

Matthew O. Cleveland.

Matthew Cleveland received his PhD from the English Studies Department at the University of New South Wales, Australia in 2001. He is currently Assistant Professor of English at St. Cloud State University, Minnesota, USA. He teaches courses in 19th and 20th Century American and British literature, film and literature, gender and race issues in literature, critical theory, and rhetoric. He has a number of published works in the fields of psychoanalysis, cultural studies, film studies, popular culture, and postcolonialism. His *Beyond Left and Right: the Ethical Potentiality of the Masochistic Impulse in "Fight Club"* is currently in circulation. In his contribution to Nebula, Cleveland attempts to reconfigure the concepts of resistance, revolution and crime in a world (media) dominated by the rhetoric and ideological filters of the now world famous "War on Terror."

John Hyland.

John Hyland graduated from the University of Maine with an MA in English in 2003. He is currently teaching at Merrimack College. His scholarly interests include the intersection of text and image, modernist and contemporary poetry and poetics, and postcoloniality. In his opus on the use of Gesture by two key modernist artists, Hyland treads the boards of high theories of linguistics and provides a semiology-based reading, which resonates much with the modernist style and density of the texts he examines. "It is quite easy to become lost inside the particulars of the text," writes Hyland on Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons*, and interestingly, this is precisely the feeling his extended essay seems to evoke in itself.

John Jefferson.

John Jefferson received his Masters in History from Rutgers University this year and his Bachelor of Arts from New Jersey City University in 2002. He has also received a host of Graduate Certificates in subjects such as American History from the American Military University (2004) and Advanced Paralegal Studies from California State University (2003). He has recently published his first book *The Ambitious Gentlemen: An Examination of Negative Campaigning and the Quest for the American Presidency, 1932-1948*, with Café Press. He is currently a review editor for *H-USA*. In this article, Jefferson provides insight into the question of the possibility of "Laws in History." The ultimate question begging: Can the study of history, through the cultivation of sound analytical tools, become a predictive science, can it find an intersection between the natural and social sciences?

Ron Large.

Ron Large is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at Gonzaga University, Spokane WA, USA. His area of specialization is Christian Ethics with an emphasis in Christian Social Ethics. Dr. Large took his Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia where he majored in Religious Studies. He received his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary with a focus on violence and nonviolence as methods of social change. He received his doctorate from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA and did his dissertation on Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mohandas Gandhi. In addition to articles on King and Gandhi, Dr. Large has published articles on the films Shane, Death Wish, Platoon, and Heartbreak Ridge. He teaches classes in Christian Morality, Death and Dying, Sexual Morality, Religion and Film, and the Vietnam War. In his contribution to this issue, Ron provides a close and thorough examination of Martin Luther King Jr's evolving theology, encountering and exploring ancient notions and concepts, which have been of great relevance and intrigue to thinking beings throughout the ages.

Luke O'Callaghan.

Luke O'Callaghan (aka Red Star) was born in Galway, Ireland in 1980. As well as being a native Irish speaker, O'Callaghan is fluent in English, Russian and French. He has recently acted as a research student under federal scholarship at the University of Oslo, Norway. He received his BA in Russian and Classical Civilisation from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, in 2002. His interests are not exclusively academic and he has acted as an interpreter, editor and freelance (sports) journalist. His clients have included the Government of Kazakhstan, the IRFU, the Health Board, the Georgian Rugby Union and the Federation of Rugby of Kazakhstan. In this article on the "War of Words" O'Callaghan explores the intimate relationship between nation, nationalism and language assimilation in Kazakhstan. He sees both similarities and potential differences between the present situation in Kazakhstan and the continued Anglophone assimilation of greater Ireland.

Tom O'Connor.

Tom O'Connor received the AWP Intro Award in poetry from Binghamton University (NY, USA) in 2001. He has had poems accepted by *Dánta*, *The Bend*, *Burnside Review*, *Mankato Poetry Review*, *No Exit*, *Notre Dame Review*, *Soul Fountain*, and *Skidrow Penthouse*. His scholarly articles have been accepted by *The Disability Studies Quarterly* and *Social Semiotics*. He has recently been awarded a PhD from Binghamton University for his critical dissertation on the "intersection between poetry and new media." His poems published in this issue, share a similar process of simultaneously dealing with the famous, infamous and widely known as well as the intimate, secretive and the hidden. His poem "Nietzsche's Mother" for example is not only ironic but also remarkably true.

Babak Rahimi.

Babak Rahimi received his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Political Science at the University of California, San Diego and his Masters in Philosophy at the University of Nottingham. He recently defended his dissertation on the Iranian public sphere in the Safavid period, 1564-1590, in the Department of Political and Social Sciences at the European University Institute in Florence. Recent academic articles were published in *Middle Eastern Review of International Affairs* (Nov. 2004) and *Iranian Studies* (Sept. 2004). In Part Three of *Ishraqat*, Rahimi weaves a polemic vision of the dead ends to which the trajectory of current US foreign policy seems to be inevitably leading. His writing possesses a chilling prophetic and self-evident quality.

Russell Richards.

Russell Richards (aka Morphy) is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Media and Visual Arts, Faculty of Media Arts and Society at Southampton Institute, UK. He has participated in numerous projects both online and in real time, promoting Digital Art and his work. His most recent conference paper *Synergetic Complexity: The Bringing Together of Schools of Thought* was delivered at the Faculty of Media, Arts and Society's *Advanced Scholarship Day Conference*, at Southampton Institute in May this year. His article *An Aesthetic or Anaesthetic: Developing a Digital Aesthetics of Production* is currently in press with the *Journal of Media Practice*. In his contribution to Nebula^{1.3} Richards introduces us to the world of Generative Art and to the ways that computer science can be used for innovative art productions even during our most menial engagements with the almighty computer! Richards responded to Nebula's CFP as a result of what he has (rightly) termed in his article as "a positive synchronicity." He provides a glossary of terms for the non-specialist reader. In order to view his recent work on computer-generated "nebulae" visit http://www.user-production.co.uk/nebula/nebula_001.html but take note that shockwave software needs to be installed on your computer and that your computer must also be able to support 32 bit colour capabilities.

Nils Rosemann.

Nils Rosemann is currently an Attorney of Law and Human Rights & Development Consultant in Islamabad, Geneva and Berlin. He is also in pursuit of a PhD Candidature at Friedrich-Schiller-University where he holds the Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation Research Scholarship. He has formerly acted as Research Associate at the German Institute for Human Rights. Rosemann's article discusses the obviation of liability in cases of torture and general mistreatment of prisoners in the Iraq war, currently taking place within a flourishing privatized war industry. The article reveals a number of facts that have been obscured in the media, which lend us a better understanding of the

disintegrating condition and neglect of universal human rights laws, while also showing us a theoretical means forward. *Nebula* no longer hosts or supports this article as its publisher; an electronic copy of it however, is available from the author upon request.

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Semra Somersan.

Semra Somersan is currently Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Bilgi University (Istanbul). She was awarded a Fulbright scholarship for graduate work in the US where she received an MA in Social Psychology in 1974, and a PhD in anthropology in 1981, both from Ohio State University. She is currently living and working in Turkey. She has recently published a book on *Race and Ethnicity in the Social Sciences* (İstanbul Bilgi University Press: 2004). Her earlier work, *Politics and the Environment in Turkey* was published in 1993 by Metis Publishing House in Istanbul. In her article on the North as a global monstrosity, Somersan unveils the thin film, which disguises the equal opportunity policies that are quickly replacing affirmative action style recruitment.

Tangirala, Sri Rama Chandra Murthy.

Having secured a bachelor of science followed by a postgraduate bachelor of Journalism from Osmania University in Hyderabad in the 1970's, Murthy returned to Osmania to secure a Masters degree in philosophy in 1997. He is currently enrolled in pursuit of his doctorate on "Noam Chomsky's contributions to the Philosophy of Language" at Venkateswara University in Tirupati. Murthy's thirty-year career in journalism has seen him work in half a dozen English-Indian newspapers and this, together with his numerous dissertations, has no doubt contributed to his lyrical and sophisticated prose. Murthy is currently living in Ahmedabad where he is now working for Sristi, a non-government organization. In his third contribution to *Nebula* Murthy evokes a number of thought experiments in a dense treatment of the question of language and cognition, oftentimes reminiscent of Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit*.

Courtney Thomas.

Courtney Thomas is currently completing her Masters in history at the University of Alberta, Canada, where she is exploring "Denmark's role in early modern English Court politics and cultural development: 1603-1619." She is currently a Teaching Assistant in the Department of History and Classics at the same university. She has received a number of grants and scholarships including the SSHRC Master's grant. In 2003 she was awarded first place at the Western Canadian Undergraduate Historical Conference, in the senior written category. In her article on the intersection of morality and historiography,

Thomas explores the concepts at play and analyses both their logic and illogic through literature review, she arrives at a conclusion that is all but conclusive, opting instead for an open ending and the potentialities that this implies.