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Abstract

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R. AZHAGARASAN is a lecturer in English at the University of Madras, India. His PhD was a study of ballad in Tamil and English. Azhagarasan is interested in 'Dalit Studies' and is a regular contributor to Tamil Dalit journals. He has also translated Dalit writings from Tamil into English.

MELISSA BOYD is an Honorary Fellow in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Wollongong. In 2003 she was awarded the NSW Premier's History Fellowship to write a biography of Mary Alice Evatt. The exhibition she curated of Mary Alice's paintings, drawing and sculpture *Mary Alice Evatt: 'Mas' 1898–1973* was shown first at Bathurst Regional Art Gallery in 2002 and has since toured to various venues including Heide Museum of Modern Art in Melbourne, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney and the Canberra Museum and Art Gallery. It will be shown at the Flinders University City Art Gallery, Adelaide in 2006.

Convenor of the English Literatures program at the University of Wollongong, ANNE COLLETT is co-writing a comparative study (with Dorothy Jones) of Judith Wright and Emily Carr. She has published widely on Canadian, Australian and Caribbean women's poetry and has taught in the U.K., Denmark and Australia. Anne is currently engaged in collaborative interdisciplinary work on the colonial/postcolonial relationship between text and textile that has resulted most recently in an edited book of essays for the 'Reinventing Textiles' series by Telos (Manchester).

M.J. DAYMOND is Professor in English Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal on the Durban campus. Her publications focus on women's narratives and questions of gender and feminist theory. She is an editor of *Current Writing* and her recent books are *South African Feminisms: Writing, Theory, and Criticism 1990–1994* (New York: Garland Press); an edition of Lauretta Ngcobo's novel *And They Didn't Die* (New York: Feminist Press); and *Women Writing Africa: The Southern Region* (New York: Feminist Press).

BEVERLEY FARMER's books of fiction and semi-fiction are *Alone, Milk, Home Time, Place of Birth* (UK), *A Body of Water, The Seal Woman, The House in the Light* and *Collected Stories*. She lives on the coast of Victoria, Australia.

KEN GOODWIN the founding Chair of South Pacific ACLALS and later Chair of the overarching international body, is, in retirement from full-time work, an honorary professor of English at the University of Queensland. He is the author of *A History of Australian Literature* and of *Understanding African Poetry*.

Under a Medlar Tree is SYD HARREX's fifth collection of poems. He is currently preparing a new collection for publication in early 2005. His poems have been published both nationally and internationally, and he is represented in the *Oxford Book of Australian Modern Verse*.

ALAMGIR HASHMI has published eleven volumes of poetry over the last forty years, including *My Second in Kentucky* (1981), *A Choice of Hashmi's Verse* (1997), and *The Ramazan Libation* (2003). He won the poetry prize in the All-Pakistan Creative Writing Contest in 1972 and the Patras Bokhari Award (National Literature Prize) of the Pakistan Academy of Letters in 1985. He is also widely published abroad — in the United Kingdom, Australia, India, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. He has been Professor of English and Comparative Literature in the University of Islamabad, Pakistan, and has also taught in universities in Europe and the United States. Most recently Alamgir's work as poet and scholar has won him the President's [President of Pakistan] Award for Excellence in English Poetry and Literary Criticism (2004).

DOROTHY JONES is an honorary fellow in the School of English Literatures, Philosophy and Languages at the University of Wollongong where she taught from 1971–1996. Dorothy has published widely in the area of postcolonial literature with special emphasis on women writers and is currently engaged in projects that explore the relationship between textile and literature. She is also working collaboratively with Anne Collett on a comparative study of the painting of Emily Carr and the poetry of Judith Wright.

KEN KAMOCHÉ was born in Kenya. He studied business at the University of Nairobi and then earned a Rhodes scholarship to pursue further studies at Oxford. He teaches management in Hong Kong, and also writes poetry and fiction.

MARGARET LENTA is an emeritus professor of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where she is at present an Honorary Research Associate. Her research interests are in eighteenth-century letters and memoirs by women, and twentieth century southern African fiction. In 1999 she edited, together with B.A. Le Cordeur, *The Cape Diaries of Lady Anne Barnard, 1799–1800*. Since then she has published on Pauline Smith's *Platkops Children* and on South African Jewish writers. She has recently finished an article on J.M. Coetzee's 'Elizabeth Costello' stories.

CHRISTIE MICHEL is currently completing her PhD on Albert Wendt at the University de la Réunion.

JOHN O'LEARY gained his doctorate in 2001 with a study of mid-nineteenth-century European writing about Maori. In 2003 he was a Visiting Fellow at the Humanities Research Centre at the Australian National University. Currently he is examining nineteenth-century Australian ethnographic verse.

RAJEEV S. PATKE is Associate Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature, National University of Singapore. He has authored *The Long Poems of Wallace Stevens: An Interpretative Study* (1985), and co-edited *Institutions in Cultures: Theory and Practice* (1996), guest-edited an issue on 'Europe in Post-colonial Narratives', *The European Legacy* 7.6 (2002), and co-

edited *Complicities: The Literatures of the Asia-Pacific Region* (2003). A book on *Postcolonial Poetry in English* will be published later this year by OUP. Recent articles include 'Adorno and the Postcolonial', *New Formations* 47 (2002), 'Nationalism, Diaspora, Exile: Poetry in English from Malaysia', *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 38.3 (2003), and 'The Islands of Poetry; The Poetry of Islands', *Partial Answers*, 2.1 (2004).

DIETER RIEMENSCHNEIDER taught English Language Literatures at Frankfurt University from 1973 to 1999 where he set up the New Literatures and Cultures in English (NELK) Research Centre in 1993. He founded and edited the bi-annual newsletter *ACOLIT* from 1977 to 1999 and was Chair of the 'Association for the Study of the New Literatures in English' (ASNEL) from 1989 to 1993. Dieter's main areas of research include Indian, African, Australian Aboriginal and New Zealand/Aotearoan Maori literature and culture. He is the editor of *Postcolonial Theory: The Emergence of a Critical Discourse: A Selected and Annotated Bibliography* (Tübingen: Stauffenburgverlag, 2004) and *The Reception of the Indian Novel in English* is forthcoming with Rawat Publications, Jaipur. He and his wife now live mostly in New Zealand.

PAUL SHARRAD is Associate Professor in English at the University of Wollongong. He has been working on an ARC Discovery grant project on textiles, texts and trading, and teaches postcolonial literatures with special focus on the Pacific and India. Paul has edited the *CRNLE Reviews Journal* and *New Literatures Review* and published a book on Raja Rao. His most recent book is *Circling the Void: Albert Wendt and Pacific Literature* (Manchester UP/Auckland UP, 2003).

Educated at the University of Uppsala and California State University, ALAN SHIMA is senior lecturer in American literature at Gävle University College, Sweden. He is the author of *Skirting the Subject: Pursuing Language in the Works of Adrienne Rich, Susan Griffin and Beverly Dahlen* (1993). He has co-edited two volumes in the field of American studies and has recently published articles on captivity and slave rebellion narratives. His current research focuses on the writing of Caryl Phillips.

LYCIA DANIELLE TROUTON holds her MFA and BFA (Hons) from universities in the U.S. Born in Belfast, she grew up in Vancouver and is currently completing her doctorate in Creative Arts at the University of Wollongong. Recently, she completed a six-month residency at The Gunnerly Artspace in Sydney as part of the multicultural arts professional development program sponsored by the Australia Council for the Arts. Lycia is the editor of *Rhizome*, a new postgraduate cross-disciplinary journal.