

CONTRIBUTORS

Susan Miyo Asai is an associate professor in the Music Department at Northeastern University in Boston. The range of topics she has researched and written about includes Japanese folk performing arts, Asian American music and identity, and pedagogies in teaching Asian music. Her current book project investigates the nexus of music, identity, and politics in the music making of three generations of Japanese Americans.

Kabria Baumgartner is a Ph.D. candidate in the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and she holds a certificate in Feminist Studies. Her research interests include nineteenth century African American women's history and culture, African American education, slavery studies and nineteenth century American literature. She has taught courses on African American history and contemporary issues in American education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and at Westfield State College. She is completing a dissertation, entitled, "In Pursuit of Knowledge: African American Women and Educational Activism in Antebellum America," which examines the educational work and political activism of African American women in nineteenth century America.

Letisha Engracia Cardoso Brown is a 2010 graduate of the University of Northern Colorado, in Greeley, Colorado. She earned her B.A. in Africana Studies and Multicultural Anthropology and graduated summa cum laude. In the fall, she will begin a Ph.D. program in sociology at the University of Texas-Austin, where she will specialize in race/ethnicity and gender studies.

MaryEllen Garcia is an Associate Professor of Spanish and Linguistics at the University of Texas at San Antonio,

Texas. Her research examines the English and Spanish of Mexican Americans in the Southwest in the framework of sociolinguistics, including linguistic variation, code switching, and the variety of speech styles in the community. Her professional memberships include the AATSP, the Linguistic Society of America, the Linguistic Association of the Southwest, and La Asociación de Lingüística y Filología de la América Latina.

Helen Lock received her B.A. from the University of Liverpool, England, her Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, and is now Professor of English at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, where she teaches American, African American and multicultural literature. She is the author of *A Case of Mis-Taken Identity: Detective Undercurrents in Recent African American Fiction* (Peter Lang, 1994) and of numerous articles.

Matthew Miller is an assistant professor of English at the University of South Carolina Aiken where he teaches courses in American literature, Non-Western literature, Non-Western film, graphic novels, and writing. He earned a Ph. D. in 20th Century American Literature and Postcolonial Theory and Literature from the University of South Carolina in 2005. Prior to this, he completed a Master's degree in Multicultural Literature at East Carolina University. His research explores the interaction between trauma and storytelling in American Literature, especially in the texts of ethnic American writers. He is currently working on a project on the South African novelist J. M. Coetzee exploring the relationship to narrative strategies and power.