



# POETRY SCHOOL

AUTUMN  
2020

POETRYSCHOOL.COM

**POETRY SCHOOL is a national arts organisation providing inspiring tuition and opportunities for writers, poets, and poetry audiences. We are a registered charity and proud to be one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations 2018–2022.**

**We run a large variety of courses and workshops for poets and writers of all levels, from free introductory classes to our advanced masterclasses, taught in our classrooms in London, across the UK, and online all over the world.**

**Every Poetry School activity comes with a range of concessions. Prices are listed in the following order: Full Price, Students & Low Income, Under 30, Disabled & Carers (i.e., £109, £87, £76, £55).**

**All activities are open for all unless stated otherwise.**

**For more information about our courses, and to book a place with us, please visit [poetryschool.com](https://poetryschool.com). Term starts on **28 September**, and booking needs to be by **31 August**.**

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

If we cancel an activity, you will be refunded in full. If you cancel your booking more than four weeks before the start date, we will refund you. If you cancel your booking less than four weeks before the start date, we will refund you if we can fill your place from the waiting list. There are no refunds on talks, readings, and special events. Travel costs cannot be refunded.

## **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

If you can't afford the full price or concessionary cost of a Poetry School activity, we can arrange a payment instalment plan, or you may apply for a bursary covering up to 100% of your costs. The deadline for Autumn 2020 bursaries is **31 August**. Please email us on: [administration@poetryschool.com](mailto:administration@poetryschool.com) to find out more.

# Syncope

*To speak of love is a jouissance in itself. But to speak of jouissance itself is another matter*

Catherine Clément

These days

ecstasy eludes me

like much else

Winter trees –

observe their delicate symmetry

the architecture of their bodies stripped bare

of any artifice

My love, strip me bare

see how tiny I've become

a bird without wings

the bones of my rib cage showing through for you

Let us reach skyward again like those trees

as pale light emanates from the sun

Scribble of a cloud

the clarity of cold

This opening this page a white space

an envelope to slip me in gently

*Syncope*, a moment of disruption – let us fall into this temporary dispossession

return to see the real world look strange

**Jennifer Lee Tsai** is a poet, editor, and critic. She was born in Bebington and grew up in Liverpool. Jennifer is a fellow of The Complete Works, a Ledbury Poetry Critic, and a Contributing Editor to *Ambit*. Her work has been published in the Bloodaxe anthology *Ten: Poets of the New Generation* (2017) and her debut poetry pamphlet is *Kismet* (Ignitionpress, 2019). This poem was written on the Poetry School course *An Exploration of Ecstasy* with Richard Georges and went on to be published in issue 3 of online journal *bath magg*.

# ONLINE COURSES

## INTERACTIVE

10 weeks / 5 sessions

£109, £87, £76, £55

**Monday 28 Sep – 7 Dec**

**Long Poems & Sequences**

**Phoebe Power – Live chats 7–9pm**

*Break out of compact discrete lyric poetry and explode into the fragments and multiplicities of long poems and sequences.*

**Tuesday 6 Oct – 15 Dec**

**Poetry & Eclogue: Ritual Ecopoetics**

**Rhys Trimble – Live chats 7–9pm**

*Journey from bucolic to contemporary writing to explore experimental ecopoetry's radical possibilities.*

**Wednesday 30 Sep – 9 Dec**

**Retropoetics: Four Billion Years of Inspiration**

**Rebecca Watts – Live chats 7–9pm**

*Adventure away from personal experience and delve into the treasure chest of history.*

**Wednesday 7 Oct – 16 Dec**

**The Perpetual Latin of Love**

**Daisy Lafarge – Live chats 7–9pm**

*Find inspiration in the language of science and organisational systems to create innovative new poetry.*

## INTERNATIONAL

10 weeks / 5 sessions / No live sessions

£109, £87, £76, £55

**28 Sep – 7 Dec**

**Hell & Back: Writing Addiction & Recovery**

**Keith Hutson**

*Explore how we can write compellingly about addiction with Laureate's Choice poet, Keith Hutson.*

**29 Sep – 8 Dec**

**Cinema of Dreams: Fellini & Poetry**

**Stav Poleg**

*Walk the streets of Cinecittà and find inspiration in the cinema of Fellini as we experiment with dreams and memories, alongside fictional and theatrical scenes in our own poetry.*

**30 Sep – 9 Dec**

**The Pleasure Principle: Poetry & The Wild Culture of 'Want'**

**Elena Karina Byrne**

*Dive deep into the language of 'want' in your poetry and explore desire's integral role in forming culture, identity, and creative tools for survival.*

**5 Oct – 14 Dec**

**Against the Grain**

**Kathryn Simmonds**

*Learn where your resistances are and try working against them. Who knows what will happen?*

**6 Oct – 15 Dec**

**American poetry of the 'San Francisco Renaissance'**

**Wanda O'Connor**

*Travel to mid-century California to take influence and inspiration from the 'San Francisco Renaissance'.*

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## TRANSLREADING

10 weeks / 5 sessions / No live sessions

£109, £87, £76, £55

**29 Sep – 8 Dec**

**'The most intimate act of reading': Translation & the Politics of the Personal**

**Sophie Collins**

*Develop your poetry translation practice with exciting poet and translator Sophie Collins.*

**1 Oct – 10 Dec**

**Multilingual Poetry from Shakespeare Outwards**

**David Caddy**

*Explore the transgressive practices of Multilingual Poetry, taking inspiration from Shakespeare to contemporary writers, to resist monoculturalism!*

**8 Oct – 17 Dec**

**To Be Here & There Simultaneously: Poems for/from Our Migratory Selves**

**Elżbieta Wójcik-Leese**

*Remain foreign to yourself and explore the liminal space between locution and location in your writing.*

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## MASTERCLASS

12 weeks / 6 sessions / No live sessions

£179, £143, £125, £90

**14 Sep – 14 Dec (Advanced)**

**Poetic Artifice: Writing With & Against Veronica Forrest-Thomson**

**Will Harris**

*Explore, and argue with, Veronica Forrest-Thomson's seminal Poetic Artifice, as a means for investigating and expanding your own poetic practice.*



# FACE-TO-FACE COURSES

**15 Sep – 15 Dec (Advanced)**

## **Smears & Caresses: The Poetry of Abstract Art**

**Peter Hughes**

*Create poems inspired by the most exciting art of the past century.*

**16 Sep – 16 Dec (Advanced)**

## **Evicting the Body from its Home: The Work of Paul Celan**

**Sarah Byrne**

*Take inspiration from Paul Celan to explore the complex topics of home, refuge, and eviction in your poetry.*

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## **STUDIO**

**4 weeks / 3 sessions / No live sessions**

**£79, £63, £55, £40**

**29 Sep – 27 Oct**

## **Time Travel Studio**

**Jennifer Wong**

*Experiment with poetry's power to reshuffle, reorient, and return to different temporal moments.*

**2 Nov – 7 Dec**

## **Language Diary Studio+**

**Nina Mingya Powles**

**5 weeks / 4 assignments**

**£100, £80, £70, £50**

*Traverse the shifting path to fluency and explore language's connection to selfhood before creating your own mini zine.*

**4 Nov – 2 Dec**

## **Arrange, Layer, Combine: Poetry & Collage Studio**

**Zakia Carpenter Hall**

*Get tactile and explore poetry as a kind of architecture.*

**16 Nov – 14 Dec**

## **Poetry as Revelation Studio: Divine Inspiration & Disclosure**

**Sascha Akhtar**

*Reclaim the revelatory language of priestesses, goddesses, and divinities.*

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## **FEEDBACK**

**11 weeks / 5 sessions / No live sessions**

**£79, £63, £55, £40**

**Friday 25 Sep – 11 Dec**

## **Fortnightly Feedback**

**Rachael Allen**

*Knock those loose poems into shape with some concentrated feedback from Granta's poetry editor.*

## **LONDON – 3 TERM COURSES**

**10 weekly sessions**

**£180, £144, £126, £90**

### **MONDAYS:**

**28 Sep – 30 Nov (Advanced)**

## **Advanced Poetry Workshop**

**Anthony Anaxagorou – 2–4pm (Zoom)**

*Develop your writing through discussion and feedback in this advanced workshop with Anthony Anaxagorou.*

**28 Sep – 30 Nov (Advanced)**

## **What Now?**

**Wayne Holloway-Smith – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*Take the next steps in your poetry career and explore contemporary poetry's cutting edge.*

**28 Sep – 7 Dec (Advanced)**

## **Advanced Poetry Workshop**

**Shazea Quraishi – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*Develop your writing through discussion, feedback, and writing prompts in this advanced workshop with Shazea Quraishi.*

### **TUESDAYS:**

**6 Oct – 8 Dec (Intermediate)**

## **Read & Response**

**Tamar Yoseloff – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*Join MA tutor Tamar Yoseloff for a close examination of many styles and approaches to hone your skills and bring your poetry to new and exciting places!*

### **WEDNESDAYS:**

**30 Sep – 9 Dec (Intermediate)**

## **Intermediate Poetry Workshop**

**Tim Dooley – 2–4pm (Zoom)**

*Tim Dooley's weekly workshop for poets looking to develop their individual voice and technique.*

**30 Sep – 2 Dec (Advanced)**

## **Advanced Poetry Workshop**

**Mark Waldron – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*An advanced weekly workshop group with the inimitable Mark Waldron.*

**30 Sep – 2 Dec (Intermediate)**

## **Creative Constraint**

**Jacqueline Saphra – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*Mix up your writing and learn new skills and techniques with Jacqueline Saphra.*

## THURSDAYS:

**1 Oct – 3 Dec (Beginner)**

### First Encounters

**Meryl Pugh – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

*Take your first steps into the world of poetry with our ever-popular beginners' course!*

## FRIDAYS:

**2 Oct – 4 Dec (Advanced)**

### Advanced Poetry Workshop

**Richard Price – 11am–1pm (Zoom)**

*Join this group for rigorous discussion of your writing with acclaimed poet Richard Price.*

## SATURDAYS:

**3 Oct; 7 Nov; 5 Dec**

### Saturday Sessions

**Ros Barber – 10.30am–4.30pm (Zoom)**

**3 sessions / £177, £142, £124, £88**

*Monthly all-day Saturday workshops with Ros Barber.*

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## LONDON – SHORT COURSES

**29 Sep – 3 Nov**

### Where Words Meet Music

**Ben See & Special Guests – 7–9pm (Zoom)**

**6 weekly sessions / £100, £80, £70, £50**

*An exciting practical course exploring the relationship between words and music, featuring a host of special guest tutors.*

**1 Oct – 26 Nov**

### Reading Course: 'The Ladder is Always There' – What makes a Feminist Poem?

**Jacqueline Saphra – 6.45–8.45pm (Zoom)**

**5 fortnightly sessions / £95, £76, £66, £47**

*Spend time reading and discussing a huge range of feminist poetry. Expect to be surprised, infuriated, and inspired.*

**6 Oct – 1 Dec**

### Voices of the Sea

**Jennie Osborne – 7–9pm (Zoom)**

**5 fortnightly sessions / £95, £76, £66, £47**

*Join us on a voyage into the blue as we dive to the Marianas Trench, spot white whales, and attempt to clean up the Pacific trash vortex.*

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## LONDON – WORKSHOPS

**One-day: £75, £60, £52, £37**

**Two-days: £150, £120, £105, £75**

**10.30am–4.30pm**

**26 Sep & 17 Oct**

### Writing Love in a Second Language

**Meena Kandasamy – 10.30am – 1.30pm (Zoom)**

*Explore the effects of living, and writing, between multiple languages.*

**10 & 31 Oct**

### Writing Dystopia / Building a Dystopian World

**Jennifer Wong – 10.30am – 1pm (Zoom)**

*Can poetry lead us out of dystopia and help to present the truth about our current times?*

**17 Oct**

### 'The Gaps Between the Stories': White Space, Redaction, & Erasure

**Tamar Yoseloff – 10.30am – 4.30pm (Zoom)**

*Explore visual techniques and play with omissions, erasure, and negative space to expand your poetic practice.*

**24 Oct & 28 Nov**

### Ghazal Masterclass

**Mona Arshi – 10.30am–1pm (Zoom)**

*Join Mona Arshi for detailed exploration of one of the world's most ancient poetic forms.*

**31 Oct**

### 'GRRR, ARGGH': Poems Inspired by Buffy the Vampire Slayer

**Chrissy Williams – 10.30am – 4.30pm**

*The ultimate Buffy fandom / poetry / Halloween crossover event!*

**7 & 8 Nov**

### X-Lit: Ways into Memoir

**Hannah Lowe – 10.30am – 4.30pm**

*An intensive weekend exploring life writing with acclaimed poet and memoirist Hannah Lowe.*

**14 Nov**

### Window, Mirror, Knife, Disaster, & Reinvention: Poetry of Glass

**Judy Brown – 10.30am – 4.30pm**

*Wipe off your monocle, have your glass armonica tuned, and smash the glass ceiling with Judy Brown.*

**14 Nov**

### Voicing Public Emotion: Poetry & Politics

**Carmen Bugar – 10.30am – 4.30pm**

*Move between the public and private in this day of political poetic writing.*

**21 Nov**

### Stealing, Copying, & Arguing

**Ali Lewis – 10.30am – 4.30pm**

*Get light-fingered and argumentative with other poets to take your own writing to new places.*

28 Nov

## Euphony: Poetic Sound & the Subconscious

Martha Sprackland – 10.30am – 4.30pm

*Listen to your poems' concerto of sounds as a way to explore their subconscious drives.*

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## LONDON – SURGERIES

1-Hour Feedback Sessions

£95 per session

13 Sep

Rebecca Watts

4 sessions (Zoom)

*In-depth 1-2-1 discussion on your poetry with Rebecca Watts.*

10.30–11.30am, 11.45am–12.45pm

2.00–3.00pm, 3.15–4.15pm

24 Oct

Astrid Alben

4 sessions (Zoom)

*In-depth 1-2-1 discussion on your poetry with Astrid Alben.*

10.30–11.30am, 11.45am–12.45pm

2.00–3.00pm, 3.15–4.15pm

4 Dec

Richard Scott

*In-depth 1-2-1 discussion on your poetry with Richard Scott.*

10.30–11.30am, 11.45am–12.45pm

2.00–3.00pm, 3.15–4.15pm

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## BIRMINGHAM

The Pen Museum

3 months / 3 sessions

£95, £76, £66, £47 / 12-3pm

26 Sep; 24 Oct; 5 Dec

## Transformative Poetry

Liz Berry – 12–3pm

*Transform yourself and the world around you through the power of poetry.*

## 1-2-1 TEACHING

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**Tutorials in person (1 hour)**

£150 - based on 200 lines of poetry

**Tutorials by email (1,000 word commentary)**

£150 - based on 200 lines of poetry

**Manuscript assessment**

£400 – based on 1,200 lines of poetry;

feedback can be face-to-face or via email

## Mentoring\*

£800

\*This includes 6 x one hour face-to-face sessions or 1,000 word email commentaries on 250 lines of poetry at a time, personalised reading and writing tasks, and guidance on next steps towards publication.

We have an extensive list of 1-2-1 tutors including Moniza Alvi, Matthew Caley, Kayo Chingonyi, Richard Georges, John Glenday, Mary Jean Chan, Katharine Kilalea, Karen McCarthy-Woolf, John McCullough, and Heidi Williamson.

Email us on [administration@poetryschool.com](mailto:administration@poetryschool.com) to discuss all one-to-one teaching options.

## SEMINARS

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Seminars are private groups of between 6-8 students, meeting over 8 monthly sessions, arranged according to the specific interests and levels of experience of the group.

Seminars cost up to £260, varying depending on group. Please email us about what you're looking for and which writer you'd like to work with. Our seminars include:

**London:** Tamar Yoseloff, Myra Schneider, Jacqueline Saphra, Shazee Quraishi, and Wayne Holloway-Smith.

**Bridport, Exeter, & Axminster:** Greta Stoddart

**Kent:** Susan Wicks

**Wymondham:** Heidi Williamson

**Cambridge:** John Greening

**Hereford:** Philip Gross

**Birmingham:** Jacqui Rowe

**Leeds & York:** Antony Dunn

**Plymouth:** Steve Spence

**Penzance:** Alice Kavounnas

For more information about our courses, and to book a place with us, please visit [poetryschool.com](http://poetryschool.com).





‘Wonderful, wise,  
considered tuition.’

– Autumn 2019 survey response

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