

Contributors

Alex Romagnoli is an Assistant Professor of English Education at Monmouth University. Previously, Alex taught composition at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) and high school English at East Stroudsburg High School South. Romagnoli is co-author, with Gian Pagnucci, of *Enter the Superheroes: American Values, Culture, and the Canon of Superhero Literature*. He was the recipient of the IUP Composition and TESOL program's "Exemplary Teaching of Literacy and Language Award" in 2013. His research interests include multimodality, multiliteracies, graphic novels in academic contexts, and popular culture.

Gian Pagnucci is Chair of the Department of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he has taught for 20 years. In 2009, Dr. Pagnucci was selected to be an IUP Distinguished University Professor. Pagnucci is co-author, with Alex Romagnoli, of *Enter the Superheroes: American Values, Culture, and the Canon of Superhero Literature*. He is also the author of 3 other books including *Living the Narrative Life: Stories as a Tool for Meaning Making*. His scholarly interests include comics studies, narrative research, composition pedagogy, technology and literacy, and technical writing. His favorite superheroes are Moon Knight and Captain America.

Joshua Begley earned his Ph.D. from the Graduate Studies in Literature and Criticism Program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He currently works as an Instructor in Full Sail University's Creative Writing Program where he teaches the course Symbolic Communication and Cartography. His main areas of interest are play theory, performance theory, adaptation, and sequential art.

John Yu Branscum is an Assistant Professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the literary editor for the international, post-punk fashion and culture magazine *Black & Grey*, and a consultant chef for the comic book store café "77" in Yentai, China. His work has been published in journals ranging from the *Evergreen Review* to *North American Review*, and has won such awards as the Ursula LeGuin Award for Imaginative Literature. His co-edited book *Red Holler: An Anthology of Contemporary Appalachian Literature* was published by Sarabande Books in 2013 and received the Linda Bruckheimer Award for Kentucky Literature.

Brian Burke teaches composition, literature, film and TESOL at Saint Francis University in Loretto, Pennsylvania. His current passion is developing a series of comic book mythology courses that will analyze the superhero code, the continuity of comics, the character archetype, and the rhetoric of artistic imagery.

Wendy Carse was an Associate Professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her areas of interest included Victorian literature, horror films and literature, Sherlock Holmes, and the gothic. Carse won an IUP Teaching Excellence Award in 2010 and Outstanding IUP English Advisor Awards in 1997, 2003, and 2009. She also served as Coordinator of the IUP English Bachelor of Arts Program for fourteen years. Dr. Carse passed away in 2013 and is greatly missed by her husband Robert and her family, friends, and colleagues.

Jonathon Cooper is an Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he also directs the Criminology Advising Center. Primarily a policing scholar, Cooper is also interested in the representation of crime and justice in the media, including graphic novels. A Marvel fan since the early 90s, he was converted to DC by, against all odds, the New 52.

Edmund Cueva is Professor of Classics and Humanities at the University of Houston-Downtown, where he currently serves as Chair of the Department of Arts and Humanities. His doctorate in Classics is from Loyola University Chicago. His areas of research, publication, and teaching include the Greek and Roman Novels, the Graeco-Roman World, Mythology, Ancient Literature and the Occult, and Patristics.

Michael Dittman is an Assistant Professor of English at Butler (Pennsylvania) County Community College. He has written on comics extensively for the *International Journal of Comic Arts* and other outlets both popular and scholarly. His books include *Jack Kerouac* (Greenwood), *Masterpieces of the Beat Generation* (Greenwood), and the novel *Small Brutal Incidents* (Contemporary). He is currently completing a manuscript on the dialogical use of technology by fan communities.

Sandra Eckard is an Associate Professor of English at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania where she teaches writing, works with English Education students, and directs the Writing Studio. She specializes in teaching writing, tutoring writing, and using pop culture in the classroom. Her second book *Yin and Yang in the English Classroom: Teaching with Popular Culture Texts*, was recently published by Rowman & Littlefield.

Brandon Galm is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the Graduate Studies in Literature and Criticism Program and a Temporary Faculty member in the Department of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Galm also received his Master of Arts in English—Generalist from IUP. His research interests lie in Ecocriticism, Environmental Justice, and Critical Race Studies, as well as the merging and intersections of those three. He is currently working on his dissertation, focusing on Post-Katrina Literatures as modes of representation that further our understanding of our experiences with race and place in the United States, and the ways that disasters like Hurricane Katrina can reveal those ideological experiences to us.

Oriana Gatta is an Assistant Professor of English in Writing Studies and an affiliate Women's Studies faculty member at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She has previously published on comics and composition in *Composition Studies* and *ImageText* and does her best to use rhetoric for the contextually greater good.

Tanya Heflin is an Assistant Professor of English in the Graduate Studies in Literature and Criticism Program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she teaches courses in critical theory, women's literature, and American literature. Her interest in graphic memoir draws from her background in autobiography theory, and she is working on a new monograph that traces women's visual life-writing genres from nine-

teenth-century scrapbooking to present-day graphic memoir. Sharing a real-life birthday with Lynda Carter, Dr. Heflin's life-long favorite comic book character could be none other than *Ms. Magazine* cover icon Wonder Woman.

Forrest Helvie is an Associate Professor at Norwalk Community College where he teaches developmental English. He has won numerous awards for his scholarship, much of which focuses on comics. In addition to his research in comics studies, he is also a comics journalist who regularly writes for Marvel Comics, Newsarama, and more.

Shana Kraynak is a Lecturer at the University of Southern California whose research interests include masculinity and popular culture studies, with particular regard to post-9/11 representations of masculinity in film, graphic novels, and television.

Christopher Kuipers is an Associate Professor of English in the Graduate Studies in Literature and Criticism Program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he teaches courses in such areas as classical literature, the history of English, the literary anthology, and the theory of adaptation. His book on *The Canon* is forthcoming in Routledge's The New Critical Idiom Series. His favorite comic book character is E. P. Jacobs' Professor Mortimer.

Alec Lapidus teaches applied linguistics, ESL literacy, and TESOL courses at the University of Southern Maine. He is an experienced second/foreign language educator who has taught English in the United States and overseas.

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John Marsden is an Assistant Professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he has taught for seventeen years. He specializes in 20th and 21st century British literature and regularly teaches composition courses. He was a close friend of the late Wendy Carse, who was an Associate Professor of English at IUP.

Scott Moore is Professor and Chair of the Department of History at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. When he is not preparing for the zombie apocalypse, he directs an archaeological project on Cyprus.

Edel Reilly is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She teaches courses for elementary and middle level education majors. Her research focuses on mathematics and writing, middle level mathematics education, and gender issues in math and science.

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Ivan Richard designed the cover image for this issue of *Works and Days*. Ivan is a professional artist. He resides in California. His artwork can be viewed online at this website: <http://ivanrichard1.wix.com/ivanrichard>

Steven Schroeder is an Assistant Professor of History at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. His research areas included the Medieval period and military history.

Robert Stallings is a Ph.D. candidate and Teaching Associate in the Department of Criminology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. His research interests include evaluating Drug Market Interventions (DMI) and exploring perceptions of professional athlete criminality. He recently had a book chapter on Three Strikes Laws published in the 2nd edition of *Current Legal Issues in Criminal Justice* and has a forthcoming publication in *Crime Prevention and Community Safety* evaluating resident perceptions of crime and safety after a DMI in Roanoke, VA.

Jason Tondro is an Assistant Professor of English at the College of Coastal Georgia, where he teaches writing, literature, comics, and critical theory as part of the college's American Studies Program. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of California Riverside and is the author of *Superheroes of the Round Table: Comics Connections to Medieval and Renaissance Literature*. Tondro's articles on Shakespearean comics, William Blake, and *Faerie Queene* have appeared in *ImageText* and the *International Journal of Comic Art*, while his work on comics adaptations of Beowulf and Dante has been recently anthologized. He blogs at doctorcomics.blogspot.com.

Sara Van Ness is a Ph.D. candidate in Educational Leadership at Rowan University. She is the author of *Watchmen as Literature: A Critical Study of the Graphic Novel* (McFarland, 2010) and is a contributor to *The Lost Art of Ah Pook Is Here: Images from the Graphic Novel* (Fantagraphics, 2012). Van Ness currently lives in New Jersey, where she teaches English and a course on graphic novels and visual literacy.