

CURRICULUM VITAE: LESLIE EPSTEIN

Married: Ilene Epstein
Three children: Anya, Paul, Theo

Born: Los Angeles, 1938

EDUCATION:

BA: Yale College, summa cum laude, 1960
Dip. Anthro. Oxon: Oxford, 1962
MA: Theater Arts, UCLA, 1963
DFA: Yale University (Yale Drama School), 1967

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Queens College, CUNY, 1965-1978, starting as lecturer, ending as Professor of English
Boston University, Director, Graduate Creative Writing Program (and Professor of English),
1978-present

Visiting Positions:

Lane College, summer, 1964 (a civil rights project)
Yale University, creative writing, and honorary fellow,
Silliman College, spring, 1972
Groningen University (Holland), Visiting Professor of English
and American Literature, 1972/73 (A Fulbright teaching
fellowship)
John Hopkins University, Department of Writing Seminars, spring,
1977
Various writing workshops and seminars, most notably teaching at
The Writers' Community, New York City, 1976; a residency at
Yaddho in 1982; three weeks in India, helping to initiate
writers' workshops in New Delhi (1992); and a six-week
residence at the Rockefeller Institute, Villa Serbelloni,
Bellagio, 1994; numerous summer writing conferences.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Rhodes Scholarship, Merton College, Oxford, 1960-1962
Samuel Goldwyn Creative Writing Award (\$2000) (UCLA), 1963
Lemist Esler Fellowship, Yale Drama School, 1963-65
National Endowment for the Arts Award (\$1000 and publication of
story), 1969
Playboy Editors Award (non-fiction), 1971
National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant (\$5000), 1972
CUNY Research Grant (\$2100), 1972
Fulbright Teaching Fellow, The Netherlands, 1972-73

Creative Artists in Public Service Fellowship (NY State Council on the Arts), 1976

Guggenheim Fellowship, 1977-78

National Book Critics Circle Nominee, 1979 (King of the Jews); National Jewish Book Council Finalist (Pandaemonium); Koret Foundation Finalist (Ice Fire Water); Editors' Choice, Ten Best Books of the Year, New York Times (King of the Jews); Notable Books, New York Times (All books since King of the Jews, save Regina); San Remo Drive, Best novels of year, Los Angeles Times, Boston Phoenix, and various top ten lists.

Best American Short Story, for "Steinway Quintet" and "Skaters on Wood"--the Martha Foley series. See under reprints.

American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, Distinction in Literature Award (\$2000), 1977

Ingram Merrill Foundation Grant (\$5000 each, 1981, 1982)

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant (\$12,000), 1981-82

Fellow at Rockefeller Study and Conference Center, Bellagio, Italy, October, 1994.

Kahn Prize (\$5000), Boston University, 1999

PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS:

P.D. Kimerakov, novel, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1975, 277 pps.

The Steinway Quintet Plus Four, novellas and stories, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1976, 216 pps.

King of the Jews, novel, Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, New York, 1979, 350 pps.

Regina, novel, Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, New York, 1982, 251 pps.

Goldkorn Tales, three novellas, E.P. Dutton & Co., New York, 1985, 244 pps.

Pinto and Sons, novel, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1990, 419 pps.

Pandaemonium, a novel, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1997, 398 pps.

Ice Fire Water: A Leib Goldkorn Cocktail, WW Norton & Co, 1999
264 pps.

San Remo Drive: A Novel from Memory Handsel Books, Other Press, 2003, New York, 238pps.

The Eighth Wonder of the World Handsel Books, Other Press, 2006, New York, 461 pps.

--Published manuscript of the play, King of the Jews, from Playscripts, Inc, New York, 2010. (Also contains reprint of essay from "How I Turned my Novel into a Play," from the Boston Globe of 2007.)

--Liebestod: Opera Buffa with Leib Goldkorn, a novel, Norton, New York, 2012.

PAPERBACK AND FOREIGN EDITIONS OF ABOVE BOOKS:

King of the Jews, Avon Paperback, 1980; Plume/NAL Paperback, New York, 1986; Summit/Simon and Schuster Paperback, 1989; Norton Paperback, 1992; Handsel/Other Books, New York, 2003; Editions in England (The Elder), France, Germany (hardcover and paper), Sweden, Norway, Holland, Israel, Argentina, Poland, and, under contract, Hungary and Serbia. Audiobook edition, Blackstone Audio Books, 1997

Regina, Avon Paperback, 1983; Edition in Sweden, Prisma, 1986

Goldkorn Tales, Plume/NAL Paperback, 1986, N.Y.; English Edition, Hutchinson, London, 1986; Portuguese edition, Historias sa Goldkorn, Publicaos Dom Quixote, 1987; Goldkorn Tales, Southern Methodist University Press, 1998 (a new edition, with new preface, of 1985 volume), Dallas, 1998

Pinto and Sons, Norton Paperback, 1991

PANDAEMONIUM, Griffin Books, paperback of 1997 book, New York, NY (St Martins), 1998; Der Naar von Hollywood, German edition of PANDAEMONIUM, Claasen Verlag, Hildesheim, Germany, 525 pages. 1998

Ice Fire Water: A Leib Goldkorn Cocktail, Norton Paperback of 1999 novel, 2000

San Remo Drive, a Novel from Memory: paperback, Handsel/Other New York, 2004; Russian edition, 2006.

ARTICLES and ESSAYS:

"The Unhappiness of Arthur Miller," TriQuarterly, Spring, 1965, pp. 165-173

"Beyond the Baroque: the Role of the Audience in the Modern Theater," TriQuarterly, Spring, 1968, pp.212-234

"Walking Wounded, Living Dead," New American Review 6, April, 1969, pp. 230-251

"Ritual in the Modern Theater," Partisan Review, 1969 #2, Vol. XXVI, No. 2, pp.251-264

"Teaching Writing," New American Review 10, August 1970, pp. 204-208

"Cine-Duck," Playboy, October, 1970, pp.125-188

"Broken Blossoms," Bennington Review, No. 1, April, 1978, pp. 84-90

"Act of Memory," Bennington Review, No. 2, September, 1978, pp. 81-83

"Kid Stuff," Bennington Review, No. 4, April, 1979, pp. 92-96

"The Best Years of Their Lives," Boston Magazine, January, 1980,

pp.160-164

"Why Are We in Vietnam Films," Boston Magazine, March, 1980

"Watching and Weeping," Boston Magazine, May, 1980, pp. 207-212

"Marching to a Different Drummer," July, 1980, pp. 42-46

"Round up the Usual Suspects," New York Times Book Review,
October 10, 1982, pp.9, 27-29

"Atrocity and Imagination," Harper's, August, 1985, pp.13-16

"The Novel's Grip upon Reality," TriQuarterly, #65, Winter, 1986

"Don Quixote and Imagination," article in Creativity and Liberal Learning, Ablex Publishing Corporation, 1986

"Writing About the Holocaust," in Writing and the Holocaust,
Berel Land, ed., Holmes & Meier, New York and London, 1988,
pp. 261-270 (paperback and hardcover)

"Blue Skies," in Tikkun, Vol. 4, No. 5, September/October 1989,
pp. 11-14, 84-90

"Blue Skies," in Testimony: Contemporary Writers Make the Holocaust Personal, David Rosenberg, ed., Times Books/Random House, New York, 1989, pp. 144-168

"Leslie Epstein," a long autobiographical article in Gale Research Inc., Contemporary Authors: autobiography series, vol.

12, Joyce Nakamura, ed., Detroit, New York, London, pp. 59-76

"The Movie on the Whorehouse Wall," major article in The Movie that Changed My Life, David Rosenberg, ed., Viking, N.Y., (hardcover and paper). Also in Agni Review, No. 34, pp. 116-131

"Civility and its Discontents," in The American Prospect, No. 6, Summer 1991, pp. 23-29.

[This article has been reprinted six different times, four times in anthologies, and is taught all over the country: see Mugar reserves, eg.]

"Walking Wounded, Living Dead," article on The Living Theater, reprinted in The Sixties, Gerald Howard, ed., Paragon House, New York, 1991, pp. 365-395

Chapter (verbal interview) in Saving Remnants: Feeling Jewish in America, Sara Bershtel and Allen Graubard, Free Press, New York, 1992

"Two Writers," (an introduction to two Indian writers), Agni, No. 36, 1992

"An Interview With Leslie Epstein," in Agni, No. 39, pp. 64-82.

"Huey, Dewey, Louie and other Classics," article for New York Times Book Review, December 8, 1998

"Exempt," an essay, Orion, Winter 1999, vol 18, No 1, pp54-56

--Series of Essays for American Prospect, in the year 2000, as follows:

"Monster and Man," Feb 28; "Roar of the Crowd," May 8; "Duel in the Sun," July 17, "Six Polish Women," October 23.

--"Pictures at an Extermination: A Child of Hollywood Encounters Auschwitz, and Himself," Harpers, Sept. 2000, pp 53-64

[This essay has been reprinted in Dutch, in Serbian, on line, in New Zealand: see reprints]

- "No Time! No Time!" short essay in Tikkun, Jan/Feb 2000
- "Return Trip to Proust's World Stirs Personal Remembrance," NY Times, June 4, 2001, first and second page of Arts section.
An essay on Proust and my mother.
- "A World Long Denied," in Lincoln Center Theater Review, Winter 2002, No. 31
- "Staying Put," short essay, Boston Magazine, June 2002, p. 99.
- "Leslie Epstein," Longer, updated version of earlier piece. In Contemporary Authors, Vol 215, pp. 91-115, Gale, NY, 2004
- "How Writers Learn to Read: in Four Axioms," in The Fruitful Branch, Brookline Library Foundation, Brookline, pp 25-32
- "Memory and Imagination," personal essay printed as an afterward to the paperback edition of _____ of San Remo Drive, A Novel from Memory, Handsel/Other, New York, 2004, pp. 241-248.
- "Ethiopia," a Prologue to a new novel (Eighth Wonder of the World) in Maggid, A Journal of Jewish Culture, Jerusalem, vol. 1, 2005, pp. 65-70.
- "The Cab Turned into the Champs-Elysees," an essay on Proust, in The Proust Project, André Aciman ed., Farrar, Straus, New York City, 2005. pp. 192-197.
- "Christmas in Southern California," an essay, in Matzo Balls for Breakfast, Alan King, ed., The Free Press, NY, 2004. pp. 158-164
- "Coming Home," as essay, in Who We Are, Derek Rubin, ed., Schocken Books, NY 2005. pp.64-75.
- "How I turned my novel into a play," Boston Globe Arts section, 2/18/07.
- "Tips," essay in Crafting Fiction, Poetry, and Memoir, edited by Matthew Leone, Colgate University Press, pp. 128-134. Hamilton, NY, 2008
- "Tips for Writing and for Life," variation on the above essay,
"Writer's Digest," March/April 2010, Vol 90, No.3, pp.26-29.
--Reprinted in 2012 book from Writer's Digest.
- "An Encouraging Figure," in Signed, your Student, Holly Holbert, ed., Kaplan Publishing, New York, 2010.
- "Robert Pinsky," in Likenesses, Judith Aronson, ed., Lintott Press, Manchester & Glasgow, 2010.
- Southeast Review, Vol 29, Number 2, 2011, pp26-36.
Long interview.

SHORT FICTION:

- "Playground," The Yale Review, Winter, 1968, pp. 222-235
- "The Disciple of Bacon," New American Review 4, August, 1968, pp. 140-161
- "Tell Me My Fortune," The Antioch Review, Fall/Winter, 1970-71,

- Vol. XXX, Nos. 3 & 4, pp. 397-424
- "Lessons," The Yale Review, Vol. LXVII, Oct. 1972, pp. 1-42
- "The Review," The Atlantic Monthly, September, 1975, Vol. 236, No. 3, p. 53-61
- "The Steinway Quintet," Antaeus, Autumn, 1976, No. 23, pp. 42-84
- "Skaters on Wood," Esquire, Sept., 1977, Vol. 88, No. 3, pp. 109-132
- "Smuggling," Bennington Review, No. 3, December, 1978, pp. 3-11
- "A Decision for the Judenrat," Partisan Review, 1979/1
- "The Elder," Salmagundi, No. 48, Winter, 1979, pp. 43-71
- "Life Without Pain," The Atlantic, June, 1982, pp. 38-58
- "Music of the Spheres," The Georgia Review, Winter, 1984, pp. 765-823
- "An Austro-Hungarian Youth," Moment, Jan-Feb., 1985, Vol. 10, No. 2, pp. 43-52
- "A Jew and the Indians," TriQuarterly, #65, Winter, 1986
- "Shaky Ground," alternate ending to Pinto and Sons, in "Voices," a Jewish journal published at Boston University (1992)
- "Under the Hat," Tikkun, March//April, 1994, pp25-30, 88-89.
- Four chapters of Pandaemonium as follows:
- Boston Book Review, OCEAN DEPTHS, January/February, 1997, Vol. pp. issue 1, pp. 18-19
 - Partisan Review, MR MOTO MEETS THE SPHINX, Winter, 1997 (vol LXIV, No 1), pp.115-131
 - Georgia Review, THE LAST DAY OF CASABLANCA, Winter, 1996-97, Vol L, No. 4, pp. 717-722
 - Bostonia, PANDAEMONIUM BOUND, Spring, 1997, No. 1, pp. 20-23
- Chapters from novel ICE FIRE WATER, as follows:
- "The Court of Palms," Harpers, April, 1999
 - "Hip Hop," TriQuarterly 106, Fall 1999
- Excerpts from SAN REMO DRIVE, as follows:
- "Bones," Princeton University Library Chronicle, Vol LXIII, Numbers 1/2, pps 16-30
 - "Desert," Partisan Review, 1, 2003, pp 34-60
 - "Malibu," Five Points, Vol 7, No 2, 2003, pp 105-125.
 - Three Short Plays, in Baker's Plays, Quincy Mass: "Hip Hop Hebe," "The Yellow Bus," "Mal de Mer": (in separate editions from 2000-2004)
- Excerpts from LIEBESTOD: Opera Buffa with Leib Goldkorn (to be published in February, 2011) as follows:
- "The Audition," in "Superstition Review," Arizona State U., 2010
 - "Magic Chef," in "The Seattle Review," ed. David Shields, Vol 2, numbers 2&3, 2010, pp.149-153.
 - "Menage a Six," in Tablet Magazine (online), 2012.

NOTE: REPRINTING OF SHORTER WORKS (fiction, essays):

Two of the stories above ("The Steinway Quintet" and "Skaters on Wood") have been reprinted in the Martha Foley annual collections, Best American Short Stories, Houghton Mifflin, 1977, 1978, respectively. "The Steinway Quintet" also appeared in the Hungarian quarterly, Nagy Vilag, 1981/8, which also reprinted "A Decision for the Judenrat," 1980/1. A fourth story, "Playground," was reprinted in The American Literary Anthology 3, Viking, N.Y., 1970. The article "Beyond the Baroque," was reprinted in Fiction, Poetry and Criticism of the New American Writers, University of Indiana Press, Bloomington, 1969. The article "Walking Wounded, Living Dead," was reprinted, twice, in The Sixties, Washington Square Press, 1982 and Paragon House, 1991. A one-act play, Mine Eyes Poured Out Tears, originally in "The Yale Literary Magazine," 1959, was reprinted in Art and the Craftsman, Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, 1961. "The Unhappiness of Arthur Miller," article in 1965 (TriQuarterly), reprinted in The Chelsea House Library of Literary Criticism, 1986, as was the review of Ozick's Levitations, (from New York Times Book Review). Article, "The Novel's Grip Upon Reality," from TriQuarterly, reprinted in The Writer in Our World, Atlantic Monthly Press, 1987. "Civility and its Discontents," from American Prospect, 1991, was reprinted in The American Oxonian (the journal for Rhodes Scholars), Summer, 1991, a Law School Journal and two anthologies from St. Martin's Press, 1994 (The Writer's Presence: A Pool of Essays, edited by Donald McQuade and Robert Atwan and Patterns for College Writing, edited by Laurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell). The Movie on the Whorehouse Wall was reprinted in "Agni" No. 34. An excerpt from King of the Jews appeared in The Jews: a Treasury of Art and Literature, Macmillan, 1992. Another excerpt from King of the Jews, is in The Jewish Spirit, A Celebration in Stories and Art, Ellen Frankel, ed, Steward, Tabori & Chang, 1997.

Pictures at an Extermination reprinted in Dutch in Parmentier, No 1/2 Volume 10, pps 16-30 and

in Serbian in Alexandria Biblioteka, Jesen 2002, Godina V, no 15-16, pp 24-35

"The Solar System," excerpt from King of the Jews, in Bright Pages, Yale Writers 1701-2001, pp.208-210

"How Writers Learn to Read: in four axioms", reprinted in The Fruitful Branch, Brookline Library Foundation, Brookline, MA, 2003, pp25-32.

"Returning to Proust's World Stirrs Remembrance," originally in New York Times, reprinted twice: in Writers on Writing, Vol II," Times Books, NY, 2003, and the paperback volume of that same book, Times Books, NY, 2003., pp.43-48. Malibu, originally in "Five Points," reprinted in High Five, an anthology of fiction from ten years of Five Points, Carroll & Graff.

"Roar of the Crowd," originally in "American Prospect", reprinted in Scoring from Second, Writers on Baseball, Bison Books, U. of Nebraska, 2007 and in Writing Baseball: Great Writers on the Greatest Game, PEN New England, 2005.

See reprinted excerpted fiction in section above.

REVIEWS:

- "The Art of Bertold Brecht," The Yale Review, Spring, 1964, pp. XX-XXVI
- "From Parable to Parody: Maynard Mack's King Lear in Our Time," The New Leader, May 9, 1966, Vol. XLIX, No. 10
- "The Arithmetic of Silence," (on Isaac Babel's You Must Know Everything), The Nation, August 11, 1969, pp. 119-121
- "The Reality of Evil," (on The Survivor by Terrence Des Pres and The Holocaust and the Literary Imagination, by Lawrence Langer), Partisan Review, 1976, Vol. XLIII, No. 4, pp 663-640
- "Writers' Choice," Partisan Review, 1977, Vol. XLIV, No. 1, pp.159-160
- "Novel and Novella," (on William Styron's Sophie's Choice), The Nation, July 7, 1979, pp. 22-23
- "Eichmann and Other Matters," (on Hannah Arendt's The Jew as Pariah), New York Times Book Review, January 21, 1979, pp. 10 & 30
- "Survivor's Story," (on Ori Orlev's The Lead Soldiers), New York Times Book Review, March 23, 1980, pp. 27-29
- "Crumbling Epitaphs," (on The Vanished Worlds of Jewry by Raphael Patai), Inquiry, June 15&29, 1981, pp. 27-29
- "A Novel of Neurosis and History," (front page review of The White Hotel by D.M. Thomas, New York Times Book Review, March 15, 1981, pp. 1&26-27
- "The Age of Wonders," (review of novel of same name by Aharon Appelfeld), New York, Feb 8, 1982, p.51
- "Stories and Something Else," (on Cynthia Ozick's Levitation, a book of stories), New York Times Book Review, February 14, 1982, pp. 11 & 25
- "Generations of Horrible Fun," (on Stanley Elkin's George Mills), New York Times Book Review, October 31, 1982, pp.11 & 30-31
- "City of Dreams," (on George Claire's Last Waltz in Vienna), Inquiry, June, 1982, pp. 41-43
- "The Buzz, the Busyness, the Charm of Life," (on Grace Paley's Later the Same Day), Boston Sunday Globe, March 31, 1985: first page, book section
- Front page review, Martin Amis' Time's Arrow, The Washington Post Book Review, Fall, 1991
- Front Page Review, Yitzhak Zuckerman's Surplus of Memory, The Washington Post Book Review, April 4, 1993
- "In the Warsaw Ghetto Summer 1941," by Willy George and Rafael F. Sharf, The Washington Post Book Review, April 4, 1993
- "What is Jewish in Jewish Literature?" Reprint of a symposium at Harvard University, at which I served as a respondent.

Harvard University Library, Cambridge, 1993, p. 27, pp. 10-14.

"Henry Roth's Diving Rock in the Hudson," in "Haddassah," 1995
"Nosferatu," a review of novel of same name by Jim Shepard, NY Times," April 12, 1998

"Odessa in the Bronx," review of Jerome Charyn's The Black Swan,
in NY Times Book Review, July 9, 2000, p. 13

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

P.E.N.

And P.E.N, New England Council

Authors' Guild

AWP

American Association of Rhodes Scholars

Contributing Editor, Partisan Review [until 2003]

Board Member, Tikkun Magazine

Executive Board, Agni Review

PRODUCTIONS

Plays produced in full while at Yale, Oxford, UCLA.

King of the Jews, Rehearsed reading, Phoenix Theater, New York
1980

Rehearsed reading of play, The Astoria Cafe, (based on the novel
King of the Jews) at Boston Playwrights Theater, November 1,
1993. (This play, renamed King of the Jews will be given a three week
production in February 2007.)

Four ten minute plays at Boston Playwrights Theater, The Yellow Bus, Hip Hop Hebe, and Mal de Mer, 1999 and 2001 and 2002.

(all these published in "Baker's Plays."

2007: an additional play done in this series: Tennis Club.

2007: Three week Equity Showcase Production of King of the Jews
produced by Boston Playwrights' Theater. This production received four
Eliot Norton nominations.

2008: Rehearsed Reading of San Remo Drive, at Temple University.

2009: Six week production of King of the Jews, at the Olney Theater, Olney
Maryland.

2012: Rehearsed reading new play, Three Acts of Love and Death,
--Boston Playwrights Theater.

Online:

Tablet Magazine:

- A Child of His Time
(article on Aharon Appelfeld's BEYOND DESPAIR)
- Menage a Six: excerpt from novel, LIEBESTOD
- Small article about intentions for the new year

INTERVIEWS, SYMPOSIA, TALKS, READINGS, TASKSETC.

- Too numerous to list or name. However, major ones in last two years: (2012, 2013)
- Childhood and Imagination--Lecture on Aharon Appelfeld and his book, BEYOND DESPAIR (reprinted online in Tablet Magazine)
- Chair of committee to review Yale University's Creative Program.
- Ted Talk, "College Students Know Nothing," (now on You Tube)
- NYU: led talk on making and meaning of film, "Casablanca"
- Asked to nominate fiction writers for:
 - Whiting Award
 - Brother Thomas Award
 - St. Botolph Award