

About the Authors

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Samuel BIDAUD has a PhD in Romance Linguistics (2014) from the University of Burgundy (France). After being Assistant Teacher at the University of Burgundy from 2011 to 2014 and then at the University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne from 2014 to 2015, he is now a Postdoctoral Researcher at the University Palacký of Olomouc (Czech Republic), where he also teaches French language. He has written a book (*La vicariance en français et dans les langues romanes (italien, espagnol, portugais)*) and several articles about Romance languages and literatures, comparative literature, and cinema. He is especially interested in Marcel Proust and Hergé.

Dorothy FIGUEIRA is Professor in Comparative Literature at the University of Georgia, USA. Trained in both comparative literature and the history of religions, she is interested in the intersection of religion and literature. Her research includes: *Translating the Orient* (1991), *The Exotic; A Decadent Quest* (1994), *Aryans, Jews and Brahmins: Theorizing Authority through Myths of Identity* (2001) and *Otherwise Occupied: Theories and Pedagogies of Alterity* (2008). She has recently completed a volume on early European travel narratives to India. She has held positions at Cornell University, SUNY, University of Illinois; has been a visiting professor at Indiana University and the University of Lille. She has been the recipient of several Fulbrights to India. She holds degrees from the École Pratique en Sciences Sociales, Harvard University, the University of Chicago. She has served as president of the ICLA. Professor Figueira has served also as editor of *The Comparatist* and is currently editor of *Recherche littéraire/Literary research*, the review journal

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Maria-Kristiina LOTMAN is Associate Professor at the University of Tartu. She obtained her PhD in 2003. Her research interests include ancient verse, its metre, rhythm, versification systems; typological analysis of quantitative verse; semantics of verse; methods and strategies of poetry translation. She is the co-editor of the international journal *Studia Metrica et Poetica* and the member of board of book series *Bibliotheca Antiqua and Bibliotheca Artis Poeticae*.

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Natalia NIKITINA has a PhD in European literature and has studied British, German, French and Russian authors of the 19th and 20th centuries withing the framework of comparative literature. Her research interests focus mainly on the smaller genre forms (e.g. short story, travelogue, etc.), as well as translation. She is a senior lecturer at the Department of Foreign languages, National Research University Higher School of Economics, St.Petersburg, Russia.

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Katelis VIGLAS has studied History and Archaeology in the School of Philosophy at the University of Ioannina. With a scholarship from the Greek State Scholarship's Foundation in the field of Byzantine and Neohellenic Philosophy he followed postgraduate studies at the Theological School of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He has a master's degree in the field of Systematic Theology. In 2001 he earned his PhD with the thesis *The Dialectic of Spiritual Ascent according to Plotinus*. He is a member of the Greek Philosophical Society, the Working Group for the study of Byzantine Philosophy in Greece and the International Society for Philosophers. His research interests include Neo-Platonism, Byzantine Philosophy, Theology, Philosophy of History, History of Scientific Ideas, Anthropology, and Historiography. He has authored about 60 publications in peer-reviewed international scientific journals and other publications.