

Notes on Contributors

Ala BARKAR (born in Kaunas, Lithuania), graduated from the Kaunas University of Technology Technical Language Translation Study Programme and was awarded the Bachelor's degree in Philology. She is currently an MA student at Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, the Faculty of Letters and Arts. She has also worked as a translator since her first year of studies, and plans to continue working in this field.

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Daniela BORLEA DURALIA graduated from Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu in 2003, majoring in English language and literature. Her experience as a student at this university encouraged her to study abroad, and take several courses in education at Université de Montreal, Concordia University, and McGill University, in Canada, in addition to embarking on a successful teaching career. In 2011, she enrolled as a graduate student in the program of Applied Linguistics at Concordia University, Montreal and since 2013 she has been a Doctoral Candidate at West University of Timișoara, in the Letters and Arts Department, in the field of Faulkner studies.

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Eric GILDER is presently a Professor in the Communications and Development Studies Department at the Papua New Guinea University of Technology (UNITECH) in Lae, PNG. He also serves (on leave) as a University Professor and Fellow of the “C. Peter Magrath” Center at Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, holding a Ph.D. in Communication (rhetorical emphasis) from The Ohio State University (USA). Author of three books and multiple academic studies, Professor Gilder has published extensively in Romanian, American and international journals and books on topics of communication (rhetoric, mass media and theory), cultural studies, and international higher educational policy and practice. Email: egilder57@yahoo.com.

Robert HAMBLIN is Professor of English and the founding Director of the Center for Faulkner Studies at Southeast Missouri State University, where he has taught since 1965. A native of Mississippi, he holds undergraduate degrees from Northeast Mississippi Community College and Delta State University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Hamblin has directed seminars and workshops for the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Missouri Humanities Council, and he has taught and lectured in England, the Netherlands, Japan, China, and Taiwan, as well as throughout the United States. In 2005 he led the online discussion of *As I Lay Dying* for the Oprah Book Club during Oprah Winfrey’s “Summer of Faulkner.” Dr. Hamblin is the author or editor of 27 books, including fourteen volumes of Faulkner studies, six books of poems, two memoirs, and a book on college basketball. His most recent books are *Dust and Light: Poems, After Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*; *This House, This Town: One Couple’s Love Affair with an Old House and a Historic Town*; *Faulkner and Morrison*; and *Crossroads: Poems of a Mississippi Childhood*. Dr. Hamblin has received a number of honors and awards, including a Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Missouri Library Association’s Literary Award, the PRIDE

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Wen-Ching HO is currently distinguished professor of English at Feng Chia University in Taiwan. Formerly a research fellow at the Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, Ho received his Ph.D. degree from the Program in American Culture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1989. His research interests include William Faulkner, Kate Chopin, African American and Chinese American literatures. He has published over thirty essays on writers including Faulkner, Toni Morrison, Kate Chopin, Charles Chesnutt, Maxine Hong Kingston, Louis Chu, Shawn Wong, David Wong Louie, and Chuang Hua; in addition, he has translated Shawn Wong's *Homebase* and Toni Morrison's *Beloved* into Chinese. Now he is translating and annotating W. E. B. Du Bois's *The Souls of Black Folk*. He is the author of *Who Am I? Cultural Identity in American Fiction*, and editor of a number of books, including *Cultural Identity and Chinese American Literature*, *Politics of Representation and Chinese American Literature*, and *Teaching English Language and Literature: Linking Theory to Practice*.

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Sheldon S. KOHN is Assistant Professor of Global Awareness in University College of Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, UAE, where he has lived since 2010. He teaches interdisciplinary courses designed to improve students' knowledge and understanding of global culture, artistic expression, and the forces of history. A native of Mississippi, he grew up surrounded by tales told in the rhythms and tones of Southern speech. In his tenth grade English class, he marveled at the family that was undergoing so many trials and tribulations to get their mother buried in town. He earned his MA from the University of Southern Mississippi, where Noel Polk supervised his thesis. After a corporate career as a technical writer and trainer, he returned to teaching and earned his Ph.D. from

Georgia State University, where he worked closely with Tom and Pearl McHaney. He has presented and published on William Faulkner and Eudora Welty. He also has interests in English Education. He has published on the influence of postmodernism on secondary education and conducted research on improvisational communities producing creative nonfiction.

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Sämi LUDWIG is a *professeur des universités* at the UHA Mulhouse in the Alsace (France). He received his education at the University of Berne (Switzerland) and has published in *REAL*, *AmerikaStudien*, *Mosaic*, the *Cambridge Companion to Toni Morrison*, *The African American Review*, and *The Journal for Asian American Studies*. In his Ph.D. thesis on intercultural communication in Maxine Hong Kingston and Ishmael Reed, called *CONCRETE LANGUAGE* (published by Peter Lang in 1996), he outlines a theory of the metaphorical tracing of the intention constructions of the other. His second book is on the convergences of American Realism and pragmatist theory: *Cognitive Realism: The Pragmatist Paradigm in American Literary Realism* was published by Wisconsin UP (2002). Together with Rocio Davis (City University of Hong Kong) he edits *Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies*, the only European book series on Asian American cultural studies (LIT Verlag, Germany). In addition to intercultural issues and questions of cognitive and pragmatist approaches to literature, he is also interested in the big picture of literary history, in colonial American culture, and occasionally even writes on poetry.

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Clementina MIHĂILESCU is a Lecturer in the Department of British, American and Canadian Studies at Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu. She holds a Ph.D. from Lucian Blaga University, and is interested in stylistics, functional styles as well as new directions in contemporary English and American literary studies. She has published extensively in Romanian cultural journals and has

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Gabriela NISTOR, PhD, Faculty of Letters and Arts, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, has specialized in linguistic disciplines, teaching courses in *English Syntax of the Simple and Complex Sentence* and *Functional Styles*. She has also developed steady and growing interest in the knowledge of the human nature, psychology, social psychology, and psycholinguistics, in an attempt to get the best of language acquisition awareness with young students. A perspective of the literary character viewed through the approach of the *mental model* has been dealt with in her PhD thesis on *The Romanian War Novel of the 20th Century*. Further interest concerns a similar approach to war novels of the English speaking literary space.

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As an alumnus of Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Sorin ȘTEFĂNESCU has absorbed the creative atmosphere and has preserved the minuteness with which literary research was performed in its English department. He is currently an associate professor at this department, mostly concentrating on the teaching and research in two large areas of English studies: theory and civilisation. His doctoral thesis was an attempt to restore the interest in John Steinbeck's works, basing his appeal on the only valid inheritance that this fiction has projected, its narrative technique. He also teaches and researches Literary Theory, Narratology and Hermeneutics as well as British and American Civilisation and Mentalities. He published three books and a number of articles on topics related to the above-mentioned fields of research.

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