

List of Contributors

Julia Hoydis is assistant professor at the University of Cologne. Her PHD thesis “Tackling the Morality of History: Ethics and Storytelling in the Works of Amitav Ghosh” (University of Cologne, 2010), was published by Universitätsverlag Winter, Heidelberg in 2011. She also holds an MA in English, Theatre-, Film-, and TV studies and Philosophy from Cologne as well as a diploma degree in Ballet and Contemporary Dance from the Rambert School/Brunel University in London. Currently she is conducting research towards her post-doc thesis on “Risk Perception and Management in the English Novel (1780-210)”. Other areas of interest/teaching include postcolonial theory, the New English literatures, ethical criticism, transculturalism, globalization, cultural studies, postmodernism, literature and science, literature and other art forms. She is assistant editor of the bi-annual journal *ANGLISTIK: International Journal of English Studies*.

Cherie Hill is a creative artist, dancer, performer, teacher and scholar, whose art explores human expression and how it is conveyed through the body in collaboration with nature, music and visual imagery. Cherie’s research on dance and somatic practices has been presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities (2010), as well as the International Association of Black Dance Conference (2009). An active scholar, Ms. Hill has published in the *Sacred Dance Journal* and *Ujama*. Cherie holds an MFA in Choreography and Performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a BA in Dance and Performance Studies/African American Studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

Mary Ann Maslak is an associate professor of education at St. John’s University. Her research focuses on gender and international studies, with a focus on females and their lived experiences. She has published two books and numerous articles that have been the product of anthropological fieldwork in the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of India. These works examine the ways in which formal, informal and nonformal education influences current living conditions of, opportunities for, and experiences in girls’ and women’s lives. She has studied and danced Argentine tango for three years.

Stanley M. Votruba has a background in classical ballroom dance. His immersion into Argentine Tango began in 1999. Since that time, he has studied with many of the world's greatest tango masters, and has performed and taught classes in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Europe and the United States. Currently, in partnership with Jr. Cervila, his company, Show Dance Productions, seeks to spread the tradition of dance on the world stage.

Linda White is an Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies at Middlebury College. Her research examines Japanese feminism, the ethics of organ transplants, and the relationship between gender and the body. She began her Aikido training in 1982.

Jonathan Miller-Lane is an Assistant Professor of Education at Middlebury College. His teaching and research examine the critical attributes of citizenship education and the potential of Aikido to inform the skills of constructive disagreement. He began his Aikido training in 1995.

Gail August, Associate Professor of ESL and Linguistics at Hostos, CUNY, has a PhD in Linguistics. She has worked as a professional belly dancer in New York City for many years, using her dance name, Gazella. Besides belly dance, she has studied and performed ballet, modern, and several forms of ethnic dance. She is particularly indebted to her mentor and instructor, Ibrahim Farrah "Bobby", who inspired her to find the depth and artistry in this traditional but modern dance form, and encouraged her to find her personal power in the expressiveness of Middle Eastern dance. Her other research activities include second language acquisition, reading, bilingualism, and critical literacy. Her academic interests in language intersect with her passion for dance, as both represent an endeavor to find authentic ways to communicate about who we are and how we interpret the world.

Born in 1946, **Wanda Coleman** grew up in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles. She is the author of *Bathwater Wine* (Black Sparrow Press, 1998), winner of the 1999 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. A former medical secretary, magazine editor, journalist and scriptwriter, Coleman has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation for her poetry. Her other books of poetry include *Mercurochrome: New Poems* (2001); *Native in a Strange Land: Trials & Tremors* (1996); *Hand Dance* (1993); *African Sleeping Sickness* (1990); *A War of Eyes & Other Stories* (1988); *Heavy Daughter Blues: Poems & Stories 1968-1986* (1988); and *Imagoes* (1983). She

has also written *Mambo Hips & Make Believe: A Novel* (Black Sparrow Press, 1999) and *Jazz* and *Twelve O'Clock Tales: New Stories* (2008).