Contributors

Professor Peter Arnds
Peter Arnds teaches comparative literature and literary translation, as well as German and Italian at Trinity College Dublin. He is the author of two books, one on Wilhelm Raabe and Charles Dickens, and Representation, Subversion, and Eugenics in Günter Grass’s The Tin Drum. He has published numerous articles on comparative literature from the eighteenth to the twenty-first century as well as on German and migrant literature.

Dr Christopher Braddock
Chris Braddock is an artist and academic. He is Associate Professor of Visual Arts in the School of Art and Design at Auckland University of Technology and Chair of the University’s St Paul St Gallery. His research interests span the disciplines of art history, anthropology, and performance studies. He specialises in different aspects of modern and contemporary art including the part object in sculpture, performance, body art, and art and spirituality. In 2007 he was the International Artist-in-Residence at Melbourne’s RMIT University and in 2004 he was the Arts Council of New Zealand toi Aotearoa Visual Arts Resident in New York City on the International Studio and Curatorial Program.

Dr Elizabeth Burns Coleman
Elizabeth Burns Coleman is a postdoctoral fellow in the Schools of English, Communications and Performance Studies and Philosophy and Bioethics at Monash University. She holds a PhD in philosophy from The Australian National University and has held a postdoctoral fellowship at the ANU’s Centre for Cross Cultural Research. She has taught philosophy of art at the ANU, moral and political philosophy at La Trobe University, and philosophy of law at Wollongong University. She is the author of Aboriginal Art, Identity and Appropriation (2005), editor (with Kevin White) of Negotiating the Sacred: Blasphemy and Sacrilege in a Multicultural Society (2006) and has published numerous articles on indigenous art and cross cultural aesthetics. Her articles have appeared in the Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, the International Year Book of Aesthetics, and the Journal of Political Philosophy.

Dr Glenn D’Cruz
Glenn D’Cruz is Senior Lecturer in drama, media and communication at Deakin University. He is the author of Midnight's Orphans: Anglo-Indians in Post/Colonial Literature (Peter Lang, 2006) and Class Act: Melbourne Workers Theatre 1987-2007 (Vulgar Press, 2007).
Dr Carolyn D’Cruz
Carolyn D’Cruz is a lecturer in Gender Sexuality and Diversity Studies at La Trobe University. She is the author of *Identity Politics in Deconstruction: Calculating with the Incalculable* (Ashgate, 2008) and has published in *Contretemps: An Online Journal of Philosophy, Life Writing and Social Semiotics*.

Dr Maria Suzette Fernandez-Dias
Dr Maria Suzette Fernandes-Dias is Assistant Director of UN, International and Regional Organisations Section of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Previously she coordinated scholarly and Research activities at the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research, ANU. She holds a PhD in French (postcolonial literature) from the University of Goa, India. She has taught comparative literature, linguistics and francophone literature at the University of Goa, and has worked as the educational and cultural coordinator of Alliance Française de Goa, where she managed the AF Art Gallery. She has an edited collection, *Legacies of Slavery: Comparative Perspectives*, (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007). Her literary awards include the Victor-Hugo Bicentenary Award (2002), Ford Foundation Campus Diversity Award (1996), OHERaldo Award for Children's literature (1989), and the Vidya Award (1995 and 1996).

Dr Caroline Josephs
Caroline Josephs is a free-lance educator, researcher, storyteller, writer, and artist. Her doctoral thesis was on sacred oral storytelling from four cultures (*Yolngu* Indigenous Australian, Zen Buddhist, Judaic, and Inuit).

Dr Michelle Langford
Michelle Langford is a lecturer in Film Studies in the School of English, Media and Performing Arts at the University of New South Wales. She is the author of *Allegorical Images: Tableau, Time and Gesture in the Cinema of Werner Schroeter* (Intellect, 2006) and has published on Iranian cinema in the journal *Camera Obscura*. Her current research focuses on the allegorical dimensions of Iranian cinema.

David Manning
David Manning is in the final stages of his PhD in History at Clare College, Cambridge. In a departure from the current historiography of blasphemy, his dissertation, ‘Blasphemy in England, c.1660-1730’, develops a cultural history of blasphemy as representation, exploring the nexus between conceptions and perceived manifestations of blasphemy in a theological context. In 2007 he was awarded second prize in the annual Pollard Prize of the Institute of Historical Research, University of London.
Dianne McGowan
Dianne McGowan is currently completing a PhD at the ANU. She holds two undergraduate degrees from the ANU: a BSc (psychology major) and a BA (anthropology major). Between graduating and her PhD research, she established and managed an Asian art gallery in Sydney, Beowulf Galleries. She is published in *Negotiating the Sacred: Blasphemy and Sacrilege in a Multicultural Society* (Coleman and White (eds.) ANU E Press, 2006).

Dr David Nash
David Nash is Reader in History, Oxford Brookes University, UK. He is the author of *Secularism, Art and Freedom* (1992), *Blasphemy in Modern Britain 1789-present* (1999) and senior editor for the *Journal for the Critical Study of Religion*. In addition to his historical expertise, he has had to draw upon legal studies, criminology, literary and film studies, area studies and philosophy for frameworks to explain blasphemy’s history and how and why the phenomenon persists. His most recent book, *Blasphemy in the Christian World* (Oxford University Press 2007), surveys the history of the subject throughout the West and speculates upon its future development. He has given verbal and written evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on Religious Offences and has been in considerable demand by the British media to talk upon the subject (notably BBC Radio Four, TV Channel Four). He is an Executive Officer of the Social History Society of Great Britain and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Dr Jasdev Singh Rai
Jasdev Singh Rai is a medical doctor and spokesperson for the UK-based Sikh Human Rights Group. The organisation is based on the humanitarian aspects of Sikh philosophy: pluralism, non-discrimination, human dignity and bio-ecology. The group has branches in India, Canada, and the USA. The Sikh Human Rights Group is engaged in community cohesion and diversity issues in the UK. It conducts projects on transnationalism and human rights among other issues.

Dr Jeremy Shearmur
Jeremy Shearmur is Reader in Philosophy, ANU, and lectures in political, moral and social philosophy. He worked for eight years as assistant to Professor Sir Karl Popper, and is author of *The Political Thought of Karl Popper*, and *Hayek and After*, both 1996, and was co-editor, with Piers Turner, of Karl Popper’s *After the Open Society*, 2008. He has taught at the University of Edinburgh, the University of Manchester, and at George Mason University, where he was a Research Associate Professor. He was also Director of Studies of the Centre for Policy Studies, in London.