

CONTRIBUTORS  
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AUTHORS

**ALINA CLEJU** is a Ph.D. candidate in American and Canadian Studies at the University of Constance, Germany. Her doctoral thesis is entitled “Negotiating the Artist: A Study of North American Artist Stories.” She also holds an M.A. in American Studies and a B.A. in French and English language and literature. She benefited from a three-month research visit to McMaster University, Canada, and has presented her research at several international conferences. Her research interests include cultural studies, gender, short fiction, and American and Canadian studies.

**ANDREEA RALUCA TOPOR CONSTANTIN** is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Bucharest, Romania, and between October 2009 and May 2010 she was a visiting research academic at the University of Birmingham.

Her interest in Canadian literature emerged during the M.A. programme in British Cultural Studies. In 2008, she published her article, “The Sense of National Canadian Identity in Margaret Atwood and Hugh MacLennan’s Works,” and she has several articles currently in press. She continues to write and present papers on Canadian literature at academic events. Her research interests include Canadian women’s writing, Canadian identity and gender, race, ethnicity and class-related issues in Margaret Laurence’s works.

She teaches English for Specific Purposes at the Romanian-American University and co-authors course books (including *Management and Marketing Communication. Practice File*; *The 2Ms: English for Management and Marketing; Focus on Business: Introductory Course in Business English and Communication*; *English for Law School Students*). She is particularly interested in business English, communication skills and teaching English to adult learners.

**ANNA GOTTSCHALL** is writing up her Ph.D. in Medieval English Literature at the University of Birmingham. Her research is centred on the use of the Pater Noster as a vehicle for religious teaching in medieval England. She also holds a B.A. in Ancient History, Archaeology and English, and an M.Phil. in Medieval Studies from the University of Birmingham. Her broader interests include material culture, pilgrimage, medieval textual traditions, and manuscript circulation and readership.

She has published various articles, notes and book reviews to date in postgraduate journals and has presented her research at conferences in England and Northern Ireland. She is an Editorial Board member of the *BJLL* and a Specialist Editor for the online postgraduate journal of archaeology and antiquity *Rosetta*. She also contributed to the AHRC-funded Vernon Manuscript Project.

**WANG FANG** has completed an M.Phil. in Corpus Linguistics at the University of Birmingham, and both an M.A. in Applied Linguistics and a B.A. in English Language and Literature from Henan Normal University (Xinxiang, China). She is currently a Ph.D. student in the English Department at the University of Birmingham. Her research interests include corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis. She has previously published in the *BJLL*, *The Journal of Hongbe University*, *The Journal of Xinxiang Teachers' University*, *The Journal of Tianzhong* and in *The Journal of Normal University of Inner Mongolia*.

**CORY HAZLEHURST** was educated at Saddleworth Secondary School, Oldham and Greenhead College, Huddersfield. He read Medieval and Modern History at the University of Birmingham from September 2005 until July 2008. After that, he began a master's thesis under the supervision of Dr Simon Yarrow, also at Birmingham, on the tenth-century monastic reform in England. This thesis examines miracle narratives for evidence of different oral cultures and community identity. He has presented his work at the Hilton Shepherd Annual Symposium and at the CeSMA forum, and is contemplating a career move into primary teaching.

**ALEXIS A. HEIT** is an M.Phil./Ph.D. candidate in the School of Education at the University of Birmingham. She has completed an M.Phil. degree in English Literature at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor's degree in English from the Pennsylvania State University in the United States. She is currently researching for her dissertation entitled "Children's Literature and the Influences of Classical Literature." Her research interests are in connections between the medieval and Renaissance literary periods and recent associations with twentieth-century literature. Her previous publication is a book review of children's literature history by Gaby Thomson-Wohlgemuth, *Translation under State Control: Books for Young People in the German Democratic Republic* in the *Birmingham Journal of Literature and Language*, II (2009).

**JOHN HUDSON** has a B.A. in Sociology, an M.Sc. in Management, and an M.A. in Shakespeare and Theatre. He is interested in Shakespeare's thought processes, especially the use of visual metaphor and inter-textuality. He is working on the applications of Shakespeare for improving creativity, self-reflection and critical thinking in management teams, with special reference to the dramaturgy of framing. His previous publications include a review of a women only production of *The Taming of the Shrew* in *SHAKESPEARE*, 2: 2 (December 2006), and an article, "Amelia Bassano Lanier; A New Paradigm," in *The Oxfordian*, 11 (October 2009).

**HEATHER JEFFERY** has recently been awarded her M.Phil. (B) in Playwriting for her thesis play, *A Dance for Leningrad*. Her note, *A British Theatre Conference: Altogether Now? British Theatre after Multiculturalism*, was published in Volume II of *BJLL*. Heather trained as a ballet dancer at Bush Davies School and the Royal Academy of Ballet. She was a ballet teacher and choreographer for twenty-two years. After completing a B.A. (Hons) in English Literature at Warwick University, Heather wrote and directed two

dance dramas with dialogue which were produced at the Bridge House Theatre in Warwick.

**LISA KRANZER** is currently completing an M.Phil. thesis on “The Influence of Reformation Pamphlets printed on the continent during the Reign of Henry VIII” in the Department of English at the University of Birmingham, where she also received her B.A. in Medieval English and History in 2009. The main focus of her research is the interaction of literary techniques and political expression as vehicles for cultural transition and social upheaval. She also co-founded and currently organises the EMREM Postgraduate Forum, which aims to bring together students from across the College of Arts and Law, in order to discuss and share their research interests.

**KATIE LOWE** is currently studying on the M.Phil. (B) Literature and Modernity course at the University of Birmingham. Her research interests include the literary and personal relationship between Djuna Barnes and T.S. Eliot, and the late modernism of James Joyce and Virginia Woolf.

**TIM O’MARA** is currently writing up his M.Phil. thesis in Medieval English Literature at the University of Birmingham. His thesis centres on a fourteenth-century religious text, little known in itself, but with interesting and important literary and manuscript connections.

This field of study revives interests first aroused in the B.A. Honours English course at King’s College, London between 1960 and 1963. After twenty-five years as a primary school teacher, he completed a part-time M.Sc. in Information Technology at Wolverhampton University, taught IT for two years at the University of Luton, and then worked as an information analyst for the Sandwell MBC Social Services Department. He now has the good fortune to be retired.

**MARIKO NEGASE** completed her B.A. and M.A. at Kyushu University, Japan. When she began research for her M.A. thesis, as an exchange student she was given the opportunity of working on bibliographical and textual studies of *King Lear* at the Shakespeare Institute. She is currently a Ph.D. student at the Shakespeare Institute. Her research aims to explore the formation process of play editing in seventeenth-century England. Since 2007, her research has been funded by the Yoshida Scholarship Foundation in Japan, ORSAS and the School of English, Drama, and American & Canadian Studies at the University of Birmingham.

**EMILY ROZIER** holds a B.A. in English Literature and Philosophy and an M.Phil. in Medieval Studies, both from the University of Birmingham. She is now in her second year of a Ph.D. in the English Department, under the supervision of Professor Wendy Scase. Her current research interests include late-medieval representations of and reactions to youth, and decoding the use of sartorial symbolism in political satires of the period. Her Ph.D. thesis investigates the Gallant tradition in England and aims to trace the figure’s origins and to ascertain whether it can be said to evolve in reaction to contemporary socio-political concerns.

**SHIH PEI CHUN** is a Ph.D. candidate in the English Department at the University of Birmingham. She also completed her M.A. in Translation Studies at the University of Birmingham in 2004 and her B.A. in Foreign Languages and Literatures (Minor in Japanese Language and Literature) at the National Taiwan University (Taipei, Taiwan) in 2001. She is currently researching for her dissertation, entitled “Cross-linguistic Transference of Politeness Phenomena: Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Cantonese.”

**WILL SMITH** is currently working on a Canadian Literature Ph.D. at the University of Nottingham. His thesis examines contemporary literary narratives of Toronto, addressing the work of Michael Redhill, Dionne Brand, Stephen Marche and Maggie Helwig. Recently, he has contributed to *Canada Exposed/Le Canada à découvert* (Peter Lang, 2009), edited by Pierre Anctil, André Loiselle and Chris Rolfe. Other research interests include Canadian film, contemporary British fiction, and poetry.

**EMMA SOUTHON** completed her B.A. and M.Phil. in the Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity at the University of Birmingham and is currently researching her Ph.D. on ideas and images of the family in Late Antiquity and Early Medieval Western Europe. Her research interests include gender and the family in Late Antiquity, the development of Christian doctrine and the construction of ‘bad’ emperors, in particular the emperor Caligula.

**PAUL TAYLOR**, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, has studied at the Universities of Wolverhampton, Aberystwyth and Birmingham between 1992 and 2010, with a focus on modernism, twentieth-century literary theory and contemporary theatre studies. He is currently working on a Ph.D. in formalist approaches to reading a range of dystopian literatures, with a particular focus on the recently published works of Margaret Atwood, Kazuo Ishiguro and Cormac McCarthy. He recently began writing fiction of his own and is currently working on a trilogy of novels which he is hoping to publish upon completion. His short fiction has been published in *Aesthetica* magazine.

**MARY WARD** originally completed a B.A. in English at the University of East Anglia in the 1960s. Following a long break she returned to academic life and studied for a B.A. in Medieval English and History at the University of Birmingham. This was succeeded by an M.Phil., also at Birmingham, which examined the lexis of trees in the Old English poetic corpus. She is currently in the early stages of research for a Ph.D. in the landscapes of Old English poetry. Her research interests include the manuscripts of the early-medieval period as well as the texts that appear in them.

**CLARE WATERS** is a second-year Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Italian Studies at the University of Birmingham. She holds an M.A. in Italian Studies from the Universities of Birmingham and Warwick, and a first-class B.A. in Combined Languages from the University of Hull. Her doctoral thesis focuses on the form, function and reception of Italian satire during the Berlusconi era. Her book chapter on the comedian Sabina Guzzanti will be published in the forthcoming volume *Confronting Power with*

*Laughter* (ed. V. Tsakona & D. Popa). She was chair of the Graduate Centre for Europe for the 2009-10 academic year and currently serves as vice-chair.

#### ARTIST

**MIKE RUSH** studied at the University of Birmingham for both a B.A. in History and an M.Phil. in Medieval History. He is now working on a Ph.D. in “Cultural Transition and the Origins of the Kingdom of the East Angles,” and is interested in issues surrounding material and linguistic culture in post-Roman Britain and early Anglo-Saxon England. He has an article forthcoming in the *Bulletin of International Medieval Research*.

#### GENERAL EDITORS

**CRISTINA IVANOVICI** is a final-year Ph.D. candidate at the American & Canadian Studies Department, the University of Birmingham. She completed both a B.A. in English Literature and Language and an M.A. in American Studies at “Babeş-Bolyai” University (Cluj-Napoca, Romania), and holds an M.A. in Gender Studies from Central European University (Budapest, Hungary). Her doctoral research explores the response of academic and literary communities of readers to Margaret Atwood’s dystopian fiction in Germany and Romania, with a particular focus on the reception of a series of translations of Atwood’s novels, publication strategies, and cultural policies in Eastern Europe.

She has presented her research at conferences in the UK and Canada, and has been involved in organising conferences in book history and on the study of the narrative at the University of Birmingham. In 2010, her article, “A Courageous Project: Publishing Margaret Atwood’s Work in Romania between 1978 and 1995,” was published in *A View From Afar: Canadian Studies in a European Context*, a European Network for Canadian Studies publication.

**SARAH MACMILLAN** recently submitted her Ph.D. in Medieval English Literature at the University of Birmingham. Her research focuses on the role of asceticism in late-medieval mystical and devotional writing, with particular emphasis on monastic reading practices. She also holds a B.A. and an M.Phil., both in Medieval Studies, again from the University of Birmingham. She is currently preparing two pieces on devotional culture and practice for publication.

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