

List of Contributors

Marc Démont is currently a PhD student at the University of South Carolina. Using queer theory as theoretical framework and a diverse range of French, Italian and American texts (from the 'Decameron' to 'Calvin and Hobbes') his research focuses on friendships and temporalities in order to identify new ways of relating to the past and of constructing communities. He also works on a translation of Lee Edelman's 'No Future' into French.

Patrick Fischer studied English literature at York University (Canada) and the University of Tübingen, where he received his state examination diploma (English, Political Science and Geography). His fields of interest include postcolonial literature and theory, the politics of sexuality and diversity, queer theory, the didactic potentials of literature in general and graphic novels in particular. This article is based on an excerpt of his diploma thesis on "Queer Selves in Henry James' Short Stories – Taking a Plunge into Self-Exploration through Subjective Identity Negotiation".

Wisam Abdul Jabbar is a doctoral student at the University of Alberta. He received his first master's degree in English at the University of Baghdad in Iraq. His second master's was in Humanities at California State University in the United States. His third master's was in English Literature at Lakehead University in Ontario. He has taught in Iraq, Libya and Canada. Wisam published research papers in peer-reviewed journals such as *Changing English*, *North African Studies* and *Critical Discourse Studies*.

Talel Ben Jemia is currently a doctoral candidate at the Graduate School of North American Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. The working title of his dissertation is "Desire and Disorientation – The Hustler in American Culture (1964-2010)". His research interests include Cultural Theory, Film Studies and Gay and Lesbian Studies.

Gibson Ncube is presently a PhD candidate in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at Stellenbosch University (South Africa). His primary research interest is in queer and gender studies as well as comparative literature. His thesis focuses on the literary representation of "marginal" sexuality in contemporary Francophone literature from the Maghreb. His latest research output has been published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa*, *Acta Iassyensia Comparationis*, *Postamble*:

Multidisciplinary Journal of African Studies as well as *BUWA! Journal of African Women's Experiences*.

Lauren Specht is working on her MA in English at Colorado State University-Pueblo, where she focuses on feminist pedagogy and the gendered technological/writing identities of modern students.

Dr. Ryan Stryffeler is Instructor of English at Western Nevada College, where he teaches composition and literature courses. His recent literature offerings have included Dystopian Novels, as well as Gender in American Literature. He lives in Carson City, NV with his wife, two daughters, and three dogs.