

## SANDRA BEASLEY - BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE [400 words]

Sandra Beasley won the 2009 Barnard Women Poets Prize for *I Was the Jukebox*, selected by Joy Harjo (W.W. Norton, 2010). Her first collection, *Theories of Falling*, won the 2007 New Issues Poetry Prize judged by Marie Howe. Her poetry has appeared in such magazines as *Ploughshares*, *Tin House*, *AGNI*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Poetry*, and *The Believer*, as well as *The Best American Poetry 2010*. In 2013, she won the Center for Book Arts Poetry Chapbook competition, judged by Harryette Mullin. Poems from that chapbook will appear in *Count the Waves*, forthcoming in 2015 from W. W. Norton.

Beasley is the recipient of a 2015 Literature Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2013, she served as the spring Writer-in-Residence for Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina, as well as the fall Distinguished Writer in residence at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. She served as the 2011 Poet-in-Residence for Maryland's Howard County Poetry and Literature Society. Other honors for Beasley's work include the Larry Neal Writer's Award, the University of Mississippi Summer Poet in Residence position, two DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Artist Fellowships, the Friends of Literature Prize from the Poetry Foundation, and the Maureen Egen Exchange Award from Poets & Writers. She has received fellowships to the Sewanee Writers' Conference (as a Walter E. Dakin Fellow), the Millay Colony, Virginia Center for Creative Arts, the Jentel Artist Residency, and Vermont Studio Center.

Beasley has given readings across the country. Recent venues have included Politics & Prose, Square Books, and Books & Books, as well as academic institutions such as the Georgia Poetry Circuit's nine colleges, Colorado State University-Pueblo, and Barnard College. She led workshops at the 2012 Nightsun Writer's Conference and the 2010 Cleveland State University Imagination Conference, and has been featured at the Boston Book Festival, Miami Book Fair International, Piccolo Spoleto, and the AJC-Decatur Book Festival.

Beasley lives in Washington, D.C. She coordinates events for the Arts Club of Washington, and teaches with the University of Tampa low-residency MFA program. She holds an MFA in creative writing from The American University, and a BA in English from the University of Virginia. Her nonfiction has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post Magazine*, *Oxford American*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. In 2011 Crown published her memoir, *Don't Kill the Birthday Girl: Tales From an Allergic Life*, a cultural history of food allergy.