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Notes on Contributors

Anita Auer is Professor of English Linguistics at the *Université de Lausanne*, Switzerland. She is a (socio)historical linguist with a keen interest in interdisciplinary research, particularly the correlation between language variation and change, socio-economic history and textual history. This focus is also reflected in her recent research projects, e.g. (a) the role of urban vernaculars in the standardisation of written English (1400-1700), and (b) the language of the labouring poor in Late Modern England. Anita Auer is one of the editors of the *Journal of Historical Sociolinguistics*.

Stella Castelli holds a degree in English and American Literature as well as Theory and History of Photography from the University of Zurich. In 2020, she successfully completed her doctoral dissertation titled *Death is Served: American Recipes for Murder – A Serial Compulsion* exploring repressions of death and their symptomatic reappearance in contemporary American culture. She is affiliated with the University of Zurich where her current research engages with mediations of the humorous in literature and media. Further research interests include critical theory, visual culture, the gothic and the aestheticism of camp.

Jole Fontanesi is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. Her research focuses on modern and contemporary British literature, with a specific interest in the environmental aspects of literary texts and ecopoetry. Drawing on her training in English literature and geography, Fontanesi explores how contemporary Anglophone poetry addresses climate change. In particular, her work seeks to deepen our understanding of how these poems employ innovative techniques to engage with a crisis that challenges both imagination and representation.

Anne-Christine Gardner is a senior researcher in the SNSF-funded research project “The Language of the Labouring Poor in Late Modern England” at the University of Lausanne. Her research interests include qualitative and quantitative approaches to (historical) sociolinguistics, dialectology and word-formation, with a focus on uncovering unheard voices, speaker choice and identity construction in the past. Her recent publications investigate linguistic choices of the labouring poor as well as the better educated and women from the elite, discussing self-corrections and identity construction in Late Modern English handwritten ego-documents.

Mark Iten is a doctoral student in English Linguistics at the University of Lausanne and has worked on the SNSF-funded research project “The Language of the Labouring Poor in Late Modern England.” He is interested in doing research in the fields of historical sociolinguistics and corpus linguistics. In his current research project, he is investigating pauper petition letters from a normative perspective, by comparing the lower-class language to the language of letters by the contemporary middling sorts and the elite, and by taking the socio-historical context into consideration.

Patrick Jones is a Maître-assistant in Modern English Literature at the University of Geneva. He holds degrees from the Universities of Leeds and Geneva and has held visiting scholar positions at Yale University and Boston College. His research focuses on three main areas: the fiction and literary criticism of Henry James; the bearing of literature on philosophy; and the history of “English Literature” as a university discipline. He is currently working on a monograph which explores Henry James’s representation of agency in relation to the practical philosophies of Robert B. Pippin, Rahel Jaeggi, and Martin Hägglund.

Andreas H. Jucker is Professor emeritus of English Linguistics at the University of Zurich. His current research interests include historical pragmatics, politeness theory, speech act theory, and the history of English. His recent book publications include *Politeness in the History of English: From the Middle Ages to the Present-day* (Cambridge University Press, 2020), *The Pragmatics of Fiction: Literature, Stage and Screen Discourse* (co-authored with Miriam Locher; Edinburgh University Press, 2021), and *Speech Acts: Discursive, Multimodal, Diachronic* (Cambridge University Press, 2024). He is President of the European Society for the Study of English and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Pragmatics*.

Ian MacKenzie, formerly of the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting at the University of Geneva, is the author of *Language Contact and the Future of English* (2017), *English as a Lingua Franca: Theorizing and Teaching English* (2014), and *Paradigms of Reading: Relevance Theory and Deconstruction* (2002), and the English translator of Bronckart & Bota's *Unmasking Bakhtin* (2019). He is working on a book about linguistic and conceptual relativity and the potential epistemic consequences of the extensive, and often compulsory, use of the English language, and 'Anglo' patterns of text organization, in international academic and scientific writing.

Max Saunders is Interdisciplinary Professor of Modern Literature and Culture at the University of Birmingham. He directed the Arts and Humanities Research Institute at King's College London. His books include *Ford Madox Ford: A Dual Life* (OUP, 1996); *Self Impression: Life-Writing, Autobiografiction, and the Forms of Modern Literature* (OUP, 2010); and *Imagined Futures: Writing, Science, and Modernity in the To-Day and To-Morrow Book Series, 1923-31* (OUP, 2019). He co-edited, with Sarah MacDougall, *Alfred Cohen – An American Artist in Europe: Between Figuration and Abstraction* (Alfred Cohen Art Foundation / Ben Uri Gallery and Museum, 2020), and, with Lisa Gee, the digital publication *Ego Media: Life Writing and Online Affordances* (Stanford University Press, 2023).

Kilian Schindler is Assistant Professor in Early Modern English Literature at the University of Fribourg, where he obtained his doctoral degree in 2019. His dissertation, published as *Religious Dissimulation and Early Modern Drama: The Limits of Toleration* (Cambridge UP 2023), was awarded the Martin Lehnert Prize of the German Shakespeare Gesellschaft and the Reformation Research Consortium Book Award. He is co-editor of a new critical edition of Sebastian Castellio's *De haereticis an sint persequendi* (Schwabe 2024) and has also published essays on early modern translation (John Milton, Niccolò Machiavelli).

Matthew Scully is Lecturer in American Literature and Culture at the University of Lausanne. His first book, *Democratic Anarchy: Aesthetics and Political Resistance in U.S. Literature* (Fordham UP, 2024), engages with American literature from the nineteenth century to the present to consider the anxious intersections of politics and aesthetics. Scully's work has also appeared in numerous journals, including the *Journal of Modern Literature*, *Diacritics*, *African American Review*, *American Literature*, *Critical Inquiry*, and *Postmodern Culture*.

Julia Straub is Professor of Modern English Literature and Director of the Institute of Comparative Literature at the University of Fribourg. Her research interests cover British and North American literature from the eighteenth century to the present day. She has published widely on transatlantic literary culture, the Victorian reception of Dante Alighieri's works, text-image relationships (especially literature and photography), canon theory, early American literature and contemporary anglophone fiction. She is currently working on the topic of motherhood in twenty-first century literature.