

# MICHELLE ELRICK

curriculum vitae

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## BIOGRAPHY

Michelle Elrick is a Canadian poet and author. She has published two books, *To Speak* (Muses Co., 2010) and *then/again* (Nightwood Editions, 2017), and a chapbook titled *remember the old log house* (As We Try & Sleep Press, 2013). She is a graduate of *The Writer's Studio* at Simon Fraser University where she studied under the direction of Steven Galloway, Betsy Warland, Miranda Pearson, Daphne Marlatt and others. Her awards include the 2009 "Show me the Book" first manuscript competition (grand prize), the 2011 John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer, the 2009 *Geist* Postcard Story Competition (3rd place) and the 2015 CBC Literary Award for Poetry (shortlist). She is the former poetry editor of *Geez* magazine and past coordinator of In Dialogue: the Manitoba Writers' Guild reading series. Her work has appeared in *Poetry is Dead*, *Prairie Fire*, *The Fiddlehead*, *Canadian Literature*, *Event* and other journals, and she was featured on the cover of *CV2* magazine's Winter 2011 edition. Since 2005, she has read at festivals and events across Canada, the UK and Europe. In 2012, with support from the Winnipeg Arts Council, she designed and executed a series of performance installations in Reykjavik, Iceland called Notes From the Fort: a poetic of inhabited space. The following year she extended this work to sites in Scotland, Austria and Western Canada. In addition to her published work, she has also written and directed two short films, both of which have screened internationally and been awarded broadcast contracts on CBC television.

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## BRIEF REVIEWS

"Elrick's work is not only a deeply thoughtful exploration of the interstitial spaces that comprise our understandings of "home," but it is also a meditation on what the self is constructed from. *then/again* is an exceptional book."  
-Jordan Abel

"Elrick is a deeply alert, gifted young poet. She is refreshingly free of the clever, the jaded, the allure of celebrity narcissism and human commodification. She does not, however, retreat into a more idealized pre-21st Century world. The quiet philosophical inquiry that fuels this book offers a cultural critique that can stop you in your tracks: 'how far away we come/from what we love/in search of something better.'"  
-Betsy Warland

"I am thrilled with the sudden left turns within these poems. A reader, in almost every stanza, ends up in a different place than where she assumed she was going to go. There are wonderful small grenades of surprise and such deftness with the syntax and diction."  
-Lorna Crozier

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## AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

Winner	2011 John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba writer Manitoba Book Awards
Winner	2009 "Show me the Book" first book manuscript competition CV2 magazine & The Muses' Company Press
Winner	2012 Literal Literary Postcard Competition <i>Geist</i> magazine
Shortlist	2015 CBC Literary Award for Poetry

#### AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS (continued)

Recipient	2015 Grants for Professional Writers - Creative Writing Program Canada Council for the Arts
Recipient	2013 Grants for Professional Writers - Creative Writing Program Canada Council for the Arts
Recipient	2013 Travel Grants - Writing & Publishing Program Canada Council for the Arts
Recipient	2013 Travel & Professional Development Grant - Individual Artist Winnipeg Arts Council
Recipient	2011 Individual Artist Grant Winnipeg Arts Council

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#### READINGS AND RESIDENCIES

2017	Western Canada book tour ( <i>then/again</i> )	Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Abbotsford, Vancouver, Gibsons, Courtenay
2016	University of King's College - with Adele Barclay	Halifax, Canada
2016	In support of <i>Eigenheim</i> : reading with Joanne Epp & Joy Farrell-Grove	Halifax, Canada
2015	A Putting Down of Roots: CV2 magazine 40th issue launch and symposium	Winnipeg, Canada
2013	Word on the Street Halifax - installation and reading	Halifax, Canada
2013	Co-Kisser Poetry-Film Festival - film presentation, reading	Minneapolis, USA
2013	Notes from the Fort - European installation series/tour	Edinburgh, Paris, Salzburg, Amsterdam
2013	CAMAC: Marnay Arts Centre - writing residency	Marnay-sur-Seine, France
2013	Deep Bay Artist Residency (Manitoba Arts Council) - writing residency	Wasagaming, Canada
2012	Notes from the Fort - performance installation series and public writing	Canada, Iceland
2012	<i>Prairie Fire</i> WordFest - reading with Glen Sorestad and Jennifer Still	Winnipeg, Canada
2011	In Dialogue reading series - reading with Johanna Skibsrud	Winnipeg, Canada
2010	Canada-wide book tour ( <i>To Speak</i> )	Winnipeg, Toronto, London, Montreal, Halifax, Vancouver
2010	In-class lectures: Dawson College, Argyle Sec., ACS Sec.	Montreal, Vancouver, Abbotsford
2009	Centre for Cultural Studies - reading at Queen's University	Kingston, Canada
2009	BBC Ulster - radio interview on the art of letter writing	Belfast, Northern Ireland
2009	Shakespeare & Co. Bookstore - writing residency	Paris, France

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#### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Book	<i>then/again</i> by Nightwood Editions, forthcoming 2017
Book	<i>To Speak</i> by The Muses' Company, 2010
Chapbook	<i>remember the old log house</i> , As We Try & Sleep Press, 2013

## SELECT PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Journal	“a sea” (long poem), CV2 magazine, Summer 2016 “where animal tracks, pressed into mud” (poem), Prairie Fire, Fall 2016 from “spilt flour: a suite of poems” (two poems), Event magazine 45/2, Fall 2016 “Lipton” (prose poem), <i>Poetry is Dead</i> , V.10, 2015 <i>Dust House</i> (novel excerpt), <i>Prairie Fire</i> V.33 no.1 Cover feature, interview, 4 poems, CV2 V.33 i.3 “Bedroom: White-wash” (poem), <i>Grain</i> no.40.3 Two Poems, <i>The Fiddlehead</i> no.243 “Swallow” (poetry), <i>Event</i> issue 37-1 “256 Paper Machine” (poetry), <i>Canadian Literature</i> issue 195
Magazine	“Layover” (short story), <i>Geist</i> 85 “Graveside: How to Say Good-bye” (poetry), <i>Geez</i> issue 18

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## ONLINE RELEASES

Homestead: Venturing Into the Poetics of Place	<a href="http://www.contemporaryverse2.ca">www.contemporaryverse2.ca</a>
Notes From the Fort: new writings on place	<a href="http://www.notesfromthefort.com">www.notesfromthefort.com</a>
“expect something and nothing at once”: poetry film	<a href="http://vimeo.com/61114157">http://vimeo.com/61114157</a>
“SQUARE”: poetry film	<a href="http://vimeo.com/114129610">http://vimeo.com/114129610</a>

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## CD RELEASES

“Awaken in Stars”: poem recorded with music by Jenny Berkel, Matt Peters	<a href="https://jennyberkel.bandcamp.com/track/awaken-in-stars">https://jennyberkel.bandcamp.com/track/awaken-in-stars</a>
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## FILM SCREENINGS

2016	CBC television, “Canadian Reflections” program
2015	CBC television, “Canadian Reflections” program Envoi Poetry Festival, Winnipeg, Canada Gimli Film Festival, Gimli, Canada Open Air Filmfest Weiterstadt, Germany
2014	Gimli Film Festival, Gimli, Canada
2013	The Body Electric Poetry Film Festival, Fort Collins, USA Breakthroughs Film Festival, Toronto, Canada TRUCK Gallery, Calgary, Canada Suffolk International Film Festival, Suffolk, UK Filmpoem Festival, Dunbar, Scotland Visible Verse Festival, Vancouver, BC, Canada Cinematheque regular programming, Winnipeg, MB, Canada Co-Kisser International Poetry-Film Festival, Minneapolis, MN, USA

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## EDUCATION AND ASSOCIATIONS

since 2014	The Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia member
2013-2014	Foundation Year Programme (University of King’s College, Halifax)
2011-2014	The Writers’ Union of Canada member
since 2011	Public Lending Right commission affiliate
since 2007	Manitoba Writers’ Guild member
since 2006	Access Copyright affiliate
2005-2006	Simon Fraser University – Certificate in Creative Writing

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## SELECT WORK EXPERIENCE

2011-2013	Manitoba Writers’ Guild
In Dialogue reading series coordinator	
2011-2013	Geez magazine
Poetry Editor	