

## Event Outline: Houses Full of Houses: The Structure and Craft of Building Story Collections

Tyler Barton will Introduce each panelist with the following Bios:

Tyler Barton (Organizer/Moderator?)

- [\*Eternal Night at the Nature Museum\*](#) (Sarabande Books, Nov 2021)
- Tyler Barton is the author of the story collection *Eternal Night at the Nature Museum* (Sarabande, 2021) and the flash chapbook *The Quiet Part Loud* (Split/Lip, 2019). His fiction has appeared in Kenyon Review, The Iowa Review, Copper Nickel, DIAGRAM, and elsewhere. Find him @goftyler, at [tsbarton.com](http://tsbarton.com), or in Saranac Lake, NY where he serves as the communication manager for the Adirondack Center for Writing.

Kate McIntyre ([kate.mcintyre@gmail.com](mailto:kate.mcintyre@gmail.com))

- [\*Mad Prairie\*](#) (UGA Press, Sept 2021)
- Kate McIntyre is the author of the story collection *Mad Prairie*, winner of the Flannery O'Connor Award, and published by UGA in October 2021. Two stories from the collection received Special Mention for the Pushcart Prize, and *Mad Prairie* was recently named to the long list of the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for debut story collection. She is an assistant professor of English at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Ye Chun ([springye@yahoo.com](mailto:springye@yahoo.com))

- [\*Hao\*](#) (Catapult, Sept 2021)
- Ye Chun / 叶春 (Surname: Ye) is a bilingual Chinese American writer and literary translator. She has published two books of poetry, *Travel Over Water* and *Lantern Puzzle*, a novel in Chinese, 《海上的桃树》 (*Peach Tree in the Sea*), and several volumes of translations. Her collection of stories, *Hao*, came out from Catapult in 2021. She teaches at Providence College and lives in Providence, RI.

Christopher Gonzalaez ([gonzalez.chrisg92@gmail.com](mailto:gonzalez.chrisg92@gmail.com))

- [\*I'm Not Hungry, But I Could Eat\*](#) (SFWP, Dec 2021)
- Christopher Gonzalez is the author of *I'm Not Hungry But I Could Eat*, a collection of flash and short fiction. He serves as a fiction editor of *Barrelhouse* and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Jen Fawkes ([jenfawkes@gmail.com](mailto:jenfawkes@gmail.com))

- [\*Tales the Devil Told Me\*](#) (Press 53, Oct 2021)
- Jen Fawkes is the author of *Mannequin and Wife* (LSU Press), named one of *Largehearted Boy's* Favorite Story Collections of 2020, and *Tales the Devil Told Me*, winner of the 2020 Press 53 Award for Short Fiction. Her work has appeared in *One Story*, *Lit Hub*, *Crazyhorse*, *The Iowa Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Best Small Fictions 2020*, and many other venues. Her fiction has won numerous prizes, from *The Pinch*, *Salamander*, *Washington Square Review*, and others. She lives in Little Rock, Arkansas, with her husband and several imaginary friends."

Next, the panel will begin with a quick go-around, each panelist offering this info:

- Name, book, publication month/season, # of stories or # of pages, what do you think it is about your collection that ties it together?. (1 min each)

Questions then follow somewhat in this order and (for the most part) each panelist will answer each question.

1. When did you know you were writing a collection?
  - a. What made you pursue a story collection when popular logic says only novels and memoirs sell?
2. When you first began to compile stories, what was it that brought them together?
  - a. Were they naturally thematically linked, simply the ones you liked the most, or possibly your best stories?
  - b. Was there a consistent theme/topic of certain stories you chose? A common setting? A unique voice, style, or form?
  - c. How did you think about variation - keeping the book from being too much of a hodge-podge while also not amounting to 12 of the same story over and over again?
3. What role did your editor play in shaping your book?
4. Are there any forms (maybe from other genres or media of art) that gave you a model for shaping your story collection? An album, a show, another book, or even something non-art related that leant a shape?
5. Name some other collections that were favorites, models, influences, or inspirations.
6. In the end, how did you ultimately decide to order the stories in your collection? Did you use a concept that helped provide shape?
7. Can you say briefly how your publisher found your book?