

Acknowledgements

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to mount a meeting of the size and scope of the XXIII Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of the New Literatures in English, whose proceedings form the basis for this set of volumes, without incurring vast debts of gratitude to a fairly large number of people and organizations. Both as organizers and in our present capacity as editors we therefore take great pleasure in expressing our thanks to all those whose financial sponsorship, moral support, and practical help contributed to making both the conference and the subsequent publications possible. Without their active cooperation these complex cross-border undertakings would never have come to fruition. The list is long and comprehensive – we hope we have not overlooked anyone. For all the massive collective effort, however, there are two individuals who we do feel deserve to be singled out for special mention, namely Professor Hena Maes-Jelinek and Professor Peter Wenzel, both of whom, representing with appropriate symbolism English Studies at Liège and Aachen respectively, enthusiastically identified with the enterprise from the start and gave us much valuable and invaluable solidarity, sympathy and support before, during and after its implementation.

On this occasion our benefactors, colleagues and friends were (in alphabetical order):

The Association for the Study of the New Literatures in English (ASNEL); der Ausschuss für Entwicklungsbezogene Bildung und Publizistik der Evangelischen Kirche, ABP (the Board for Development-related Education and Media of the Protestant Church in Germany, Stuttgart); Professor Rudolf Beier, Department of German (Applied Linguistics), Aachen University; Professor Wolfgang Becker, Director of the Internationales Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen; Professor Eckhard Breiting, Bayreuth; the British Council (Brussels); the British Council (Cologne); Dr. Thomas Brückner, Leipzig; Tone Brulin, Antwerp, Belgium; Professor Wolfgang Butzkamm, Department of English, Aachen Univer-

sity; the Canadian Embassy, Berlin; Carfax Publishers, UK; Centre de Coopération au Développement de l'Université de Liège (CECODEL), Belgium; Gaby Clasen, Cologne; Dr. Gordon Collier, University of Giessen, Germany; the Commonwealth Foundation, London; Continuum International, UK; the Dean of the Philosophical Faculty of Aachen University, Professor Christian Stetter; Ralf de Jong, Kassel; Deutsche Welle, Cologne; Editions Rodopi B.V, Amsterdam and its director Fred van der Zee; the English Department of the University of Liège; la Fondation Universitaire, Belgium; le Fonds National de Recherche Scientifique (FNRS), Bruxelles, Belgium; the Indien Restaurant Ganges, Aachen (Rohit Nayar); Carla A. Gehrman-Zellen, Cologne; the Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien; Dr. James Gibbs, University of the West of England, Bristol; the Embassy of Guyana in Brussels; Heinemann Publishers, Oxford; Professor Bernard Hickey, (Università degli Studi di Lecce); L'Institut Culturel Franco-Allemand d'Aix-la-Chapelle and its director, Dr. Michael Jansen; Dr. Jürgen Jansen, Department of Political Science, Aachen University; Tina Jerman, Exil-Kulturkoordination, Essen; Kulturbüro der Stadt Aachen (the Cultural Office of the City of Aachen, Ms Silvi Tyla); the Kultursekretariat Nordrhein-Westfalen and its director, Dr. Dietmar N. Schmidt; Walter Larink, Canadian Embassy, Berlin; the Lord Mayor of the City of Aachen (Oberbürgermeister der Stadt Aachen); Professor Robert Leroy, then Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters, University of Liège; Dr. Jürgen Linden; Professor Hena Maes-Jelinek, Liège; Mayors of the City of Aachen (Bürgermeisterinnen der Stadt Aachen) Meike Thullen and Sabine Verheyen; Professor Paul Georg Meyer, Department of English, Aachen University; Professor Pierre Michel, Liège; Professor Paulette Michel-Michot, Liège; the Minister of Culture of the Flemish Community in Belgium (Minister van Cultuur, Ministerie v/o Vlaamse Gemeenschap), de Heer Bert Anciaux; Professor Lilo Moessner, Department of English, Aachen University; Reiner A. Müller, Leichlingen; the New Zealand Embassy, Berlin; the Nieuwe Realisaties Theatre Group of Antwerp, Belgium and its director Ivan Pecnik; Edita Petrauskaitė, the League of Canadian Poets, Toronto; Professor Dieter Riemenschneider, Auckland; the Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature (Die Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Literatur aus Afrika, Asien und Lateinamerika e.V.), its director Peter Ripken and his colleague Corry van Mayenburg; Dr. Peter O. Stummer, Munich; Rick Takvorian, Arts Manager of the Internationales Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen; the Embassy of Trinidad & Tobago in Brussels; the Vice-Chancellor of Aachen University (Rektor der RWTH Aachen), Professor Burkhard Rauhut; the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liège (Recteur de l'Université de Liège), Professor Willy Legros; Professor Peter Wenzel, Department of English and Pro-Dean of the Philosophical Faculty, Aachen University (Prodekan der Philosophischen Fakultät der RWTH Aachen); the Windmüller-Zeiss Party Service, Aachen.

And keeping the whole infrastructure going were our tireless and dedicated staff at the two universities:

Ben Basell (also University of Western Australia); Thorsten de Jong; Nicole Deller; Eva Dikow; Elvira Djurič; Sabine Düllmann; Elena Gross; Birgit Haupt; Gesine Herhaus; Börje Hörn; Gavin Hopps; Susanne Jünger; Melanie Kaltwasser; Miriam Kirk; Sonja Kremer; Jean-Michel Lejeune; Monique Lemoine; Timo Lothmann; Silke Mills; Andrew Norris; Arno Özgen; Beate Premper; Silvia Pschierer; Ute Quinkertz; Laura Reece (also University of Western Australia); Ingrid Schiro [Davis]; Nina Stücker; Bettina Tiburzy; Lorraine Turner; Annette Welker.

Through the generosity of our sponsors we were able to invite the following writers to the conference:

Erna Brodber (Jamaica); Bernard Cohen (Australia); Lindsey Collen (Mauritius); Katherine Gallagher (Australia); Geoff Goodfellow (Australia); Peter Goldsworthy (Australia); Wilson Harris (Guyana/GB); †Amryl Johnson (Trinidad/GB); Jan Kemp (Aotearoa New Zealand); Karen King-Aribisala (Nigeria); Sindiwe Magona (South Africa); Jack Mapanje (Malawi/GB); Lee Maracle (Canada); Don Mattera (South Africa); Babila Mutia (Cameroon); Mike Nicol (South Africa); Lewis Nkosi (South Africa); Vincent O'Sullivan (Aotearoa/New Zealand); Mike Phillips (Guyana/GB); Caryl Phillips (St. Kitts/GB); Malcolm Purkey (South Africa); Lesego Rampolokeng (South Africa); Andrew Sant (Australia); Lawrence Scott (Trinidad/GB); Sujay Sood (India/USA); Robert Sullivan (Aotearoa/New Zealand); Aritha van Herk (Canada); Patrick Womba (Martinique).

We were particularly gratified that special grants from the Cultural Secretariat of the state of North Rhine–Westphalia and from the Protestant Church in Stuttgart (ABP) enabled our South African guests to undertake subsequent reading tours through the province.

All photographs in the Contributors' Gallery are by Mariantonietta Saracino.

