



Nº 1, VOL. 1 SEPTEMBER 2006 ISSN 1991-2773

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Michael Boyden

RIAS IT AND GRAPHICS TEAM

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Paweł Jędrzejko
IT ADVISORS: Tomasz Adamczewski and Wojciech Liber
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Karolina Wojdała
DTP ADVISOR: Michał Derda-Nowakowski

EDITORIAL BOARD

Theo D'haen, Anders Olsson, Liam Kennedy, Sieglinde Lemke,
Giorgio Mariani, Ian Tyrrell, Helmbrecht Breinig, Rosario Faraudo, Djelal Kadir

TYPESETTING: Ex Machina Editions, Poland
e-mail: info@exmachina.pl



Review of International American Studies (RIAS) is the electronic journal of the International American Studies Association, the only worldwide, independent, non-governmental association of American Studies. *RIAS* serves as agora for the global network of international scholars, teachers, and students of America as hemispheric and global phenomenon. *RIAS* is published three times a year: in September, January and May by IASA with the institutional support of the University of Silesia in Katowice lending server space to the IASA websites and the electronic support of the Soft For Humans CMS Designers. Subscription rates for *RIAS* are included along with the Association's annual dues as specified in the "Membership" section of the Association's website (www.iasaweb.org).

All topical manuscripts should be directed to the Editor via online submission forms available at *RIAS* website (www.iasa-rias.org). General correspondence and matters concerning the functioning of *RIAS* should be addressed to *RIAS* Editor-in-Chief:

Michael Boyden
Harvard University
Department of English and American
Literature and Language
Barker Center
12 Quincy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
USA

e-mail: michael.boyden@iasa-rias.org

For the *RIAS* cover, we used a fragment of 'Abstraction', a work by Automaton [<http://flickr.com/people/sbai/>], licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0



ICLA CONFERENCE

The city of Rio de Janeiro (and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) is the official site for the XVIIIth ICLA (International Comparative Literature Association) Congress, to be held July 29–August 5, 2007. Please follow the link for more info: <http://icla.byu.edu/www/congress/index.html>

WRITING AMERICAN IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH: SPECIAL ISSUE OF CAS

What is the language of American literature? A special issue of *Comparative American Studies* coming out this September (2006) probes this matter and demonstrates, in a number of brilliantly argued essays, that it need not at all be English. Guest-edited by Gönül Pultar, and with an introduction by Werner Sollors, the issue features essays by Michael Boyden and Helder de Schutter, Wolfgang Hochbruck, Holly Martin, Orm Øverland, Peggy Pacini, and poems in Turkish with English translations by NYC-based Turkish-American poet Mustafa Ziyalan, introduced by Murat Nemet-Nejat. While writings in languages other than English have generally been—and continue to be—ignored or neglected in US literary historiography, recent developments in postcolonial theory and the ‘cultural turn’ in literary studies require a fresh look at those few texts that have been acknowledged. The essays of the special issue not only offer interesting new interpretations of such and other texts but also problematize the complex dynamics at work behind writing in non-mainstream tongues, resulting in an insightful, memorable issue.

AMERICANISM AND AMERICANIZATION

Mel van Elteren, *Americanism and Americanization: A Critical History of Domestic and Global Influence* (Jefferson, NC, and London: McFarland, 2006) ISBN 0-7864-2785-X

Informed by a history of relevant developments on both sides of the Atlantic since the early nineteenth century, this volume presents an in-depth critical analysis of the Americanization process. Beginning with a survey of early European preoccupations with things American, the book goes on to discuss European concerns regarding American influence after World War II until the present. The work then looks at Americanism and its influence within the United States itself, especially regarding developments during the New Deal and beyond. This culminates in an analysis of the conservative Americanism that emerged in the 1980s, and today’s new nativism and exclusionism in the U.S. The primary goal of the analysis is the construction of an interpretive framework, allowing for a more balanced approach to the study of Americanism abroad.

Written from a critical, social-emancipatory perspective, the author’s approach blends economic, military, social, political, cultural and psychological dimensions as well as an examination of the ways in which these areas interact. Finally, Americanism is examined as part of a US-style corporate globalization at the turn of the twenty-first century.



HEARTS OF DARKNESS: MELVILLE AND CONRAD IN THE SPACE OF WORLD CULTURES

PRESIDENT OF POLAND BECOMES A PATRON OF A IASA-SPONSORED CONFERENCE

It is our great pleasure to inform you that the President of the Republic of Poland, Lech Kaczyński, has agreed to become the Official Patron of the Tall Ships' Races Szczecin 2007 and all its events, including the "Hearts of Darkness, Melville and Conrad in the Space of World Culture" Conference, an event sponsored by IASA. On behalf of the Organizers and Participants of the Conference, we wish to express our sincere gratitude for the recognition of the importance of our event and the honor of the Presidential Patronage.

We are absolutely delighted that the Conference has attracted eminent scholars, younger and more senior, from around the world: Japan, Italy, Lithuania, Switzerland, New Zealand, South Africa, Israel, Palestine, France, Canada, Spain, Turkey, Italy, the U.K., Poland, and the U.S. The imaginative paper proposals, many of which deal with both Melville and Conrad, are bound to create some fascinating discussion in Szczecin and open up new areas of scholarship in the coming years. We received 60 excellent proposals by the 25 June deadline, a compilation of which is available at the Conference website (<http://www.melville.us.edu.pl>).

Paweł Jędrzejko
University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland