

About the contributors

CHLOÉ AVRIL is a lecturer at the Department of Languages and Literatures at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. She is the author of *The Feminist Utopian Novels of Charlotte Perkins Gilman: Themes of Sexuality, Marriage and Motherhood* (2008). In 2010, she was guest editor of a special issue of the *Nordic Journal of English Studies* on Popular Culture. Her research interests include feminist literature and theory, popular culture and African American Studies

ANDY CROFT lives in Middlesbrough, where he has been active in community-writing projects for many years. Writing Residencies include the Great North Run, the Hartlepool Headland and HMP Holme House. He has worked in hundreds of schools all over the UK. Among his books are *Red Letter Days*, *Out of the Old Earth*, *A Weapon in the Struggle* and *Comrade Heart*. He has written over forty non-fiction books (mostly about football) and five novels for teenagers. He has edited the poetry anthologies *Holme and Away*, *Speaking English*, *Red Sky at Night* (with Adrian Mitchell), *North by North East* (with Cynthia Fuller), *Not Just a Game* (with Sue Dymoke) and *Night Shift* (with Jenny Swann and Michael Baron). His books of poetry include *Nowhere Special*, *Gaps Between Hills* (with Mark Robinson), *Headland*, *Just as Blue*, *Great North*, *Comrade Laughter*, *Ghost Writer*, *Sticky* and *Three Men on the Metro* (with W N Herbert and Paul Summers). He writes a regular poetry column in the *Morning Star* and runs Smokestack Books.

STEPHEN DONOVAN is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English, Uppsala University. His most recent publications include a special issue of *Screening the Past* (April 2012) on Irish silent film and, with Matthew Rubery, *Secret Commissions: An Anthology of Victorian Investigative Journalism* (Broadview Press, in press).

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WILLIAM FREDERICK II is a graduate of Purdue University (BA in English) and the University of Gothenburg (MA in English). Presently, he is formulating a paper which addresses class and gender issues via artificial intelligence, along with developing a doctoral proposal. He has been published in *Moderna Språk* on three previous occasions, in addition to the present essay. Future plans include a furthering of his academic career so that he may pursue teaching at the university level. William Frederick resides in San Antonio, Texas with his wife Susanne and hopes to return to Sweden within the next year or so.

HANS LÖFGREN's research interests lie in the areas of American literature and literary theory. He is currently completing a book entitled *Landlessness: Four Psycho-Historical Studies in American Narrative*. His next project is the construction of a semiotics of narrative grammar and the analysis of American narrative tragedy from Melville to Morrison.

JULIAN MARKELS was a member of the Ohio State University English department for thirty-six years. He has published widely on American literature and on Shakespeare, and among his books are *The Marxian Imagination: Representing Class in Literature* (2003) and the forthcoming *From Buchenwald to Havana: The Life and Opinions of a Socialist Professor* (Evening Street Press).

RONALD PAUL is Professor of English Literatures at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, where his main field of research is British working-class literature from the Chartists to the present day. He has co-edited a collection of critical essays on Pat Barker, as well as a selection of British working-class stories, *The Other Half*. His most recent articles have been on the work of Idris Davies, Tony Harrison, Edward Upward, B S Johnson, John Clare, Jack London, and the wife of Spartacus.

ÅKE PERSSON is Associate Professor of English at University West, Trollhättan, Sweden. A graduate of Karlstad University and Trinity

College, Dublin, he was awarded his Ph. D. at Gothenburg University. He is the author of *Betraying the Age: Social and Artistic Protest in Brendan Kennelly's Work* (Gothenburg, 2000), and editor of Kennelly's critical essays, *Journey into Joy: Selected Prose* (Bloodaxe, 1994); he also edited a collection of essays on Kennelly, *This Fellow with the Fabulous Smile* (Bloodaxe, 1996). He has published extensively on Anglo-Irish literature and is currently engaged in research on contemporary Irish fiction as well as film adaptations of literary texts.

After an early Natural Science publication while working as an engineer at Trinity College, Dublin, BARRY RYAN received his Bachelor's degree in educational science from University West in Trollhättan and later, completed advanced courses in English Literature at The University of Karlstad, and is presently completing his Master's Degree in English literature at Gothenburg University. His publications focus on postcolonial and Irish cultural studies, while his research interests converge on the political potential of literature in the relations of cultural power. Current academic projects reflect this interest with recent results presented at Gothenburg University at a conference titled "In the Head of James Joyce: A Day on one Day in Dublin".

GEORGE SNEDEKER is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the SUNY College at Old Westbury, where he has taught since 1984. He has published scholarly articles in the areas of Social Theory and Literary Criticism as well as short stories and poems. His book, *The Politics of Critical Theory*, was published by Rowman and Littlefield in 2004. His poems have appeared in *Critical Sociology*, *Cultural Logic*, *Sociologists without Borders* and *And Then*. He also serves on the editorial board of the journal, *Socialism and Democracy*, and is their Book Review Editor.