

## Contributors

**Bainard Cowan** teaches American and world literature at Louisiana State University, where he is Professor of English. He is the author of *Exiled Waters: Moby Dick and the Crisis of Allegory* and co-editor of three collections of essays. The summer institutes and colloquia he directed for the Comparative Literature Program there formed the basis of *Poetics of the Americas: Race, Founding, and Textuality*, co-edited with Jefferson Humphries. Most recently he has finished an essay on Edouard Glissant and Faulkner, and he is currently at work on a book on self-organization theory and poetic form.

**Wendy B. Faris** (Ph.D. Comparative Literature, Harvard 1975) teaches in the English Department at the University of Texas at Arlington. She is the author of *Carlos Fuentes* (Fredrick Ungar, 1983), *Labyrinths of Language: Symbolic Landscape and Narrative Design in Modern Fiction* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988), the co-editor (with Lois Parkinson Zamora) of *Magical Realism: Theory, History, Community* (Duke University Press, 1995), and, most recently, of an article, "Larger than Life: The Hyperbolic Realities of Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Fernando Botero" in *Word & Image*. She is currently finishing a book on magical realism.

**Robert Gibbons** was recently nominated for The Pushcart Prize for his poem "Ode to New York City," published in the Summer issue of *Slow Trains* online. His work is forthcoming in: *The American Journal of Print*; *Big Bridge*; *Canary River Review*; *Carnelian*; *The Drunken Boat*; *In Posse Review*; *Janus. Head*; *Small Spiral Notebook*; *Snow Monkey*; and *Taj Mahal Review* (India). He has just been appointed Poetry Editor at *Gargoyle*.

James D. Hardy, Jr., is a professor of history and associate dean of the Honors College at LSU. He received a Ph.D. in European history in 1961 from the University of Pennsylvania. He has written books on old regime France, on nineteenth-century baseball, and with co-author the late Gale H. Carrithers, Jr., two books on English Renaissance religion and literature. He and co-author Leonard J. Stanton have completed a book manuscript on Nikolai Gogol. Hardy also writes on American slave law. In an age of professional historians, Hardy's career is emblematic of the amateur, who writes for love.

Anne Hegerfeldt has studied English Literature, chemistry, and philosophy at the Universities of Greifswald and Hamburg, Germany, and at Vassar College, U.S.A. After the completion of her Master's thesis *on The Construction of Realities in Contemporary Literature in English*, she received a dissertation fellowship from the German National Merit Foundation. She has just finished writing her doctoral dissertation on magic realist fiction, entitled *Lies that Tell the Truth: Magic Realism Seen Through Contemporary Fiction from Britain*.

Todd Sanders lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he works as a graphic designer, poet and translator. In 1999 he formed the Air and Nothingness Press to facilitate the publishing of his translations of French Surrealist poet Robert Desnos. To date he has published two books of translations by Desnos - *The Circle and The Star* (2000) and *The Secret Book For Youki* (2001). He also has two collections of his own poetry published - *Underland* (1997) and *Lack River* (1998). His current projects include a translation of Calixto, a collection of poems by Desnos, and a third book of his own poetry tentatively titled *Encrypting Arcadia*. In addition to other interests, he actively studies the work of André Gide and maintains [www.andregide.org](http://www.andregide.org), the Online Center for Gidian Studies. In 2000 the French Cultural Ministry awarded him first prize for the Best American Web Site About French Culture for his web site on modern French writers and their work.

**Christina Springer** crosses disciplines like busy streets using poetry, theatre, dance and visual expressions. She is the co-founder of Sun Crumbs, a trans-cultural multi-arts organization; a Cave Canem fellow; working performance poet, mother and wife. Composer's Collaborative is currently producing her poetry/dance-theatre collaboration, *The Splodge Factory*, which is based on a recent manuscript about race, fetish and the sex industry. Select publications include: *Callaloo*, *Kuumba*, *FEMSPEC*, *Fireweed*, *Her Words*, University of Tennessee Press, *Standing on The Ceiling and Companions*, Foxfold Press, *Will Work For Peace*, Zeropanik Press, *Revival: Spoken Word From Lollapalooza '94*, Manic D Press, *A Piece Of My Heart*, and Sister Vision Press, Toronto.

**Leonard J. Stanton** is associate professor of Russian at Louisiana State University, where he teaches in the Honors College. He is the author of *The Optina Pustyn Monastery in the Russian Literary Imagination: Iconic Vision in Works by Dostoevsky, Gogol, Tolstoy, and Others* (Middlebury Studies in Russian Language and Literature, No. 3, Peter Lang, 1995). In collaboration with James D. Hardy, Jr., he has written an introduction to Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* (Signet Classics, 1999), and *Nikolai Gogol: Stranger and Pilgrim*, in progress.

**Virgil Suárez** was born in Havana, Cuba in 1962. Since 1974 he has lived in the United States. He is the author of four novels, *The Cutter*, *Latin Jazz*, *Havana Thursdays*, and *Going Under*, and the collection of stories, *Welcome to the Oasis*. His memoirs, *Spared Angola: Memories of a Cuban-American Childhood* and *Café Nostalgia: Writings from the Hyphen*, chronicle his life of exile in both Cuba and the United states. He is also the author of four collections of poetry: *Garbato Poems*, *You Come Singing*, *In the Republic of Longing*, and *Palm Crows*. As editor he has published the anthologies *Iguana Dreams: New Latino Fiction*, *Paper Dance: 55 Latino Poets*, *American Diaspora*, *Like Thunder: Poets Respond to Violence in America*, and *Clockpunchers: Poetry of the American Workplace*. His essays, stories, poems and translations continue to appear in numerous journals. He divides his time between Miami and Tallahassee where he lives with his family.

Remedios Varo was born December 16, 1908, in Angeles, a province of Gerona, Spain. She has been one of Mexico's most honored and beloved artists since her debut solo exhibit in 1956, though outside the country her work is relatively unknown. She studied in Madrid, Paris and Barcelona, during which time she worked with and befriended Surrealist artists, including Paul Eluard, André Breton, Max Ernst, Leonora Carrington, Antonin Artaud. In 1940, she emigrated to Mexico where her creativity flourished. A deeply spiritual and mystical artist, her technically masterful work embraces the Surrealist credos of disorder and subversity, while departing from the tradition in its implicit narrative displays that combine, in intricate iconographies, tenets of myth, psychology, and alchemy. She died of a stroke in 1963.

Luisa Rossina Villani was born on a vineyard in Tujunga, California. She holds a Masters in Fine Art in Poetry from the University of Pittsburgh. She has taught English in Russia and the Ukraine, and in 1997 was the coordinator for Project Chiapas, a nonprofit organization which conducted a field study of indigenous politics at the Na-Bolom Cultural Museum in San Cristobal, Mexico. Ms. Villani's short stories have appeared in *The Literary Review*, *The Lullwater Review*, and her novel, *The Battle for the Red June* was semifinalist for the James Fellowship for the Novel-In-Progress from the Heekin Group Foundation in 1999. Her poetry chapbook, *On the Eve of Everything*, was published by WECS Press in 1998 as winner of their annual competition. Her poems have appeared in *The New England Review*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *The Hiram Poetry Review*, and other journals, and she has been a finalist for the Pablo Neruda Prize. Among her other awards are included the Suzanne Brabant Memorial Award, An Academy of American Poets Prize, and an Associated Writing Programs Intro journals Award.

Yun Wang's book of poems, *The Book of Jade*, was the winner of the Nicholas Roerich Poetry Prize and will be published by Story Line Press in December 2002. Her poetry chapbook, *The Carp*, was published by Bull Thistle Press in 1994. Yun Wang's poetry and translations of classical

Chinese poetry have appeared in many literary journals, including *The Kenyon Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *International Quarterly*, *Willow Springs*, and *Poetry Canada Review*. Yun Wang was born in P.R. China, and came to the U.S. for graduate studies in 1985. She is an assistant professor specializing in theoretical cosmology at the University of Oklahoma.

**Michael Wood** is the author of books on Stendhal, García Marquez, Nabokov and the American cinema. His most recent book-length publications are *Children of Silence: on Contemporary Fiction*, and *Belle de jour*, a short study of Luis Bunuel's film of that name. He is a regular contributor to the *New York Review of Books* and the *London Review of Books*, and is currently Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Princeton University

**Lois Parkinson Zamora** is Professor in the Departments of English, History, and Art at the University of Houston. Her area of specialization is Comparative Literature, and more particularly contemporary fiction in the Americas. Her books include *Writing the Apocalypse: Historical Vision in Contemporary U.S. and Latin American Fiction* (Cambridge University Press, 1989), *Magical Realism: Theory, History, Community* (Duke University Press, 1995), co-edited with Wendy B. Faris, and *The Usable Past: The Imagination of History in Recent Literature of the Americas* (Cambridge University Press, 1997). She frequently writes about the visual arts and their relation to literature, and has just spent a year and a half in Mexico City, working on a book entitled *The Inordinate Eye: New World Baroque and Contemporary Latin American Fiction*.