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# Mark Alan Wiersma

[ventriloquorum.com/](http://ventriloquorum.com/)

[mwiersm@gmail.com](mailto:mwiersm@gmail.com)

Tel: (760) 421-7276

## UNIVERSITY EDUCATION\_

- 2016: PhD in Literary Theory and Comparative Literature from the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.
- 1994-1998: BA in Political Science. University of California, Santa Barbara.

## MUSIC CERTIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION\_

- 2020 ABRSM Certified. Piano and theory, grade 7.
- 2018: Classical piano with [María José Cerviño](#).
- 2016-18: Recording techniques and DAWs with [Iván Salgado](#).
- 2010-2012, 2016-2017: Modern harmony, arrangement and improvisation with Suso Atánes at [Estudio Centro Profesional de Música Moderna](#).
- 2008-2012: Studies piano, organ, and voice at the Escola de Música Berenguela with Marcos Cerviño, Ramón Vazquez and Guadi Galego.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE\_

- 2017-present – Coordination and implementation of curriculum of an innovative language-learning project. [Espazo Abalar](#). Xunta de Galicia.
- 2016-present – Development of the class *Songwriting* at the [Estudio Centro Profesional de Música Moderna](#), Santiago de Compostela, devoted to the entire songcrafting process.
- 2014-present – Creation, composition, production and distribution of the series of children's musical audiobooks [Sira and the robot](#) with the dual purpose of teaching English and garnering prestige for the Galician language among children ages 8 and up. Illustrations by Iván Sende.
- 2014-present – Gigging and musical theatre with a variety of groups.
- 2014-present – English teacher in Teo, A Coruña and Meaño, Pontevedra. Xunta de Galicia/Spanish Ministry of Education.

- 2012-present – Escola de Música Berenguela, Santiago de Compostela: design and development of [Singing in English](#) and *Composing in English* and electric guitar classes.
- 2012–2012 – Centro Británico, Santiago de Compostela. English teacher.
- 2010–2011 – Modern Language Center, University of Santiago de Compostela. English teacher. English classes geared towards Galician Television and Radio.
- 2007–2009 – Department of Theory of Literature and Comparative Literature, University of Santiago de Compostela. Translation and correction.
- 2006-present – Translation and correction of academic articles and literary texts of varied linguistic origins (Galician, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, French, German, and Italian). Editing and translation of academic volumes.
- Member (2008-2016) of Estaleiro Editora, an independent non-profit publisher of poetry, drama, essay, narrative and translated texts.

#### PUBLICATIONS\_

- [DRAGA](#) with Claudio Pato, 2018. Spoken work embedded in music soundscapes to accompany the book.
- *Sira e o Robot: Trial by Fire*. 2019. ISBN 978-8409-07351-1
- *Sira e o Robot: Crazy Times on Planet Earth*. 2017. ISBN 978-84-697-5664-5
- *Sira e o Robot: Adventures on Titan*. 2015. ISBN 978-84-9914-834-2

#### TRANSLATIONS\_

- *Awe*. Audiobook by Fantoches Baj with the poetry of Uxío Novoneyra. Libros de Ventro, 2016. ISBN:978-84-941161-0-0
- *Advaita*. Iván Sendé. Non-Duality Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-908664-54-9
- Academic and professional translations of all types.

#### PARTICIPATION IN LITERARY PROJECTS\_

- *A Comparative History of Literatures in the Iberian Peninsula*  
Area for Literary Theory and Comparative Literature. Universidade de Santiago de Compostela. 2007-2008. (Fernando Cabo Aseguinolaza, Principal Investigator)
- *Non-lyric discourse in contemporary poetry: spaces, subjects, hybridization, mediality*  
Area for Literary Theory and Comparative Literature. Universidade de Santiago de Compostela. 2009-2015. (Arturo Casas Vales, Principal Investigator)
- Presentations at academic conferences in Lisbon, Wroclaw, and Santiago de Compostela.

#### LANGUAGES (in order of fluency)\_

- English (native), Galician ([CELGA 4](#)), Spanish ([DELE C2](#)), Portuguese, French, Catalan, German & Italian