

FALL 2018 ♦ VOLUME 59 ♦ NUMBER 3

CON
TEM
POR
ARY

LITERATURE

♦ THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS ♦

◆ EXECUTIVE EDITOR ◆

Thomas Schaub, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*

EDITORS

POETRY

Brian Reed, *University of Oregon*

AMERICAN FICTION

Steven Belletto, *Lafayette College*

Michael LeMahieu, *Clemson University*

BRITISH AND ANGLOPHONE
FICTION

Yogita Goyal, *University of California, Los Angeles*

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

POETRY

Alan Golding, *University of Louisville*

Adalaide Morris, *University of Iowa*

AMERICAN FICTION

Heather Houser, *University of Texas at Austin*

Jessica Pressman, *San Diego State University*

BRITISH AND ANGLOPHONE FICTION

David James, *Queen Mary, University of London*

Angela Naimou, *Clemson University*

BOOK REVIEW EDITORS

POETRY

Lisa Hollenbach, *Oklahoma State University*

AMERICAN FICTION

Aida Levy-Hussen, *University of Michigan*

BRITISH AND ANGLOPHONE FICTION

Janice Ho, *University of Colorado, Boulder*

EDITORIAL STAFF

MANAGING EDITOR

Eileen R. Ewing

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Addie Hopes Ruth M. Kellar Laura Perry

Peter Ribic Andrew Thomas Sara Gabler Thomas



◆

BOARD OF EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS

- Charles Altieri, *University of California, Berkeley*
Rita Barnard, *University of Pennsylvania*
Michael Bérubé, *Pennsylvania State University*
Timothy Bewes, *Brown University*
Leslie Bow, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*
Sarah Brouillette, *Carleton University*
Mrinalini Chakravorty, *University of Virginia*
Hillary Chute, *Northeastern University*
Robert J. Corber, *Trinity College*
Michael Davidson, *University of California, San Diego*
Aparna Dharwadker, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*
Amy Elias, *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*
Mary Esteve, *Concordia University*
Susan Stanford Friedman, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*
Thomas Gardner, *Virginia Polytechnic and State University*
Caren Irr, *Brandeis University*
Joseph Jeon, *Pomona College*
Lynn Keller, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*
Heather Love, *University of Pennsylvania*
John Marx, *University of California, Davis*
Ankhi Mukherjee, *University of Oxford*
Aldon Nielsen, *Pennsylvania State University*
Tejumola Olaniyan, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*
Rafael Pérez-Torres, *University of California–Los Angeles*
Marjorie Perloff, *Stanford University*
Rita Raley, *University of California–Los Angeles*
Sangeeta Ray, *University of Maryland*
Eric Selinger, *DePaul University*
Joseph Tabbi, *University of Illinois–Chicago*
Nirvana Tanoukhi, *Dartmouth College*
Rebecca L. Walkowitz, *Rutgers University*
Timothy Yu, *University of Wisconsin–Madison*



C O N T E M P O R A R Y L I T E R A T U R E

EDITORIAL OFFICE: *Department of English, 7141 Helen C. White Hall, 600 N. Park Street, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.* The editors cannot review submissions that are simultaneously under consideration elsewhere. All details should conform to those recommended by the most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook*.

BUSINESS OFFICE: All correspondence about advertising, subscriptions, and allied matters should be sent to: *Journal Division, University of Wisconsin Press, 1930 Monroe Street, 3rd floor, Madison, Wisconsin, 53711-2059.* Website: uwpress.wisc.edu/journals

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: One year: \$233 print and electronic; \$205 electronic only (institutions); print and electronic \$70; electronic only \$58 (individuals only; must prepay); \$40.00 Foreign postage (no postage for electronic only).

Contemporary Literature (ISSN 0010-7484; E-ISSN 1548-9949) is published quarterly by the University of Wisconsin Press, 1930 Monroe Street, 3rd floor, Madison, WI 53711-2059. Website: uwpress.wisc.edu/journals. Periodicals postage paid at Madison, WI and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Contemporary Literature*, 1930 Monroe Street, 3rd floor, Madison, WI 53711-2059.

© 2018 by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System.

The views expressed herein are to be attributed to their authors and not to this publication, the University of Wisconsin Press, or the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System.

Authorization to reproduce material from this journal, beyond one copy for personal use or that permitted by Sections 107 and 108 of U.S. Copyright Law, is granted for a fee. For fee schedule and payment information, contact:

The Copyright Clearance Center
222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923
phone 978 750-8400, fax 978 750-4470
www.copyright.com

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

◆ PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT ◆

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE is pleased to announce the recipient of the eighth annual **L. S. Dembo Prize** for the best article published in the journal during the preceding volume year:

Nicole Rizzuto, "Somali Soundscapes: Signal and Noise in Nuruddin Farah's *Crossbones*"

The L. S. Dembo Prize honors Lawrence (Larry) Dembo (1929–2002), longtime editor of *Contemporary Literature* and visionary scholar and teacher. Guiding this journal for twenty-four years, Dembo established it as one of the crucial voices in the field—a collective voice marked by philosophical and critical rigor, an openness to the new, and rich, problemingly phrased questions. Many of the now-leading scholars in the field were nurtured under his guidance. The author of five books and the editor of six, Dembo enacted in his critical practice exactly what he called for in this journal—writing international in scope, alert to the past, unintimidated by difficulty, unconstrained by party or poetic affiliation, and linguistically responsive. Two early books—*Hart Crane's Sanskrit Charge: A Study of "The Bridge"* (1960) and *The Confucian Odes of Ezra Pound* (1963)—established the range and rigor of his way of looking at poems. His most important book, *Conceptions of Reality in Modern American Poetry* (1966), with its focus on an "objectivist logic" of language and perception in Ezra Pound and Wallace Stevens, among others, anticipates much now being written about writers in the generations after the moderns. Building on that work, Dembo's dense, challenging interviews with the objectivists George Oppen, Louis Zukofsky, Carl Rakosi, and Charles Reznikoff, published in this journal in 1969, are his most often cited critical contribution. Here, as with so many of the areas he touched, Dembo left behind "what still is / The look of things"—his way of looking now part of the world of words itself.