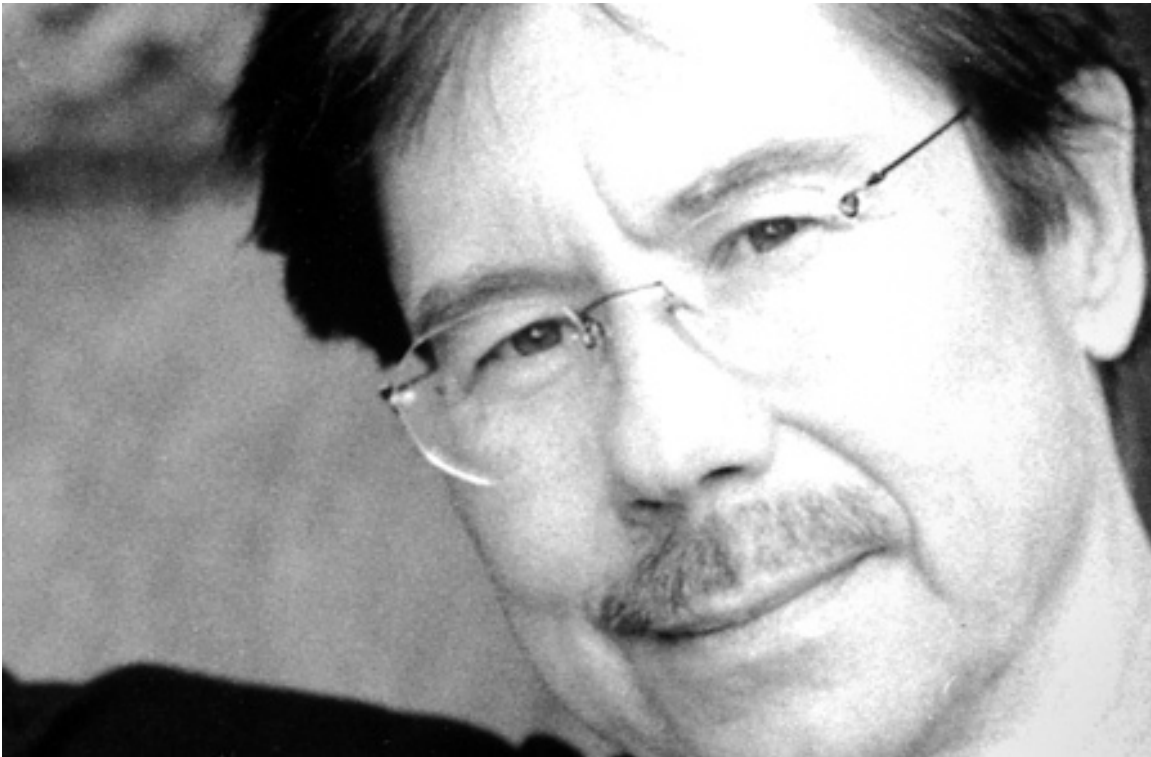


# Stuart Dybek



Stuart Dybek is a masterful short story writer as well as poet. The qualities that distinguish his fiction—a strong connection to place, particularly his native Chicago, childhood nostalgia tinged with irony, a meandering narrative pace, and an ability to find beauty amid urban blight—also characterize much of his poetry. Few writers have captured street life as movingly as Dybek. The son of a Polish immigrant, he has published two critically acclaimed books of short stories, *The Coast of Chicago* and *Childhood and Other Neighborhoods*, as well as a collection of linked stories: *I Sailed with Magellan*. He teaches at Western Michigan University and lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan.