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Dissident Self-Narratives: Radical and Queer Life Writing



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A New York City-based teacher and scholar, **Eric Daffron** is a professor of literature at Ramapo College of New Jersey, where he teaches gothic literature and literary theory, among other subjects. His past scholarship has focused on the gothic novel, Michel Foucault, and issues concerning sexuality and the body. More recently, his writing has taken an autotheoretical turn with a particular focus on Roland Barthes.

Kelsey Davies is a doctoral student at the New Sorbonne University. Her dissertation, *(Re)writing the ProstituteBody: Autobiographical Narratives of Sexual Labor, United States from 2000* is being written under the supervision of Alexandra Poulain and explores the themes of agency, consent, subjectivity, and the body in contemporary autobiographical narratives of sex work.

Aude Haffen is Senior Lecturer in English Literature at University Montpellier III. Her research focusses on LGBTQ theory, the works of Christopher Isherwood and all forms of life writing, notably autobiography, autofiction, letters and travelogues. She has published journal articles and book chapters on Christopher Isherwood and other writers, including Thomas De Quincey, Oscar Wilde, E.M. Forster and Mary McCarthy, and co-edited a volume of essays, *Writers' Biographies and Family Histories in 20th- and 21st-Century Literature* (Cambridge Scholars, 2018). She was awarded a 2019-2020 Christopher Isherwood Fellowship from the Huntington Library and is currently writing a monograph on this author.

Timothy Mathews is Emeritus Professor of French and Comparative Criticism, University College London. He is fascinated by what engaging with art can tell us about engaging with people. His most recent book is *Alberto Giacometti: the Art of Relation* (2014). His co-edited books include *Tradition, Translation, Trauma*, with Jan Parker (2011), *Poetic Biopolitics*, with Peg Rawe and Stephen Loo (2015), and *The Modernist Bestiary*, with Sarah Kay (2020). His most recent translation is of a novel by Guillaume Apollinaire, *Seated Woman* (2022).

Daniele Pomilio is a graduate in multimedia arts, and is the author of a monograph on videogame design. He has recently written on Germano Celant's exhibits of performance artists in Venice, on Jim Jarmusch's relation to the New York Poets and on Sylvia Plath's radiodrama inspired by a Bergman film on birth. He is currently creating an interactive application using pictorial art techniques in order to beautify a visual domain that is often not art-conscious enough.

Adam Spanos is a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California. His research is focused on cultural politics in the Arab eastern Mediterranean, comparative settler colonialisms, and contemporary postcolonial criticism. His essays have appeared in journals such as *Alif: A Journal of Comparative Poetics, Comparative Literature*, and *The Cambridge Journal of Postcolonial Literary Inquiry*, as well as in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature* and *The Postcolonial Contemporary*, edited by Jini Kim Watson and Gary Wilder (Fordham UP, 2018).

Andy Stafford is Professor of French and Critical Theory at the University of Leeds (UK), and was, in 2018-2019, Visiting Professor at the Universit  Paris Sorbonne Nord (Villetaneuse). He is co-editor, with Claire Lozier and Jivitesh Vashisht, of a special number of *Paragraph*, 'Samuel Beckett and Roland

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Stephanos Stephanides is a poet, essayist and memoirist, translator, ethnographer, and documentary filmmaker. He began his academic career teaching literature at the University of Guyana for six years, where he developed a deep interest in Caribbean Creole and Indian diasporic communities, and thereafter a lifelong engagement with India. He was Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Cyprus until 2017. Selections of his poetry have been published in more than twelve languages. He is a Writing Fellow of the International Writers Program of the University of Iowa. He was awarded first prize for poetry from the American Anthropological Association, 1988, and first prize for video poetry for his film *Poets in No Man's Land* at the Nicosia International Film Festival. He has served as judge for the Commonwealth Writers Prize (2000, 2010, 2022). He is a Fellow of the English Association, and Cavaliere of the Republic of Italy. Representative publications include *Translating Kali's Feast: the Goddess in Indo- Caribbean Ritual and Fiction* (2000), *Blue Moon in Rajasthan and other poems* (2005), and most recently *The Wind Under My Lips* / «Ο Άνεμος κάτω απ' τα χείλη μου», a bilingual anthology with Greek translation by Despina Pirketti (Rodakio: Athens, 2018).