

## **Roger Sedarat**

### **Office:**

Department of English  
Queens College, City University of New York  
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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. English, 2005. Tufts University.

Dissertation: *Crossing History: New England Landscape in the Poetry of Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, and Robert Lowell.*

Directors: Jesper Rosenmeier and Deborah Digges

MA English/Creative Writing, 1997. Queens College/City University of New York.

MA Creative Thesis: *A Plank in Reason: Poems.*

Directors: Kimiko Hahn and George Held.

BA Sociology, 1993. University of Texas at Austin.

### **POETRY COLLECTION**

*Dear Regime: Letters to the Islamic Republic.* Athens: Ohio UP, 2007.

(Winner of Hollis Summers Book Prize, David Lehman, judge)

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Creative Writing (Poetry and Translation), 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Literature, Middle Eastern Literature, Composition

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor, Fall 2008-Present. Department of English, Queens College/City

University of New York.

Courses Taught at Queens College during this period include, in reverse chronological order:

Graduate: *Middle-Eastern American Literature*

Undergraduate: *Introduction to Poetry, Creative Writing,*

Assistant Professor, Fall 2005-Fall 2008. Department of English, Borough of Manhattan Community College/City University of New York.

Full Time Substitute, Fall 2004-Spring 2005. BMCC

Adjunct Lecturer, Fall 2002-Spring 2004. BMCC

Courses taught at BMCC during these periods include, in reverse chronological order:

Graduate: *Graduate Teaching Practicum*. Four credit teaching seminar on freshman composition for Graduate Center/City University of New York PhD candidates;

Upper-level literature and writing: *American Literature I* (survey of early American literature), *Modern Poetry* (twentieth century and contemporary world poetry), *Middle Eastern Literature* (survey of modern literature of the Middle East), *The Short Story* (history and stylistic elements of short fiction), *Creative Writing* (introduction to writing fiction, poetry, and drama), *Introduction to Literature; Introduction to Literature* (writing intensive study of literary genres with emphasis on the research paper);

Composition: various levels from *Advanced Writing* to fundamentals of the writing process to students in need of remedial instruction.

Lecturer, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Tufts University Academic Resource Center (ARC): 2001.

Thesis Workshop Director. Workshop for graduate students at various stages in the thesis writing process; liaison between Fletcher and ARC.

Graduate Student Lecturer, Department of English, Tufts University: 1998-2001.

Courses taught during this period include:

*Other Worlds* (undergraduate writing course on aesthetic theory), *Love and Sexuality* (undergraduate writing course on psychoanalysis), *Communication for International Students* (writing and speech course for advanced ESL learners), *Expository Writing* (freshmen composition).

Graduate Student Assistant, Department of English, Tufts University: 1999-2001.

*Creative Writing/Poetry* (assisted Professor Deborah Digges in teaching poetry workshop and facilitating student critiques), *The Modern Mind: Freud Marx, and Nietzsche* (assisted Professor Jay Cantor in teaching course on modern culture and grading term papers). \_

Resident English 1-4 Tutor, Academic Resource Center (ARC), Tufts University: 1998-1999.

English as a Second Language Instructor, IBEC (International Business Education Company): Summer 1998 and 2002.

Lecturer, Department of English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/City University of New York: 1997-1998.

Lecturer, Department of English, LaGuardia Community College/City University of New York: 1997.

Writing Coordinator and Tutor, SEEK Program, Queens College/City University of New York: 1996-1997.

Education Coordinator, Builders for Family and Youth Summer Program, Catholic Charities of New York: 1997. \_

## OTHER CREATIVE WRITING PUBLICATIONS

### Chapbooks:

*From Tehran to Texas*. Somerville: Cervena Barva, 2008.

### Anthologies:

"Qasida for Mutanabbi Street." *Mutanabbi Street Starts Here*. Red Hen Press (forthcoming).

"Haji as Stick Figure." *Juxtapositions: Ideas for College Writers, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.* Ed. Marlene Clark. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007: 264-265.

"Outing Iranians" and "Bobback Duke." *Voices of the City: Newark Reads Poetry 2004*. Ed. Rosamond King et al. New York: Hanging Loose Press, 2004: 87-88.

"Honeymoon." *Touched by Eros*. Ed. George Held. Islip: Live Poets Society, 2002: 47.

"Obstruction of Construction" qtd. under "Ancient Paths." *2000 Poet's Market*. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 2000: 40

### Journals:

"Ghost Horse Prelude." *Callaloo* (Forthcoming).

"Last of the *Avant Gardes*." *Paradoxism* (Forthcoming)

"Speed" and "Persian Carpet." *The Ledge*. (Forthcoming).

"45" (Co-translation of poetry by Hafez). *The Iranian.com*.

"Agha D." *Poet Lore*. Fall/Winter 2007: 66.

"Ghost Story." *Atlanta Review*. Winter 2006: 55.

"Time Warner Building, New York City." *Poet Lore*. Winter 2006: 53.

"La Vache Qui Rit." *St. Botolph Society Bulletin*. Winter 2005: 33.

"Deer Mittens." *Oberon*. Winter 2005: 20.

"My Mother's Gold Bracelets." *Oberon*. Winter 2005: 24.

"Advertisement Proposal." *Hanging Loose* Spring 2006: 51.

"Permissible Grapes, Forbidden Wine." *Hanging Loose*. Spring 2006: 52

"Crossword." *Forklift, Ohio*. Summer 2005: 18.

"Morning Wings." *Forklift, Ohio*. Summer 2005: 62.

"Essential Journey." *The New England Review*. Summer 2005: 117.

"Hajji Interview." *The Hat* Spring 2005: 150-151.

"Picnic." *The Hat* Spring 2005: 149.

"The Red Car." *Barrow Street* Winter 2003: 68.

"Anagnorisis." *St. Botolph Society Bulletin*, Winter 2003: 4.

"Iranian Darwins." *The Iranian.com*, Winter 2003: 5.

"Teeth." *The Ledge*, Winter 2003: 101.

"Coronation." *Coe Review*, Spring 2003: 84.

"Chest." *The Ledge*, Spring 2003: 100.

"Thigh." *Atlanta Review*, Winter 2001 (Contest Issue): 62.

"Khomeini's Beard." *Hayden's Ferry Review*, Winter 2001: 65.

"Bobback Duke." *Hanging Loose*, Fall 2001: 64.

"Outing Iranians." *Hanging Loose*, Fall 2001: 65.

"Iranians Never Die." *The Iranian.com*, Winter 2001: 7.

"Tarrofin." *The Iranian.com*, Summer 2002: 3.

"San Antonio, 1979." *The Ledge*, Winter 2001: 91.

"At Aunt Ezat's in Tehran." *The Ledge*, Winter 2001: 92.

"Nose." *Parnassus Literary Journal*, Spring 2001: 43

"Who's Watching Mr. Magoo?" *Green Mountains Review*, Spring 2000: 134.

"How an Iranian Learns to Make the Best Gormeigh Sabzi." *Visions International*, Spring 2000: 11-12.

"One Week after You're Gone." *Plainsongs*, Winter 2000: 7.

"My Father Returned from Iran with Everything but his Bones' [He said Customs Claimed Them as Government Property]." *Plainsongs*, Fall, 1999 : 26.

"Cousin Farzad Decides to Have his Wedding in the Old Country." *Hanging Loose*, Fall 2000 : 68.

"Persian Haiku." *Raw Nervz*, Summer 2000 : 38.

"Some Reasons Why My Cousin Boback Lost His Job at McDonald's." *Hanging Loose*, Spring 2000 : 69.

"Moon-Skinned." *Coe Review*, 28 (1998): 120.

"Obstruction of Construction." *Ancient Paths*, Spring 1999: 6.

"As We Circle a Smoky Mountain." *California Quarterly*, 1999: 26.

"Prometheus Sticks to the East Coast." *The Iconoclast*, Spring 1999: 21.

"I Watched You Braiding Persian Violets." *Atlanta Review*, Spring/Summer 1999: 7.

"Seed of Faith." *Ancient Paths*, Spring 1999: 2.

"Late at Night When We Were Twelve." *Poetry New York*, Fall 1999.

"The Return of Rip Van Winkle." *SPSM&H*, 22/23 (1998): 31.

"When Snow Sticks to Your Persian Eyelashes." *Troubadour*, Fall/Winter 1998: 28.

"When Window Blinds Strike Your Sleeping Face." *The Neovictorian Cochlea*, Fall/Winter (1998-1999): 12.

Haiku. *Raw Nervz*, Spring 1998: 21.

Haiku. *Persimmon*, Spring 1998: 38.

Haiku. *Raw Nervz*, Fall 1997: 16, 39.

Haiku. *Raw Nervz*, Winter 1997/1998: 23.

"Where Has the Light Gone?" *Lilliput Review*, January 1997: 12.

Haiku. *Haiku Headlines*, Winter 1996: 8.

Haiku. *Haiku Headlines*, Fall 1996: 5.

"Desert." *South Ash Press*, Spring 1995: 4.

"Sublimity of Azure." *South Ash Press*, March 1995: 9.

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

### Book Articles:

"Veiling the Hyphenated Identity: Iranian-American Poets' Appropriation of Orientalism." *Orient and Orientalisms in American Poetry and Poetics*. Sabine Sielke and Christian Kloeckner, Eds. Frankfurt: Lang, 2008.

"On a Difference Note: Music in the Composition Classroom." *From Hip Hop to Hyperlinks: Practical Approaches for Teaching Culture in the Composition Classroom*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008.

### Journal Articles:

"'Across the lines of straighter darker trees': Robert Frost's Triangles." *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* (forthcoming).

"Farming New England: The Cultivation of Meaning in Robert Frost's Poetry." *The Robert Frost Review* 12 (Fall 2002): 40-56.

"Hafizzz Cola: The Refreshment of Persian Poetry." *Persian Mirror* 8 (Fall 2006): 8-10.

### Book Reviews

“Vivian Shipley’s *Hardboot*.” *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, (Fall, 2006): 3.

"Playing with the Past: Review of *One Wish Left*, by Tony Gloeggler." *Poetz.com*.  
(February 2003): 1.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Poetry Readings:

Poetry and Translation Conference; University of Stirling, Scotland, Summer 2008.

Featured Reader, Rock Star Poets, Pianos Bar, Bloomfield, NJ, Summer, 2008.

Featured Reader, Undergraduate Poetry Workshop at Sarah Lawrence College; Spring 2008.

Featured Reader, Watchung Booksellers, Montclair, NJ, Spring 2008.

Featured Reader, *Shab-e-She'r Persian Arts Festival*, Bowery Poetry Club, New York, NY; January 2008.

Pacific Standard Bar, Brooklyn, NY; December 2007.

*Race and Poetry Symposium at Sarah Lawrence College*; Spring 2007.

PSC Union Political Reading, PSC Union Hall, New York, NY; November 2006.

Featured Reader, Frequency Reading Series in Poetry, The Four Faced Liar, New York, NY; May 2006.

Featured Reader, Phoenix Series, Flannery's Bar, New York, NY; February 2004 and April 2006.

Featured Reader, Writers from the Middle East, Teaching Learning Center. Borough of Manhattan Community College, March 2006.

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, 2002-2004.

Teaching Learning Center at Borough of Manhattan Community College, Fall 2004.

Texas Tech University Graduate English Conference, February 2001.

### Conferences:

Presenter, "A Victorian Hafez?: Rereading the *Divan* in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Poetry and Translation International Conference. University of Stirling, Scotland, Summer, 2008.

Presenter, "Too Clever by Half: A 'Third Space' in the College Writing Classroom." *Generation 1.5: Writing and Identity*. New Jersey College English Association Annual Conference. Seton Hall University, Spring 2008.

Moderator, *Questioning the Writing 'Teacher': Authority, Authenticity, and Voice in the Composition Classroom*. New Jersey College English Association Annual Conference. Seton Hall University, Spring 2008.

Presenter, "Writing East, Reading West: Translating Persian Poetry." *Poetry in Translation*. Queens College/City University of New York. Fall 2007.

Presenter, "How 'Cool' is the 'Sound of Sense?' Robert Frost's Poetry and Miles Davis' Music." *American Literature: Music and Text*. New Jersey College English Association Annual Spring Conference. Seton Hall University. Spring 2007.

Presenter, *Race and Poetry Symposium: Writing the American Landscape*. Sarah Lawrence College. Spring 2007.

Presenter, "Prompting Inclusion: Writing the Same Essay Question for Different Responses." *Teaching Various Discourse Communities in the Freshman Writing Classroom. Teaching, Language, and the CUNY Student*. John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Spring 2007.

Presenter, "Placing your Poems." *Getting Published: Careers in Writing*. Fall Career Week. Purchase College/State University of New York, Fall 2006.

Presenter, "The Burden of Belonging: Language as a Carrier of Culture in the Writing Classroom." *Rounding Up an Academic Identity in Student Writers*. South Central Modern Language Association, Fall 2006.

Presenter, "A Question Mark in the Landscape: Robert Lowell's New England Ancestry." Teaching Learning Center Presentation of Faculty Development Award Presentations. Borough of Manhattan Community College, Spring 2006.

Presenter, "Thwarting Theory: American Poetry in Praxis." *Poetry as Theory/Theory as Poetry*. New Jersey College English Association, March 2006.

Presenter, "From Tehran to Texas: Creative Nonfiction." *Creative Nonfiction Panel*. College English Association Annual Conference, April 2006.

Presenter, "Creating Space: Property Rights in Emily Dickinson's New England." *Law and Literature*. Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, March 2005.

Presenter, "Escaping New England: The Rejection of Landscape in Emily Dickinson and Wallace Stevens." *Emily Dickinson as Precursor*. Emily Dickinson International Society Panel at the American Literature Association, May 2002.

Presenter, "'Before the Mystery of Glass: Walls of Gender in the Poetry of Robert Frost and Ovid's Pyrramus and Thisbe.'" *Robert Frost Society Panel* at the American Literature Association, May 2000.

Presenter, "Hearing the Babel in the Ivory Tower: Linguistic Racism in the College Writing Classroom." Tufts University Graduate Student Council Symposium, March 2001.

Conference Organizer, "From Tufts to Tomorrow: An American Studies Alumni Arts and Media Career Festival, Celebrating 20 years of American Studies and 15 Years of the Ted Shapiro Memorial Awards." Tufts University, September 2000.

Panel Moderator, "Working in Film." Tufts University, September 2000.

### **HONORS**

Winner of Hollis Summers Open Book Competition, Ohio UP, 2007 (David Lehman, judge)

Nominated for The Felix Gross Award for Outstanding Research by CUNY Junior Faculty, 2007

International Merit Award, *Atlanta Review* 2006

Faculty Development Grant—BMCC President's Office, Summer 2005

St. Botolph Society Poetry-Grant-in-Aid, 2003

Finalist, Bakeless First Book Contest, (Mark Doty, Judge, 2005)

Finalist, *Bakeless First Book Contest* (Yusef Komunyakaa, Judge), 2002

Dissertation Fellowship Award, Tufts University, Fall 2001

Nomination for University Wide Graduate Student of the Year Award, Tufts University, Spring 2001.

Nomination for University Wide T.A. of the Year Award, Tufts University, Spring 1998

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Work-Study Scholarship in Poetry, 2001-2004

International Merit Award, *Atlanta Review* 2001

*Ancient Paths* Poetry Contest, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, 2000

Outstanding French Student Award, University of Texas 1994

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Director, Honors Project, Borough of Manhattan Community College, Spring 2008.  
Supervised student Allyson Holder's Honors Paper, "The Decline of Puritanism in New England Literature."

Chair, Composition Committee of Borough of Manhattan Community College English Department, 2006-Present. Direct committee in development of freshman writing pedagogy, overseeing 150 sections of composition-rhetoric courses.

Member, Composition Committee of Borough of Manhattan Community College English Department, 2003-2005. Assisted in planning curricula for introductory composition courses and designing departmental final exam.

Organizer, “Teaching Various Discourse Communities in the Freshman Writing Classroom” for *Teaching, Language, and the CUNY Student* (University Wide Conference). John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Spring 2007.

Originator, “Introduction to Middle Eastern Literature” for the English Department. Course accepted by Faculty Council in Spring 2007 and now part of English Department offerings.

Organizer, “Teaching Various Discourse Communities in the Freshman Writing Classroom” for *Teaching, Language, and the CUNY Student*. John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Spring 2007.

Member, subcommittee for advertisement of CUNY-wide *Teaching, Language, and the CUNY Student*. 2006-2007.

Member, Student-Assessment Committee for Middle States Review. Interviewed several department chairs to gather materials for assessment; developed and implemented rubrics to assess English 201: Introduction to Literature essays, 2006-2007.

Chair, Assessment Committee for English Department. Initiated an English Department review of English 201 course for the Middle States Review process, organizing subcommittees of full and part time professors, developing rubrics to assess both writing competency and informational literacy, soliciting and photocopying roughly 200 student essays from professors (to insure random sampling), leading subcommittees in “norming” sessions to apply rubrics, drafting various reports, and assessing data. Implemented suggestions of committee in subsequent semesters to improve the course.

Co-Director, Social Committee for 2003 and 2004 *Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference*. Led a committee in the planning and facilitating of various conference events.

Member, Social Committee for 2002 *Bread Loaf Writer's Conference*. Planned and facilitated various conference events.

Coordinator, *From Tufts to Tomorrow: An American Studies Alumni Arts and Media Career Festival, Celebrating 20 Years of American Studies and 15 Years of the Ted Shapiro Memorial Awards*. 1999-2000. Organized an event for American Studies alumni in support of generous donor to the major.

Co-President, *Tufts Graduate English Organization (TEGO)*, Tufts University 1999-

2000. Directed meetings and the overall planning of TEGO.

Co-Director, *Tufts University Annual English Department Reading*, 1999 & 2001. Organized and promoted a department wide reading of creative work by professors, lecturers, and graduate students.

Member, *Subcommittee on the Race Task Force for the Tufts Graduate Student Council*, 1999. Assisted in planning programs to promote racial tolerance within the graduate school of Tufts University.

Co-Chair, *TEGO Sub-Committee for New Graduate Student Relations*, 1998. Co-authored a newcomer's packet for English graduate students and assisted new students with their transition into the graduate program.

Volunteer Lecturer, Writing Center, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 1998. Conducted grammar workshop.

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Author, *English 201 Handbook of Guidelines for Professors*, 2007.

Co-coordinator, Adjunct Orientation for New Freshman Composition Teachers, Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2006.

Presenter, “A Question Mark in the Landscape: Robert Lowell’s New England Ancestry.” Faculty Development Grant. Office of the President. Borough of Manhattan Community College, Summer 2005.

Participant, “Language and the CUNY Student,” University-wide conference for CUNY professors teaching students from disparate discourse communities.

Presenter, “The First Five Minutes,” Intensive Writing Workshops for English 088/095 Professors. Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2005-2006.

Participant, Integrating Technology in the Classroom. Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2005-2006.

Participant, Planning Day for Mentoring Program. Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2004.

Co-Author, *Borough of Manhattan College Mentoring Handbook*, 2004.

## LANGUAGES

French: Strong reading and speaking knowledge.

Persian: Intermediate reading and speaking knowledge.

Spanish: Intermediate reading and beginner speaking knowledge.

## ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Iranian-American Writers (Founding Member), 2008-Present

Associated Writing Programs, 2007-Present

College English Association, 2005-Present

Modern Language Association, 1998-Present

South Central Modern Language Association, 2006

Robert Frost Society, 2000-Present

Emily Dickinson International Society, 2002-2004

Graduate Student Council of Tufts University, 1998-2004

Tufts English Graduate Organization, 1998-2004

## REFERENCES

Jesper Rosenmeier, English Department, Tufts University  
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617-627-2458

Elizabeth Ammons, English Department, Tufts University  
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617-627-2047

Phil Eggers, English Department, Borough of Manhattan Community College  
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