies of Water." *Rising Phoenix Review*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Rose." *Rising Phoenix Review*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Bad Indian." *Rising Phoenix Review*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "My First Boyfriend." *Weasel Press*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "How I Like My Women." *Projected Letters*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Sour Cream Raisin Pie." *Projected Letters*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Try This On." *Projected Letters*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "She Was Always So Thirsty." *Gone Lawn*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Pinky Swears and Kitchen Chairs." *Gone Lawn*, July 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "My Mother('s) Remains." *Raven Chronicles*, June 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Mark's Tumor (When I Needed It Most)." *Pom Pom*, June 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Lattes and Labiaplasty." *Pointed Circle*, May 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Genetics." *K'in*, May 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Searching Ink." *K'in*, May 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Ouroboros." *DASH Literary Journal*, May 2018.

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Mehta, Jessica. "Namesakes." *The Dead Mule School of Southern Literature*, April 2018.

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Mehta, Jessica. "Pickle Backs." *Fearsome Critters*, March 2018

Mehta, Jessica. "Satyavachan." *Fearsome Critters*, March 2018.

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Mehta, Jessica. "Moving Ons." *Leaping Clear*, March 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "All My King's Horsemen." *The McNeese Review*, February 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "My Body, My Self." *Rigorous*, February 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "26.2." *Rigorous*, February 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Summer in Lorraine." *Foliage Oak Literary Magazine*, January 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Buzzards and Bathtubs." *Not a Pipe Publishing*, January 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Weight of Secrets." *Really System*, January 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Poetry Brothel." *Words Dance*, January 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "Thanksgiving at Midnight in the Emergency Vet Clinic." *Structural Damage*, December 2018.

Mehta, Jessica. "The Unfolding." *Structural Damage*, December 2017.

Mehta, Jessica. "Nesting." *Dirty Paws Poetry Review*, December 2017.

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Mehta, Jessica. "Owl of Forest Park." *Lunch Ticket at Antioch University*, November 2017.

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Tyner, Jessica. "Things Mahariva Doesn't Know." *Nether Magazine*, 2013.

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Tyner, Jessica. "The Catamaran." *Coldnoon Poetics*, Nov. 2012.

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Tyner, Jessica. "Christmas Chai." *High Desert Journal*, Oct. 2012.

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Tyner, Jessica. "The Stopgap." *Ninepatch Journal*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "The Sacrament." *The Conium Review*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "Symptoms of an End." *A Clean, Well-Lighted Place*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "For My Father." *Meat for Tea*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "Leave Two Pounds of Skin." *Caliban*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "The Sacrament." *Scissors and Spackle*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "Limits of the Tongue." *Tugboat Magazine*, July 2012.

Tyner, Jessica. "Interview with Poet Luis Chaves." *Grumbacher's Thalo Magazine*, June 2012.

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