

## ***Editors' Note***

This issue marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the Utah Foreign Language Review. Our theme, "**Telling & Re-telling: The Mosaics of Traveling Narratives and Narrators**," aims to address stories and storytellers that have crossed cultural and intellectual boundaries to be forever changed. Our contributors offer a thoroughly satisfying range of intellectual approaches and cultural perspectives to this theme.

Dr. Martin Puchner offers a privileged perspective of the value of traveling narratives in his keynote address given at the Confutati Symposium held at the University of Utah in April, 2011. "World Literature and the Creation of Literary Worlds" emerged from his work as Editor-in-Chief of the upcoming *Norton Anthology of World Literature*, 3rd Edition (27 Feb, 2012). An anthology of world literature itself presents a particular mosaic, a created world that thrives on very idea that stories travel, crossing the borders of real, imagined, utopian, mythical and even fantastical worlds.

Catherine Miskow's (*PhD Candidate, UC Davis*) "The Chrysanthemum and the Butterfly" charts the many paths from Pierre Loti's account of a foreigner in Japan to Puccini's Opera, *Madama Butterfly*, following adaptations of the theme across three continents.

Through a critical analysis and parody of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's *Turkish Embassy Letters*, Özlem Ezer's (*PhD, Middle East Technical University*) "Exotic Sweden" follows a Turkish academic on a journey to Sweden in 2010, encountering the social codes that construct exotic from the mundane.

The Japanese poet, Bashō, best known for his travel prose and poetry (esp. haiku), is the subject of Michelle Crowson's (*MA Candidate, University of Utah*) essay, "Dwellings." Her close analysis of several of Bashō's haiku and haibun (short prose/poetry) show that the traveling poet had a deep sensitivity to place and home and the concept of dwelling.

"Red Blues" by Caleb Braley (*MA Candidate, University of Utah, UFLR Creative Director/Editor*) takes up American hybridity encountered in Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon*. Braley's reading of Morrison invites a recovery of buried voices and collective pasts encoded in African American and Native American music.

In "Becoming-Woman Across Utopian Spaces," Malgorzata Myk (*PhD, University of Lodz*) revisits Joanna's Russ's feminist utopia, *The Female Man*, with a provocative use of Deleuze and Guattari's philosophical nomadism to liberate Russ's work from the dichotomies of patriarchal discourse and reach the non-dualistic identity potentialities of becoming-woman.

Luz Lara-Kuhlman's (*MA Candidate, University of Utah, UFLR Associate Editor*), "Escritura desde el espacio liminal" explores the narrative dimensions of *Comentarios Reales* by Garcilaso de la Vega and the testimonial *Me llamo Rigoberta Menchú y así me nació la conciencia* by Elizabeth Burgos and Rigoberta Menchu in the context of marginalized voices speaking from the liminal spaces of culture.

Original poetry from Mark Anderson (*PhD, University of Georgia*), Donna J. Gelagotis Lee (*BA, Sweet Briar College*) and Nate Liederbach (*PhD Candidate, University of Utah*) all engage in our theme of travel and its attendant unfamiliarity and questioning.

The 2012 issue of UFLR will share the theme of our annual Confutati Graduate Symposium, "**Unmasking Effaced Identities.**" The symposium, held each spring, and UFLR published each autumn, will continue our ongoing dialogue of cultural encounters expressed in a wide variety of literary and other cultural productions. Details for the next issue of UFLR can be found in the Call for Papers inside the back cover of this issue, as well as online at [www.UFLR.utah.edu](http://www.UFLR.utah.edu). Those interested in the Confutati Symposium should visit [www.CONFUTATI.org](http://www.CONFUTATI.org).

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