

# TARA FITZGERALD

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## **EDUCATION**

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**Columbia University, School of the Arts**, New York, NY Expected 2012

MFA Candidate in Creative Nonfiction and Literary Translation

- Nonfiction Editor of *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art*
- Hertog Research Fellow 2011
- ALTA Fellow in Literary Translation 2011

**École Normale Supérieure**, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France 1995-1996

Awarded postgraduate exchange fellowship to study in Paris.

**Balliol College, Oxford University**, Oxford, UK June 1995

Bachelor of Arts, English Language and Literature; with Honors

## **FREELANCE EXPERIENCE**

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**Freelance writer**, Mexico City, Mexico

Covered travel, lifestyle and culture (2006-2010)

Published travel articles on Mexico and elsewhere, covered film festivals, reviewed hotels and restaurants, profiled writers, film directors and art collectors.

Client publications included:

- Monocle (UK)
- Wallpaper (UK)
- Esquire Latin America
- New York Times travel section
- Food & Wine magazine
- Departures magazine

## **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Business Mexico**, Mexico City, Mexico

Magazine Editor (May-July 2005)

- Planned monthly coverage and assignments
- Recruited and managed freelance team
- Compiled and wrote monthly news briefs; occasionally wrote cover articles

Associate Editor (July 2004-May 2005)

- Assisted the editor in planning coverage and editing freelance copy
- Wrote monthly 500-word culture and restaurant review columns

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS EXPERIENCE**

**Raleigh International**, Costa Rica and Nicaragua

Volunteer PR officer (Sept-Dec 2003)

- Generated local and international press coverage about this youth development charity's community and environmental projects in the region
- Led organization of a major corporate fundraising event for 200 people at the British embassy in Managua

## **REPORTING EXPERIENCE**

**Reuters News Agency**

General news correspondent, Moscow, Russia (Oct 2000-Nov 2002)

- Special reporting focus on Chechnya and related refugee problem
- Coordinated reporting from Uzbekistan during the Afghan war
- Managed sports file and network of freelancers
- Reported major breaking news, including the 2002 Moscow theatre siege

Gulf Arab business news correspondent, Dubai, UAE (Jan 1999-Oct 2000)

- Macroeconomic reporting on region's biggest economy – Saudi Arabia
- Interviewed regional government ministers and business leaders
- Wrote feature series on women in Islamic society
- Headed coverage of major air crash in Bahrain

Second-year graduate trainee, Frankfurt and Bonn, Germany (Oct 1997-Dec 1998)

- Launched Frankfurt reporting on newly floated companies
- Worked with team covering the German election

Graduate trainee, London, UK (Sept 1996-Oct 1997)

- One of five graduates selected for highly competitive training scheme

## **SPECIAL SKILLS**

- Languages: Fluent in Spanish and French, intermediate German and Russian, basic Arabic and Portuguese
- Completed Hostile Environments training course for reporters
- Competed in crew for Oxford and internationally. Won against a top-class international field at Henley Royal Regatta
- Ran two marathons in the World Majors series