



SEARCH *TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE*

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TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE

Volume 4, Issue 1 November 2011

Letter from the Editor

Welcome to Volume 4, no. 1 of *Transnational Literature*.

In this issue, we once again offer a wealth of essays, stories, poems and reviews from writers and scholars all over the world, from Canada to Lithuania to Hong Kong. It is particularly exciting to include a special feature on 'Literary Transculturations', guest-edited by Jena Habegger-Conti of Bergen, Norway. The articles collected in this feature originated in the inaugural conference of the Nordic Network for Literary Transculturation Studies (NNLTS), 'Post/Colonial and Transcultural: Contending Modernities, Presaging Globalisation', held in Riga, Latvia in September 2010. I would like to thank Jena for all her hard work organising this feature, and her meticulous editing. It has been a great pleasure to work with her.

Other essays in this broad-ranging issue include Nicolas Birns on Patrick White, Md. Rezaul Haque on Raja Rao, Diana Jovaišienė on the Lithuanian writer Herkus Kunčius, Holly Martin on Chinese American writer Ha Jin, and Umme Salma on Alexander Pope. There is a review essay by Dorothy Driver of the book *Trauma, Memory, and Narrative in South Africa: Interviews*, two interviews with authors, Sandra Rota's conversation with Altaf Tyrewala and my own with Adelaide author Amy T. Matthews, and a translation by Mohammad A. Quayum of a fascinating 1903 essay by Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, exhorting Bengal's women to throw off the chains of their oppression.

For the first time this issue, we've included a section of News and Views, with my report from the First Fiji Literary Festival. We invite short, newsy articles, or letters to the editor, to include in this section in future issues.

As usual we are publishing a good crop of creative writing – poems, short stories and life writing. I would like to thank our new poetry editor, Debra Zott, and Gay Lynch, our new creative and life-writing editor, for their advice and assistance with this part of the journal. I'm also pleased to announce that Emily Sutherland will be joining the editorial team from the next issue.

I would like to acknowledge the essential contribution made by the anonymous peer reviewers, without whom an academic journal cannot function, but who by the very nature of the process may not be named.

And as always, there are dozens of book reviews of works ranging from poetry to history, from fiction to literary criticism and travel. I hope you enjoy the breadth of views in this truly transnational issue of *Transnational Literature*.

Gillian Dooley

Special feature: **Literary Transculturations. Guest Editor: Jena Habegger-Conti**

Jena Habegger-Conti
Anne Holden Rønning
John McLeod
Joel Kuortti
Ulla Rahbek
Anne Sophie Haahr Refskou
Jena Habegger-Conti
Erik Falk
Kamal Sbirri
Milda Danyte
Rūta Šlapkauskaitė

Letter from the Guest Editor
Literary Transculturations and Modernity: Some Reflections
Sounding Silence: Transculturation and its Thresholds
Transnational Literary Slippages and Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*
Uniquely local? Reading Manjula Padmanabhan's Short Story 'Feast'
Can Transcultural Theatre Raise the Dead? Exploring Kaj Munk's *Ordet (The Word)* via Peter Brook's Essentialist Aesthetic
'Beautiful Infidels' and 'Poisonous Fruits': Expressing and Contesting the Transcultural Tradition of *The Thousand and One Nights*
Translating Modernity: Charles Mungoshi's Modernist Aesthetic Space
Writing Refugee in the Era of Displacement: Reflections on Poetry
Choosing Self-Hatred: How Canadian Ethnic Minority Novels of the 1950s Reflect Racist Ideas Propagated Earlier by the Dominant Majority
Bears, Bodies and Boundaries in Douglas Glover's *Elle: A Novel*

* Download the Special Feature as one file *

Articles

Nicholas Birns

The Solid Mandala and Patrick White's Late Modernity

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Md. Rezaul Haque Diana Jovaišienė | The Nation and One of Its Fragments in <i>Kanthapura</i> Herkus Kunčius' Novel <i>The Ornament</i> as a Postmodernist Analysis of Contemporary Lithuanian Society |
| Holly E. Martin | Falling Into America: The Downside of Transnational Identities in Ha Jin's <i>A Good Fall</i> |
| Umme Salma | Woman and the Empire in Alexander Pope's <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> : A Rereading |

Review Essay

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|----------------|---|
| Dorothy Driver | <i>Trauma, Memory and Narrative in South Africa: Interviews</i> edited by Ewald Mengel, Michela Borzaga and Karin Orantes |
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Interviews

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Gillian Dooley Sandra L.M. Rota | Walking on Graves: An Interview with Amy T. Matthews 'The Globalisation of Ideas and Thoughts is a Supremely Hopeful Development': An Interview with Altaf Tyrewala |
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Translation

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| Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain | Woman's Downfall [<i>'Istrijatir Abanati'</i>] translated and introduced by Mohammad A. Quayum |
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News and Views

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|----------------|--|
| Gillian Dooley | Fiji without Snorkelling: a report from the Fiji Literary Festival, October 2011 |
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* Download all Articles, the Review Essay, all Interviews, the Translation, and the "News and Views" section as one file.*

Creative writing – Poetry:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| David Adès | A Girl, Her Mother, and Me |
| David Adès | Gesher Haziv 1974 |
| David Adès | Snapshot at Maedan Beach |
| David Adès | Step After Step |
| David Adès | Yesterday's Feast |
| Yiorgos Anagnostou | -Αμείρικα |
| Yiorgos Anagnostou | Pale Imitation |
| Claudia Grinnell | Damaged Women |
| Claudia Grinnell | In the Room of Lost Things |
| Susan Gorgioski | Ballast |
| Dean Gui | Good Laundry Day |
| Md. Rezaul Haque | Comrades, March on |
| Md. Rezaul Haque | For J.: An Elegy |
| Deb Matthews-Zott | Adelaide |
| Loula S. Rodopoulos | Epistrophe |
| Loula S. Rodopoulos | Rocks of Resistance |
| Loula S. Rodopoulos | Township |
| Ian C. Smith | That Hot Night |
| Ian C. Smith | Wells-next-the-Sea |
| Lesley Syngé | Excursion to Jiri San before the mid-term holiday |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | linger on |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | Two Trees |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | Waterfall |

* Download all Poetry as one file *

Creative writing – Prose:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Jonathan Bellot | Viola and the Passing of the Ghost Train |
| Chalsey Dooley | A Signature – in Blood: Based on a True Story |
| Catherine McKinnon | Will Martin |
| Lesley Syngé | Heaven's Gate |

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Reviews – Creative and Life Writing:

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|------------------|---|
| Sophie Alexander | <i>Tripping Over Feathers: Scenes in the Life of Joy Janaka Wiradjuri Williams: A Narrative of the Stolen Generations</i> by Peter Read |
| Wendy Alexander | <i>Ali Abdul v the King: Muslim Stories from the Dark Days of White Australia</i> by Hanifa Deen |
| Craig Billingham | <i>I Hate Martin Amis Et Al</i> by Peter Barry |
| Nicholas Birns | <i>A Whistled Bit of Bop: Poems</i> by Ken Bolton |
| Sue Bond | <i>Comedy in a Minor Key</i> by Hans Keilson |

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|------------------------|---|
| Vivek Kumar Dwivedi | <i>The Weekend</i> by Bernhard Schlink |
| Tina Giannoukos | <i>Collected Poems: Francis Webb</i> edited and introduced by Toby Davidson |
| Susan Gorgioski | <i>Last Man in Tower</i> by Aravind Adiga |
| Sneja Gunew | <i>Her Father's Daughter</i> by Alice Pung |
| Kay Hart | <i>Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet</i> by Jamie Ford |
| Kay Hart | <i>The Tiger's Wife</i> by Téa Obreht |
| Elisabeth Holdsworth | <i>The Foxes Come at Night</i> by Cees Nooteboom |
| Elisabeth Holdsworth | <i>Iphigenia in Forest Hills</i> by Janet Malcolm |
| Hannah Kent | <i>Animal People</i> by Charlotte Wood |
| Gay Lynch | <i>Sarah Thornhill</i> by Kate Grenville |
| Gay Lynch | <i>Those Who Come After</i> by Elisabeth Holdsworth |
| Jennifer Osborn | <i>Caleb's Crossing</i> by Geraldine Brooks |
| Punyashree Panda | <i>Black Swan</i> by Eileen Harrison and Carolyn Landon |
| Miriam Räthel | <i>The Map of Time</i> by Félix J. Palma |
| Loula S. Rodopoulos | <i>The Reinvention of Love</i> by Helen Humphreys |
| Christine Runnel | <i>Surface to Air</i> by Jaya Savige |
| Susan Sheridan | <i>The Beauty of Humanity Movement</i> by Camilla Gibb |
| David Sornig | <i>Primavera, or the Time of your Life</i> by Giulia Giuffrè |
| Ruth Starke | <i>Prohibited Zone</i> by Alistair Sarre |
| Ruth Starke | <i>Gioconda</i> by Lucille Turner |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | <i>Here and There</i> by A.A. Gill |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | <i>Autumn Laing</i> by Alex Miller |
| Heather Taylor Johnson | <i>Love in the Years of Lunacy</i> by Mandy Sayer |
| Humphrey Tranter | <i>That Deadman Dance</i> by Kim Scott |
| Graham Tulloch | <i>Bombs and Butterflies: A Child's War</i> by Etiennette Fennell |
| Lesley Wyndram | <i>Marcus Clarke</i> by Cyril Hopkins, ed. Laurie Hergenhan, Ken Stewart, and Michael Wilding |
| Debra Zott | <i>Loose: A Wild History</i> by Ouyang Yu |
| Debra Zott | <i>End of the Night Girl</i> by Amy T. Matthews |
| Debra Zott | <i>Five Bells</i> by Gail Jones |
| Debra Zott | <i>Waltzing With Jack Dancer: a Slow Dance With Cancer</i> by Geoff Goodfellow, Grace Goodfellow and Randy Larcombe |

* Download all Creative and Life Writing Reviews as one file *

Reviews – History, Theory and Criticism:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sue Anderson | <i>Nharangga wargunni bugi-uggillu: A Journey through Narungga History</i> by Skye Krichauff |
| Ingrid Birgden | <i>Journeying and Journalling: Creative and Critical Meditations on Travel Writing</i> edited by Giselle Bastin et al. |
| Susan Carson | <i>Postcolonial Issues in Australian Literature</i> edited by Nathanael O'Reilly |
| Gillian Dooley | <i>A Future for Criticism</i> by Catherine Belsey |
| Victoria Haskins | <i>The Protectors</i> by Stephen Gray |
| Heidi Ing | <i>Germans: Travellers, Settlers and their Descendants</i> edited by Peter Monteath |
| David Palmer | <i>The Path of Infinite Sorrow: The Japanese on the Kokoda Track</i> by Craig Collie and Hajime Marutani |
| Eleni Pavlides | <i>Making Trouble</i> by Robert Manne |
| Jorge Salavert | <i>Australia and Galicia: Defeating the Tyranny of Distance / Australia e Galicia: vencendo a tirania do afastamento</i> , edited by Maria Jesús Lorenzo Modia and Roy C. Boland Osegueda |
| Umme Salma | <i>Eighteenth-Century British Literature and Postcolonial Studies</i> by Suvir Kaul |
| Michael X. Savvas | <i>Detective Fiction in a Postcolonial and Transnational World</i> edited by Nels Pearson and Marc Singer |
| Kathleen Steele | <i>The King James Bible after 400 years: Literary Linguistic and Cultural Influences</i> edited by Hannibal Hamlin and Norman W. Jones; <i>Begat: The King James Bible and the English Language</i> by David Crystal |

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Contributors