

## Contributors

**Dr Charlotte Beyer** is Senior Lecturer in English Studies at the University of Gloucestershire, and holds an MA and PhD in Women's Studies. A contemporary literature specialist, her teaching areas include recent British fiction and poetry; North American literature from the 19th Century to the present day; black British and postcolonial writing; and crime fiction. She has published a number of articles on Margaret Atwood's fiction and poetry in relation to postcolonial and feminist perspectives, and an article and a book chapter on Willa Cather's journalism. She has recently published articles on Dorothy Pilkington's *Rabbit-Proof Fence* and her use of feminist and postcolonial theoretical perspectives in teaching and learning, and on Jackie Kay and Isha Mckenzie-Mavinga and black British women's writing and maternal identities. She has also published on crime fiction. Dr Beyer writes reviews for, as well as serving as a peer reviewer on, several academic journals. She is also a published poet, and her poetry has appeared in the poetry journal *The Dawntreader*, and in the anthologies *Crab Lines off the Pier* (2010), *Visible Breath* (2010)

**Dr Wendy Knepper** (guest editor) is a Lecturer in transnational modernism and postcolonial literature at Brunel University as well as co-founder of the Brunel Gender & Sexuality Research Centre (2011). She has published articles on Caribbean literature and theory, gender-related issues, and crime fiction in essay collections and peer-reviewed journals, including *PMLA* and *Small Axe*. She has recently published *Patrick Chamoiseau: A Critical Introduction* (2012), which presents an analytic account of the author's narrative strategies and oeuvre as a whole. Currently, she is working on the Palgrave Companion to Caribbean Literature as well as a book-length study of crime and reconstructions of justice in contemporary Caribbean writing.

**Dr Ole Laursen** holds a PhD from the Open University (2011), where his doctoral thesis focused on contemporary black and Asian British women's life writing. He has published

colleague on a book exploring ideas of peacemaking and nonviolence in literature from times of war and conflict.

**Dr Jo Pready** was awarded her PhD from Nottingham in 2010. Her research focuses on the role of environment in novels from the late Victorian period through to contemporary fiction. This research involves the consideration of the interplay between space and character: how novels may be manipulated by the role of place and location and how the construction of environment may be informed by social and political theories. This research applies 'psychogeography' to an analysis of narratives. Generally, this work focuses on the idea of movement, which covers a broad and interdisciplinary research area, ranging from travel writing through to urban planning and regeneration, the use of suburbs and the movements from inner city developments to suburban areas, the growth of the railway and the underground, and so forth. Her recent focus has been on architecture and, in particular, the use of hotels in novels through a postmodern consideration of the power that this space has to shape events and character. Since gaining her PhD, Dr Pready has taught at the University of Westminster and Brunel University. She is currently working as a research officer at the University of Brighton.

**Dr Mohanalakshmi Rajakumar** is a writer and educator who has lived in Qatar since 2005. She completed her doctorate at University of Florida with a focus on gender and postcolonial theory. Her first book, *Haram in the Harem* (Peter Lang, 2009) is a literary analysis of the works of three Muslim women authors in India, Algeria, and Pakistan. She is the creator of the Qatar Narratives series, and co-editor of five books, as well as the *Qatari Voices* anthology, which features essays by Qataris on modern life in Doha (Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Publishing, 2010). Her work has been published in *Brownbook*, *Variety Arabia*, *AudioFile Magazine*, *Explore Qatar*, *Woman Today*, *The Woman*, *Speak without Interruption*, *Writers and Artists Yearbook*, *QatarClick*, and *Qatar Explorer*