Contributors

Sabiha Allouche is a second year PhD candidate at the Centre for Gender Studies at SOAS, University of London, from which she obtained her MA in Gender Studies (2012). She is in the final stages of her PhD-related fieldwork. Her PhD focuses on the increased visibility of ‘dissident sexualities’ in Lebanon. Dissident bodies are defined as men and women who primarily operate beyond the norms of sex and sexuality of Lebanon. Her research adds ‘emotional capital’ to Bourdieu’s recognized forms of capital and works through the framework of affect theory in order to demonstrate how emotional capital contributes to the gradual normalization of dissident sexuality in Lebanon.

Matthew Bakko holds a Master of Arts in Critical Gender Studies from Central European University and a Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis. Some of his research interests include critical theory, queer theory, social movements, affect, and civil society. His MA thesis research focused on the structural normalization of affective relationality through the non-profit industrial complex. His professional background includes work in community organizing, public housing, and HIV prevention. He currently works as a social worker and researcher in St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

Svenja Bromberg is a PhD student in Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London. She works on the problem of emancipation in Marx and post-Althusserian thought, focussing on questions around the role of the state, the materialist dialectic and philosophical anthropology. She is the author of the article “The Anti-political Aesthetics of Objects and Worlds Beyond” in Mute Magazine and a co-editor of the forthcoming anthology Eurotrash at MerveVerlag. Email: svenja.bromberg@gmail.com.

Slavco Dimitrov (b. 1984) holds a diploma for Comparative and General Literature from the University of St. Cyril and Methodius, an MA in Gender Studies and Philosophy from the Euro-Balkan Institute, Skopje, Macedonia, and an M.Phil. in Multidisciplinary Gender Studies from Cambridge University. He is a PhD candidate in Gender Studies and Philosophy. He’s been teaching at the postgraduate Gender
Studies and Cultural Studies departments at the Institute Euro-Balkan, and the Faculty of Media and Communications – SINGIDUNUM, Belgrade. He has coordinated many projects for human rights and non-discrimination. At the moment he is the director of the Coalition for Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities in Skopje. He has been the academic coordinator of many summer schools, and has conducted several research projects. Slavcho is the founder of the Summer School in Sexualities, Cultures and Politics, and one of the founders of the IPAK.Centar, Belgrade, Serbia.

Arturo Garcia Sanchez holds a BA in Communications from the Iberoamericana University, Mexico, and an MA in Fundamental Rights from the University Carlos III de Madrid, Spain. He is now completing his PhD in Law at the University of Kent, titled ‘The Happy Judicialization of Sexual Rights in Mexico’.

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Trina Joyce Sajo is a PhD candidate in Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario. Her academic background is in sociology, literature and popular culture. She served as University Research Associate with the Third World Studies Center (TWSC), University of the Philippines, and is now a Research Fellow. Much of her research deals with unlawful practices of information technology. Her interest in theories of affect and affective labor led her to examine cybersex as a practice that interrogates ICT policy and regulation. She may be contacted at tsajo@uwo.ca.

Whitney Stark is a queer feminist into social justice. After a BA in Media Arts from Antioch College, she spent several years doing nonprofit work, producing and teaching socially conscious video and integrated anti-oppression workshops, working with teenagers, working on her powers, and participating in queer feminist activist collectives – as well as pouring countless cups of coffee and working on a few terrible reality TV shows. She went on to receive a dual MA in comparative Women’s and Gender studies through the GEMMA program and is currently based in the Netherlands. Whitney is committed to principles of anti-oppression and increasingly shifting activism in order to work toward less violent ways of being, and to building beautiful, intentional community.

Katie E. Wetzel is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Iowa. She specializes in Victorian Literature with a particular emphasis on environmental criticism. Her recent work examines threads of social and environmental justice in nineteenth-century discussions of urban and rural spaces. She holds an M.A. in English from the University of Kansas and her article ‘Birth and Artistic Life: the Maternal Figure in Aurora Leigh’ was published in *Ecloga: Journal of Literature and the Arts*. 