

# SØRINA HIGGINS

## Curriculum Vitae

Baylor University  
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Department of English  
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## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. student      Department of English, Baylor University; matriculation 2016  
Presidential Scholar  
Area of interest: Magic in modern British and Irish theatre
- M.A.                      Department of English, Middlebury College, 2007  
Independent Reading Project: “Heraldry of Heaven: The Development of  
*Sehnsucht* in the Writings of C. S. Lewis.”  
Adviser: Dr. John Fyler; second reader, Dr. Isobel Armstrong
- B.A.                      Departments of English and Music, Gordon College, 2002
- Certificate              Biblical Studies, Berkshire Institute for Christian Studies, 1999

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- Chair of the Language & Literature Department, Signum University      2015–present  
Thesis Coordinator  
Host of Signum Symposia
- Teacher of Record (Graduate Instructor), Baylor University      2016–present  
English 1302: Thinking and Writing  
English 1304: Thinking, Writing, and Research
- Colloquium Instructor, Honors College, Baylor University  
*Descent Into Hell* by Charles Williams      8 Oct. 2018  
*Till We Have Faces* by C. S. Lewis      11 Feb. 2019
- Preceptor, Signum University      2014–present  
LITD 5307: The Inklings & King Arthur (with Maggie Parke & Gabriel Schenk)  
LITA 5312: Tolkien’s Wars and Middle-earth (with John Garth)  
LITD 5304: Beowulf Through Tolkien (with Dr. Tom Shippey)  
LITA 5302: Lewis & Tolkien (with Dr. Corey Olsen)

Guest lecturer in Introduction to Theory, Research & Writing; Lewis & Tolkien; Beowulf Through Tolkien

Adjunct Faculty Member in English, Lehigh Carbon Community College ENG 235: Creative Writing ENG 215: Intro to Poetry ENG 106: College English II ENG 105: College English I ENG 100: Fundamentals of Writing Faculty Adviser to Xanadu literary club & magazine	2010–2016
Adjunct Faculty Member in English, Penn State Lehigh Valley ENGL 202-B: Writing in the Humanities ENGL 015: Rhetoric & Composition	2012–2013
Instructor of English & Music, Master's Academy of Fine Arts Language Arts Creative Writing Music History and Composition The Inklings	2005–2010
Adjunct Faculty Member in English, Berkshire Institute for Christian Studies ENG 230: Writing for Publication ENG 117: Classics & Composition English Teaching Assistant	2002–2004

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Edited Works

- *The Inklings & King Arthur: J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, C. S. Lewis, and Owen Barfield on the Matter of Britain.* Academic essay collection; Apocryphile Press, December 2017. Winner of the 2018 Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies.
- *The Soul of Wit.* Prize-Winning Flash Fiction and Short-Form Poetry from Signum University's "Almost an Inkling" Creative Writing Contest 2015. Oloris Press, 2016.
- *The Chapel of the Thorn* by Charles Williams. Apocryphile Press, 2014. Nominated for the 2017 Mythopoeic Scholarship Award for Inklings Studies.

### Refereed Articles

- "Charles Williams and Friendship *sub specie Arthuriana*." *VII: An Anglo-American Review* vol. 35 (forthcoming).
- "Double Affirmation: Medievalism as Christian Apologetic in the Arthurian Poetry of Charles Williams," *The Journal of Inklings Studies* 3.2 (Oct 2013), 59–96.
- "Is a 'Christian' Mystery Story Possible? Charles Williams' *War in Heaven* as a Generic Case

Study." *Mythlore* vol. 30 no. 1/2 issue 115/116 (Fall/Winter 2011). 77-90.

### Book Chapter & Introduction

- Introduction. *Taliessin through Logres and The Region of the Summer Stars* by Charles Williams. Apocryphile Press, 2016.
- Introduction. *The Chapel of the Thorn* by Charles Williams. Apocryphile Press, 2014.
- "Is a 'Christian' Mystery Story Possible? Charles Williams' War in Heaven as a Generic Case Study." *Christianity and the Detective Story*, edited by Walter Raubicheck and Anya Morlan, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013, pp. 2-19.

### Published Conference Papers & Panel

- "Intertextuality in *Beowulf* and the Inklings." *The Lamp-Post*, edited by Laurie Hatch, vol. 36, no. 2, Spring/Summer 2018, pp. 30-41.
- "The Future of Inklings Studies: Keynote Panel Discussion (4 June 2016) by Diana Glycer, Sorina Higgins, and Colin Duriez (with Joe Ricke, moderator)." *Inklings Forever*, Volume X: Papers from the 10<sup>th</sup> Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis & Friends, Winged Lion Press, 2017, pp. 405-21.
- "The Development of *Sehnsucht* in the Letters of C.S. Lewis." *NYCSL Bulletin* 471 (Jan/Feb 2016), 1-10.
- "Arthurian Geographies in Tolkien, Williams and Lewis." *NYCSL Bulletin* 462 (Jul/Aug 2014), 1-8.
- "King Arthur Was an Elf! An Imaginary, Composite, Inklings Arthuriad." *MythMoot II* Proceedings. 16 Jul 2014.
- "'Between Two Strange Hearts': Spiritual Desolation in the Later Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins & Charles Williams." Collaboration with Rebecca Tirrell Talbot. *Inklings Forever VIII: The 8<sup>th</sup> Francis White Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis & Friends*, 2012. 64-72.

### Creative Writing

- Poetry Collection: *Caduceus*. Word Tech/David Robert Books, Feb. 2012.
- Poetry Chapbook: *The Significance of Swans*. Finishing Line Press, Aug 2008.
- Poems in journals, including: *Alive Now*, *Avatar Review*, *The BioLogos Forum*, *The Deronda Review*, *The Eclectic Muse*, *idiom*, *Innisfree*, *The Lyric*, *Mythic Circle*, *Perspectives*, *Radix*, *Relief*, *Studio*, & *Windhover*.

### Selected Online Articles

- "Arthur, Adapted," on the development of Arthurian legends. 26 Apr 2013. *Curator*.
- "The Art of the Book," on the Chester Beatty Library. 23 Sep 2013. *Curator*.
- "Don't Shoot," on gun violence in the movies. 6 & 8 Mar 2013. *Curator*.
- "An Artist in the Dark," on depression & creativity. 11 Jan 2013. *Comment*.
- "Stories that Tell Themselves," on embodied literary theory. 24 Sep 2012. *Curator*.
- "On Publication," recommendations for writers. 3 Aug 2012. *Curator*.
- "An Entrepreneurial Idea," on hair salons as Gothic galleries. 13 Apr 2012. *Curator*.
- "Three Sorrows," on totalitarianism, torture, & grace. 7 Oct 11. *Curator*.
- "There & Back Again," on shaping our lives into narrative. 26 Aug 11. *Curator*.

- “Where Are We Now?” on the death of Romanticism. 6 May 11. *Curator*.
- “Art in the White House,” on politicizing art. 4 Mar 11. *Curator*.
- “In Praise of the Book,” on reading straight through. 19 Nov 10. *Curator*.
- “The New Where & How of Art,” on Street Art & Pop Surrealism. 24 Sep 10. *Curator*.
- “Mystical Minimalism,” on bell-ringing & composers. 23 Jul 10. *Curator*.
- Two-part series on Posthumanism. 26 Mar & 16 Apr 10. *Curator*.

### Selected Reviews

- *The Celian Moment and Other Essays* by Charles Williams, edited by Stephen Barber. *Sehnsucht: The C. S. Lewis Journal*. (forthcoming)
- *Desolation of Smaug*. 18 Dec 2013. *Curator*.
- *The Fall of Arthur* by J.R.R. Tolkien. 21 Jun 2013. *Curator*.
- *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*. 17 Dec 2012. *Comment*.
- Diana Pavlac Glyer, *The Company They Keep*. *The Charles Williams Quarterly* 141 (202): 11–13.
- Mark St. Germain, *Freud's Last Session*. *Sehnsucht* vol. 4 (2010). 157–59.
- C. S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*, adapted by Anthony Lawton. *Sehnsucht* 4 (2010). 160–64.
- Mary Stewart Van Leeuwen, *A Sword between the Sexes?* *Sehnsucht* 4 (2010). 184–86.
- *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*. 31 Dec 2010. *Curator*.
- Sanford Schwartz, *Science & the Supernatural in the Space Trilogy*. *Sehnsucht* 3 (2009). 101–10.
- Michael Ward: *Planet Narnia*. *Sehnsucht* 2 (2008). 83–97.

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### KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

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- Talk on Modern Magic. Signum University’s Mythmoot VI, National Conference Center, Leesburg, VA. June 2019 (upcoming).
- “The Inklings Among Other Arthurs.” Southern California C. S. Lewis Society Festival, Redlands, CA. 9 March 2019 (upcoming).
- “Real Modernisms: Revising (Meta)Fictional Modernist Narratives.” Signum University’s Mythmoot IV, National Conference Center, Leesburg, VA. 4 June 2017.
- “Charles Williams and Friendship *sub specie Arthuriana*.” 2016 Frances Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends at Taylor University. 3 June 2016.

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### CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

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- TexMoot 2019: The Second Annual Texas Literature & Language Symposium. 19 January 2019, Waco Convention Center, Waco, Texas. A regional meeting of Signum University. Theme: “Around the Talkative Planet”: orality/aurality, literature for listening.
- TexMoot 2018: The First Annual North Texas Literature & Language Symposium. 13 January 2018, Scarborough College, Fort Worth, Texas. A regional meeting of Signum University. Theme: “Stories for the Refreshment of the Spirit.”

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### Conference Papers

- “Sympathizing with the Dead: A *Christmas Carol* as Hospitable Medium.” Midwest Victorian Studies Association, seminar on “Victorian Religious Ecologies.” Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX, April 26–28, 2019. (upcoming)
- “‘The dread forbidden wine’: Yeats’s Early Occult Dramas.” American Conference for Irish Studies, South. The College of Charleston, 1 February 2019.
- “The Red Side of the Green Ground: W. B. Yeats on Conflict and Creation Care.” 2018 Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture: Stewardship of Creation. 24 October 2018.
- “[Re]Cycled Fragments: The End of *Sweeney Agonistes*.” 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the T. S. Eliot Society. September 21, 2018. Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Won prize for best seminar paper.
- “Little Loosed Dragons: Intertextuality in *Beowulf* and the Inklings.” Texas Medieval Association, TEMA 2017. Baylor University, 30 September 2017.
- “Barfieldiana: Owen Barfield and the Matter of Britain.” 20<sup>th</sup> Annual C.S. Lewis & the Inklings Conference, 7 April 2017. Won prize for best paper by a graduate student.
- “Spirits on Stage: Rosicrucian Magic in *The Countess Cathleen*.” American Conference on Irish Studies Annual Conference. 31 March 2017.
- “Collaboration in Community: An Application of Diana Glycer’s Theories of Influence to Higher Education.” 2016 Baylor IFL Symposium on Faith and Culture. 28 October 2016.
- “How to Handle the Hallows: Editing a 100-year-old play for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.” MythMoot III. Jan 2015.
- “Arthurian Geographies in Tolkien, Williams & Lewis.” NY CSL Society. 10 Jan 2014.
- “King Arthur Was an Elf? An Imaginary, Composite, Inklings Arthuriad.” MythMoot II, 15 Dec 2013.
- “‘Between Two Strange Hearts’: Spiritual Desolation in the Later Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins & Charles Williams.” With Rebecca Tirrell Talbot. Lewis Colloquium. Taylor University, 29 May 2012.
- “Checking Out & Hooking Up: Reading Eugenides through the National Study of Youth & Religion.” Belief & Unbelief in Postmodern Literature. Seattle Pacific University, 24 May 12.
- “Hallows Within & Without: Grail Relics in the Mythos of Charles Williams & J.K. Rowling.” Popular & American Culture Conference. Boston, 14 Apr 12.
- “Double Affirmation: Medieval Chronology, Geography, & Devotion in the Arthuriad of Charles Williams.” 46<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, 12–15 May 11.
- “Charles Williams’s *War in Heaven* as a Generic Case Study,” CCL, Pace University, 6 Mar 10.
- “Cosmic Longing in Lewis’s Dantean Universe,” Oxford CSL Society. Oxford, 27 Jun 2009.
- “The Development of Lewis’s *Sehnsucht* in his Correspondence & Cultural Context.” C. S. Lewis—The Man & His Work: a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Legacy. SEBT, 27 Oct 2007.

## Conference Panels

- Moderator: VIP panel and Thesis Panels. Signum University's Mythmoot VI, June 2019 (upcoming).
- Moderator, VIP "Sing, O Muse" on contemporary oral/aural literary genres, with Luann Jennings, Shawn Marchese, Corey Olsen, and Alan Sisto. Second Annual Texas Literature & Language Symposium, Waco Convention Center, January 19, 2019.
- Moderator, two panels: "Real-Life Oral Histories" and "Practical Palaver." Second Annual Texas Literature & Language Symposium, Waco Convention Center, January 19, 2019.
- Moderator, VIP Panel on "Stories for the Refreshment of the Spirit: Literature and Trauma Healing" with Keith Loftin, Corey Olsen, Pat Miersma, and Peter Unseth. TexMoot, Scarborough College, Fort Worth, TX, January 13, 2018.
- Moderator, two panels: "Classics of Western Literature" and "Readers' Responses & Real Life." First Annual North Texas Literature & Language Symposium, Scarborough College, Fort Worth, TX, January 13, 2018.
- Moderator, VIP Panel, "Invoking Wonder," with John DiBartolo, Dr. Michael Drout, Dr. Verlyn Flieger, Ted Nasmith, and Dr. Corey Olsen. Mythmoot IV, June 1-4, 2017.
- Moderator, "Where Imagination Takes Us: Investigations into Literary Traditions Old and New." Signum University graduates' panel. Mythmoot IV, June 1-4, 2017.
- Moderator, "War and Peace: Tolkien and Lewis on Legend and Politics." Signum University graduates' panel. Mythmoot IV, June 1-4, 2017.
- Participant, roundtable discussion of the future of Inklings Studies with Devin Brown, Charlie Starr, Carol Zaleski, and Philip Zaleski. 20<sup>th</sup> Annual C.S. Lewis & the Inklings Conference, 8 April 2017.
- Participant, roundtable discussion of the future of Inklings Studies with Diana Glycer, Colin Duriez, and Carol Zaletsky. 2016 Frances Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends at Taylor University. June 2016.
- Moderator, "The Inklings and King Arthur." Mythcon 45, Norton, MA, August 2014.

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## LECTURES, INTERVIEWS, READINGS, & PRESENTATIONS (selected)

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- Guest, *Agnus* podcast. Recorded 7/3/18; not yet released.
- Guest, *The Mars Hill Audio Journal*, interviewed by Ken Myers about *The Inklings and King Arthur*. Recorded 6/22/18; not yet released.
- Guest, *The Prancing Pony* podcast. Recorded 8/3/18; released 11/11/18.
- Interviewed by "The Skrauss" on *Image for Hire*, Milwaukee RiverWest Radio, 2 Oct 2018.
- Guest, *All About Jack* Podcast, 10 February 2018.
- Roundtable member on *The Inklings and King Arthur*, Signum University Symposia, 5 February 2018.
- Lecture, with Corey Olsen, on the Inklings and Literary Criticism. Signum University's Research Methods class, 4 April 2017.
- Dialogue with Corey Olsen on an Overview of Critical Theory. Signum University's Research Methods class, 21 February 2017.

- Roundtable Discussion on being a Public Intellectual. Signum University's Research Methods class, 24 January 2017.
- Lecture on *The Chapel of the Thorn* and *The Inklings and King Arthur*. Charles Williams Society Annual General Meeting, 6 June 2015.
- Presentation: "The Inklings & King Arthur." LCCC Faculty Development Day, 14 Oct 2014.
- Guest Lecture: "The Development of *Sehnsucht* in the Writings of C.S. Lewis." Signum University, 7 Oct 2014.
- Lecture: "An Artist in the Dark." Manhattan arts salon. 26 Apr 2014.
- Lecture: "Where is *The Hobbit*? Tolkien's Fantastical Geography." LCCC, 7 Dec 2013.
- Lecture: "Poetry & Pattern." Creative Writing class, Penn State (Lehigh Valley). 12 Apr 2013.
- Presentation: "How I'm using Google Sites in my class." Penn State (LV). 21 Feb 2013.
- Presentation: "The Oxford Inklings." LCCC Faculty Development Day, October 2012.
- Concert/Reading: "German Poetry & Art Song." LCCC, 17 Apr 12.
- Presentation: "Poetry, Dance, & Patterned Glory of the Universe." LCCC, 10 Apr 12.
- Lecture: "The Oxford Inklings"/Reading from *Caduceus*. LOOK! Arts, NYC. 14 Mar 12.
- Reading from *Caduceus*/workshop, Writers' Vocational Meeting, InterArts, NYC. 27 Feb. 12
- Lecture/Presentation: "The Oxford Inklings." LCCC, 11 Oct 11.
- Workshop: "Unifying Literature & History in the Curriculum & Classroom," MACS, 5 Nov 2009.
- Masterclass: "Material *Macbeth*," Players of the Stage, 20 Feb. 2007.

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## AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

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- Winner, prize for best seminar paper, for "[Re]Cycled Fragments: The End of *Sweeney Agonistes*." 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the T. S. Eliot Society. Sept 21, 2018. Emory University, Atlanta, GA.
- Winner, the Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies, for *The Inklings & King Arthur: J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, C. S. Lewis, and Owen Barfield on the Matter of Britain* (as editor).
- Second place, Modern/Contemporary Research Seminar Graduate Student Paper Prize. "Spirits on Stage: Rosicrucian Magic in *The Countess Cathleen*."
- Winner, best paper by a graduate student, for "Barfieldiana: Owen Barfield and the Matter of Britain." 20<sup>th</sup> Annual C.S. Lewis & the Inklings Conference, 7 April 2017.
- Nomination: *The Chapel of the Thorn* by Charles Williams. Apocryphile Press, 2014. Nominated for the 2017 Mythopoeic Scholarship Award for Inklings Studies.

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## OTHER EXPERIENCE

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- Alternate Graduate Student Representative from the English Department to the Graduate Student Association, Baylor University 2018–2019
- Convener, Modern/Contemporary Research Seminar, Baylor 2017–present
- Host, Vocational Prayer Meeting 2016–present

- Workshop Leader, “Ekphrasis” Artists’ Fellowship 2010–2016
- Reviews Editor, *Sehnsucht: The C. S. Lewis Journal* 2010–2016
- Staff Writer, *Curator* magazine 2010–2013

**Travel to Conferences**, funded by Baylor University

- American Conference on Irish Studies, Southern Regional Meeting, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC Jan–Feb 2019
- 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the T. S. Eliot Society, Emory University, Atlanta, GA Sept 2018
- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual C. S. Lewis and the Inklings Conference, Tulsa, OK March 2017
- American Conference for Irish Studies, Kansas City, MO March 2017

**Travel to Conferences**, funded by other entities

- Pacific Inklings Festival, Costa Mesa, CA. Funded by the Southern California C. S. Lewis Society March 2019 (upcoming)
- Mythmoot VI, Leesburg, VA. Funded by Signum University June 2019 (upcoming)

**Research/Professional Development**, funded by Lehigh Carbon Community College

- Panel Moderator & Panelist, Mythcon 45, Norton, MA August 2014
- Presenter at MythMoot II, Baltimore, MD December 2013
- Researcher at Marion E. Wade Center, Wheaton College, IL Summer 2012
- Presenter at CCL Western 2012 Regional Conference Summer 2012
- Presenter at 8<sup>th</sup> Francis White Ewbank Colloquium Summer 2012
- Presenter at 46<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo Summer 2011

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## MEMBERSHIPS

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- American Conference for Irish Studies
- The Conference on Christianity and Literature
- The C. S. Lewis & Inklings Society
- The Modern Language Association
- The Mythopoeic Society
- The T. S. Eliot Society
- The Yeats Society Sligo