

A Word from the General Editors.

*Canada & Beyond* is a new online journal looking at Canadian cultural productions and their interaction with cultures and critical perspectives from ‘beyond’. Its primary goal is to help establish critical dialogue among an international community of artists and intellectuals with common views on the political and social roles of literature, art and other forms of cultural expression. Such common views may well be synthesized as deriving from postcolonial, antiracist and feminist critical stances. We would like to thank the Assistant Editors, the Board of Advisors and the Board of Referees of the journal for believing in the project and joining us in this venture, which would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors.

We are launching the journal with a double issue that collects selected contributions to the *Canada & Beyond* Inaugural Conference, hosted at the Universidad de Huelva in May 2010. We believe the contents very aptly suggest the kind of scholarship we would like to promote from these pages: engaging, committed, and innovative. Written by both European and Canadian scholars, some of the articles look towards the visual arts, either on their own or in connection to literature; others address the politics of race and sexual orientation; while the rest consider the dynamics of writing and reading. In a nutshell: they cross borders and challenge preconceived notions. Last but not least, this double issue showcases the creative writing of four celebrated Canadian poets whose poetics equally nurture the transgressive spirit of the beyond. It is an aim of the journal to promote innovative writers in a section of creative writing curated by guest editors. We wish to thank all contributors for their participation in this new project.

As General Editors, we would like to use this opportunity to invite submissions for articles on Canadian culture (including literature, drama, film, media, visual arts or translation) for future issues of *Canada & Beyond*. We welcome transdisciplinary criticism, and we are most interested in looking at the interactions both in creative and critical practices between writing and visual arts, creative writing and theory, transnational discursive sites, multilinguistic projects, multimedia art and popular culture. Literature constitutes our primary interest, though we aim to go “beyond” traditional understandings of “literature”. In a similar line, we also encourage comparative studies that look from Canada beyond Canada, and from “beyond” to Canada. Interviews, book reviews or announcements and conference reports are all welcome.

Belén Martín-Lucas and Pilar Cuder-Domínguez

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