

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME: **MICHAEL MIROLLA**

ADDRESS: 1569 Heritage Way
Oakville, ON
L6M 2Z7

TELEPHONE: (Cell: 905.599.5304; e-mail: michaelmirolla@guernicaeditions.com)

CITIZENSHIP: Canadian

LANGUAGES: English, French, Italian

EDUCATION:

I have an M.F.A. in Creative Writing and English Literature from the University of British Columbia as well as two undergraduate degrees in English Literature and Philosophy respectively from McGill University. The M.F.A. at UBC was under the direction of Robert Harlow, Doug Bankson, J. Michael Yates, Allan Bullock and Jake Zilber.

Work History

Teaching & Tutoring

I have taught creative writing to adults as part of a Continuing Education Program for a local school board. As well, for 15 years, I served as a tutor for a correspondence writing school where I read and critique students' non-fiction, poetry, short fiction and novel submissions. As well, in my capacity as editor-in-chief of Guernica Editions, aside from editing and commenting on submitted manuscripts, I have offered one-on-one assistance to numerous authors. I also taught English, English Composition, Mathematics and Drama at the secondary school level during a one-year stay in Nigeria.

Writing/Editing/Publishing

For more than 20 years, I earned my living as a freelance copy editor, layout person and writer. Previous to that, I worked as an editor for The Montreal Star and Gazette, both on the general news desk and as a Books Editor. At the Gazette, I served as the assistant literary editor, and for the first part of my tenure I worked with Doris Giller before she left to become the literary editor at The Toronto Star. While there, I was responsible for the selection, placement and editing of review books for the weekly books section. As well, I wrote numerous book reviews, ranging from poetry and fiction to literary criticism/ cultural theory and scientific/philosophy books. Since leaving the Gazette, I have freelanced as an editor and writer for numerous literary magazines and daily papers including The Toronto Star, The Calgary Herald, The Montreal Star, The Montreal Gazette, and The Halifax Daily News.

Since 2009, I have helped run Guernica Editions, a Canadian literary publisher. Part of my duties there include evaluating manuscripts, selecting manuscripts for publication, and working with the selected authors to create a publishable manuscript.

Writing Background

I am a published novelist, short story writer, poet and playwright. Publications include:

1. Novels:

- 2016: **Torp: The Landlord, the husband, the wife and the lover** (Linda Leith Publishing)
- 2013: novel/linked short-story collection **The Giulio Metaphysics III**, in which one character by the name of Giulio is featured in each of 18 stories.
- 2011: punk novella, **The Ballad of Martin B.**
- 2010: **The Facility**, speculative fiction featuring among other things a string of cloned Mussolinis.
- 2009: **Berlin** (winner of the 2010 Bressani Prize, and a finalist for the 2009 Indie and national Best Book Awards). The novel has been translated into Latvian and is being considered for French, German and Italian translation.

2. Short story collections:

- 2015: **Lessons in Relationship Dyads** (from Red Hen Press in the U.S.). Winner of the 2016 Bressani Prize
- 2008: **Hothouse Loves & Other Tales**
- 1992: **The Formal Logic of Emotion**, translated into Italian (La logica formale delle emozioni)

3. Poetry:

- 2013: **The House on 14th Avenue** from Signature Editions (Bressani Prize Winner 2014).
- 2010: **Light And Time**, finalist for the Poetry Bressani Prize and longlisted for the ReLit Award.
- 2009: An English-Italian bilingual collection of poetry **Interstellar Distances/Distanze Interstellari**.

4. Etcetera

- Three plays—**Gargoyles**, **Snails**, and **A Revised Experiment**—have received professional productions.
- A feature film script—**Moon of the Trickster**—awarded a \$20,000 development grant from First Choice/Superchannel (FUND)
- A grant from the Canadian Heritage Department for **Enemy Aliens**, a feature-length drama about the arrest and imprisonment of Italian Canadians during World War II.

Awards/nominations:

- The Bressani prize (for **Berlin, The House on 14th Avenue, Lessons in Relationship Dyads**)
- The Solange Karsh Medal and Ottawa Little Theatre Certificate as first prize winner of the Canadian Playwriting Competition (for **Gargoyles**)
- The Macmillan Prize in Creative Writing
- A Canada Council Arts Award
- A short story, “A Theory of Discontinuous Existence” selected for *The Journey Prize Anthology*
- A short story, “The Sand Flea,” a first prize winner at the 2006 Arkansas College Media Association Convention held at the Clinton Presidential Center, and which was later nominated for the Pushcart Prize

Professional memberships:

- The Writers’ Union of Canada (TWUC),
- The Association of Italian-Canadian Writers (AICW)
- The Quebec Writers Federation (QWF)
- The League of Canadian Poets (LCP)

Major Festival participation:

- Read-moderated-hosted at 2008-2014 Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festivals
- Read at The International Short Story Conference in Toronto in June, 2010. Served on one of the panels at the International Short Story Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 2012. Will attend and serve on several panels at the International Short Story Conference in Vienna in 2014.
- Read at the Prose Literary Festival in Riga, Latvia (December 2010). Had a book launch for my novel **Berlin** (translated into Latvian) and readings at the Prose Literary Festival in Riga (December 2013).
- Participated in the tribute on the centenary of Irving Layton’s birth at Toronto’s Harbourfront in 2012.
- Read at the Leacock Festival in 2011.