

Contributors

Victoria N. Alexander is co-founder and director of the Dactyl Foundation for the Arts & Humanities, in New York City. She did dissertation research in teleology, evolutionary theory and complexity science at the Santa Fe Institute, and earned her PhD in English at the Graduate Center, CUNY, in 2002. Her publications in the *Antioch Review*, *Emergence*, *English Language Notes*, *Nabokov Studies* and several visual-art periodicals have investigated chance and teleology in narrative by a range of writers from Shakespeare and Henry James to Milan Kundera and Martin Amis. An award-winning fiction writer, she has also published two novels, *Smoking Hopes* and *Naked Singularity*, which pursue similar themes involving coincidence and emergent intentionality.

Bruno Arich-Gerz received his MA from the University of Köln in 1993 and his PhD from the University of Konstanz in 2000. His thesis, *Lesen—Beobachten: Modell einer Wirkungsästhetik mit Thomas Pynchons Gravity's Rainbow*, was published in 2001. In 2001–2002 he worked as a postdoctoral research scholar at the University of Antwerp before he was appointed Juniorprofessor at the Darmstadt University of Technology. His current research and teaching activities include writing a monograph about media and technology in nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature, and developing cultural-studies content for e-learning units.

Takashi Aso is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at Waseda University in Tokyo. He has published several articles on Pynchon and American postmodernism, and is currently completing articles on the missing representation of Japanese women in *Gravity's Rainbow* and *Vineland*, and on history and spectropolitics in *Mason & Dixon*.

Joel Bettridge received his PhD from SUNY Buffalo in 2002 and now teaches at the University of Redlands. He is editing a collection of essays on Ronald Johnson for the National Poetry Foundation's Life and Work series, and he has poems and essays in recent or forthcoming issues of the *Colorado Review*, *Jacket*, *Pom²*, *QUE*, *Sagetrieb*, *Chicago Review* and *Mandorla*.

Brit Bunkley is the head of sculpture and a lecturer in digital media at the Quay School of the Arts, Wanganui UCOL, in Wanganui, New Zealand. After sixteen years as a working sculptor and photographer in New York City, he emigrated with his family to New Zealand in 1995. His work has appeared in numerous group and solo shows on five

continents. He recently co-curated and participated in Made Known, an exhibition of digital sculpture and video 3D animation, at the University of Technology (UTS) Gallery in Sydney, Australia.

Michael Corrigan is the author of *Confessions of a Shanty Irishman*, *The Irish Connection and Other Stories*, and, most recently, the novel *Byron*. He produced and published a play called *Letters from Rebecca*, later broadcast on NPR.

Phillip Gochenour holds a PhD in comparative literature from Emory University. He has taught in the media studies program at the University of Virginia, and currently lives in San Francisco, where he works as a technical writer and information-management specialist in the area of software development.

Robert R. Hill received his PhD from the University of Tulsa in 1981. He taught at Seminole State College in Oklahoma from 1990 until 2000, when he became an assistant professor in the Department of English and Languages at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. His wife, Mary Ann, and six cats—Zelda, Patches, Soondori, Penelope, Layla and Harrison—let him live in their home in Seminole.

Jeffrey Howard recently completed his dissertation, “Heretical Reading: Freedom as Question and Process in Postmodern American Novel and Technological Pedagogy,” at the University of Texas, Austin. He is currently studying pedagogical applications of new media, with emphasis on hypertext and video-game design. He teaches composition and literature classes, including “Literary Contests and Contexts” and “The Rhetoric of Detective Stories.”

Jason T. McEntee is an assistant professor of English at South Dakota State University, where he teaches courses in American literature, film and global studies. In addition, he is the Coordinator of the professional writing program.

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Robert L. Robertson is an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. Most of his previous publications are in the area of mathematics, and this is his first foray into writing about literature.

Umberto Rossi is a Rome-based independent scholar, translator, literary journalist and Philip K. Dick expert. He has written several academic articles on Joseph Heller, J. G. Ballard, narratives of the First World War, Thomas M. Disch, G. K. Chesterton, T. S. Eliot and Jonathan Lethem, and edited the proceedings of the international Philip K. Dick conference held in Macerata, Italy, in 2000. He translated the current Italian edition of Dick's *Three Stigmata of Palmer Eldritch*.

The editors would also like to thank the following for their contributions to this issue of *Pynchon Notes*: Rebecca Adams, Bruno Arich, Robert Bramkamp, Francisco Collado, Samuli Hägg, Luc Herman, Tiina Käkelä-Puumala, Zofia Kolbuszewska, Manfred Kopp, Don Larsson, Doug Millison, Dave Monroe, Sascha Pöhlmann, Heikki Raudaskoski, Rich Romeo, Otto Sell, Felicia Share, János Széky, Joanna Urban, Geert Vandermeersche, Andrey Vasilenko, Celia Wallhead, Steve Weisenburger and Polly Whitaker.