

## Notes on Contributors

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**Joseph Allegretti** is Professor of Business and Professor of Religious Studies at Siena College, Loudonville, NY. His research and writing interests are in professional ethics, the relationship between culture and ethics, and the intersection of religion and ethics. He has published several dozen articles and book chapters and is the author of *Loving Your Job, Finding Your Passion: Work and the Spiritual Life* (Paulist Press) and *The Lawyer's Calling: Christian Faith and Legal Practice* (Paulist Press).

**Tom Block** is a writer and independent scholar who works at the intersection of spirituality and our contemporary society. He is best known for his “Shalom/Salaam Project,” which details the story of shared inspirations between Jewish and Islamic mystics that took place over the course of nearly 1000 years. He is currently preparing a book for Fons Vitae Publishers (Louisville, KY).

**Ellen K. Boegel** is a lawyer and the Assistant Director of the Legal Studies Division, St. John's University, NY, Staten Island campus. She has worked for the United States Court of Appeals and the New York State Unified Court System. She was recently named a member of the Vincentian Mission Institute's Leadership in Higher Education inaugural cohort, and she has presented papers on church/state issues at several MAP/ACA conferences.

**Annalisa Castaldo** is Associate Professor at Widener University, Chester, PA, where she teaches medieval and early modern literature, as well as heading the Women's Studies program. She has published articles on Shakespeare and film and Shakespeare in popular culture, as well as editions of *Henry V* and *Macbeth*. She was also the fiction editor for *Shakespeare after Shakespeare*, an encyclopedia of Shakespeare in popular culture. She is the current vice-president of MAP/ACA, as well as the area chair for Women's Studies. She is currently working on a book on Shakespeare festivals.

**Richard Currie** recently retired as Professor of English from the College of Staten Island where he taught for forty years. He has published articles on Charles Dickens, Wilkie Collins, and George Eliot. For the past fifteen MAP/ACA conferences, he has organized panels on American studies in Victorian literature, working-class studies, religion, and, for the last two years, Harry Potter.

**Carey Fleiner** is Assistant Professor of Music and History for the Associate in Arts Program at the University of Delaware. She teaches courses on the history of rock and has led London-based study abroad programs which focus on the role of British rock and pop music in its social and cultural context. Her music research is on the Kinks with an especial interest in the work of Dave Davies. One of her recent publications is “Rebellion or Transformation: Dave Davies’s Spiritual Journey from the 1960s to the Present: A Contextual Analysis” in the special Kinks issue of *Popular Music and Society* (May 2006). She also teaches several courses in ancient history with a focus on social and cultural institutions.

**Thomas M. Kitts**, Professor of English and Chair of the Division of English/Speech at St. John’s University, is the author of *Ray Davies: Not Like Everybody Else* (Routledge, 2008), *The Theatrical Life of George Henry Boker* (Peter Lang, 1994), a play *Gypsies* (Domestic Press, 1994), several instructor’s manuals for McGraw-Hill, co-editor of *Living on a Thin Line: Crossing Aesthetic Borders with the Kinks* (Rock’n’Roll Research Press, 2002), several articles and many book, CD, and performance reviews. He is also the editor of both the *Mid-Atlantic Almanack* and *Popular Music and Society*.

**Robert McParland** is Assistant Professor of English at Felician College, NJ. He is the editor of *Music and Literary Modernism* (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006) and the author of the forthcoming *Charles Dickens’s American Audience* (Rowman Littlefield-Lexington Books). Among his recent essays “A Sound Education” in *Teaching in the Pop Zone* (Cengage-Wadsworth, 2008); “Yesterday: Narrative, Memory, and The Beatles” in a forthcoming collection from Cambridge Scholars Press, and “The Geography of Bruce Springsteen: Poetics and American Dreamscapes” in *Interdisciplinary Humanities* (Fall 2007). He is a songwriter member of ASCAP.

**Despina Metaxatos**, New Jersey “native” (born NYC), is an Adjunct Art Instructor at Bergen Community College in Paramus, NJ, who received her MFA in Visual Art from the University of Western Australia, Perth, in 2005. The alienation of living in foreign places has been a constant source of inspiration in her work. Moves between New York, Paris, and Perth, over the past decade, have provided the raw material for investigations into how people order and control their environments to facilitate modern existence. Quite possibly her love of hiking has over time also fostered an interest in spatial orientation and mapping.

**Katie Oxx** is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at McDaniel College, MD. Her doctoral dissertation – written under Ann Taves’s direction at Claremont Graduate University – emphasized Protestant-Catholic contact in Philadelphia in the early national period to present a more nuanced view of the relationship between the two communities. She is currently at work on projects that deal explicitly with identity, place, and culture.

**Gary Earl Ross**, past president of MAP/ACA and a professor at the University at Buffalo, is the award-winning author of more than 170 published short stories, poems, articles, scholarly papers, and public radio essays. His books include the short story collections *The Wheel of Desire and Other Intimate Hauntings* and *Shimmerville: Tales Macabre and Curious*, as well as the children’s tale *Dots*. His produced plays include *Sleepwalker*, *Matter of Intent* (winner of the Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America), *Picture Perfect*, and *The Best Woman*. A recent recipient of a Saltonstall Foundation grant for playwriting, he has two plays in development, *Murder Squared* and *The Scavenger’s Daughter*, and is writing a novel based on *Matter of Intent*.

**Robert Trumbour**, Assistant Professor of Communications at Penn State Altoona, is the author of *The New Cathedrals: Politics and Media in the History of Stadium Construction* (Syracuse University Press, 2006) and has written a variety of articles that focus on media, sport, and society. He does occasional freelance work within the industry, including periodic field work on NFL broadcasts. He is active in several scholarly and sport-related organizations, and previously worked at CBS in New York where he served as broadcast operations supervisor.