

## Features in *PMLA*

Manuscripts and correspondence related to the features described below should be sent to the Managing Editor, *PMLA*, Modern Language Association, 26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789.

### Special Topic

Articles on the general topic are invited; the subtopics listed are provided by way of example and suggestion only. Submissions to *PMLA* must meet the requirements given in the statement of editorial policy.

#### *Literary Criticism for the Twenty-First Century*

*Deadline for submissions: 3 November 2008*

COORDINATORS: Cathy Caruth (Emory Univ.) and Jonathan Culler (Cornell Univ.)

What kinds of literary criticism can we imagine for the twenty-first century? The twentieth century saw a variety of exciting literary-critical approaches, including New Critical analyses of works as ironic, elegantly constructed organic wholes; structuralist analyses of how works relate to the generic or discursive systems that produce them; deconstructive readings of how works undo the ideological frameworks that support them; historicist readings of works as symptoms of or interventions in a sociopolitical context; ethnic, feminist, Marxist, psychoanalytic, race-critical, and queer readings of works in relation to philosophical, political, and socioeconomic conditions. What is next?

*PMLA* asks for essays that seek to remobilize the field of literary criticism. Over the last few decades, theory has taught us a great deal about effective critique, but we may have entered a moment of reconstruction or regeneration in which we seek other forms of literary-theoretical knowledge. Does the twenty-first century call for changed paradigms and fresh imaginings of how we study and write about literature? Are there current approaches that have not yet been fully developed, that would richly repay attention? Do new media demand the creation of innovative literary-critical forms? How have local, national, and global changes transformed the way we see literature? What challenging approaches does literary criticism for the twenty-first century require? While imagining new forms of criticism will doubtless require a critique of the old, *PMLA* discourages contributions that describe what is wrong with current critical approaches without setting out new alternatives and urges contributors to illustrate how the approaches they propose might work in practice.

### Criticism in Translation

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals for translations. Articles, as well as chapters or sections of books that can function as independent units, will be considered. The originals may be in any language. Two types of proposals are welcome: (1) significant scholarship from earlier periods that has not lost its forcefulness and whose

## Forthcoming in *PMLA*

### IN OTHER ISSUES

- KATY L. CHILES. "Becoming Colored in Occom and Wheatley's Early America"  
 MICHAEL COLLINS. "The Anti-Panopticon of Etheridge Knight"  
 SARAH GATES. "Intertextual Estella: *Great Expectations*, Gender, and Literary Tradition"  
 SIOBHAN PHILLIPS. "The Daily Living of Robert Frost"  
 HANA PICOVA. "The Lineup for Meat: The Stalin Statue in Prague"  
 SONNET H. RETMAN. "*Black No More*: George Schuyler and Racial Capitalism"  
 AYON ROY. "Hegel contra Schlegel; Kierkegaard contra de Man"

### *Criticism in Translation*

- CARL DU PREL. "The Poetic Imagination in Dreams" (1880). Introduction by Nicholas Rand  
 JUAN CARLOS RODRÍGUEZ. Excerpts from *Althusser: Blow-Up (Las líneas maestras de un pensamiento distinto)* (2003). Introduction and translation by Malcolm K. Read

### *Theories and Methodologies Incarceration and Social Justice*

- TANYA ERZEN. "Religious Literacy in the Faith-Based Prison"  
 H. BRUCE FRANKLIN. "Can the Penitentiary Teach the Academy How to Read?"  
 AVERY F. GORDON. "Methodologies of Imprisonment"  
 RONALD B. HERZMAN. "Attica Educations"  
 JONATHAN SHAILOR. "When Muddy Flowers Bloom: The Shakespeare Project at Racine Correctional Institution"  
 MEGAN SWEENEY. "Books as Bombs: Incendiary Reading Practices in Women's Prisons"  
 JEAN TROUNSTINE. "Beyond Prison Education"

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## Forthcoming in *PMLA*

### IN OTHER ISSUES (*continued*)

ROBERT P. WAXLER. "Changing Lives through Literature"

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#### *The Changing Profession*

CATHY N. DAVIDSON. "Humanities 2.0: Promise, Perils, Predictions"

FRANÇOISE LIONNET. "'The Indies': Baudelaire's *Colonial World*"

DOUGLAS MAO AND REBECCA L.

WALKOWITZ. "The New Modernist Studies"

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#### *Letters from Librarians*

LARRY E. SULLIVAN. "'Prison Is Dull Today': Prison Libraries and the Irony of Pious Reading"

retrieval in English in *PMLA* would be a noteworthy event for a broad body of readers and (2) contemporary work of sufficient weight and potential influence to merit the attention of the field as a whole.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should first ascertain that no previous English translation exists. The proposer should then provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the original essay, (2) an extended summary of the entire essay in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the essay if the essay is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the translation is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the proposer wishes to serve as translator of the essay or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), a 1,000-word sample of the translation should be submitted; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator.

The translated essays should normally not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals, evaluate the quality of the translations, and cooperate with the proposers and translators.

### Little-Known Documents

MLA members are invited to submit to the *PMLA* Editorial Board proposals regarding little-known documentary material that merits the attention of a broad range of readers. Consideration will be given to archival data from any period and in any language that do not exceed *PMLA*'s 9,000-word limit.

A member who wishes to make a proposal should provide the managing editor with the following materials: (1) a photocopy of the document, (2) an extended summary of the document in English, (3) an introductory statement of approximately 1,000 words, prepared in accordance with MLA style, that will be published with the document if it is accepted, (4) information on the copyright status of the original (if the document is accepted for publication, the proposer will be responsible for obtaining permission to print it). In addition, if the document is not in English and if the proposer wishes to serve as translator or to designate a translator (who must also be an MLA member), the proposal should include a 1,000-word sample of the translation; otherwise the Editorial Board will select a translator of accepted non-English material. The Editorial Board will approve or decline the proposals.

### Solicited Contributions

The editor and the Editorial Board periodically invite studies and commentaries by specific authors on topics of wide interest. These contributions appear in the following series: Theories and Methodologies, The Changing Profession, The Book Market, The Journal World, Letters from Librarians, and Correspondents at Large. MLA members are welcome to suggest topics that might be addressed under these rubrics.