

Herpreet Singh

635 Louisiana Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225) 343-0023
singh@sta-la.com

EDUCATION

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, San Marcos, Texas, 2011
Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 2005
Master of Landscape Architecture

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1998
BA, English

EXPERIENCE

Communications Director, Suzanne Turner Associates: Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2017-Present)
Research, write, and edit Cultural Landscape Reports and Inventories. Contribute conceptual and strategic visioning for planning and design work. Coordinate and manage external and internal communications.

Writer, Editor, Writing Coach: Austin, Texas and Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2000-Present)
Creative Manuscripts: Ghostwrite, co-write, and coach clients in the process of creating personal memoirs for business branding and development and family legacy archives. Conduct manuscript reviews, providing critical feedback and revision coaching. Advise and assist in pitching manuscripts to agents and publications.

Technical: Write and review grant applications, edit and write reports, RFPs, RFQs, policies and procedures manuals, and project summary pages.

Artistic and Journalistic: Fiction, personal essays, and feature stories focused on culture and geography.

Managing Editor, Front Porch Journal, Texas State University: San Marcos, Texas (2010-2011)
Received and appraised fiction, poetry, and nonfiction submissions. Created and oversaw publication schedule for four issues in one year. Collaborated with section editors and authors on content edits. Proofread final copy. Initiated and oversaw journal rebranding and website redesign. Recognized by *Huffington Post* book editor as one of fifteen outstanding web-based literary journals in the country during my appointment.

Community Planner, Center for Planning Excellence: Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2004-2007)
Co-wrote and managed a US EPA Smart Growth grant to fund regional master plans for regionally appropriate and environmentally sound housing, transportation, and economic development. Coordinated planning efforts in disinvested communities. Organized and facilitated stakeholder and public meetings and workshops. Projects included: Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan, Tangipahoa Parish Comprehensive Plan, Plan Baton Rouge, and Old South Baton Rouge Neighborhood and Economic Revitalization Strategy.

UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

- 2012-2014 Flag Petitions Advisor and Coordinator
School of Undergraduate Studies, University of Texas at Austin
- 2008-2010 English Composition Instructor and Instructor's Assistant
Department of English, Texas State University

PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE

- 2000-2001 Assistant Sales Manager
Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- 1998-1999 Publicity Assistant
Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, New York

SELECTED PROJECTS

Editor: Best Practices Manual for Development in Coastal Louisiana, Center for Planning Excellence, 2011.

Teaching Artist: Badgerdog Publishing, Austin, Texas, 2011

Research and Writing Contributor: New Orleans City Park, Cultural Landscape Report for State of Louisiana Office of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, Division of Historic Preservation, 2009.

Thesis: "Local Narratives: An Approach to Participatory Planning in Community Revitalization Projects."
Louisiana State University. 2005

Research and Oral History Interviewer: Developing a Framework for Nature-Based Tourism in the Lower Atchafalaya Basin: Interviews with nature-based business owners in the Lower Atchafalaya Basin. Louisiana Sea Grant, 2003.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Nonfiction

"Choking out the Natives." *The Bitter Southerner*: <http://bittersoutherner.com/folklore-project/choking-out-the-natives/>. Atlanta: 2015.

Fiction

"Shorn." *The Intentional Magazine*. Issue 4. New York: 2015.

"Fat Like I Am." *Her Mother's Ashes 3: Stories by South Asian Women in Canada and the United States*. Toronto: TSAR Publications. 2009.

AREAS OF INTEREST

I believe in the transformative power of well crafted, honest, and unflinching narratives, and for me, narratives and place—how each gives shape to the other—are inextricably intertwined.

In applying storytelling to landscape architecture—both research and design work—I am especially interested in how vernacular and immigrant landscapes form, evolve, and cross-pollinate with their adopted settings; exploring the convergence of history with modern innovations and aesthetics; and considering how, through design, to effortlessly reveal these complexities to people experiencing place. In community planning, my work has centered around utilizing individual narratives and collective community narratives to create culturally sensitive, environmentally sound, and socially equitable plans.

I gravitate to formal minimalist, sometimes industrial, and wild or untamed landscapes; I tend to see the poetry in what many deem unremarkable or even ugly. I'm also drawn to landscapes that convey strong juxtapositions between scales; the past and present; and the formal and informal. These leanings also come across in my fiction and nonfiction, which honor seemingly ordinary or even underwhelming people who are quietly extraordinary in the ways they face challenging events, changing times, and the gray areas that exist in their relationships to people and place. My work is character driven but largely explores the intersection between culture and geography, especially the Indo-American experience in the Deep South.