

List of Contributors

Christian David Zeitz is a graduate student in English Studies and Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Cologne and works in the English Department as a general assistant for the e-journal *gender forum: An Internet Journal for Gender Studies*. He has published peer-reviewed articles on film, TV series and gender in *Watcher Junior* and *gender forum*. His research interests include postcolonial, critical ethnic and gender studies, literary and cultural productions of and on the Muslim diaspora as well as meeting points between theories of multiculturalism and affect.

Martina Koegeler-Abdi is a PhD Fellow at the Center for Transnational American Studies at the University of Copenhagen. Her research interests include US multi-ethnic literatures, gender studies and feminist theory as well as cultural history and ethnic studies within the field of transnational American Studies. Currently she is working on her dissertation which researches the history of Arab migration to the US at the beginning of the 20th century and focuses on how Arab American women represented themselves to the US public negotiating US orientalist stereotypes as well as racial and gendered imaginations at the time. Koegeler-Abdi holds a Magister Degree in English, American and Spanish Studies from the University of Graz and an MA in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies as well as a Graduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies from SUNY Stony Brook. She has published and co-edited various works within the fields of her research interests, including two peer-reviewed articles in major international journals: one on the legacy of Gloria Anzaldua in the MELUS journal and another on the public agency of Miss Lebanon America 1954 in the JTAS journal.

Leila Moayeri Pazargadi is an Assistant Professor of English at Nevada State College and she currently teaches composition, postcolonial literature, life writing, ethnic American literature and Middle Eastern literature courses. Her research focuses on Middle Eastern women writers producing autobiographical material in fiction and nonfiction after 9/11. Recently, she has begun working on Persian photography from the Qajar era. She received her Doctorate of Philosophy in Comparative Literature with certification in Gender Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2012. At NSC, she is most proud of her work of co-founding the Nepantla Program and serving as the Director of its Summer Bridge Program.

Hannah Kershaw recently completed her PhD in Politics and English Literature at the University of York, receiving her MA in Postcolonial Literature from the same institution and her BA in English from the University of Southampton. Her doctoral thesis examines the significance of cultural memory and anti-colonial approaches to Western historiography within a number of contemporary British novels that explore the Muslim experience of present-day multiculturalism, and is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. Hannah is also a Research Assistant on the multi-disciplinary project “Europe, Migration and the New Politics of (In)security” based at the Department of Politics at York, and an Editorial Assistant at *International Political Sociology*. She is also the Interdisciplinarity Officer for the Postcolonial Studies Association.

Julia Watson is Professor Emerita of Comparative Studies and former Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University. She and Sidonie Smith have co-written *Reading Autobiography: A Guide for Interpreting Life Narratives* (expanded edition, 2010) and co-edited five collections of essays: *Before They Could Vote: American Women's Autobiographical Writing, 1819-1919*. (University of Wisconsin Press, 2006); *Interfaces: Women, Autobiography, Image, Performance* (University of Michigan Press, 2002); *Women, Autobiography, Theory: A Reader* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1998); *Getting a Life: Everyday Uses of Autobiography* (University of Minnesota Press, 1996); *De/Colonizing the Subject: The Politics of Gender in Women's Autobiography* (University of Minnesota Press, 1992). Their most recent essays are “Virtually Me: A Toolbox about Online Self-Presentation” (2014) and “Witnessing or False Witnessing? Metrics of Authenticity, Collective ‘I’-Formations, and the Ethics of Verification in First-person Testimony” (2012). Watson’s recent solo essays are on graphic memoirs (three on Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home*; Bobby Baker’s *Diary Drawings*; autoethnography in American ethnic narrative; and Patti Smith’s celebrity memoir *Just Kids*). A two-volume collection of Smith and Watson’s essays, *Life Writing in the Long Run*, has just been published by Michigan Publishing (2017).

Anja Wieden is Assistant Professor of German in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. She received her PhD in 2011 from the University of North Carolina with a dissertation titled “Female Experiences of Rape and Hunger in Postwar German Literature, 1945-1960.” She recently published an article, “Writing Resistance: Anonyma’s Narration of Rape in A Woman in Berlin,” in the *Women in*

German Yearbook. For *gender forum*, she has reviewed Miriam Gebhardt's *Als die Soldaten kamen* and Michaela Schauble's *Narrating Victimhood. Gender, Religion and the Making of Place in Post-War Croatia*. Her current research focuses on domestic violence in GDR film.

Shahd Faraj is a Palestinian Canadian artist and graphic designer based in Ontario, Canada. Her work is a life writing project intended to weave together questions of diasporic and in-between identity formation, Muslim and intersectional feminism, decolonizing Palestine and Native Canada and the unapologetic counter-voicing to marginalizing sexism and racism. Her motivation is to problematize what it means to belong or to be rooted under the all too real and urgent conditions and regimes of (post-)migration, transnationalism, globalization and constant moving and negotiation (see her website www.shahdfaraj.com).