

About our contributors

Christine Caruana

Christine Caruana is an MA graduate in Modern and Contemporary Literature and Criticism. Her research interests include silliness (and humour studies more broadly), style, and literariness.

Elsa Fiott

Elsa Fiott is an MA graduate whose dissertation concerned photographed death and violence. Her main research interests are theoretical and focus especially on death and dying, authenticity and truth in art, artistic mediation and the problem of reality, and the problem of nihilism.

Charlie Gere

Charlie Gere is Professor of Media Theory and History in the Lancaster Institute for Contemporary Arts, Lancaster University. He is the author of *Digital Culture* (2002), *Art, Time and Technology* (2006), *Non-relational Aesthetics*, with Michael Corris (2009), and *Community without Community in Digital Culture* (2012) as well as co-editor of *White Heat Cold Technology* (2009), and *Art Practice in a Digital Culture* (2010), and many papers on questions of technology, media and art. In 2007, he co-curated *Feedback*, a major exhibition on art responsive to instructions, input, or its environment, in Gijon, Northern Spain, and was co-curator of *FutureEverybody*, the 2012 *FutureEverything* exhibition, in Manchester.

Ashar Foley

Ashar Foley is a newly minted PhD from Stony Brook University's Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory. She currently teaches courses in the Humanities at New York City College of Technology and Fordham University. Her research interests include boredom, history of the novel, and narratology. She is currently writing a novel and planning a separate research project on Céline—because he is so difficult.

Nikolaus Lehner

The author did his master's degree in political science. Currently, he is a PhD student of Sociology at the Institute of Sociology in Vienna, where he also works as external lecturer. His dissertation project is concerned with a theory of algorithmic sociality. Other research interests concern media culture and the sociology of things.

Pedro Corga

Pedro Corga has concluded his Master's with a dissertation on the work of Portuguese writer Ana Teresa Pereira. He is currently carrying out his Doctoral research at the University of Aveiro, in the field of Cultural Studies, examining the relationship between contemporary epic and melancholy in Gonçalo M. Tavares.

Manel Mula Ferrer

Manel Mula Ferrer (Palma, 1992) pursued his passion for literature majoring in Catalan Language and Literature at the Universitat de les Illes Balears, while contributing to different journals of literary criticism. He is now completing a MA in Cultural Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Oliver Neto

Oliver Neto is a PhD student at the University of Bristol. His AHRC-funded project explores the rhetorical functions of boredom in modernist literature, with a focus on Joseph Conrad, James Joyce and Elisabeth Bowen. His MA was completed at UCL, where his dissertation, 'World Without End: *Ulysses*, Heidegger and Joycean Criticism', won the John Oliver Hobbes Memorial award. He read his BA at the University of Sussex.

James Farrugia

James Farrugia has studied at the University of Malta and completed his Master's in Modern and Contemporary Literature and Criticism in 2014. His dissertation revolved around nihilism and affirmation in J.M. Coetzee. Some of his research interests include poetry, death, scepticism, nihilism, the anarchic, and quietism.

Aaron Aquilina

Aaron Aquilina completed his Master's in Modern and Contemporary Literature and Criticism at the University of Malta. His research interests revolve around contemporary American prose, modern English poetry, post-structuralist theory, phenomenology, and existentialism. He is currently a PhD student at Lancaster University, focusing on the interrelations between concepts of death and alterity.