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Notes on Contributors

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Notes on the Contributors

Lauren Forsythe is a rising senior at Davidson College in North Carolina, where she studies both English and Spanish literature. Her interest in medieval Spanish literature was sparked during her sophomore year in a class called “The Dying of Love in Medieval Spain,” with assistant professor of Spanish Samuel Sánchez y Sánchez, to whom she is eternally grateful for his support, encouragement, and endless proofreading. Lauren’s continued interest in this historically rich and fascinating era of literature is specific to the feminine role – both in and out of convention – within courtly love relationships. She spent the spring semester of 2008 studying in Madrid, Spain, and plans to pursue an honors thesis in the area of medieval Spanish literature this coming year.

Michelle Gallagher will enter her senior year at Bucknell University this fall, working toward a B.A. in English and minor in anthropology. She also studied for a semester in Western Samoa. As a freshman, Michelle became a member of the Humanities Residential College, a living-learning program in which first-year students taking the same Foundation Seminar (“Myth, Reason, and Faith”) also live together. This paper was written for the course’s final assignment, aiming to reflect creatively on some readings from the seminar in a style which imitates Plato’s *Symposium*. She would like to thank Professor Slava Yastremski, Nick Kupensky, and Anna Juan for the assistance they provided during the writing and editing of this paper.

Anna Juan recently graduated from Bucknell University with a B.A. in comparative humanities (honors) and English. She is the issue editor for this *Symposium* installation of the Comparative Humanities Review. She studied for a semester at the Advanced Studies in England program based in Bath. Her academic interests include postcolonial studies, comparative literature, and gender and sexuality studies. She will be attending graduate school at Dartmouth College in the fall of 2009.

Bryan Kim-Butler graduated with a B.A. in philosophy from Vassar

College in May 2008. His thesis, "Foucault, Legal Critique, and Same-Sex Marriage," examined the push for same-sex marriage in the courts in light of previous court cases dealing with homosexuality, continental philosophy, and legal scholarship influenced by the work of Foucault. His interests in law include both philosophical and critical perspectives on law and justice and legal strategies for dealing with property disputes, discrimination, and injuries. "The Politics of Transsexual Love" developed out of an interest in examining film in light of philosophical questions (in this case, the nature of love) and contemporary scholarship on the complexities of sex and gender. He has published reports with both the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and Gay Men's Health Crisis. He will be published later this year in *LGBTQ America Today*, a new encyclopedia from Greenwood Press. He would like to thank Karen Robertson for her excellent and honest advice about presenting and publishing. Bryan will enter Columbia Law School in New York City this fall.

Diana Koretsky is a graduate student at Bucknell University and is currently focusing on transatlantic Romanticism.

Nick Kupensky graduated from Bucknell University, completing his B.A. with majors in comparative humanities (honors), Russian, and English. Nick has presented conference papers on translation theory and film adaptation, theories of influence and the literary genealogy, the nineteenth-century Russian novel in British Modernism, Russia and Postmodernism, and, recently, the role of non-native English in "Borat" and "Everything is Illuminated." After spending a year studying at Moscow International University and lecturing on American Literature in the Russian-American Academic Center for American Studies at the Russian State University for the Humanities, Nick will enter Yale's Ph.D. program in Slavic Languages and Literatures in the fall of 2008.

Soohyun Alexander Lee is completing his final semester at Bucknell University, where he anticipates a B.A. in philosophy. After Bucknell, he plans to pursue advanced education in human rights law. Soohyun is hobby artist, involved mostly in photography, filmmaking, and graphic design. He has small publications in and outside of college institutions. He currently has no further intended publications besides a novel he has been writing since

junior high school.

Steven McClellan recently graduated from Pennsylvania State University, completing B.A.'s in history and philosophy. His main interests include the cultural history of the First World War era, the development of cultural representations of historical events, Kant, and intellectual intuition in Henri Bergson, German Idealism and Romanticism. His study of Plato's *Symposium* originated from a discussion he had with a friend about the nature of the concept of Platonic love. He is currently interning at the Pennsylvania Military Museum at Boalsburg, with intentions of attending graduate school in the fall of 2009.

Albert "Joey" McMullen is currently the editor-in-chief of The Comparative Humanities Review and a senior at Bucknell University majoring in English and comparative humanities. His interests are, dually, critical theory and medieval studies with past projects, including an ecocritical reading of *Tochmarc Étaíne* (an early Irish myth translated as "The Wooing of Etain") and a Derridean analysis of the Grail in Sir Thomas Malory's *Tale of the Sankgreal*. This paper on Dante's *Purgatorio* resulted from a class taken during his sophomore year with Professor John Hunter. The paper seeks to show how the art of Purgatory and the experience of seeing this art (something more real than life itself was for these souls) acts as an intermediary to free will and, consequently, "good" love.

Allison Rittmayer is currently pursuing her M.A. in English at Bucknell University, where she earned her B.A. in English and French in 2007. Her interests include 20th and 21st century American literature, film, and popular culture. The paper on William Faulkner's *The Hamlet* was an early version of a chapter that appeared in Allison's undergraduate honors thesis, "The supreme primal uterus': Faulkner's Use of Humor in Constructing His Women," which explored the ways in which Faulkner's female characters appropriate masculine humor. She is the recipient of a 2008 Graduate Summer Research Fellowship from Bucknell University, and she is researching the ways in which identity is narrativized in modern and postmodern texts. Her conferences include: (forthcoming, February-March 2009) Genre Trouble: The Role of Genre in 20th and 21st Century Film and Fiction ; (April 2008) Heteroglossia, Narrative Conflation, and the Curse of the

South in William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!*; (November 2007). Comparative Humanities Review conference on translation at Bucknell University; (March 2007) Comparative Humanities Review conference on the *Symposium* at Bucknell University.

Nicholas Rockower recently graduated from Bucknell University, completing his B.A. in classics and comparative humanities. He has studied at Arcadia University in Athens, Greece and St. Andrews University in Scotland. This paper on Plato's *Symposium* was written in Scotland while studying with Professor Stephen Halliwell. Nicholas will begin graduate study at the University of Cambridge in the fall.

Lauren Rutter is a senior psychology and comparative humanities major at Bucknell University and the upcoming issue editor of the fourth volume of the Comparative Humanities Review. Her interests are split between the social sciences and the humanities. In the psychology department, she has completed research on early childhood routines and obsessive compulsive disorder. Currently she is working on a project on hooking up and unwanted sexual experiences of college students. Within her studies in comparative humanities, she has focused on issues of women, gender, the body, and translation. This paper, on Ovid's *Amores*, explains the military metaphor and discusses matters of gender transgression.

Joseph Schwartz graduated from Rowan University with a degree in English along with a minor in history. His focus is on ancient history, especially Greek and Roman, and enjoys finding the historical value in literary texts. This paper is an examination of the validity of Plato's *Symposium* from both a historical and literary stand point. Special thanks goes to Dr. Afrodesia McCannon and Dr. Scott Morschauer for the help that they provided in the preparation and editing of this paper.

Kang Tchou is completing his M.A. in English at Bucknell University. Prior to his foray into the discipline of English, he earned his B.A. at Bucknell in comparative humanities and East Asian studies with a minor in biology in 2006. His current research is on Chinese written characters that serve as traveling metaphors between cultures that are traditionally labeled as the

“East” and the “West.” The paper on purificatory hermeneutics of desire is the result of his fascination with the questions raised in contemporary society by the strict binary of homo- and heterosexuality. By promoting the term “intercrural sex,” the paper explores the intermediary place that exists between these two modern classifications of human sexuality. He is currently finishing his M.A. thesis entitled “Chinese Characters as Traveling Metaphors in the Works of James Legge and Ezra Pound.” He would like to thank Professor Katherine M. Faull for her help with both the research and the editing of his paper. Her course, “The History of Sexuality,” provided the intellectual foundation, interdisciplinary approach and language that made this paper possible. Kang has been accepted to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s Ph.D. program in East Asian Languages and Literatures.