

Curriculum Vitae

Uwem Akpan

Website: uwemakpan.com

Recent Publications (Book)

Say You're One of Them (Little, Brown, 2008)

(Short Stories)

"Baptizing the Gun," *The New Yorker*, January 2010

"My Parents' Bedroom," *The New Yorker* (special edition) June 2006

"An Ex-Mas Feast," *The New Yorker* (special edition) June 2005

(Short Autobiographical Pieces)

"Spain '82: My First World Cup," July 2014

"Let Everything Happen to You," *O, The Oprah Magazine*, Nov 2009

"Communion," *The New Yorker*, June 2008

"Chokra Love," *O, The Oprah Magazine*, Oct 2008

Awards & Nominations

2009 Oprah Book Club Selection

Winner of the 2009 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award

Winner of 2009 PEN/Beyond Margins Award

Winner of the 2009 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book, Africa Region

Finalist for the 2009 Los Angeles Times Seidenbaum Award for First Fiction

Finalist for the 2009 Dayton Literary Peace Prize in the Fiction Category

Nominated for the 2008 (UK) Guardian First Book Award

Longlisted for the 2008 Story Prize

Nominated for the 2007 Caine Prize for African Writing

"Best of 2008"

(Say You're One of Them was listed among the "Best of 2008" by)

San Francisco Chronicle

Kirkus Reviews

The Christian Science Monitor

The Wall Street Journal

People

Entertainment Weekly (named "#1 Fiction Book of the Year")

Bloomberg News

The Washington Post Book World

NPR's Fresh Air

Best of the Decade

Say You're One of Them is number 27 on Entertainment Weekly's "Best of the Decade" list

Fellowships

- 2017 Teilhard de Chardin SJ Fellow in Catholic Studies, Loyola University Chicago, USA
- 2013-2014 Cullman Fellow of the New York Public Library, New York, USA
- 2012 Recipient of The Iphigene Ochs Sulzberger Residency at Yaddo, USA
- 2011-2012 Norman Freehling Visiting Professor, Humanities Institute, the University of Michigan, USA
- 2010-2011 Tom & Mary Gallagher Fellow, Black Mountain Institute, UNLV, USA
- 2006 Career-in-the-Making Fellow, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA

Education & Experience

- 2018- Assistant Professor, MFA Program, the University of Florida Gainesville, USA
- 2017 Teilhard de Chardin SJ Fellow in Catholic Studies, Loyola University Chicago, USA
- 2016 Teacher of Fiction, Southern New Hampshire University, the low residency program, USA
- 2013-2014 Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library, New York, USA
- 2011-2012 Fellow and Teacher of Fiction at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA
- 2007-2008 Teacher of Writing, Arrupe College of Philosophy & Letters, Harare, Zimbabwe
- Sept-Dec 2006 Career-in-the-Making Fellowship, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA
- 2004-2006 MFA in Creative Writing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA
- 2003-2004 English Teacher and Vice Principal for University Admissions, Loyola Jesuit College, Abuja, Nigeria
- 2000-2003 Student of Theology at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya
 - English Teacher to street kids in Dodoma, Tanzania
 - French immersion, Cotonou, the Republic of Benin

- 1997-2000 English Teacher, Loyola Jesuit College, Abuja & St Francis Sec. Sch., Lagos, Nigeria; Intern, Justice, Development & Peace Commission, National Catholic Secretariat, Lagos, Nigeria
- 1993-97 Creighton University, Nebraska/Gonzaga University, Washington
- First African president, Creighton Univ. International Student Ass (1994-95)
- DJ of Classical Music, Gonzaga Radio, KAGU 88.7 FM (Spring 2007)
- 1991 Apostolic Work (two months), Ossiomo Leper Colony, Edo State, Nigeria
- 1990 Personal Assistant to Bishop Etokudo, then Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Ikot Ekpene, Nigeria
- 1990 Pioneer Teacher, Saint Joseph's Catholic Nursery School, Okon, Nigeria
- 1989 Pioneer Teacher, Community Secondary School, Urua Obo, Ikot Atasung/Ikot Obong Otoro, Nigeria
- 1983-88 Queen of Apostles Minor Seminary, Afaha Obong, Nigeria (high school)

Languages

Annang, English and a little French

Hobbies

I used to play the banjo. I watch lots of soccer. I love long road trips. In my writing, I hope to capture the hopes and anxieties of folks on the margins of society.