

# Contributors



**SHAUN BOSSIO** holds an MFA in fiction from Emerson College and is the former fiction editor for *Redivider*. His previous work has appeared in *Typehouse* and *Firewords*. A resident of Boston, he's currently at work on his first novel.



**JASON HART** is the son of an immigrant, who left Czechoslovakia clinging to her father's back under gunfire and sirens and religious persecution. He grew up on punk rock and Russian classics, his mother's machismo and father's geniality. He writes and draws and designs things to tell stories, when not wrangling sleepless children. God once called him home to meet his wife, though they both love a good Hemingway expat. Jason's most recent work has appeared in *Ink Brick* and *Gigantic Sequins*. He can be found at [showerstorm.tumblr.com](http://showerstorm.tumblr.com).



**DEANNA HERSHISER** lives in Eugene, Oregon, with her husband and an orange, elderly cat. She works, whenever she's needed, in a basement bookstore called Windows. Both of her grown children listen patiently to her essays-in-progress. Her writing has been published in such places as *Rosebud*, *Runner's World*, the anthology *Saying Goodbye*, and the *Ruminant Magazine* blog. She blogs at [storieshappen.blogspot.com](http://storieshappen.blogspot.com) and often wanders beside the Willamette River taking pictures.



**MIKE LEE** is a photographer, editor, labor journalist, and writer based in New York. His photography has been featured in several group shows, including at Art Thou Gallery in Berkeley and Darkroom Gallery in Vermont. A portfolio and interview was published in *Neicebook 2*. Website is [www.mleephotoart.com](http://www.mleephotoart.com). His short fiction is published in several journals, including *The Avenue*, *The Ampersand Review*, *Reservoir*, *Ghost Parachute*, and *The Airgonaut*.



**SCOTT LEWIS:** The waitress in fishnet stockings at the Manhattan ice cream parlor called The Flick. Running home after school to watch Zacherle. And fireworks. The sawdust under my feet and animal smell at my first circus. When I jumped ten feet in the air startled by Moondog, his Viking helmet over his eyes, spear in hand. The overexposed photograph of my wife and children at a carnival in West Palm Beach—pimples and freckles glowing like Christmas lights, eyeballs the color of possessed-soul red. The Beta tapes I never watched. And fireworks. Paying five bucks to sit front row at a wrestling match (with the Cuban Assassin!) in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. The topless girl I spoke to at '60s Psychedelic Night in a Tribeca club that I did not realize was topless. Billy Something-or-other, damaged by drug abuse, hammering a nail up his nose at the Kutztown State Fair. Winding up at a dive on Canal Street with the entertainment selling very personal favors. My 4,000 albums disorganized but safe in my basement. The real freak shows and fake freak shows. And fireworks.

My art begins with a story idea (some true, some based on something I read) or image. In a way, it's like writing a play or film and developing the characters. This is followed by loose sketches with thick pencils or markers to design the main characters and create their movement. Over these sketches I do detailed drawings on tracing paper. The next step is transferring the images to canvas, board, etc., by shading the back of the tracing paper, then drawing over the images again, which leaves a light impression. Every character that appears in my art has a corresponding drawing on tracing paper. Once the artwork is completed, I then compose an accompanying story. My website: [www.scottlewisartist.com](http://www.scottlewisartist.com).



**ELEANOR MAE** lives in Italy. She has been published in *The Forge Literary Magazine*, *Madcap Review*, *Ghost Parachute*, and *Scrutiny*, among others. She tweets at [EleanorMae\\_\\_](https://twitter.com/EleanorMae).



**SEAN MURPHY** has appeared on NPR's "All Things Considered" and been quoted in *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *The Huffington Post*, and *AdAge*. His work has also appeared in *Salon*, *The Village Voice*, *The New York Post*, *The Good Men Project*, and others. He has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and served as writer-in-residence of the Noepe Center at Martha's Vineyard. He's Founding Director of Virginia Center for Literary

Arts ([www.thevcla.org](http://www.thevcla.org)). To learn more, please visit [seanmurphy.net](http://seanmurphy.net) and [@bullmurph](https://twitter.com/bullmurph).



**JOHN SCHAFFER** is a writer, actor, and fisherman. Born and raised on the north side of Chicago, he was a member of the Latino Chicago Theater Company and earned a degree in Sociology from Illinois State University...after playing basketball for five different colleges. As an actor, he's appeared in a number of films and on the *Drew Carrey Show*, *Dharma & Greg*, and *SeaQuest DSV*. He's played everyone from a jealous boyfriend to a brooding sculptor to a horny vampire. His screenplays for *Bruised Orange* and *The Unconcerned* have been produced, and his short stories and essays have appeared in *Guernica*, *Amor Fati*, *Medium*, *The Kiss* (W.W. Norton 2018), *Short Story Magazine*, and *The Writers Compass*. He's fished in Brazil, Vietnam, the Baja, the Yucatan, and...northern Michigan. He has just finished *Transcendental Blues*, a novel in three parts, and is at work on more. He lives in Northern Virginia and Buzzards Breath, Wyoming.



**NICHOLAS SIEGEL** is a writer from Louisville, Kentucky, who holds his MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University. His work has been published in *Jersey Devil Press*, *Bird's Thumb*, and *Five on the Fifth*, among other places. He is a lover of bourbon, coffee, music, and cats. You can find his work at [nswriter.com](http://nswriter.com).