

EDITORS' NOTE

We are pleased to present you with the sixth issue of *LEF-E*. Once again, we thank our referees and contributors for their diligent work, making this issue relevant with its selection of engaging, provocative, and original articles.

Our table of contents is organized around the topic of dichotomy. All articles in this issue revolve around it, dealing with order and disorder (Turcat), progress and pseudo-progress (Gomis-Izquierdo), misogyny and feminism (Rousselle), fiction and reality (Burke and Sánchez), and childhood and adulthood within the *Bildungsroman* (Rippon and Vázquez).

Interestingly, some essays are able to create strong connections between past and present. The article by Elizabeth Smith Rousselle compares the poetry of Baudelaire and Delmira Agustini; in her piece, Jessica Burke shows Carmen Boullosa's attempt to reconcile Mexico with its past; Francisco Javier Sánchez' essay focuses on Javier Cercas attempting to solve an old historical enigma; while Maria R. Rippon examines the evolution of *Bildungsroman* from Carmen Laforet to Mercedes Salisachs.

In addition, this issue contains articles focusing on different genres (maxims, novels, and poetry) and literary figures from various parts of the Francophone and Hispanic world. Our contributors explore masterworks of French literature (La Rochefoucauld and Baudelaire), important Latin American writers (the Chilean Blest Gana, the Argentine Agustini, and the Mexican Boullosa), Spanish novelists (Laforet, Salisachs, and Cercas), and the multiracial American Anna-Kazumi Stahl who lived in Argentina for nearly two decades.

Finally, all the contributions make the point that literature is not only ornamental but it also illustrates very well Horace's *utile dulci* in its capability of raising questions and its never-ending quest for answers.

Happy reading!

Dr. Stéphane Natan, editor

Dr. María Cristina Campos Fuentes, co-editor