

## EDITORS' NOTE

The first issue of *L'Érudit franco-espagnol (LEF-E)* has launched as scheduled, and we want to thank our referees and contributors for making this possible. In a very short time, *LEF-E* has managed to create a name for itself in academia, as one can see by the numbers of submissions received and the quality of our board of referees.

In this first issue, containing ten contributions selected by our referees from among the more than seventy articles we received, we have tried to maintain a balance between French and Spanish literatures, French and Francophone essays, and Peninsular and Latin American contributions. The journal, as often as possible, will keep a section for *Varia*, where we plan to include an article of interest to our readers: interviews with contemporary writers, pieces of creative writing, articles on cultural studies, etc. For the first issue, we are very happy to publish an interview with Jean-Claude Carrière, a very famous French screenwriter who frequently collaborated with Luis Buñuel. This interview, "Buñuel et la littérature," is unquestionably the perfect match for our journal. Carrière, a French producer, artist, and a movie director talks about Buñuel, a Spanish-born director who worked in Spain, Mexico, France, and the United States. Cherry on the pie, the interview talks about Buñuel's point of view on literature and how his close friend remembers it.

The goal of *LEF-E* is simple: to promote the field of French and Hispanic literatures and offer a meeting place for different approaches and expressions as long as they bring something interesting to the debate. Above all, *LEF-E* wants to stay true to the following four principles:

i) The **quality of our board of referees**. This is the cornerstone of *LEF-E*'s reputation and value. Thanks to the knowledge and expertise of our referees, the journal is now able to cover almost every area of specialization related to the scope of the journal. Indeed, the scope of the journal is quite ambitious, but with more than one hundred seventy referees (each holds a doctoral degree in a field related to the journal and is a faculty member in higher education), we can assure our contributors and readers that each article has been reviewed by specialists in the field. We are also proud to note that due to the professionalism of our referees, we have been able to give an answer to each contributor in an average of eight weeks. A complete list of our referees can be found by clicking on the following link: <[http://www.lef-e.org/board\\_of\\_referees](http://www.lef-e.org/board_of_referees)>. Note that *LEF-E* wants to keep its board of referees transparent and open and will continue to welcome qualified scholars. In the future, *LEF-E* also plans to invite scholars from other countries to become referees.

ii) **Fairness** to the contributor (double-blind process), to the referees (no more than four articles to review per academic year), to the readers (original contributions), and to ourselves through the maintenance of our integrity and independence. To contribute an article to *LEF-E*, please click on the following link:  
<[http://www.lef-e.org/guidelines\\_for\\_contributors](http://www.lef-e.org/guidelines_for_contributors)>.

iii) **Staying trilingual.** There is a real need for a peer-reviewed journal in the field of French and Spanish literatures that publishes contributions in three languages: English, French, and Spanish. We know first-hand that a lot of scholars in American universities who work in a foreign language are non-native speakers of English. We believe that each contributor should have the option to write and publish in the language of his/her choice.

iv) **Openness** is one of our ambitions. The journal is open in many different ways. *LEF-E* does not wish to impose any constraints of time period or method of analysis on our content. Indeed, the journal is open to specialists commenting on works from the Middle Ages to the twenty-first century, and *LEF-E* hosts articles not only by French and Spanish authors—novelists, playwrights, poets, and moralists—but also by Francophone and Hispanic writers from around the world. This openness extends to access—the journal is free of charge for our contributors as well as for our readers, allowing us to remain free of pressures of any kind.

We hope that you will enjoy reading this first issue as much as we have enjoyed making it.

Dr. Stéphane Natan, editor  
Dr. María Cristina Campos Fuentes, co-editor