

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

John Agard published in 2000 his seventh collection of poetry for adults, *Weblines* (Bloodaxe), which plays with the man-spider figure of Caribbean folklore, Anansi. Earlier collections include *Mangoes and Bullets* (Pluto 1985), *Lovelines for a Goat-born Lady* (Serpent's Tail 1990), and *From the Devil's Pulpit* (Bloodaxe 1997). His first collection, *Shoot me with Flowers*, was published in Guyana in 1973, and he won the Casa de las Americas Prize for *Man to Pan* in 1982. He is also well-known as the author of verse for children, such as *Laughter is an Egg* (Puffin 1990) and *I Din Do Nothing* (Red Fox), and *We Animals Would Like a Word with You* (Bodley Head), which was shortlisted for the Kurt Maschler Award and won a Smarties Award. His most recent collection for children is *Points of View with Professor Peekaboo* (Bodley Head 2000). His anthology *Hello New* (Orchard Books) was chosen by the Poetry Society as its Children's Poetry Bookshelf Best Anthology for 2000. He has been Writer in Residence, at London's South Bank Centre in 1993, and in 1998 for the BBC's Windrush Project. He performs his work widely in Britain and internationally, and as a touring speaker with the Commonwealth Institute visited nearly two thousand schools promoting Caribbean culture and poetry. He recently took part in a

international tours since 1997 and recent writer's residencies in New York, Zimbabwe and Cape Town. In 2000 she won an Arts Council Writers Award. See www.bevaristo.com

Amanda Griffin is a PhD student at the University of Durham. Her field of research is the amateur competitive music festival movement in the British Isles. Her interest in this field stems from her own involvement from an early age with the Manx Music Festival.

Romesh Gunsekera's new novel *Heaven's Edge* is to be published by Bloomsbury in 2002. His most recent novel, *The Sandglass*, received the inaugural BBC Asia

Professional touring music theatre shows for Grand Union include

operative in the South of France, and for two years in the mid-1980s he worked as a Media Coordinator in Papua New Guinea. He has taught at a number of universities, including Ulster, and is now Professor of Creative Writing at Sheffield Hallam University. *A Festschrift for E. A. Markham*, edited by Freda Volans and Tracey O'Rourke (Linda Lee Books, 1999), commemorated his sixtieth birthday.

Ruth McElroy

autobiography, provisionally titled *View from the*

