

Sam Dodd – Writing C.V.

[Substack](#) // [Website](#) // [Email](#)

Personal Profile

About: My creative work is experimental, surrealist, hybrid, and memoir-based, frequently about how the body relates to the context and setting it is in and belonging, strong themes in my academic work also. Recently I have written about edgelands and liminal places – both literal geographical spaces in which people cross over and co-exist, and metaphorical in-between spaces where experiences are narrated, witnessed and shared, both by ourselves and of ourselves, and by and of others.

A seven-part series from 2022 called [The Edgelands](#) – part of which was produced in response to a writer's residency I held at [House of Annetta](#), a social centre in Spitalfields supporting land reform and spatial justice – is on my Substack (also linked above). This explores different dimensions of my own marginal lived experiences and relates them back to policy decisions, community narratives, storytelling, resistance, activism, countermapping, archiving, land justice and spatial justice; and the inhabitation and navigation of public spaces like libraries, city farms, food growing spaces, alleyways, disused railway lines, brownfield sites, derelict buildings, living maps, and hospitals; plus social systems like the welfare system, the housing system, the foster care system, and the healthcare system.

I was taught at Bachelors level by poet Tim Atkins and novelist Tessa McWatt – UEL, 2011-2014.

Interests: writer development; access to the arts; interfaith peace efforts; climate protection; information access and inclusion; community engagement; radical and community histories; public libraries; city farms; spatial justice; and land access and rights.

Creative Publication History

[Landscape Inceptions](#) experimental piece in Lumpen, print journal for working-class writers, April 2023.
[The Edgelands](#), a Substack series, 2022-present
[Residency summary](#) in the House of Annetta 'year in review' print publication, 2022.
[From Russia to Toynbee, with love](#). Community Biography, 2021.
[Joyriding down the Roman](#). Community Biography, 2021.
[Roaring in Tunnels](#). Autobiographical life writing, 2021.
[Bethnal Green in the Golden Days](#). Community Biography, 2019.
Queerious, poem in print publication 'Spies for Life', 2016.
[The Best Thing Since Sliced Bread](#). Community Biography, 2015.
[The Way the Roses Smelled](#). Community Biography, 2015.
The Terrifying Inadequacy of Words, poem in print publication 'Unbound', 2014.

Research Publication History

Dodd, S., and Bawden, D. (2023) 'A Qualitative Narrative Exploration of the Value of Public Libraries in the United Kingdom,' *The Library Quarterly*. Available at: <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/729227>
Masserano, E. and Dodd, S. (2023) 'Creative Practice as Community Education.' *NAWE Writing in Education*. Issue 89, Spring 2023, pp.21-25. Available at: <https://www.nawe.co.uk/writing-in-education/nawe-magazine/current-issue.html>
Dodd, S., Maddison, S., Masserano, E., and McWatt, T. (2023) (eds.) *Lockdown Stories*. London: University of East Anglia and University of Brighton.
Masserano, E., Dodd, S., Maddison, S. & McWatt, T. (2021) 'Stories of COVID-19: Social Pasts & Futures in the CityLife Project,' *The Sociological Observer*, 3(1).
McWatt, T., Dodd, S. and Maddison, S. (2015) (eds.) *EastLife: An Anthology of Life Writing*. London: University of East London ([PDF](#) format, [epub](#) format, [mobi](#) format)

For degrees, grades, awards, research networks, dissertation and essay titles and research interests, plus a list of my guest lectures and conferences, [click here](#).

Residencies & Courses

Misbehaving Bodies: Hospitals – poetry course, Feb-March 2023.
Arvon Residential Life Writing Week – Totleigh Barton, Jan 2023.
Writer-in-Residence, House of Annetta – Summer to Winter 2022.
Dreaming Awake on the Page: Surrealist Writing workshop – July 2022, The Poetry School.
Living Liminal: 6-week course on liminal writing – July 2022, Beyond Form.
Inspired By: 6-week course drawing from experimental authors – May 2022, Beyond Form.
Cruising Nature: 6-week course on queer nature writing – May 2022, Beyond Form.
Queerscapes: monthly salon for queer psychogeographical writers – Out on the Page, Jan-May 2022.
Archives, Museums & Experimental Memoir: 6-week course on memoir – Beyond Form, Jan 2022.

Training & Memberships

NAWE member since 2019

Lapidus member since 2022

The Literary Consultancy member since 2022

Society of Authors member since 2023

Professional

I am Co-Founder & Project Manager at CityLife Stories, an intergenerational community engagement life writing project, Operations Manager at the Poetry Translation Centre, writing mentor for the Arkbound Foundation, and a freelance editor. Across the last decade I have worked in arts administration roles at London-based literature and writing charities English PEN, Free Word, First Story, The Poetry Society, and Prison Reading Groups. From 2022-2025 I served on the Board of Trustees at writer development agency [Spread the Word](#). See [LinkedIn](#) for my full professional profile.