

Career Simic began to make a name for himself in the early to mid-1970s as a literary minimalist, writing terse, imagistic poems.[4] Critics have referred to Simic's poems as "tightly constructed Chinese puzzle boxes". He himself stated: "Words make love on the page like flies in the summer heat and the poet is merely the bemused spectator." [5] He was a professor of American literature and creative writing at University of New Hampshire beginning in 1973 [6][7] and lived in Strafford, New Hampshire. [8] Simic wrote on such diverse topics as jazz, art, and philosophy. [9] He was influenced by Emily Dickinson, Pablo Neruda, and Fats Waller. [10] He was a translator, essayist, and philosopher, opining on the current state of contemporary American poetry. He received the US\$100,000 Wallace Stevens Award in 2007 from the Academy of American Poets. [12] Simic was selected by James Billington, Librarian of Congress, to be the fifteenth Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress, succeeding Donald Hall.