TEXAS STATE VITA
as of August 2025

I. Academic/Professional Background

A. Name: Vanessa Couto Johnson Title: Associate Professor of Instruction

B. Educational Background

Degree	*Year*	*University*	*Major*	*Thesis/Dissertation*
MFA	2013	Texas State University	Creative Writing	Pareidolia has landed
BA	2010	Rice University	English, Philosophy	n/a

C. University Experience

Position	*University*	*Dates*
Associate Professor of Instruction	Texas State University	August 2024 - Present
Lecturer	Texas State University	August 2014 - August 2024
Contingent Faculty	Trinity University	August 2019 - May 2020
Writing Center Tutor	Texas State University	August - December 2013
Instructional Assistant	Texas State University	August 2011 - May 2012
Writing Consultant	Rice University	August 2007 - May 2010

D. Relevant Professional Experience

Position	*Entity*	*Dates*
Teaching Artist	Badgerdog Creative Writing Workshops	Summers 2014, 2017, 2018

II. TEACHING

A. Courses Taught:

University Seminar (US 1100)
College Writing I (ENG 1310)
College Writing II (ENG 1320)
Technical Writing (ENG 3303)
Introduction to Creative Writing (ENG 3315)
Creative Writing: Poetry (ENG 3349)
Senior Seminar in Poetry (ENG 4349)
Graduate Poetry Workshop (ENG 5315)
Graduate Thesis (ENG 5399)

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

A. Works in Print

1. Books

a. Creative Full-length Books:
reMote control. Jacksonville, FL: Nymeria Publishing, March 2025.
pH of Au. Anderson, SC: Parlor Press, Free Verse Editions 2022, 3 January 2023.
Pungent dins concentric. Tolleson, AZ: Tolsun Books, 4 December 2018.

b. Creative Chapbooks:
speech rinse. Greenfield, MA: Slope Editions, 2017.
rotoscoping collage in Cork City. Chicago, IL: dancing girl press, 2016.
Life of Francis. Littleton, CO: Gambling the Aisle, 2014.

c. Chapbook-length Poem Sequence in "BoxSet"
Try the yen relish. Oxidant | Engine, March 2018.

2. Book Reviews:
"Erasure as Reclamation: *Erase the Patriarchy: An Anthology of Erasure Poetry*." Rev. of *Erase the Patriarchy: An Anthology of Erasure Poetry* ed. by Isobel O'Hare. *Porter House Review* (12 April 2021).
"Contextualizing Self and Belonging: a Review of Kristi Maxwell's *My My*." Rev. of *My My* by Kristi Maxwell. *Entropy Mag* (30 April 2020).

Rev. of *Big Red: Memoirs of a Texas Entrepreneur and Philanthropist* by Red McCombs as told to Don Carleton. *Texas Books in Review* 30.4 (Winter 2010-2011): 10. Print.

3. Other Works in Print: Poems

a. Poems in Anthologies

"Inflam[ing/mation] is persona(b)l(e)." *A Shape Produced by a Curve*. New York, NY: great weather for MEDIA, 2023: 98.

"hartshorn." *I Scream Social Anthology* vol. 2. Austin, TX: Host Publications, 2020.

"Mexican Restaurants in Deutschland." *Travellin' Mama: Mothers, Mothering, and Travel*. Bradford, ON: Demeter Press, 2019: 87.

"Reciprocal free-rider exchange." *Surrealists and Outsiders 2018: I Wagered Deep On the Run of Six Rats to See Which Would Catch the First Fire*. Roselle, IL: Thrice Publishing, 2018: 170.

"The truth about nepotism." *Surrealists and Outsiders 2018: I Wagered Deep On the Run of Six Rats to See Which Would Catch the First Fire*. Roselle, IL: Thrice Publishing, 2018: 171.

"THE COMPUTER ~~t~~HAT ~~cried~~." *Surrealists and Outsiders 2018: I Wagered Deep On the Run of Six Rats to See Which Would Catch the First Fire*. Roselle, IL: Thrice Publishing, 2018: 172-3.

"~~the he~~ART HAS ~~its~~ REASON~~s~~." *Surrealists and Outsiders 2018: I Wagered Deep On the Run of Six Rats to See Which Would Catch the First Fire*. Roselle, IL: Thrice Publishing, 2018: 174.

"Opacity on Ranch Road 12." *Texas Weather*. Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Press, 2016:.

"everlasting olives." *I Let Go of the Stars in My Hand*. New York, NY: great weather for MEDIA, 2014: 47.

b. Poems in Journals

"Dispenser." *Packingtown Review* 20 (31 October 2023).
"Office hours." *Broken Lens Journal* 5 (20 October 2023).
"it is beyond, my Mistrum." *Broken Lens Journal* 5 (20 October 2023).
"ghost kitchen." *Broken Lens Journal* 5 (20 October 2023).
"Going [this deal | deal this] Fast." *Broken Lens Journal* 5 (20 October 2023).
"r(St_Etch)." *Rogue Agent* 102 (1 September 2023).
"count them." *swifts & s l o w s*, Arteidolia (1 September 2023).
"thrill switch." *swifts & s l o w s*, Arteidolia (1 September 2023).
"sate." *swifts & s l o w s*, Arteidolia (1 September 2023).
"Locard's principle." *White Wall Review* (17 July 2023).
"igni(tion)s fatuus." *White Wall Review* (17 July 2023).
"That banner has my terms of service." *Ballast Journal* 1.3 (6 July 2023).
"concept creep." *Ballast Journal* 1.3 (6 July 2023).
"tectonic testudinoidea & other heads-on." *L=Y=R=A* 1 (1 July 2023).
"deadpan spray." *L=Y=R=A* 1 (1 July 2023).
"Topographic lap dunce." *L=Y=R=A* 1 (1 July 2023).
"hyperosmotic | suppressant." *Concision* 3.2 (19 June 2023).
"leaflet." *Red Tree Review* 3 (18 May 2023).
"mission." *Red Tree Review* 3 (18 May 2023).
"overtime." *Concision* 3.1 (28 February 2023).
"callosal roused plot." *The Quarter(ly)* Vol. 4: Ends Issue, Part One (31 December 2022).

“that’s pseudorandom.” *BOMBFIRE* (31 December 2022).
“I’m all dewclaws.” *The Shore* 16 (21 December 2022).
“i.e., b-tter.” *The Broken City* 31 (19 December 2022).
“there, a pet’s ick, lowing.” *The Broken City* 31 (19 December 2022).
“chatoyancy and release.” *Vagabond City Lit* 78 (19 December 2022).
“here is raspberry upon raspberry upon.” *ubu.: small absurdist poems* 5 (11 December 2022).
“Ginger(ly) braid.” *Rough Cut* 43 (1 December 2022).
“chicken alanine.” *Landfill* (9 November 2022).
“reddened monkeys-in-a-barrel.” *Landfill* (9 November 2022).
“unerased | steep steps.” *Abandon Journal* 3 (1 September 2022).
“fist things fist.” *Angel Rust* 14 (1 September 2022).
“heavens to murgatroyd (Snagglepuss Ghazal).” *Angel Rust* 14 (1 September 2022).
“wh[ether] fore[cast].” *Pine Hills Review* (5 January 2022).
“time to deadlift as much as I want, and battery warranty.” *Skink Beat Review* (25 December 2021).
“I second that emulsion.” *Skink Beat Review* (25 December 2021).
“model numbers | tumult.” *Star 82 Review* 9.4 (21 December 2021).
“*age *ist.” *Star 82 Review* 9.4 (21 December 2021).
“mod|if|I.” *Star 82 Review* 9.4 (21 December 2021).
“Spring Lake.” *Sublunary Review* (5 December 2021).
“fix[ations/tures].” *Superstition Review* 28 (30 November 2021).
“*? where we’re going we don’t need *.” *Superstition Review* 28 (30 November 2021).
“the photoreconnaissance wants an autogiro.” *Scrawl Place* (30 November 2021).
“{March 14 2021} | Daylight saving pi *paa Ærten*.” *streetcake* 75.2 (17 November 2021).
“I’mmune.” *The Collidescope* (24 October 2021).
“gurge.” *The Collidescope* (24 October 2021).
“floating specious gloat, or to the apophenia addict.” *The Collidescope* (24 October 2021).
“Friday the November 13th 2020.” *Club Plum Literary Journal* 2.4 (15 October 2021).
“emote.” *Strukturriss* 2.4 (25 September 2021).
“con*.” *TERSE. Journal* (18 August 2021).
“have *, will travel.” *TERSE. Journal* (18 August 2021).
“i(f_lesharing).” *TERSE. Journal* (18 August 2021).
“aw|ry.” *Everything in Aspic* 3 (16 September 2020).
“habi|tit|tat.” *Everything in Aspic* 3 (16 September 2020).
“mote.” *Across the Social Distances* (14 April 2020).
“Self-Portrait of an INTJ reunited with inner-resilient-child in late March 2020.” *TEJASCOVIDO* (1 April 2020).
“Supernumerary.” *Everything in Aspic* 1 (16 December 2019).
“gestures.” *Dialogist* (13 December 2019).
“Brasil & broil.” *Thrush Poetry Journal* (4 November 2019).
“Render billow.” *The Literary Review—Share* (3 January 2019).
“ad|mire.” *Foundry* (7 December 2018).
“corporal vim.” *Small Po[r]tions* 8 (22 April 2018).
“rare/f/r/action.” *Small Po[r]tions* 8 (22 April 2018): 26.

“June, vented.” *Softblow* (1 August 2017).
“Pages of wrinkled calculus / I suggested for the sun.” *Softblow* (1 August 2017).
“Near Igreja de São Domingos, Lisbon.” *Thrush Poetry Journal* (2 March 2017).
“Render billow.” *FIELD* 95 (1 October 2016): 85-87.
“g(at)her.” *smoking glue gun* 13 (22 March 2016).
“(mime)sis.” *smoking glue gun* 13 (22 March 2016).
“c(on)ta(in)er.” *Blackbird* 14.2 (23 November 2015).
“o(vers)ight.” *Blackbird* 14.2 (23 November 2015).
“victual.” *Cream City Review* 39.1 (1 August 2015): 37.
“impunderible #4.” *Yew Journal* (15 July 2015).
“impunderible #8.” *Yew Journal* (15 July 2015).
“impunderible #9.” *Yew Journal* (15 July 2015).
“impunderible #11.” *Yew Journal* (15 July 2015).
“impunderible #13.” *Yew Journal* (15 July 2015).
“Yonic.” *Bodega* 32 (6 April 2015).
“What psychology caused is a computer.” *Indefinite space* (4 April 2015).
“browse gusto.” *Houseguest* 3 (31 March 2015).
“cor(dial).” *Deluge* 4 (27 March 2015).
“ap(pet)ence.” *Deluge* 4 (27 March 2015).
“queue.” *Deluge* 4 (27 March 2015).
“presence.” *Split Rock Review* 4 (4 March 2015).
“ferrous.” *Split Rock Review* 4 (4 March 2015).
“Stance.” *Portland Review* (27 February 2015).
“cyclor(am)a.” *Posit* 5 (4 February 2015).
“salu(brity).” *Posit* 5 (4 February 2015).
“(sea)rch.” *Posit* 5 (4 February 2015).
“v(as)cular.” *Posit* 5 (4 February 2015).
“reeling.” *baldhip* 3 (30 January 2015).
“augury.” *Really System* 5 (23 January 2015).
“WHY SPOCK ~~COULD~~ ~~N~~EVER HA~~VE EVO~~LVED.” *gobbet* (21 January 2015).
“THE ~~UNI~~VERSAL ~~LANGU~~AGE.” *gobbet* (21 January 2015).
“SHORT CUTS TO ~~HAP~~PINES~~S~~.” *gobbet* (21 January 2015).
“longhand.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 29.
“sidereal.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 29-30.
“un(hi)de.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 30.
“canoidea.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 30-31.
“rot(is)erie.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 31.
“leg(end).” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 32.
“(sp)rang.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 32-31.
“dis(posit)ion.” *Toad Suck Review* 5 (19 January 2015): 33.
“birr.” *Two Serious Ladies* (15 January 2015).
“hypnagoid.” *Two Serious Ladies* (15 January 2015).
“megacosm.” *Two Serious Ladies* (15 January 2015).
“Stations.” *Eratio Postmodern Poetry* 20 (4 January 2015).
“Fitzgerald Park.” *Cobalt Review* 13 (21 December 2014).
“sp(ice).” *Qwerty* 32 (17 December 2014): 8.

“(a)ware.” *Qwerty* 32 (17 December 2014): 7.
“corr(elation).” *BORT Quarterly* 4 (15 December 2014)).
“(di)late.” *BORT Quarterly* 4 (15 December 2014).
“rebus.” *MadHat Lit* (13 December 2014).
“The freed lunch.” *Map Literary* (31 October 2014).
“The tabletop game.” *Map Literary* (31 October 2014).
“Observe.” *Map Literary* (31 October 2014).
“The fixed meal.” *Cheat River Review* (7 November 2014).
“(even)ing.” *decomP magazine* (3 October 2014).
“until Victoria Cross.” *Pudding Magazine* 62 (1 October 2014).
“astaxathin.” *Small Po[r]tions* 3 (25 September 2014).
“Gougane Barra; July 17, 2013.” *Blue Monday Review* (22 September 2014).
“The Shamrock Bar/Lounge (Part 1 and Part 2).” *here/there* 1 (1 August 2014).
“case.” *The Destroyer* 3.2 (28 July 2014).
“foo(t)no(t)e.” *The Destroyer* 3.2 (28 July 2014).
“peri(met)er.” *The Destroyer* 3.2 (28 July 2014).
“affix.” *The Destroyer* 3.2 (28 July 2014).
“concoct.” *The Destroyer* 3.2 (28 July 2014).
“THE ~~HE~~AD AND THE HEA~~R~~T.” *gobbet* (16 July 2014).
“The original seratim.” *gobbet* (16 July 2014).
“ver(bat)im.” *VECTOR* 3 (24 June 2014): np.
“d(inner part)y.” *VECTOR* 3 (24 June 2014): np.
“bildungsroman.” *VECTOR* 3 (24 June 2014): np.
“di(splay).” *VECTOR* 3 (24 June 2014): np.
“cath(arses/edral).” *Little Patuxent Review* 16 (21 June 2014): 19.
“The Wreath of Khan.” *TheNewerYork’s the EEEL* (12 June 2014).
“Is Netflix CEO Reed Hastings nauseated by Papa Smurf?” *Uut Poetry* (18 May 2014).
“imponderable #8.” *shufPoetry* 4 (15 May 2014).
“impunderible #3.” *shufPoetry* 4 (15 May 2014).
“umpinderoble #3.” *shufPoetry* 4 (15 May 2014).
“epoch.” *Gravel* May 2014 issue (1 May 2014).
“geography.” *Gravel* May 2014 issue (1 May 2014).
“impen(ding).” *Word Riot* April 2014 issue (in the “stretching forms” category) (16 April 2014).
“epistemology.” *100 Word Story* (9 April 2014).
“(trig)ger.” *Star 82 Review* 2.1 (April 2014).
“en(try).” *Storm Cellar* 3.2 (21 March 2014): 64.
“k(itch)en.” *Storm Cellar* 3.2 (21 March 2014): 65.
“(sw)um.” *Storm Cellar* 3.2 (21 March 2014): 66.
“anon.” *Storm Cellar* 3.2 (21 March 2014): 67.
“(t)ravel.” *Really System* 1 (16 January 2014).
“neces(sit)ies.” *Really System* 1 (16 January 2014).
“Selections from *Imponderables in Excess*.” *Eratio Postmodern Poetry* 18 (10 January 2014).
“genesic thrift.” *Hot Metal Bridge* Sight in Suspension: Fall Issue 2013 (19 December 2013).

"di(a)gnostic." *Hot Metal Bridge* Sight in Suspension: Fall Issue 2013 (19 December 2013).
"3 Types of Fear that May be Keeping You Fit from How to Overcome." *shufPoetry* 3 (15 September 2013).
"What happens when health advice becomes partially hydrogenated." *shufPoetry* 3 (15 September 2013).
"Response to being given a translation of Rilke." *blossombones* winter/spring 2011.
"Curious if we're divided by a Common Language." *blossombones* winter/spring 2011.
"Waiter." *Liebamour: The Psychedelic Literary Journal* 2 (18 January 2011): 47.
"Nocturne." *Willows Wept Review* 9 (29 October 2010).
"The [tropical] clime." *Willows Wept Review* 9 (29 October 2010).
"getting a pea-sized bump in Mardi Gras." *Amphibi.us* (28 September 2010).
"While you are sleeping." *Short, Fast, and Deadly* 29 (27 June 2010).
"Berliners seeing me alone in the dark early morning." *R2: the Rice Review* 6 (Spring 2010): 61.
"I am the puppet Socrates holds." *R2: the Rice Review* 6 (Spring 2010): 75.
"Petersburg can lead a horse to water." *R2: the Rice Review* 6 (Spring 2010): 168.
"The weight of a bird in cupped hands." *Open: Rice University's Student-Run Literary Sex Magazine* 3 (Spring 2010): 54.
"Down on paper." *Open: Rice University's Student-Run Literary Sex Magazine* 3 (Spring 2010): 55.
"They could flow or will flow or." *Open: Rice University's Student-Run Literary Sex Magazine* 3 (Spring 2010): 57.
"Accordion in his hands." *Open: Rice University's Student-Run Literary Magazine* 2 (Spring 2009): 64.
"His Backyard Garden at Night." *R2: the Rice Review* 5 (Spring 2009): 65.
"Dance Class: Being the Follow." *R2: the Rice Review* 5 (Spring 2009): 113.
"Not Nothing." *R2: the Rice Review* 5 (Spring 2009): 136.

c. Creative Nonfiction Essays in Journals
"Lembrança." *FEED* 2.10 (18 June 2021).
"my powerlifted Body." *The Account: A Journal of Poetry, Prose, & Thought* 15 (23 November 2020).

B. Works not in Print

1. Invited Readings, Lectures, and Presentations:
"Guest Poets Read! John Blair, Vanessa Couto Johnson, and Steve Wilson," Pecantown Books and Brews, Seguin, TX: 13 April 2024.
"2022 Free Verse Reading Event," Parlor Press Annual Author Reading, Zoom; 7 May 2023.
"Under One Roof: A Celebration of Central Texas Poetry," Austin Public Access Television; filmed 18 April 2023, broadcasted 29-30 April 2023. https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/SDV1DAS9bFBfZJYbzQVLHd71XJ6ZQ01n/media/795990?autostart=true&showtabssearch=true&fullscreen=false

"Vanessa Johnson: Poetry Reading," Texas State University Music Building Recital Hall, for the Living Learning Community, San Marcos, TX; 7 October 2021.
"Tolsun Read-a-thon," Tolsun Books over Zoom; 25 October 2020.
"Poetry Matters! First Fridays Reading Series: Vanessa Couto Johnson and Elizabeth Quinones," Nevada Humanities, Las Vegas, NV; 6 September 2019.
"Naomi Shihab Nye, Evan Beaty, and Vanessa Couto Johnson," Good Poems at the Good Kind Reading Series, San Antonio, TX; 30 June 2019.
"Visiting Poets: Vanessa Couto Johnson and Colin Pope," Blood Jet Reading Series, The Dragonfly, New Orleans, LA; 12 June 2019.
"Vanessa Couto Johnson: *Pungent dins concentric*," The Twig (bookstore), San Antonio, TX; 3 May 2019.
Tolsun Books Authors' Reading, 2019 AWP Book Fair Stage, Portland, OR; 30 March 2019.
"Vanessa Couto Johnson's Book Launch: *Pungent dins concentric*," Malvern Books, Austin, TX; 15 December 2018.
"Chap[book]s and Broad[side]s," Malvern Books, Austin, TX; 17 August 2018.
"I Scream Social: Vanessa Couto Johnson, Amanda North, and Taisia Kitaiskaia," Malvern Books, Austin, TX; 27 April 2018.
"Sunset Session X: No Foolin'," Local Poets & Musicians, Austin, TX; 1 April 2018.
"Texas Weather Reading," Center for the Study of the Southwest, San Marcos, TX; 2 March 2017.
"Transcending Borders Through Poetry Writing," Southwest Fulbright Symposium, San Antonio, TX; 25 July 2014.
MFA Students' reading, Alkek Library, Texas State University; October 2013.
Scholarship Students' reading, Round Top Poetry Festival; April 2013.
Kenyon Review Summer Writers' Workshop Readings, Gambier, OH; June 2010.

C. Fellowships, Awards, Honors:

College of Liberal Arts Achievement Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity, 2024, Texas State University.
Finalist for Codhill Press's Guest Poetry Series: "Balk Headed", 2023.
3rd Pushcart Prize nomination: "*age *ist." in *Star 82 Review*, 2021.
Creative nonfiction essay "my powerlifted Body" was nominated by *The Account* for *Best of the Net Anthology* (2021)
Semifinalist for the 2021 The Word Works Washington Prize: "pH of Au"
Semifinalist for the 2021 Switchback Book's Gatewood Prize: "pH of Au"
Longlist for the 2021 Cowles Poetry Book Prize: "pH of Au"
Semifinalist for the Baltic Writing Residency in Sweden, 2021
Finalist for the 2021 Burnside Review Press Book Award: "pH of Au"
Finalist for *Lily Poetry Review*'s 2021 Paul Nemser Book Prize: "pH of Au"
Finalist, 2018 Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest: "Erasure of Etiquette"
Finalist for the Luso-American Fellowship to attend the Disquiet International Literary Program in Lisbon in 2017; offered $950.
Finalist in the selections for the Baltic Writing Residency in Scotland in 2016.
Manuscript "speech rinse" named winner of Slope Edition's 2016 Chapbook Contest.

Poem “(sea)rch” nominated for Pushcart Prize by *Posit* in 2015.
Manuscript “Pungent dins concentric” named a Finalist in Anhinga Press’s 2015 Robert Dana Prize for Poetry.
Manuscript “Life of Francis” named winner of the Gambling the Aisle’s 2014 Chapbook Contest.
Manuscript “Pungent dins concentric” named a Semifinalist in the 2014 Subito Press Book Prize for Poetry.
Manuscript “Pungent dins concentric” received an Honorable Mention in the 2014 Joanna Cargill Coconut Book Prize for a First Book.
Finalist in the selections for the Baltic Writing Residency in Latvia in 2014.
Listed as a Highly Commended Poet for the 2014 Gregory O’Donoghue International Poetry Prize; selected by Patrick Cotter.
Nominee for Outstanding Graduate Student in Liberal Arts, Texas State University, 2014.
Poem “genesic thrift” nominated for Pushcart Prize by *Hot Metal Bridge* in 2013.
Outstanding Graduate Student in English, Texas State University, 2013-2014.
Recipient of a scholarship from Texas State University’s MFA program to cover all expenses of attending the Round Top Poetry Festival, April 2013.
George Williams Poetry Prize, given to a Rice student from the English Department each year, for 2010; selected by Dan O’Brien.
Minter Summer Scholarship from Rice University’s English Department to cover all expenses in attending the 2008 Tin House Summer Writer’s Workshop.