

**Zeitschrift:** SPELL : Swiss papers in English language and literature  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Association of University Teachers of English  
**Band:** 15 (2002)  
  
**Rubrik:** Notes on contributors

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 08.08.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Notes on contributors

MARGARET BRIDGES has taught Old and Middle English literature at universities in the US and in Switzerland, where she is currently Professor of Medieval English at the Universities of Berne and Geneva. Her publications are in the fields of hagiography (*Generic Contrast in Old English Hagiographical Poetry*), gender studies (with articles on "The Preposterous Representation of Gender in Mandeville's Orient" and on early medieval founding legends involving "Woman in a Boat" and "The King, the Foreigner and the Lady with a Meed Cup"), metahistory (with publications on the Old English Letter of Alexander to Aristotle and on early and late medieval "descriptions of Britain") and encyclopedic discourse (e.g. in her study of the medieval and Tudor *descriptioes britanniae*). At present she is working on a book-length study of beds in medieval (and premedieval) literature.

SARAH CHEVALIER studied English and French linguistics and literature in Sydney and Zurich and obtained her Lizentiat (M.A.) from the University of Zurich in 2000. She has published on family naming patterns and her Ph.D. research is concerned with personal names in Australia. She is currently an assistant at the English Department of the University of Zurich where she teaches "An Introduction to Linguistics."

ANDREAS FISCHER is Professor of English Philology (Linguistics and Medieval Literature) at the University of Zurich. His research interests include historical lexicology, semantics and pragmatics, the language of Shakespeare and Joyce, as well as varieties of English world-wide. Publications include *Dialects in the South-West of England* (1976), *Engagement, Wedding and Marriage in Old English* (1986), *The History and the Dialects of English: Festschrift for Eduard Kolb* (ed., 1989), *Aspects of Modernism: Studies in Honour of Max Nänny* (co-ed., 1997) and a variety of articles, mainly on historical English lexicology.

TOM MCARTHUR was born in Glasgow, Scotland, has an M.A. from Glasgow and an M.Litt. and Ph.D. from Edinburgh. He was Head of English at Cathedral School in Bombay in the 1960s, ran EFL courses at Edinburgh

University in the earlier 1970s, before becoming Associate Professor of English at the Université du Québec. He is the founding editor of *English Today: The International Review of the English Language* (Cambridge University Press, 1985-) and of *The Oxford Companion to the English Language*, 1992 (Concise, 1998). Other works include *The Longman Lexicon of Contemporary English* (1981), *Worlds of Reference* (Cambridge, 1986), and *The English Languages* (Cambridge, 1998). He has broadcast regularly for the BBC World Service, was an Honorary Fellow of the University of Exeter and Deputy Director of its Dictionary Research Centre 1990-2001. In 2000, he was a distinguished visiting professor at both the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Xiamen University in Fujian, P. R. China. In 2001, he represented Britain at a conference in Tokyo on the European Year of Languages. He has just completed *The Oxford Guide to World English*, publication date May 2002.

WERNER SENN is a professor at the University of Berne where he teaches modern English and post-colonial literatures. He has published books on Elizabethan drama and on Joseph Conrad as well as articles on a variety of authors and topics in English, American and Australian literature. He has edited or co-edited several collections of essays, among them *The Making of a Pluralist Australia, 1950-1990* (with Giovanna Capone. Berne: Peter Lang, 1992), and *European Perspectives: Contemporary Essays on Australian Literature* (with Giovanna Capone and Bruce Clunies Ross. St. Lucia, 1991). He is also the editor of the SPELL volume no. 9, *Families* (1996) and a founding member and former President of the *European Association of Studies on Australia*.

PAUL SKANDERA studied English linguistics and literature in Philadelphia, New York, Kiel, and Freiburg i. Br. He wrote his master's thesis on grammatical change in present-day American English, and graduated from the University of Freiburg with an M.A. in 1995. He then received a scholarship and various travel grants to do extensive research on idiom in East African English, which culminated in his doctoral dissertation submitted to the Technical University of Chemnitz, where he obtained his Ph.D. in 2001. From 1997 to 2001, he was a lecturer in English linguistics at the University of Basel, before taking on his current position at the University of Zurich. He has written various articles in the fields of phraseology and postcolonial Englishes, and has recently coedited a volume on varieties of English across the world.

THERESE STEFFEN, Assistant Professor at the University of Basel, is also an associate of the Afro-American Department at Harvard University. Her recent publications include *Crossing color: Transcultural Space and Place in Rita Dove's Poetry, Fiction, and Drama* (Oxford University Press, 2001), and: *Masculinities/Maskulinitäten: Gender Studies and its Mal(e) Contents* (Basel, 2001). She edited *Crossover: Cultural Hybridity in Ethnicity, Gender, and Ethics* (Tübingen, 2000), *Masculinities/Maskulinitäten* (Stuttgart, 2002), and co-edited (with Patrick Miller, and Elisabeth Schäfer-Wünsche), *Perspectives on the Modern Civil Rights Movement* (Münster, Westfalen, 2001), and together with Elisabeth Bronfen, and Benjamin Marius, *Hybride Kulture: Beiträge zur anglo-amerikanischen Multikulturalismusdebatte* (Tübingen, 1997).

JOHN THIEME is Professor Emeritus of English Studies at South Bank University, London and previously taught at the Universities of Guyana, North London and Hull, where he was Professor of New Literatures in English. He has published extensively on post-colonial writing, particularly Caribbean, Canadian and Indian literatures. His books include *The Web of Tradition: Uses of Allusion in V.S. Naipaul's Fiction* (1987), *The Arnold Anthology of Post-Colonial Literatures in English* (1996), *Derek Walcott* (1999) and *Post-Colonial Con-Texts: Writing Back to the Canon* (2001). He is currently working on a book on R.K. Narayan and a glossary of post-colonial studies. He is Articles Editor of *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, General Editor of the *Manchester University Press Contemporary World Writers Series*, Consultant and Contributing Editor of the *Literary Compendium of Pears Cyclopaedia* and Editor of the post-colonial sections of the electronic *Literary Encyclopedia* ([www.LitEncyc.com](http://www.LitEncyc.com)) and the *Annotated Bibliography of English Studies*.

RICHARD WASWO is a Professor of Modern English Literature at the University of Geneva. His latest book is *The Founding Legend of Western Civilization: From Virgil to Vietnam* (Wesleyan University Press, 1997). He has published sundry articles and a book on the language theory and semantic assumptions of the Renaissance, and is now studying the homologous functioning of words and money as both material and symbolic value systems.