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SEARCH *TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE*

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Transnational Literature



## TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE

### Volume 1, Issue 2

May 2009

### *Austen Abroad*

#### Letter from the Editor:

Welcome to the **second issue** of *Transnational Literature*. I am delighted to note that *TNL*, true to its first origins in the *CRNLE* (Centre for Research in the New Literatures in English) *Reviews Journal*, is developing (inter alia) into a lively forum for book reviews. This issue contains reviews of dozens of books, fiction and non-fiction, literary criticism and anthologies, and even of one of a television program.

Several of these reviews are part of our 'Austen Abroad' feature, one of the myriad manifestations of the global reach of Jane Austen's influence in the twenty-first century. Along with the book reviews in the Austen feature, there are three articles, each originating from a different continent - North America, Africa and Australia - because *Transnational Literature* is also living up to its name, and our contributors have not only considered transnational themes in their contributions, but are themselves from all over the world: from Japan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, England, the USA, South Africa, and practically every state of Australia.

Transnationalism is open to a variety of interpretations, and we have chosen to be liberal in our definition. Thus, although it might be objected that Jane Austen and Iris Murdoch are both British writers, the century and a half that separate them constitutes a sufficiently significant frontier. Transnationality can also be implied by translation, and we include a new translation of a story by the great Rabindranath Tagore. Literature from languages other than English is also included for the first time in this issue, with Maik Nwosu's article on Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits*. We also include a review of a biography of the Colombian novelist Gabriel García Márquez.

Without creative writing we would have nothing to write about, so it is with great pleasure that we are able to bring you new work from six poets, as well as a new short story from Christine Williams.

In our November issue we ran a symposium on the subject 'Does Literature Exist?' The originator of that discussion, Robert Lumsden, exercises his right of reply in this issue. And finally, Ron Klein offers another lighthearted afterthought, 'In the Beginning Was the Word'.

Volume 2 no. 1, due out in October-November 2009, is to be co-edited by Dr Chad Habel, and will deal with the theme of literary migrations.

#### *Austen Abroad*

#### Articles:

- Gillian Dooley *Good Versus Evil in Austen's Mansfield Park and Iris Murdoch's A Fairly Honourable Defeat*
- Elzette Steenkamp *Janeites for a New Millennium: The Modernisation of Jane Austen on Film*
- Juliette Wells *Seeking Austen, from Abroad: Lori Smith's Memoir A Walk with Jane Austen (2007)*

#### Reviews:

- Gillian Dooley *Jane's Fame: How Jane Austen Conquered the World* by Claire Harman
- Alexis Harley *Jane Austen and Charles Darwin: Naturalists and Novelists* by Peter W. Graham
- Robert Phiddian *A Companion to Jane Austen* edited by Claudia L. Johnson and Clara Tuite
- Ruth Starke *Lost in Austen (DVD)*
- Humphrey Tranter *Jane Austen: The Annotated Pride and Prejudice* by David M. Shapard
- Graham Tulloch *The Later Manuscripts* by Jane Austen, edited by Janet Todd and Linda Bree
- Nick Turner *The Reception of Jane Austen in Europe* edited by Anthony Mandal and Brian Southam
- Kate Twidale *The Bedside, Bathtub & Armchair Companion to Jane Austen* by Carol Adams, Douglas Buchanan & Kelly Gesch

**Review essay:**

- Kirpal Singh *The Austenisation of Sensibility & the Darcyfication of Jane Austen: A Reflection* (Books mentioned include *Mr Darcy's Diary* by Maya Slater and *Jane Austen and the Black Hole of British History* by Gideon Poly)
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**Articles:**

- Robert Lumsden Can the Question 'Does Literature Exist?' Persist?  
 Maik Nwosu *'Barrabás came to us by sea': Absence and Presence in Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits**

**Creative writing:**

- Kaiser Haq Poem: East and West: A Plan for World Peace  
 Anthony Lawrence Two Poems: Skywriting and The Trawler  
 Deb Matthews-Zott Free Saturday  
 Three Poems from An Adelaide Boy (a verse novel in progress)  
 Nathanael O'Reilly Transience: Poems from Four Nations  
 Ian C. Smith Poem: Gone, with the Wind  
 Syam Sudhakar Two Poems: I Wait and Identity  
 Rabindranath Tagore Kabuliwala, translated by Mohammad A. Quayum  
 Christine Williams A Green Thumb and a Lotus Hand

**Book Reviews:**

- Yanoula *Gabriel García Márquez: A Life* by Gerald Martin  
 Athanassakis *The Complete Stories and Ransom* by David Malouf  
 Lisa Bennett *The SBS Story* by Ion Ang, Gay Hawkins and Lamia Dabboussy  
 Paul Burger *The Sweet and Simple Kind* by Yasmine Gooneratne  
 Sanghamitra Dalal *1788: The Brutal Truth of the First Fleet* by David Hill  
 Chad Habel *Fragments from a Paper Witch* by Marion May Campbell  
 Elisabeth *Sea of Poppies* by Amitav Ghosh  
 Holdsworth *Thea Astley's Fictional Worlds* ed. by Susan Sheridan and Paul Genoni  
 Raja Huilgol *Callisto* by Torten Krol  
 Sue Kossew *The Con* by Jesse Pentecost  
 Judith Loriente *Someone Else* by John Hughes  
 Robert Lumsden *Wanting* by Richard Flanagan  
 Russell McDougall *Jamaican Food: History, Biology, Culture* by B.W. Higman  
 Rosemary Moore *House of Wits: an Intimate Portrait of the James Family* by Paul Fisher  
 Meenakshi *Things I Have Been Silent About* by Azar Nafisi  
 Mukherjee *Travels in Atomic Sunshine* by Robin Gerster  
 David Palmer *Networked Language: Culture & History in Australian Poetry* by Philip Mead  
 Peter Pierce *Culture Is...: Australian Stories Across Cultures, An Anthology* edited by Anne-Marie Smith  
 Bruce Shaw *The Paris Review Interviews, Volume 3* edited by Philip Gourevitch  
 Kirpal Singh *Doing Life: A Biography of Elizabeth Jolley* by Brian Dibble  
 Susan Sheridan *The Last Protector* by Cameron Raynes  
 Megan Warburton *Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth* by Margaret Atwood  
 Bev Willson *Small City Tales of Strangeness and Beauty*, eds. Gillian Britton and Stephen Lawrence  
 Debra Zott

**Afterthought:**

- Ron Klein In the Beginning Was the Word

**Contributors**