

Notes on Contributors

Dana ALTMAN is a Romanian expatriate scholar and art critic living in New York. She is the author of two books on visual art and poetry as well as of numerous critical articles that appeared in publications such as *Artphoto*, *Arta*, *Observator Cultural*, *ArtHoc*, *Tribuna*, *Sinteza*. A graduate of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, she earned her BA in Romanian and English Philology in 1990 and went on to study Literary Theory at Exeter College, Oxford. She holds a doctoral degree in general linguistics from Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca with a dissertation on text theory and semantics about the poet Ion Vinea. She is the director of a well-established contemporary art gallery in New York City.

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An Assistant Professor of English at Saint Francis University, Pennsylvania, Roxana L. CAZAN teaches courses in world literature, postcolonial literature, immigration and diaspora studies. Her most recent scholarly project problematizes the paradigm of motherhood in the United States by investigating Romanian-American literary and cultural representations framed both by the Cold War culture and by the geopolitical, epistemological, and cultural project of ethnic and gendered formation in the U.S. Her poems appeared in journals such as *Sojourn*, *The Portland Review*, *The Madison Review*, *Harpur Palate*, and *Barnwood International Poetry Journal*, as well as in journals abroad. In her verse, she draws on various languages that she speaks – Romanian, Spanish, French, and Arabic – both to portray her identity as an immigrant woman and to highlight that the process of naturalization in a multicultural society straddles conflicts and collaborations. She is also a published translator for whom sound across a linguistic spectrum is crucial in rendering the author's idiosyncrasies of style. Her translation of Matei Vişniec's "Teeth" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by *Sojourn Journal*.

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Gabriel C. GHERASIM has taught in the American Studies programme of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, since 2009. He holds a PhD in philosophy, an MA in cultural studies and a BA in political science. His fields of research include transatlantic political ideologies, the philosophy of pragmatism and analytic philosophy, political discourses and systems. He is currently working on a book on the analytics and pragmatics of American political doctrines and ideologies. He is a member of the Romanian Association of American Studies and executive editor of the *Romanian*

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Raluca MOLDOVAN is a lecturer in history, holding a doctoral degree in the representation of the Holocaust in cinema, published in 2012 by Lambert Academic Publishing under the title *Reel Trauma. The Representation of the Holocaust on Film*. She has been teaching in the American Studies programme at Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, since 2004; her courses include American History, American Film and American Popular Culture. Her research areas include history of cinema, US history, immigration history. She is currently working on a book examining the relationship between history and cinema. She has authored numerous articles on American Studies topics in Romanian and foreign academic journals. She is a member of the Romanian Association for American Studies and the Association for the Study of Nationalities (Columbia University, New York).

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Adriana NEAGU is Associate Professor of Anglo-American Studies at Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, the Department of Applied Modern Languages. She is the author of *Sublimating the Postmodern Discourse: toward a Post-Postmodern Fiction in the Writings of Paul Auster and Peter Ackroyd* (2001), *In the Future Perfect: the Rise and Fall of Postmodernism* (2001), and of numerous critical and cultural theory articles. Dr Neagu has been the recipient of several pre- and postdoctoral research awards. Previous academic affiliations include an Andrew W. Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Edinburgh and visiting positions at Oxford University, University of Bergen, University of East Anglia, and University of London. Her teaching areas are diverse, combining literary-linguistic and cultural studies disciplines. Her main specialism is in modernist and postmodernist discourse, global theory, the poetics of translation and conference interpreting pedagogy. Dr Neagu has been Advisory Editor and, since 2004, Editor-in-Chief of *American, British and Canadian Studies*, the journal of the Academic Anglophone Society of Romania.

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Fevronia NOVAC is a poet and essayist. Born in 1969 in Bucharest, Fevronia has lived in the United States, Canada, and France. She earned a doctorate in French literature from the University of Ottawa (Canada) in 2002 with a thesis on the critical reception of Alain Robbe-Grillet's work. She has published poems and research articles in Romania, Canada, the United States, and France. Her volumes of poetry are: *Barbie, Mafalda, Fevi* (Cartea Romaneasca, 1997), *Marie* (Paralela 45, 2007), *Ophelia Is Wearing Perfume* (Nova International Press, 2008), and *In Dior's Court* (under review at Vinea Press). She is featured in the collective volume *Fictiuni* (Bucharest: Litera

Press, 1992) and in the anthology *UNIVERSITAS. Once Upon a Time, a Literary Circle*. Bucharest: Ed M.N.L.R., 2008. Her most recent book is *The Bear Is Not Dancing. Essays on the Culture of the First Nations of North America*. Tiparg, 2011.

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Sam-Claudia PARASCHIV, also known as Claudia Paraskiv earned an MA in Radio, Television and Film from Northwestern University, Evanston and has been teaching film classes as an Adjunct Faculty Member at both Columbia College, Chicago (the Department of Film/Video) and at Truman College, Chicago (the Art, Humanities, and Foreign Languages Department) since 1997, and 2002. She has 11 years of professional script writing experience and has worked on more than 25 feature-length films at the Buftea Cinematographic Studio in Bucharest, Romania. Her passion for writing poems and feature-length scripts intertwined with shooting short films and gave a strong impetus to her writing, which materialised in the novel *The Seagull and The Sea*, in print in both Romanian and English, a novel due out in Bucharest and the United States.

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Ana-Karina SCHNEIDER is Associate Professor at Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, holding a PhD in critical theory and Faulkner studies from Lucian Blaga University (2005), and a Diploma in American Studies from Smith College, MA, USA (2004). She has published a book titled *Critical Perspectives in the Late Twentieth Century. William Faulkner: A Case Study* (Lucian Blaga UP, 2006), as well as textbooks and study guides for classroom use. She has also published an assortment of articles on William Faulkner's critical reception, English prose fiction, literary translation, stereotypes and reading practices, and English Studies in the Romanian higher education. Dr Schneider has been Manuscript and Review Editor of *American, British and Canadian Studies* since 1999 and is Secretary of the Academic Anglophone Society of Romania.

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William STEARNS (Ph.D University of Wisconsin 1991) is a political theorist who specializes in the uses and abuses of political language and the social construction of reality through symbols. He has taught at the University of Montana, St. John's University/ College of St. Benedict (Minnesota), the University of Michigan, the University of Bucharest, Prescott College (Arizona), and at Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu. He co-edited and introduced *Jean Baudrillard: The Disappearance of Art and Politics* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992) and has contributed to the journals *Theory & Event*, *The Romanian Review of Political Sciences and International Relations*, *American, British and Canadian Studies*, *Higher Education in*

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Ioan ȘERBAN is a poet, playwright and screenwriter, born in Sibiu, Romania. For the past 30 years he has lived in New York, writing and also nurturing young writers and artists towards fulfilling their careers. He is currently collaborating on several projects with actors, members of Actors Studio in New York, to create a unique theater to film exploration of Chekhov's plays, as an ideal tool of introducing actors and non-actors alike to the Lee Strasberg Method of Acting. As a writer he had meaningful collaborations with noted artists in the theater and film industry, although he feels that one of the biggest influence upon his way of life is exercised by the writings and lectures of Alan Watts, and for that, he is ready to renounce any writing title, and be called, simply, a spiritual ophthalmologist.

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Valentin TEODOSIU is one of Romania's foremost theatre, film and television actors of the 1990s. He received his Bachelor of Arts from the Romanian Institute of Theatre and Film in 1978, where he studied under Professors Petre Vasilescu and Cornel Vendel. He made a scintillating debut on stage at Nottara Theatre in Bucharest, in 1977, playing the leading part in an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* (Director Val Paraschiv). A versatile and prolific dramatic artist, Valentin Teodosiu was cast in numerous stage performances, among them: the Thief of *Timon of Athens* by William Shakespeare, the Roman soldier of *Coriolanus* by William Shakespeare, Svidrigailov of *The Brothers Karamazov* by F.M. Dostoyevski, Pyotr of *The Forest* by Ostrovsky, Pastor Williams of *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare. As of 2002, he has been affiliated with the Comedy Theatre in Bucharest, starring in roles such as *Clinic* by Adrian Lustig, Boris Semionovici Gus-Remontnii of *Zoika's Apartment* by Mihail Bulgakov. As well as theatre and film, he did a considerable range of television and radio shows, voiceovers in TV and radio commercials. In latter years, Valentin Teodosiu has focused on mainstream film parts, starring, alongside Jean-Claude Van Damme in film productions such as *Umilința* (Director Cătălin Apostol) and *Assassination Games* (Director Ernie Barbarsh), both released in 2011. Valentin Teodosiu is the author of *A Clown for Eternity*, an autobiographical volume published by Fundația Pro Publishing House in 2006.

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Mircea M TOMUȘ is Professor of English and Composition at Kirkwood Community College. He holds a BA in English and French from Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca and a PhD in medieval studies (Anglo-Saxon

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Martha (Marty) TOWNSEND is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Missouri in Columbia, where she specializes in Rhetoric and Composition with a focus on writing-across-the-curriculum and writing-in-the-disciplines. Her U.S. Information Agency grant-sponsored trip to Sibiu was the first of many international experiences she has been privileged to have, in what has become an effort to share writing-based educational theory and practice around the globe. She is the recipient of the University of Missouri's 2014 Provost's Award for Leadership in International Education. Nicoleta Răileanu and her family are central to Marty's belief that personal relationships are at the heart of meaningful international education.

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