

EDITORS' NOTE

We are pleased to present you with the ninth issue of *LEF-E*. As always, we thank our referees and contributors for their diligent work. Their commitment continues to allow us to present our readers with original, well-written, thought-provoking articles.

The current issue addresses a balanced mix of French, Francophone, Latin American, and Spanish literature with essays in the three languages of the journal—English, French, and Spanish—relating to periods from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century.

Our table of contents is organized thematically. The first two articles explore identity-related issues yet unresolved in Latin America and the Francophone world due to tormented colonial pasts, which pit people between a desire to join the “banquete de la civilización” (article of Campos Fuentes) and the rejection they suffer from former colonizers (Boyer).

The two subsequent articles focus on the right of individuals to choose lifestyles that match their convictions, including the freedom to own one’s body without fearing unwanted pregnancy (Christiansen) and the prerogative to freely maintain Catholic convictions in a non-Christian land (Course).

Our last article (Quirk) returns us to Spain. In a way, it combines the quest for identity—this time, at the individual level—and personal freedom in the work of Bécquer. Indirectly, Bécquer claims his privilege, as an author, to borrow from other sources while maintaining his creativity and displaying his ability to outdo his models.

Happy reading!

Dr. Stéphane Natan, editor

Dr. María Cristina Campos Fuentes, co-editor