

## EDITORS' NOTE

We are pleased to present you with the twelfth issue of *LEF-E*, and, as always, we want to thank our referees and contributors for making this issue relevant with a selection of engaging and original articles.

This issue contains articles that focus on different genres— theater, poetry, novel, and autobiography—with a balance between Francophone and Hispanic literature. The studied authors originate from Algeria, Belgium, Mexico, and Spain.

The table of contents is organized around the two main topics of game and identity. Within the first theme appears the game of power between the iconic figures of the king and the jester in the dramatic world of Belgian writer Michel de Ghelderode (Zawada). Then, games and game playing are analyzed in another playwright, the Spaniard Antonio Buero Vallejo, to deconstruct how they relate to questions of identity and survival under the hostile environment reflective of post-Civil War Spain during the dictatorship (Ridley). Next, subtle encounters that combine platonic love and eroticism emerge in the poems of Mexican author Octavio Paz as prelude and epilog to the game of love (Campos Fuentes).

The second theme involves queer and hybrid national identities. Repressed feminine “friendship” under Francoism and the transition to democracy is approached in a novel by Marina Mayoral, as the essay proposes the recovery of collective and individual memory from the perspective of the “ghostly” alternative represented by queer identity and desire (Moreno-Florido). Finally, a mosaic of representations of Algerian hybrid identity, encompassing a heteroclitite collection of personal, official, and commercial images, is examined in Leïla Sebbar’s work to demonstrate the malleability of the Algerian colonial inheritance (Goellner).

Happy reading!

Dr. Stéphane Natan, editor

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