

## Notes on Contributors

**Kathryn Bird** is in the final year of her PhD in the School of English at the University of Leeds. Her thesis, funded by a scholarship from the AHRC, is entitled 'Undeath and bare life: the politics of the contemporary Gothic'. Her research interests include biopolitics, deconstruction and animal studies, as well as the Gothic, neo-Victorian and detective genres.

**Nadine Boehm-Schnitker** lectures in English Literature and Cultural Studies at Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany. She has published on a variety of subjects, among them the role of religious and ethical discourses in contemporary literature and popular film as treated in her monograph *Sakrales Sehen* (transcript, 2009), which analyses representations of the sacred in cinema at the millennial turn. She serves as Associate Editor of *Neo-Victorian Studies* and has published a co-edited essay collection (with Susanne Gruss) entitled *Neo-Victorian Literature and Culture: Immersions and Revisitations* (Routledge, 2014). Her current book project explores the cultural history of perception in nineteenth-century texts as well as the re-evaluation of aesthetics in terms of *aisthetics* within Cultural Studies.

**Kate J. Hext** is a Lecturer in English at the University of Exeter, England, UK. Her first monograph, *Walter Pater: Individualism and Aesthetic Philosophy* (Edinburgh University Press) was published in 2014. She is co-organiser of the conference, *Aestheticism and Decadence in the Age of Modernism: 1895-1945*, which will be held at Senate House, London, in April 2015.

**Meghan Jordan** is Writing Center Director and Adjunct Professor of English at Upper Iowa University, USA, where she teaches composition and developmental English courses. She recently completed a doctoral thesis on the conventions of life writing used in the British novel throughout the long nineteenth century. Her current research interests include the intersection of gender and the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British publishing industry. She is currently working on an essay on Elizabeth Gaskell and developing her first monograph proposal, tentatively titled *Split Selves: Life Writing and the Novel in Great Britain, 1780-1900*.

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**Sneha Kar Chaudhuri** is Assistant Professor in the Department of English at West Bengal State University, Kolkata, India. A UGC-Senior Research Fellow with the Centre of Advanced Study in English, Jadavpur University (2004-2008), she received her doctoral degree in 2008; her thesis is on the various thematic dimensions of postmodern neo-Victorian fiction. A former Assistant Editor and current Editorial Board member of *Neo-Victorian Studies*, she has published reviews and articles in peer-reviewed national and international journals and is currently co-editing a volume of critical essays tentatively titled *Tagore and Woman*.

**Chris Louttit** is Assistant Professor of English Literature at Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands. He is the author of *Dickens's Secular Gospel: Work, Gender, and Personality* (Routledge, 2009), and has published a number of articles and chapters on mid-Victorian fiction and popular print culture, classic novel adaptations and neo-Victorian fiction. His recent publications include a piece on period drama fan cultures in *Adaptation* (2013), and an article entitled 'Tim Burton's Pop-Victorian Gothic Aesthetic' which is forthcoming in *Gothic Studies*.

**Sandra Mayer** is an Erwin Schrödinger Research Fellow (Austrian Science Fund) at the University of Oxford and Wolfson College, where she is working on a post-doc project that focuses on Benjamin Disraeli as a literary celebrity and celebrity politician. She wrote her PhD thesis on the reception of Oscar Wilde's plays on twentieth-century Viennese stages. She has lectured and published extensively on the British and European reception of Oscar Wilde, including a chapter contribution to the volume *The Reception of Oscar Wilde in Europe* (Continuum, 2010), and she is co-editor of *Ireland in Drama, Film, and Popular Culture* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2012) and *Ireland in/and Europe: Cross-Currents and Exchanges* (ISE4, Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2012).

**Julia Novak** is a Hertha Firnberg Research Fellow (Austrian Science Fund) at the Department of English and American Studies, University of Vienna, working on a post-doc project on fictional biographies about historical women artists. She has written a book on reading groups, *Gemeinsam Lesen: Die Buchgruppe als soziales Phänomen und ökonomische Triebkraft* (Lit-Verlag, 2007) and a study of *Live Poetry: An Integrated Approach to*

*Poetry in Performance* (Rodopi, 2011). She is editor of *Vienna Views* (Luftschacht, 2007), a collection of short stories about Vienna, and co-editor of *Staging Interculturality* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2010), *Ireland in Drama, Film, and Popular Culture* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2012) and *Ireland in/and Europe* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2012).

**Matt Trammell** is a second-year PhD student in English at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. His research interests include representations of dreaming, spiritual episodes, and psychical phenomena in Victorian literature, Victorian psychology, nineteenth-century evolutionary science, and material culture. He also studies Internet culture and has published 'User Investment and Behavior Policing on 4chan' in *First Monday* (2014), detailing how users project certain notions of countercultural identity in anonymous online communities. His flash-fiction story 'Shoebox' appeared in *The Macguffin* (2014).