

Authors

JUSTYNA BUDZIK – Ph.D. in Humanities in the field of Polish Literature, M.A. in culture studies (American specialization), assistant professor at the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora of the Jagiellonian University. Her research interests include Polish émigré literature written on the North American continent, bilingualism, multiculturalism and intertextuality in Polish émigré literary works, reception of American poetry and European literary tradition, as sources of inspiration for Polish writers living in the United States and Canada. She is the author of a number of articles on Polish-Canadian literary milieu and of the book *Feeling at Home and Feeling Alienated: A Study of the Situation of Polish Writers in Canada*. Currently, she is in the course of conducting research on the works of Polish painters and visual artists on the North American continent.

SONIA CAPUTA works as Assistant Professor in the Department of American and Canadian Studies at the University of Silesia. She holds a Ph.D. in American literature from the same university, she is a fellow of 2014 Salzburg Seminar American Studies Association Symposium Defining America: New Writing, New Voices, New Directions, a participant of the summer Fulbright scholarship “The United States Department of State 2015 Institute on Contemporary U.S. Literature” (University of Louisville, Kentucky) and a member of the Polish Association for American Studies. She is a guest co-editor of RIAS Online Journal and a co-editor of Grand Themes of American Literature. She teaches contemporary American ethnic literature and the survey courses of the history of American literature, her interests include but are not limited to: ethnicity, assimilation as well as stereotypes in literature and films.

MARY PATRICE ERDMANS is Professor of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. Her areas of interest include immigration and ethnicity, the intersection of gender, class, and race, and narrative research methods. She is a former president of the Polish American Historical Association. Her books include *Opposite Pole* (1998), *The Grasiński Girls* (2005), and *On Becoming a Teen Mom* (2015). Her current research project is an oral history of return Solidarity refugees.

MAGDALENA LESIŃSKA is Assistant Professor in the Centre of Migration Research at University of Warsaw (CMR UW). Her present research interests focus on national and

European migration policy as well as political and public participation of immigrants, diaspora politics and political engagement of diaspora. She is an author and editor of several books (among others monographs: *Political Inclusion of Immigrants In Contemporary Europe*. (2013). Warsaw: Scholar Press, *Difficult relationship – political relations between the state of origin and the diaspora. Poland and Polish diaspora after 1989*. University of Warsaw Press (forthcoming), articles, working papers and political recommendations.

MIKOLAJ MURKOCINSKI is a PhD candidate at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland. He studied at the Institut d'études politiques Sciences Po Paris (BA in political science, MA in history) and at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. His research focuses on the institutional history of Polish refugeehood during World War II in Africa and in the Middle East, as well as the fate of refugees. His other interests include transnational history and the history of Christianity in the Middle East.

MAGDALENA PALUSZKIEWICZ-MISIAECZEK, PhD – employed at the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Jagiellonian University, Kraków. Her scholarly interests focus on history of North America and social policy solutions implemented in Canada and the USA, with special emphasis on the evolution of social care system catering for the needs of war and foreign mission veterans. Her other interests comprise historical changes of the status of women as well as Canadian and US policy towards Aboriginal Peoples.

PIOTR PODEMSKI is Assistant Professor at the University of Warsaw. He obtained his M.A. degrees in History and Italian (2003) as well as his Ph.D. (2008) from the University of Warsaw. A Fulbright scholar at the Truman Library, Independence, Missouri, he has taught as visiting fellow at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, and a number of European universities (e.g. European University Institute-Florence, Rome-La Sapienza, Naples, Pisa). His publications include four books and about fifty academic papers on 20th century Italian and American history and politics as well as comparative studies on the paradigms of history education and the cultures of remembrance in Poland and Europe.

ANNA RECZYŃSKA, historian, Chair of Canadian Studies, Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. Her research and teaching concentrates on the history of Polish migrations, ethnic history of Canada, especially the past of Polish ethnic group there and recently the history of ethnic relations in the Roman Catholic Church in Canada. She is an author of more than 50 scientific publications, among them 3 book monographs: *Emigracja z Polski do Kanady w okresie międzywojennym* (Wrocław 1986), *Piętno wojny. Polonia kanadyjska wobec polskich problemów lat 1939–1945* (Kraków 1997), and *Braterstwo a bagaż z narodowy. Relacje etniczne w Kościele katolickim na ziemiach kanadyjskich do I wojny światowej* (Kraków 2013).

JOANNA WOJDON is an associate professor at the Institute of History, University of Wrocław, author of *White and Red Umbrella: Polish American Congress in the Cold War Era (1944–1988)* (Helena History Press, 2015), board member of the Polish American Historical Association.