

## Contributors

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**Bill Byrne** is a frequent contributor to the *Oakland Journal*. His writing is also featured in “Cantos”, the literary journal of Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis. After twenty years in a variety of positions at Volkswagen of America, he joined the Writing and Rhetoric department at Oakland University a dozen years ago.

**John J. Corso** is Assistant Professor of Art History and a member of the US section of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA). He researches contemporary sculpture and writes a monthly art blog on *The Huffington Post*.

**Ron DeVillano** is an alumnus of OU. He currently works in the Writing Center. He illustrates and writes his own graphic novels and sells them at several establishments in Michigan and in Chicago as well.

**Benjamin Eveslage** graduated from Oakland University in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and will be starting a Master’s program in Research for International Development at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies in the fall. Mr. Eveslage was the Student Body President of Oakland University in 2011 and 2012 when he led a team to host the 2012 Oakland Symposium on Empowering Women in the Global Community.

**Brian Figurski** is a student at Oakland University majoring in creative writing. He also has a minor in journalism and is aiming to get a certificate in teaching English as a secondary language. Since attending OU in 2011, he has worked at the university newspaper, *The Oakland Post*, as a copy editor and satire writer. Brian currently lives in Rochester Hills and spends his free time running, attending concerts and working on his novel, which he hopes to complete after graduation from Oakland, slated for May of 2014.

**John Freeman** earned his B.A., Literature, University of Detroit Mercy and his M.F.A., at Bowling Green State University. He teaches WRT 150, 160, and 386 at OU and publishes poetry and creative non-fiction under the pen name “Cal Freeman.” His poems and essays have appeared in many journals including *Commonweal*, *The Journal*, *Nimrod*, *Drunken Boat*, *The Cortland Review*, *Ninth Letter*, *Birmingham Po-*

*etry Review, Rattle, Hotel Amerika, and New Ohio Review.* He has also been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. In 2004, a manuscript of his was selected for the Devine Poetry Fellowship. More recently, his collection of poems, *Brother of Leaving*, was nominated for Wayne State University Press's *Made in Michigan* series.

**Zan Giese** majored in English with a creative writing minor and graduated in 2012. In addition to fiction, she writes creative non-fiction and creates graphic novels.

**Janae Greene** is majoring in Writing and Rhetoric.

**Catherine Haar** has been teaching writing at Oakland University since 1987. She has presented papers at 4 C's, the national composition conference, on reinvisioning the research paper and on workplace issues. She reviews books for the College Board's AP web site. Her doctorate in Early English was earned at the University of Maryland. Outside the classroom she takes walks with her dog, Josie; reads mysteries, fantasies, and memoirs; and sings in a choir.

**Alice Horning** is a Professor of Writing & Rhetoric and Linguistics. She teaches reading, composition and business writing in the Department of Writing and Rhetoric, and psycholinguistics, language variation and change, and literacy in the Department of Linguistics. Her research is focused on the psycholinguistics of literacy in print and digital environments.

**David Jaymes**, Professor Emeritus of French, taught for thirty-four years and twice chaired Modern Languages & Literatures. Living in Traverse City with wife Christine, he is now working on a study of Pascal's invention of the mechanical calculator."

**Allyson Knirk** began her classes at OU in the Fall of 2007 as a declared English major, but after her first Art History class, she fell in love with the subject and switched majors. Her combined love of Art and English led to this essay that spans and connects both areas of study. She graduated from Oakland after the Winter semester of 2012 with a Bachelor's degree in Art History and plans to continue her education with work on an M.A. degree in English.

**Beth Kraemer** is Associate Professor and Coordinator of Instruction, Kresge Library. Her publications include research on information literacy pedagogies, literacy outreach programs, integrating information literacy in online learning experiences, and mentoring.

**Frank Lepkowski** is Associate Professor of Oakland University Libraries. In earlier days he was fortunate enough to learn about poetry from the last of the Titans, A.R. Ammons at Cornell University. His poems have previously appeared in the *Kansas Quarterly*, *Sycamore Review* and *Black River Review*. The Muse is fickle and rare in her visits to him, but perhaps he has been too laggard a servant of her bidding. While awaiting her occasional appearances, he has observed the chaotic tide of untruth, triviality, hysteria, celebrity, and a relentless granularization of the objects of the mind's contemplation, all heaving like psychedelic spaghetti on hyperdrive out of screens and into brains, which process he ponders and occasionally facilitates in his role as librarian. Adapting Heraclitus for the time and setting, Frank observes, "You never step into the same library twice."

**Ashley Liening** is a recent graduate of Oakland University. In April, she received her M.A. in English after completing her thesis, "A Study in Blue: Representations of Masculinity in 21st Century Sherlock Holmes Adaptations." She also completed her undergrad at OU in 2010. She served as the Editorial Assistant for the *Oakland Journal* for three years and was a writing consultant at the Writing Center for four years. She is getting married this summer and looks forward to starting a career in writing.

**Kieran Mathieson** is Associate Professor of Information Systems in the School of Business Administration. He studies technical support for evidence-based learning practices. He had been at OU longer than many of our students have been alive.

**Sean Farrell Moran** is Associate Professor of History at Oakland University. He earned his Ph.D. from American University. His research focuses on revolutionary violence and nationalism in Ireland, and includes his book, *Patrick Pearse and the Politics of Redemption: The Mind of the Easter Rising, 1916* (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University Press, 1994), but recently he has become more interested in the practice of historians. In part, this has grown out of his feeling that history as a discipline is hampered by a willingness to ignore many of the recent developments in philosophy and critical theory. His current work in progress includes *The Butcher's Bill* (historical novel) and "Irish Exceptions: The Unique Contributions of Irish Thought."

**Waldemar Semrau** lives in Washington Township with his wife Marilyn. As a youth he thought his calling was to be a surgeon, but cir-

cumstances led him to an engineering career. He has retired three times, first from General Motors, then Dow Chemical, and finally from his own consultancy. Now he plans to go to medical school, preferably OUWB, and preferably not soon since he's going as a cadaver. In the meantime he's involved with OUWB as an advocate for anatomical gifts to medical schools. Visit his website: [WWW.giftoflifedonors.org](http://WWW.giftoflifedonors.org).

**Gary Shepherd** is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology at Oakland University. He has published extensive and acclaimed work on religious groups and cults. His two most recent books, written with Gordon Shepherd, are: *Binding Heaven and Earth: Patriarchal Blessings in the Prophetic Development of Early Mormonism*. The Penn State University Press, 2012, and *Talking with The Children of God: Prophecy and Transformation in a Radical Religious Group*. The University of Illinois Press, 2010.

**Josephine Walwema** is Assistant Professor in the Writing and Rhetoric Department. She received her Ph.D. in Rhetorics, Communication, and Information Design from Clemson University in 2011. Her research interests include Information Design, Instructional Design, Visual Rhetorics, Technical Writing and Editing, Classical Rhetorical Theory, and Communication.

**Vagner Mendonça Whitehead** is Associate Professor of Art at Oakland University's Department of Art and Art History, where he heads its New Media specialization. He works with time-based and traditional media. Vagner earned a BFA (photography) from The Savannah College of Art and Design in 1995 and an MFA (creative photography and electronic inter-media) from the University of Florida - Gainesville in 2000. He has exhibited his art throughout the United States abroad (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Cyprus, Germany, India, Mexico, Russia, Spain, Switzerland) and online, in solo and group exhibitions and in video and film festivals. Vagner has been a visiting artist at universities in Kansas, Wisconsin, California, Illinois, New York, and Ohio.