

Contributors

Marie Dücker is Assistant Professor of American Studies at the Department of American Studies at the University of Graz. Her research interests are in intermediality studies, cognitive literary studies, affect studies, and feminist literary criticism. She holds a PhD from the University of Graz and her research has been supported by grants. She has significant experience in researching and teaching, worked as a Teaching Associate at Williams College, Massachusetts, and has been teaching a variety of classes on literature and cultural phenomena at the undergraduate level at the University of Graz since 2015. Marie has published in the fields of American literature, affect studies, and intermediality studies.

Rita Filanti holds a PhD in Translation Studies & Anglo-American Literatures from the University of Bari, Italy. Currently an English teacher and literary translator, Rita has been a Lecturer of Italian and taught in Australian and North American universities for more than ten years. She has published extensively in the field of Translation Studies and American Studies. Her latest publications include the Italian translations from American-English of Maxim D. Shrayer's memoirs: *Aspettando America: Storia di una migrazione* (Pisa UP: 2017) and *Fuga dalla Russia* (Pisa UP 2021).

Ingrid Gessner (she/her) is Hochschulprofessorin of English and American Studies at the University College of Education Vorarlberg, Austria. Her book *Yellow Fever Years: An Epidemiology of Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture* (2016) has been awarded the Peter Lang Young Scholars Award. She is the author of *Collective Memory as Catharsis? The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Public Controversy* (2000) and of the award-winning *From Sites of Memory to Cybersights: (Re)Framing Japanese American Experiences* (2007). Further publications include articles on feminism and gender studies, transnationalism, eco-photography, and on teaching American Studies. She is a founding editor of *WiN* and was appointed to serve on the editorial board of *Amerikastudien/American Studies* (2019-24). As an elected member of the EAAS Women's Network Steering Committee (2014-22) she has co-organized four of the network's biannual conferences.

Méliné Kasparian-Le Fèvre is a PHD student at Université Bordeaux Montaigne. Drawing on food studies and theories of care, her dissertation focuses on the writing of food in the works of contemporary Chicana writers Ana Castillo, Pat Mora and Sandra Cisneros. She has published a chapter in the recent collection *Consumption and the Literary Cookbook*, edited by Roxanne Harde and Janet Wesselius. Her main research interests are food in literature, food and gender, and women's writing.

Jennifer C. Nash is the Jean Fox O'Barr Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies at Duke University. She earned her PhD in African American Studies at Harvard University and her JD at Harvard Law School. She is the author of three books: *The Black Body in Ecstasy: Reading Race, Reading Pornography* (awarded the Alan Bray Memorial Book Prize by the GL/Q Caucus of the Modern Language Association), *Black Feminism Reimagined* (awarded the Gloria Anzaldúa Book Prize by the National Women's Studies Association), and *Birthing Black Mothers*. She is also the editor of *Gender: Love* (Macmillan, 2016). Her research has been supported by the ACLS/Burkhardt Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute, and the Woodrow Wilson Junior Faculty Career Enhancement Fellowship. Her current book project is *How We Write Now: Living With Black Feminist Theory* (under contract, Duke University Press).

Julia Nitz is Associate Professor of Anglo-American Cultural Studies at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. She has served as Executive Director at the Center for American Studies and is co-founder of the Intercontinental Crosscurrents Network for the study of transatlantic women's networks in the long nineteenth century (crosscurrents.uni-halle.de). Her research focuses on the American Civil War, women's life writing, intertextual cultural studies, historiographic and museum narratology as well as Anglophone (Caribbean) film and adaptation studies. Her publications include *Georg III. Rezeption und Konstruktion in den britischen Medien (1990–2006)* (WVT, 2010), *Towards a Historiographic Narratology* (2011), and with Sandra H. Petrulionis and Theresa Schön, an edited volume on *Intercontinental Crosscurrents: Women's Networks across Europe and the Americas* (2016). Her most recent monograph *Belles and Poets: Intertextuality in the Civil War Diaries of White Southern Women*

(LSUP, 2020) establishes the extent to which literature offered a means of exploring ideas and convictions about class, gender, and racial hierarchies in the Civil War-era South.

Samantha Pinto (PhD, UCLA 2007) is Associate Professor of English and affiliated faculty of Women's and Gender Studies, African and African Diaspora Studies, The Warfield Center for African American Studies, and LGBTQ Studies. She teaches courses on African American, African Diaspora, African, postcolonial, and feminist studies. Her book, *Difficult Diasporas: The Transnational Feminist Aesthetic of the Black Atlantic* (NYU Press, 2013), was the winner of the 2013 William Sanders Scarborough Prize for African American Literature and Culture from the MLA. Her work has been published in journals including *Meridians*, *Signs*, *Palimpsest*, *Safundi*, *Small Axe*, and *Atlantic Studies*, and she has received fellowships from the NEH and the Harry Ransom Center. Her second book, *Infamous Bodies* (Duke UP, 2020), explores the relationship between 18th and 19th-century black women celebrities and discourses of race, gender, and human rights. She is currently at work on a third book, *Under the Skin*, on race, embodiment, and science in African Diaspora culture.

Johanna Pitetti-Heil (she/her) is senior lecturer for Gender and Diversity Studies at the English Department of the University of Cologne, Germany. She is a member of the EAAS Women's Network Steering Committee, co-editor of *WiN*, *Gender Forum* (with Judith Rauscher; <http://genderforum.org/>), and of the academic blog *Food, Fatness, Fitness: Critical Perspectives* (with Evangelia Kindinger and Nina Mackert; <http://foodfatnessfitness.com/>). She has published in the fields of American literature, cultural theory, and dance studies, including her monograph *Walking the Möbius Strip: An Inquiry into Knowing in Richard Powers's Fiction* (Winter 2016), the co-edited collection *Communicating Disease: Cultural Representations of American Medicine* (with Carmen Birkle), and articles in *Dance Chronicle* and *Hypatia*. Her current book project, "Becoming-Body: Technologies of the Self in American Modern Dance," explores the implications of corporeal materiality for the construction of subjectivity and freedom in American modern dance techniques.

Sandra Tausel (pronouns: she/her/hers) is a university assistant and PhD candidate at the Department of American Studies at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. Her research project examines how social identities, among them gender, race, and class function as intersecting forces of oppression but can simultaneously be a site of transformation in the representation of romantic love in works for young adults. Sandra Tausel has completed BAs in English and American Studies and German Studies and a Joint Degree MA in English and American Studies at the University of Graz, Austria and the Université Paris Diderot, France. Before joining the Department of American Studies Innsbruck, she was a Fulbright Grantee at Gettysburg College, PA, USA (2014-2015) and an OeAD grant recipient with an appointment at the Corvinus University Budapest, Hungary (2017-2019).

Katharina Wiedlack is FWF Senior Post-Doc Researcher at the Department of English and American Studies, at the University of Vienna. Her research fields are primarily American Cultural and Literature Studies, American-Russian relations, queer and feminist theory, popular culture, postsocialist, decolonial and Dis/ability Studies. Her first book *Queer-Feminist Punk: An Anti-Social* was published in 2015, by the feminist publisher Zaglossus. Currently, she is working on two independent research projects. Her FWF Elise Richter project "Rivals of the Past, Children of the Future" focuses on the discursive construction of Russia within Western thought between the time of the American purchase of Alaska and the beginning of the Cold War. Her second FWF project is an arts-based research project and collaboration with Masha Godovannaya and Ruth Jenrbekova from the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. It focuses on questions of in/visibility, queer ways of living, community building, and archiving within the post-Soviet space.