

Contributors

Mario AQUILINA is Lecturer in English within the Department of English at the University of Malta, where he coordinates the MA in English. His teaching profile includes Applied Theory, Comparative Literature, Style and Rhetoric, Style in the Media and Electronic Literature. He has published peer-reviewed articles on Derrida, Shakespeare and Blanchot, and his first monograph, *The Event of Style in Literature*, is being published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2014.

Ivan CALLUS is Associate Professor at the Department of English in the University of Malta, where he teaches courses in contemporary fiction and literary theory. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on twentieth-century narrative, posthumanism, poststructuralism, and comparative literature. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in journals like *Angelaki*, *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, *Subjectivity*, *EJES*, *Comparative Critical Studies*, *Merope*, *Arcadia*, *Parallax* and *Word and Text*. He has also co-edited a number of volumes, the most recent of which are *Posthumanist Shakespeares* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012) and *Style in Theory: Between Literature and Philosophy* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2013). He is currently completing monographs on posthumanism and electronic literature.

Thomas DAVIDSON gained his first-class BA Honours in American Studies from the University of East Anglia and received a commendation for academic excellence after a year studying abroad at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He has since completed an MSc in Political Sociology with distinction from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Sociology at Cornell University, funded by a Sage Fellowship. His research focuses on the effects of digital technologies on contemporary political activism, and draws upon disciplines including political sociology, science and technology studies, and network theory.

Arleen IONESCU is Professor of English Literature and Critical Theory at University of Ploiești, Romania and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Sciences. She has published widely on Joyce and other related aspects of modernism, as well as on Beckett, Chaucer and Shakespeare. She is the author of *Concordanțe româno-britanice* (2004), *A History of English Literature: The Middle Ages and the Renaissance* (2008, part of it revised for *A Short History of English Literature: The Middle Ages and the Renaissance*, 2012), and *Romanian Joyce: From Hostility to Hospitality* (Peter Lang, 2014).

Julia JORDAN is Lecturer in post-1945 English literature at University College London. Her first monograph was *Chance and the Modern British Novel: From Henry Green to Iris Murdoch* (Continuum, 2010), and she has co-edited (with Jonathan Coe and Philip Tew) a recent anthology of B. S. Johnson's writing called *Well Done God!* (Picador, 2013) as well as a forthcoming collection of essays on his work (Palgrave,

2014). She has also published essays in a variety of collections and in journals – including *Textual Practice*, *Modern Language Review* and *Critique* – on various aspects of post-war literature, and about writers including Thomas Pynchon and Samuel Beckett. She is currently writing a book about the accidental in post-1945 literature.

Patrick KELLER is a Humanities Research Associate at the University of California, Irvine. He received his PhD. from UCI for a dissertation entitled “Subversively Personal: Surfiction as Communication in Vietnam War-era America”, which was based on archival research conducted at the UT Austin's Harry Ransom Center. He currently teaches at Orange Coast College.

Brian MACASKILL, a South African native, is currently Associate Professor of English at John Carroll University in Ohio, where he offers seminars in literary theory and contemporary Anglophone literatures. Imbricated companion-essays to his *Word and Text* offering in this issue have most recently appeared in *Narrative*, *Matatu*, *Reconstruction*, and *Postmedieval*; others are forthcoming this year from *Media Tropes*, *Studies in Visual Arts and Communications*, and elsewhere. The next instalment of “Fugal Musemathematics” (“Track One, Point Two”) will appear in the next issue of *Word and Text*.

Aleksandra MALECKA is a graduate student in the Department of Applied Linguistics and the American Studies Center at Warsaw University, translator, and editor at *Ha!art*, one of Poland's leading magazines devoted to contemporary culture. Her focus is on experimental literature, including both modernist works and contemporary digital pieces. Her research interests combine digital media studies and research on experimental writing techniques with translation theory.

Piotr MARECKI is Assistant Professor in the Department of Contemporary Culture at the Institute of Culture at the Jagiellonian University, Krakow, and lecturer at the Polish National Film, Television and Theatre School (PWSFTviT) in Łódź. He holds a PhD in cultural studies from the Jagiellonian University. He has been a visiting fellow at universities and cultural centres in Europe and the United States, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Bucharest (Romania), and the Institute of Arts (Czech Republic). He is the co-founder and chairman of the board at the Korporacja Ha!art foundation and publishing house. He serves as editor-in-chief of the magazine *Ha!art* since 1999. His interests include Polish literature after 1989, independent culture, new media literature, experimental writing, cultural margins, film adaptations, and screenwriting.

María Jesús MARTÍNEZ-ALFARO is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English and German Philology of the University of Zaragoza (Spain). She is currently one of the members of a research team working on trauma, memory, and the rhetoric and politics of suffering in contemporary literature [<http://cne.literatureresearch.net/>]. Her research focuses on contemporary narrative in English and, more specifically, on such issues as metafiction, parody, intertextuality, detective fiction, and, more recently, ethics, trauma, and memory, with a special interest in the field of Holocaust literature and Holocaust trauma. She has published on Martin Amis, John Fowles, Peter Ackroyd, A. S. Byatt, Barry Unsworth, Charles Palliser, Art Spiegelman, Jane Yolen, Cynthia

Ozick, and Rachel Seiffert, among others, in volumes of collected essays and in journals such as *Twentieth-Century Literature*, *Symbolism*, *Journal of the Short Story in English (JSSE)*/*Les Cahiers de la Nouvelle*, *JNT. Journal of Narrative Theory*, *Critical Engagements*, etc.

Laurent MILESI is Chair of the Centre for Critical and Cultural Theory at Cardiff University, where he also teaches 20th-Century English/American Literature, and a member of the ITEM-CNRS Research Group on James Joyce's manuscripts in Paris. He has written numerous essays on Joyce and related aspects of modernism, 19th- and 20th-century (American) poetry, postmodernism and poststructuralism, with a particular emphasis on Jacques Derrida and H  l  ne Cixous. His edited collection, *James Joyce and the Difference of Language*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2003 (digitally reprinted in 2007), and his annotated translation (together with Stefan Herbrecter) of Jacques Derrida's *H. C. pour la vie, c'est    dire...* came out with Stanford University Press in 2006. His annotated translations of Cixous's study of Beckett, *Le Voisin de z  ro*, as well as of *Philippines* have both been published by Polity Press (2010, 2011), and his translation of her novel *Tombe* is forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press. Aside from several other translation projects related to Derrida's and Cixous's works, he is currently preparing a collection of Cixous's shorter essays on Jacques Derrida and completing a monograph on the sense of '(non-)place' in Derrida's works. He is one of the series editors of the recently launched 'Theory, Culture and Politics' book series at Rowman and Littlefield and he serves as Editor in Chief for the current journal.

David VELLA completed his PhD degree in 2012 at Cardiff University. His doctoral thesis, *Narrow Gates, Strait Ways*, studies the relationship between extreme experiences relating to decadence and suffering – what several postmodernist thinkers often term the 'sacred' – and ethical spiritual experiences relating to unconditional love – sometimes known as phenomena of the icon. He also holds a Masters in Modern and Contemporary Literature and Criticism from the University of Malta (2007) and worked as a language assistant in English at the University of Aix-Marseille. His research interests include existentialism, phenomenology, literature of the contemporary extreme, Georges Bataille, Maurice Blanchot, postmodernist theory, ontological ethics, hermeneutics, and narrative identity. He is currently writing fiction and is a Visiting Lecturer in English at the University of Malta.

Sinem YAZICIOĞLU is Assistant Professor in American Culture and Literature at Istanbul University (Turkey), where she teaches courses on American literature, literary criticism and cultural studies. She earned her PhD from Istanbul University in 2008 specializing in the dystopian aspects of Chuck Palahniuk's novels. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta. Her research interests include contemporary American and Canadian fiction and critical theory. She has written on the works of Bret Easton Ellis, Douglas Coupland and Don DeLillo.