

Editorial

Dear Readers, Friends, and Colleagues,

The editors of the *Polish Journal of English Studies* would like to welcome you to the first issue of our journal. We would like you to join us in this enterprise – first as readers and then as authors, as our journal is always looking for new submissions. It is intended as a joint effort of all the members of the Polish Association for the Study of English. Consequently, we welcome your input into the direction we should take; any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

We welcome research papers, book reviews, conference calls and reports from conferences, as well as proposals of thematic issues. The range of subjects embraces all types of research within the broadly understood English studies – it certainly includes English language literatures, cultures, translation studies and all branches of linguistics – however, we are ready to consider proposals which go even beyond such limits. Your assistance as reviewers will also be greatly appreciated – please, contact us if you are ready to join the team. It is only with your active participation that we can succeed.

The present issue with which we set off concentrates on literary and cultural topics. We begin with Wojciech Drąg who presents in his article David Markson's four novel cycle *Reader's Block* (1996), *This Is Not a Novel* (2001), *Vanishing Point* (2004), and *The Last Novel* (2007). Drąg argues in his article that in his tetralogy Markson has resurrected the recently forgotten genre of the anti-novel. Ewa Kowal also discusses a very recent work, James Lasdun's memoir *Give Me Everything You Have. On Being Stalked* published in 2013. The article concentrates on the formal aspects of this unusual work, combining elements of prose and digital texts and materials.

Marcin Tereszewski chose a more classic, although hardly dated, subject: the novels of Samuel Beckett in his paper entitled: *The Neutral Voice of the Subject: Samuel Beckett and Maurice Blanchot*. With Justyna Dąbrowska's paper *Faced with Otherness: a Few Remarks on Brian Friel's 'Dancing at Lughnasa'* we remain within the field of Irish studies; however, we move from the novel to the stage. Dąbrowska attempts in her paper to decode the message of Friel's play through the concept of "the Other".

Two final articles in this issue deal with the art of cinema. Katarzyna Mosionek analyses the role and place of music in Thomas Vinterberg's most recent adaptation of the novel *Far from the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy. The musical score of the movie is compared with the references to various

musical pieces in Hardy's novel. Piotr Szczypa selects three American films produced in the early 2000s in order to discuss the importance of the father figure in the representation of the Irish Americans in contemporary cinema. The selection is certainly heavily biased towards literary and cultural studies but the bias only reflects the subject matter of the submissions which we have received so far. You can change it by submitting papers in other fields of English studies.

We finish this issue with a report from our annual PASE conference which was held in Wrocław last spring. Naturally, it will be a permanent feature in our journal. We will certainly include a report from our 2016 conference, which was held in Szczyrk, in the forthcoming issue. You can find the call for papers for the coming PASE conference, with some other calls, in the following section. If you intend to organise a conference, always make sure to send your call to us as well.

The journal will be delivered to the mailboxes of all the members of the PASE. We will be extremely grateful if you could share it with all your friends and colleagues who may be interested. We see this as a way of promoting both the journal and the association, as our aim is to reach as broad a reading public as possible. It will be available from our website www.pjes.edu.pl, where you can also find some more information about how to submit your work for publication. You can also get the latest developments via our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PASEPJES/>. We begin as an Internet journal but we intend to offer the printed version as well – each year's issue will be published as a single volume.

The first issue of the *Polish Journal of English Studies* is ready. Our task is completed although it is only the first issue of many we hope to see published. We would like to end by expressing our gratitude to all those who made it possible – the authors, the anonymous reviewers, other members of our editorial board. We are looking forward to your comments, suggestions, and submissions.

The Editors

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