

CSSP 2019 Shortlister Bios and Summaries

AFRICA

Adorah Nworah The Bride Nigeria	Adorah Nworah is an Igbo storyteller from Anambra State in Eastern Nigeria. She earned her juris doctorate from Temple Law School in 2018, and currently practices commercial real estate finance law in Philadelphia. Her short story, <i>Broken English</i> , was long-listed for the 2018 Short Story Day Africa prize.	A Nigerian bride panics when a stranger poses as her groom. Her loved ones insist that the wedding must go on, and it does.
Alex Latimer Extinction South Africa	Alex Latimer is a writer and illustrator. His picture books for children have been published and translated around the world. He has written one novel, <i>The Space Race</i> , and has co-written two others, <i>South</i> and <i>North</i> - both with Diane Awerbuck under the pen name Frank Owen. Alex is currently working on <i>Megafauna</i> , a collection of short stories.	Soon after his mother's death, a boy meets and befriends Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer, discoverer of the coelacanth. Bonded by a shared surname, they help each other to come to terms with love and loss.
Irene Muchemi-Ndiritu The Blessing of Kali Kenya	Irene Muchemi-Ndiritu was born in Nairobi in 1977. She holds a Masters in Journalism from Columbia University. Irene has worked as a journalist in New York City, Washington DC and Boston. In 2017, Irene graduated with an MFA in Creative Writing program at the University of Cape Town (<i>Distinction</i>). Irene lives in Cape Town with her husband and three kids. <i>Lucky Girl</i> is her first novel.	An unforeseen tragedy strikes a young family bringing with it a tumultuous upheaval of spirituality and faith. For the nonbeliever, death awakens the possibility that perhaps, God is real.
Erica Sugo Anyadike How to Marry an African President Tanzania	<p>Erica Sugo Anyadike works in television.</p> <p>She also writes short stories and has been published by <i>Kwani</i>, <i>Writivism</i>, <i>Femrite</i> and <i>Karavan</i>.</p> <p>Whether she's writing for television or writing prose, Erica's stories place African women at the centre of her narratives. She is particularly interested in complex representations of African women - rejecting simplistic portrayals of them in binary terms. She is currently writing a novel.</p>	How To Marry an African President is a story about an ambitious First Lady who is vilified by society, when she attempts to take over the reigns of power from her aging husband, after he murders her lover.

Mbozi Haimbe Madam's Sister <i>Zambia</i>	Mbozi Haimbe was born and raised in Lusaka, Zambia. She completed an MSt in Creative Writing at the University of Cambridge in 2018, and is currently working on a collection of African inspired short stories. Mbozi lives in Norfolk with her family.	The arrival of madam's sister from London causes upheaval within the household, but has an unexpected bonus for the guard, Cephas.
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ASIA

Kiran Doshi Miss Coelho, English Teacher <i>India</i>	Kiran Doshi is a retired Indian diplomat and educationist. His last novel, <i>Jinnah often came to our House</i> , received The Hindu prize for the best work of fiction published in India, 2016. His earlier published works include a satirical novel set in the world of India-Pakistan-USA relations, and a collection of diplomatic tales written in comic verse. He lives in New Delhi.	A story of an indomitable teacher running into unexpected difficulties after retirement—and overcoming them her way.
Lokman Hakim Pengap <i>Malaysia</i>	Lokman Hakim is an author for several books consists of novels, collection of short stories and poetry with genres spanning from science fiction, thriller, young adult and fantasy written in Malay language. His short stories had been published in local newspapers, local literary websites and national literary magazines. He works as an infrastructure engineer for a construction company as his main job besides writing fictions passionately.	The story reflects the definition of 'stuffy' (pengap) from the characters' views who refuse to migrate to a stuffy city before the definition overwhelms the whole structure of the story.
Adriana Nordin Manan translator of Pengap <i>Malaysia</i>	Adriana Nordin Manan is a writer, playwright, translator and researcher. Born, raised and based in Kuala Lumpur, she is passionate about storytelling and the expanse of stories as bridges across cultures, imaginations and human desires. Trilingual in Malay, English and Spanish, Adriana has a Masters in Politics from New York University. She is also a graduate of Colby College and the United World Colleges (UWC) movement.	-

Saraswathy M. Manickam My Mother Pattu Malaysia	Saras Manickam is a freelance writer, language and Creative Writing teacher whose short stories have been published in Malaysian anthologies. She won the DK Dutt Memorial Award for Literary Excellence in 2017. She hopes to bring out a collection of short stories by the end of the year.	The story explores a mother's violent jealousy and envy towards her daughter who finds no one can protect her from the abuse except herself.
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CANADA AND EUROPE

Hilary Dean Resurrection Canada	Hilary Dean was the winner of CBC's Canada Writes award in 2012, and has won <i>EVENT Magazine's</i> Non-Fiction contest twice. Her work has received the 2016 Lascaux Prize in Fiction, appeared in <i>This Magazine</i> , <i>Matrix</i> , and <i>The HG Wells Anthology</i> , and shortlisted for the Journey Prize. Dean's recent film, <i>So You're Going Crazy...</i> aired on CBC television's Documentary Channel for ten years and is currently utilized in healthcare curricula worldwide. www.hilarydean.ca	The eighth-graders at St. Joseph's School are putting on a Passion Play. But can they trust the class clown with the role of Jesus?
Constantia Soteriou Death Customs Cyprus	Constantia Soteriou was born in Nicosia in 1975. Her first novel "Aishe goes on vacation" (Patakis 2015) received the "Athens Prize for Literature" award. Her second book "Voices made of soil" (Patakis 2017) was included in the short list of the Cyprus Literature Awards. She wrote plays for independent stages and for the Cyprus Theatre Organization.	This is a story about the women of Cyprus, mothers or wives who were left to believe that their beloved persons were missing after the 1974 war, while the state had clear evidence about their death. It is a story of death customs, memories, bitterness and justice.
Lina Protopapa, translator of Death Customs Cyprus	Lina Protopapa lives in Nicosia, Cyprus, where she works as a translator and cultural critic	-
Erato Ioannou Deserted Cyprus	Erato Ioannou studied English Literature at the University of Cyprus and has an MFA in Creative Writing from UNC Wilmington. She is the associate editor of <i>In Focus</i> literary journal. Her writing has been published in anthologies and journals in Cyprus, Greece, Romania, and the UK and she is the author of <i>Cats Have it All</i> , a collection of short stories. Most recently, her work has been featured in <i>So Many Islands Anthology</i> .	When war strikes, eighty-year-old Anna stays in her deserted town to defend her home. Soon, she will be possessed by superhuman youth and being alive takes a whole new meaning.

	Erato's novel <i>Muerta</i> , after numerous drafts, declares its completion.	
Tyler Keevil Amid the Winds and Snow <i>Canada</i>	Tyler Keevil grew up in Vancouver and in his mid-twenties moved to Wales. He is the author of several books and his short works have appeared in a range of magazines and anthologies, including <i>The Missouri Review</i> , <i>PRISM: International</i> , and <i>Planet: The Welsh Internationalist</i> . He is a past recipient of <i>The Missouri Review's</i> Jeffrey E. Smith Editors' Prize and the Writers' Trust of Canada / McLelland & Stewart Journey Prize.	A story told through fragments of consciousness and memory, 'Amid The Winds and Snow' pieces together the puzzle of a tragic accident in one of the most beautiful and desolate places on Earth.
Sarah Evans The Night of Hungry Ghosts <i>United Kingdom</i>	Sarah Evans has had many short stories published in anthologies, literary journals and online. Prizes have been awarded by, amongst others: Words and Women, Stratford Literary Festival and the Bridport Prize. Her work is also included in several Unthology volumes, Best New Writing and Shooter Magazine. She started her career as a theoretical physicist before moving into economics and policy advice. She and her husband live in Welwyn Garden City, UK.	It is the fifteenth day of the seventh month as Li Wei steps out onto the muddy sandflats of Morecambe Bay. Invisible amidst the happy chatter of those who belong here, surrounded by quicksand and at risk of swift-turning tides, Wei is tormented by ghosts from his past.
Nuzha Nuseibeh Love-life <i>United Kingdom</i>	Nuzha Nuseibeh is a Palestinian-English doctoral student at Oxford University, researching the sociology of education. Her interests include issues around identity, inequality, queerness, and learning. When she's not writing, she can usually be found reading Ben Lerner or binging on Jane the Virgin.	A half-love story for the millennial generation.

CARIBBEAN

Alexia Tolas Granma's Porch <i>Bahamas</i>	Alexia Tolas was born and raised in The Bahamas. Her writing explores the intricacies of small-island life, particularly from the female perspective. She draws heavily on local folktales and mythologies in order to convey realities silenced by tradition and trauma. She is a graduate of the former College of The Bahamas and currently teaches Literature.	Abandoned by her father on her grandmother's porch, Helena fumbles along the delicate border between adolescence and adulthood, guided by the past traumas of her friends and family and her troubled first love.
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Shakirah Bourne A Hurricane & the Price of Fish Barbados	Shakirah Bourne is an award-winning Barbadian writer and filmmaker. She is a recipient of the Governor General Award for Excellence in Literary Fiction for her short story collection <i>In Time of Need</i> , and a finalist for the 2018 Burt Award for Caribbean Literature. Her short stories have been featured in several journals including <i>Adda</i> , <i>The Caribbean Writer</i> , <i>NIFCA Winning Words Anthology</i> , <i>POUI</i> , and <i>Journal of Caribbean Literatures</i> .	The unlikely romance between a no-nonsense market vendor and a retired swindler has dire consequences on the price of fish during hurricane season.
Kevin Garbaran The Ol' Higue on Market Street Guyana	Kevin Garbaran grew up in the village of Zorg on the Essequibo Coast. He spent his high school years at President's College, where he developed a love for literature. After college, he pursued a degree in Environmental Studies at the University of Guyana, while working part-time as a server. After graduating with his BSc in 2018, he chose to continue working part-time in order to dedicate most of his time to writing. This is the first time he has entered a short story competition of any kind.	Folktales and Jumbie stories take a dark turn after young Devika decides to investigate the rumours of an Ol' Higue living in her village.
Rashad Hosein Oats Trinidad and Tobago	Rashad Hosein is a writer, musician and an avid cook. His influences include Milton, Shakespeare and V. S Naipaul as well as Jung, Freud and the American literary critic, Harold Bloom. Rashad is also deeply passionate about tea. As of 2019, he is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in Literatures in English and Linguistics at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.	Fearing for his life, Forceripe Frederick obeys the blind obeah man after breaking his window. His request: read to him. This is a story about an old man who keeps oats in his pocket and a troubled teen who learns why.

PACIFIC

Maria Samuela Bluey New Zealand	Maria Samuela writes for children and adults. She's been published in the <i>School Journal</i> and had stories translated into five Pacific languages. Her stories are broadcast on National Radio and her adult stories have appeared in <i>Turbine</i> , <i>Sport</i> , and <i>Takahē</i> . She has a MA in Creative Writing from Victoria University and was the 2018 University Bookshop / Robert Lord Cottage summer writer in residence. Maria	When Rosie meets her dad's mate Bluey, she's swept up in a journey that exposes some past truths. <i>Bluey</i> makes sense of the adult world through the innocence of a child's eye and their ever-inquiring mind.
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	is of Cook Islands descent and lives in Wellington, New Zealand. She is completing her first collection of stories for adults.	
Harley Hern Screaming <i>New Zealand</i>	Harley Hern is a writer, artist and editor whose fiction, essays and reviews have appeared in various anthologies and journals. She has a Master of Creative Writing (Auckland University), is administrator for the Academy of NZ Literature (Te Whare Mātātui Aotearoa), senior editor of <i>Geometry</i> journal and for two years was administrator for NZ National Poetry Day. She lives on a rural block where she chainsaws firewood, fixes fences, paints bright art and trains horses.	A visit to a New Zealand rest home and a kapa haka performance force two friends to confront deceit, identity and endings.
Emma Ashmere, Nightfall, <i>Australia</i>	Emma Ashmere's short stories have appeared in <i>The Age</i> , <i>Griffith Review</i> , <i>Sleepers Almanac</i> , <i>Review of Australian Fiction</i> , <i>Spineless Wonders</i> , three Brisbane billboards for <i>#8wordstory</i> , and shortlisted for the 2018 NUW/Overland Fair Australia Prize and 2019 Newcastle Short Story Award. Her novel <i>The Floating Garden</i> was published by Spinifex Press and shortlisted for the 2016 MUBA. She lives in northern New South Wales, Australia.	An abandoned Irish immigrant living in the Adelaide Women's Destitute Asylum refuses to answer questions about the disappearance of a music hall dancer.