

Notes on Contributors

Agnieszka Adamowicz-Pośpiech, Ph.D., teaches Modern English Literature and Translation Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland. She has published three books on Conrad (*Joseph Conrad. Biography and Interpretation; Conrad's 'Lord Jim'. Interpretations; Retranslations. Polish Variants of Conrad's Prose*) as well as a number of essays on R. Browning, J. Joyce, T.S. Eliot and W. Golding. Her research focuses on modern and contemporary British drama, Descriptive Translation Studies and British Modernism. She is currently working on a project entitled 'Conrad in Polish Periodicals'.

Asparuh Asparuhov, Ph.D., is a member of the Department of English and American Studies at Sofia University, where he has been teaching Victorian and Twentieth-Century English Literature. His Ph.D. thesis sheds light on the correspondence between metaphor, symbol and scene in Joseph Conrad's early and late novels. His academic interests are in the field of Modernist fiction and his publications include articles on *Almayer's Folly*, *An Outcast of the Islands*, *The Rescue*, *Typhoon* and *Chance*, as well as on the novelistic series *The Fifth Queen* and *Parade's End* by Ford Madox Ford, on whom he is currently doing research.

Andrew Bell, B.A., has recently graduated in English and Philosophy from the University of York and has held Joseph Conrad as one of his favourite authors for a number of years. His academic interests include formal logic and the integration of man and machine in the Modernist period.

Margreta Grigorova, Ph.D., is an associate professor at the University of Veliko Turnovo in Bulgaria, where she teaches Polish and Slavic literature. She is the author of a dissertation on the problematics of *theatrum mundi* in Boleslaw Prus's novel *Lalka* (1995) and has written over 70 articles. Her books include *Horizons and Paths of Polish identity* (2002), *Literary Dedications. Ritual Areas of Speech in Polish literature* (2003) and *Joseph Conrad Korzeniowski – the Creator as Seafarer* (2011), which is the first complete monography on the work of Joseph Conrad in Bulgarian. Over the last ten years she has done research on Czesław Miłosz, Gustaw Herling Grudziński, Ryszard Kapuściński and Olga Tokarczuk. She has translated poems by Wisława Szymborska and (together with Mira Kostova) Czesław Miłosz's *Rodzinna Europa*. Since 2012 she has been a member of the Polish Joseph Conrad Society and since 2013 she has been a member of the International Association for the Study

of Polish Language and Literature (Międzynarodowe Stowarzyszenie Studiów Polonistycznych).

Wiesław Ratajczak, Ph.D., is a professor of Polish Literature at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. He is the author of *Teodor Tomasz Jeż (Zygmunt Miłkowski) i wiek XIX (Teodor Tomasz Jeż (Zygmunt Miłkowski) and the Nineteenth Century, 2006)*, *Słownik motywów literackich (A Dictionary of Literary Motifs, 2006)*, *Literatura polska XIX wieku (Nineteenth-Century Polish Literature, 2008)*, *(Conrad i koniec epoki żaglówców (Conrad and the End of the Epoch of Sailing Ships, 2010)*. He is also interested in the forgotten Polish prose and poetry of the nineteenth century, comparative studies and religious symbolism in literature.

Karol Samsel has graduated with an M.A. in philosophy from the University of Warsaw, where he is currently completing a Ph.D. thesis (at the Faculty of Polish Language and Literature) on the parallels between Cyprian Norwid and Joseph Conrad. His interests include the culture of Modernism. He is also a poet and literary critic, having published seven collections of his own poems. He has edited and published Wanda Karczevska's letters to Seweryn Pollak.

Joanna Skolik, Ph.D., teaches at the University of Opole. Together with Zdzisław Najder she has edited the two volumes of *Polskie zaplecze Josepha Conrada-Korzeniowskiego (Joseph Conrad's Polish Background – 2006)*. Her latest book is entitled *The Ideal of Fidelity in Conrad's Works (2009)*. She has also published several articles on Conrad. Her research is centred on the reception of Conrad's work and on Conrad's ethics, as well as on the cultural significance of the Polish eastern borderlands.

Petya Tsoneva is completing a Ph.D. thesis on Antoine de Saint-Exupéry and Salman Rushdie at the University of Veliko Turnovo (Bulgaria), where she is currently teaching. Her interests are in the fields of Modernism, Postmodernism and postcolonial literature. Her publications include: "Promoting Cultural Studies in the Bulgarian University Context in the 1990s: Notes on Educational practice" (English Studies on This Side. Post-2007 Reckonings. Plovdiv University Press, 2009), *Metamorphosis and Identity Construction in Salman Rushdie's 'The Satanic Verses'* (University of Bucharest Review 1/2008) and *Perspectives on*

Home and Homelessness in Antoine de Saint-Exupéry and Salman Rushdie (Comparisons and Interactions Within / Across Cultures. St. Cyril and St. Methodius University Press, 2012).

Peter Vernon wrote his Ph.D. and began teaching at University College London and then worked on contract for 16 years with the British Council. In 1991 he was appointed Visiting Professor at the University of Tours, where he served as Vice-Dean. He has published over 40 articles in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century English and American Literature, and has edited two collections of essays: *Seeing Things: Literature and the Visual* (PU François Rabelais, 2005) and *L'Allusion et L'Accès* (PU François Rabelais, 2005). He was elected Fellow of the English Association in 2005.