

## VITA

W. Scott Olsen  
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(brief)

### EMPLOYMENT:

Full Professor (English), Concordia College, Moorhead Minnesota, 2002-present  
Associate Professor (English), Concordia College, Moorhead Minnesota, 1993-2002  
Assistant Professor (English), Concordia College, Moorhead Minnesota, 1987-93  
Visiting Assistant Professor (English), Lander College (now University),  
Greenwood, South Carolina, 1985-1987

### EDUCATION:

MFA (English), University of Massachusetts—Amherst, 1985  
MA (English), University of Missouri—Columbia, 1982  
BA (English), University of Missouri—Columbia, 1979

### PUBLICATIONS—

### PHOTOGRAPHY:

#### Gallery Space—

“Scenes from a Moving Window” (12 images) solo exhibit, Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis,  
forthcoming 2023  
“A Memory of Steel” (12 images) solo exhibit at the Kaddatz Gallery, Fergus Falls,  
Minnesota, forthcoming 2022.  
“Notes toward the Soul of Water” solo exhibit at the Plains Art Museum,  
Fargo, North Dakota, 2022.  
Single image selected for the show “Words Words Words” at the Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis, 2022.  
Single image selected for the show “Portraits” at the LRAC Gallery, Fergus Falls, 2022.  
Single image selected for the show “The Shape of Things” at the Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis, 2021.  
“Scenes from A Moving Window” (5 images) selected for Photoville’s *The Fence*. 2020.  
“Difficult Doors” (10 images) selected for sites curated by The Arts Partnership  
(Fargo/Moorhead) 2020-2021.  
“Plains, Trains (and no automobiles)” (6 images) displayed in locations curated by The Arts  
Partnership (Fargo/Moorhead). 2020  
“When It Rains at Night” (10 images) selected for sites curated by The Arts Partnership  
(Fargo/Moorhead) 2019-20.

Single image selected for the show “After Dark” at the Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis, 2019.  
Single image selected for the show “Mono-Kromatik” at the Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis. 2019.

### **Online—**

“A Memory of Steel” (8 images) published at Frames magazine. March 2021  
“Difficult Doors” (10 images) published at aCurator magazine. March 2021  
I am the author of an occasional series of photographs and text called “Available Light: A Series on the Photography of Place” at Terrain.org.

“The Grace of the Bright” March 2021  
“Torch Whole Room” October 2020  
“On the Shortest Day” February 2018  
“Prairie Rocket” July 2017  
“Scenes from a Moving Train” May 2017  
“A Wish for Snow” January 2017  
“Metamorphosis” November 2016  
“Variations on the Idea of Resonant Space” August 2016  
“On Seeing New York” February 2016  
“Chasing Clouds” April 2014  
“Riving Flying in Winter” October 2011

I contribute book reviews, critical essays and photo features to LensCulture.com. Three of my photo features are:

“Peace at Sea” Feature at LensCulture.com, December 2017  
“Single Frame Narrative” Feature at LensCulture.com, July 2016  
“Making Tourist Photography Personal” Feature at LensCulture.com, April 2016

Photo+text essays published at *Kenyon Review Online*, as well as at *Lensculture.com*, *The Forum*, *Afar.com*, *Huffington Post*, *Terrain.org*, *Crazyhorse*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Ascent Magazine*, *Blood Orange*, *Flight Training Magazine*, *Flying Magazine*, *Plane & Pilot*, and others. (2000-2021)

Five images selected by editors of National Geographic magazine for “publication” at NatGeo.com/yourshot. (now discontinued website sponsored by National Geographic).

Photojournalism regularly published by Forum Communications group of newspapers (The Forum of Fargo/Moorhead, the Grand Forks Herald, etc.)

### **Print—**

Selections from “Scenes from a Moving Window” (5 images) in Frames Magazine. 2021.  
Cover image selected for Larry Watson’s book *Late Assignments*. 2019.  
Cover image for Ascent magazine (published three times each year). Spring 1998 to Winter 2009.

### **Other--**

Critic at Large for Frames Magazine. Multiple podcasts, essays, book reviews and images published.

## LITERARY:

### Books Authored;

*Scenes from a Moving Window*, [blog.cord.edu/movingwindow](http://blog.cord.edu/movingwindow)  
*A Moment with Strangers*, North Dakota State University Press, 2016  
*Prairie Sky*, University of Missouri Press, 2013  
*Never Land—Adventures, Wonder and One World Record in a Very Small Plane*, University of Nebraska Press, 2010.  
*Hard Air*, University of Nebraska Press, 2007.  
*At Speed: Notes from the Long Line Between Two Points*, University of Nebraska Press, 2006.  
*Gravity—The Allure of Distance*, University of Utah Press, 2003.  
*When We Say We're Home*, (co-authored with Dawn Marano, Doug Carlson and Wendy Bishop) University of Utah Press, 1999.  
*Acts of Illumination*, St. Mary's University Press, 1996  
*Pointed Home: A Cross Country Essay*, Pecan Grove Press, 1994  
*Meeting The Neighbors*, North Star Press, 1993  
*Just This Side of Fargo*, Ironwood Press, 1992

### Books Edited;

*A Year in Place* (co-edited with Bret Lott), University of Utah Press, 2001.  
*The Sacred Place*, (co-edited with Scott Cairns), University of Utah Press, 1996  
*The Best of Writers At Work 1995*, Pecan Grove Press, 1995.  
*The Best of Northlight 1990*, Northlight Publishing Project, 1990  
*The Best of Northlight 1989*, Northlight Publishing Project, 1989  
*The Best of Northlight 1988*, Northlight Publishing Project, 1988

### Journals Edited;

*Ascent*, editor-in-chief, vol. 21, no. 1 (Fall 1996) to present  
*The American Literary Review*, Special Issue—Old Friends, New Neighbors: A Celebration of the American Essay, vol. 5.2

## Individual images, essays, articles, stories published in:

### Literary—

*Afar.com*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Albany Review*, , *Ascent*, *Amarillo Bay*, *AWP Chronicle*, *Beacon Review*, *Biostories*, *Blood Orange*, *Crazyhorse*, *Del Sol Review*, *Frames Magazine*, *Huffington Post*, *Kansas Quarterly*, *Kenyon Review*, *Kenyon Review OnLine*, *KinshipofRivers.org*, *Lake Effect*, *LensCulture.com*, *Mid-American Review*, *Midlands*, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *Minnesota English Journal*, *Minnesota Literature*, *Modern Short Stories*, *Nimrod*, *North American Review*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Northwest Review*, *Pottersfield Portfolio (Canada)*, *Red River Journal*, *River Teeth*, *Saint Katherine Review*, *South Dakota Review*, *Tampa Review*, *Terrain.org*, *Third Coast*, *The Tyee (Canada)*, *Utne Reader*, *Weber Studies*, *Willow Springs* , and many others.

Commercial—

*Air & Space, Air Facts, AOPA Flight Training, AOPA Pilot, Aviation Maintenance, Aviation Quarterly, Avionics News, aweekinfire.areavoices.com, Flying Magazine, The Forum (newspaper), Huffington Post, LensCulture, Plane & Pilot, Outside GO, Minneapolis Star/Tribune (newspaper), Wildfiretoday.com* and others.

## **GRANTS:**

Lake Region Arts Council Legacy Grant, 2022  
Concordia College Humanities and Social Sciences Summer Research Grant, 2022  
Lake Region Arts Council Quick Start Grant, 2021  
Concordia College Humanities and Social Sciences Summer Research Grant, 2019  
Lake Region Arts Council Fellowship, 2015  
Lake Region Arts Council Quick Start Grant, 2012  
Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant, 2010  
Lake Region Arts Council Fellowship, 2005  
Lake Region Arts Council Artist Small Grant 2005  
Concordia College Centennial Scholars Grant, 2004  
Lake Region Arts Council Artist Small Grant, 2004  
Jerome Foundation Travel/Study, 2002  
Jerome Foundation Travel/Study, 2000

## **HONORS:**

Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2021*  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2018*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2017*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2013*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2011*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2010*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2008*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2004*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 2003*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 1998*.  
Listed among the Notable Essays in *Best American Essays 1997*.  
Honorable Mention, National Outdoor Book Awards 1997.

## **PAPERS/LECTURES/READINGS:**

University of Nebraska, Montana State University—Billings, Central Washington University, Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, Eastern Washington University, Montana Festival of the Book, Writers At Work Conference, Casper College Writers Conference, Associated Writing Programs (AWP) Conference, Upper Midwest Booksellers Association Conference, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers, Nobel Peace Prize Forum, Washington State University, University of Idaho, Lewis & Clark College,

Jamestown College, Dickinson State University, University of Wisconsin—Whitewater, Concordia College, University of Massachusetts—Amherst, Computers and Writing Conference, Instructional Computing Conference Small College Computing Symposium, Charleston Writers Conference, Bread Loaf Writers Conference, Conference on College Composition and Communication, American Culture Conference, and others.

## **SYNDICATION:**

Work written for either The Forum of Fargo/Moorhead or the Minneapolis Star Tribune syndicated at:

The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead, HuffPost, Star Tribune, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Arizona Daily Star, Madison.com, Los Angeles Review of Books, Tulsa World, Buffalo News, Duluth News Tribune, Missoulian, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Literary Hub, Lincoln Journal Star, The Press of Atlantic City, WFMZ-TV (Allentown, PA), Winston-Salem Journal, Arizona Daily Sun, Waco Tribune-Herald, WDAY-TV (Fargo, ND), Aopa Pilot, Bryan-College Station Eagle, The Daily Progress, WDAZ-TV (Grand Forks, ND), West Central Tribune, Grand Island Independent, Pantagraph, Quad-City Times, The Free Lance-Star, Grand Forks Herald, The Bismarck Tribune, Utne Reader, Dothan Eagle, Herald & Review, Dickinson Press, The Chippewa Herald, The Lima News, Bemidji Pioneer, Brainerd Dispatch, Star-Herald, Independent Tribune, Jamestown Sun, Journal Gazette & Times-Courier, York News-Times, Morganton News Herald, Detroit Lakes Tribune, Beatrice Daily Sun, West Fargo Pioneer, Echo Press, Terrain, McDowell News, SWVA Today, Park Rapids Enterprise, Lexington Clipper-Herald, Wadena Pioneer Journal, The Derrick, Perham Focus, Denison Bulletin & Review, Clarinda Herald-Journal, FujiLove - All Things Fujifilm. A Podcast for Fuji X and GFX Users, and elsewhere.