

Contributors

Mikko Carlson, MA, is a Ph.D. student at the Department of Finnish Literature, University of Turku, Finland. Currently he is working on his doctoral thesis on the problematic of non-normative sexuality and social space in the literary works of Swedish-Finnish writer Christer Kihlman. He has written a few articles on this subject; the newest have been published in NORA – Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Studies 1/2009 and in the research anthology titled *Häpeä vähän! Kriittisiä tutkimuksia häpeästä* (2011) [Shame on you a bit. Critical Writings on Shame,] eds. Siru Kainulainen & Viola Parente-Capková.

Kaisa Ilmonen is a Research Fellow at the Department of Comparative Literature, University of Turku, Finland. She will defend her doctoral dissertation “Intersections of Female Identity in the Novels of Michelle Cliff” in the spring 2012. Ilmonen has published widely on Queer Studies and Postcolonial literature and is the co-editor (with Lasse Kekki) of “Per-vot pidot. Homo-lesbo- ja queer-näkökulmia kirjallisuudentutkimukseen” (2004), the first Finnish anthology on queer literary studies.

Tuula Juvonen, Ph.D., held a position as a head of Women’s Studies Program at the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of Jyväskylä, Finland from 2007–2010. Currently she works as a senior lecturer of Social Policy at the University of Tampere. Her dissertation *Varjoelämää ja julkisia salaisuuksia* (Shadow Lives and Public Secrets, Vastapaino 2002) analysed the construction of homosexuality in post-war Finland from a spatial perspective. As a member of Academy of Finland financed CoE research team Politics of Philosophy and Gender she is writing on a book about openly lesbian and gay politicians in Finland and Germany.

Ilari Kiema is a Master of Social Sciences, who is conducting independent Ph.D studies within the fields of European social constructivist political theories and queer studies and who has been employed for a few years as

a paraprofessional and substitute teacher within the Finnish special needs education and public primary education.

Mia Liinason is a post doc researcher at the Centre for gender studies at Lund University. She holds a PhD in gender studies and is currently working on a post doc research project (2012–2014) focused on analyzing tensions between different justice-based projects in the Nordic countries, and another research project, funded by the Swedish Research Council (2012–2015), about practices, visions and strategies in feminist activism. Liinason has published articles about feminism as a transformative knowledge project. She has recently written about the politics of institutionalization in gender studies in Sweden, and about conceptual dilemmas in gender studies. In her research, Liinason is interested in studying the relation between feminism as a producer of knowledge and the method/ologies used to bring about change. Her research discusses the relations between centre, periphery, privilege, responsibility, knowledge and power.

David McVey, MA, is currently a Ph.D. candidate and graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literature at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, USA. He studies Russian literature, film, and culture and teaches Russian language, literature, and film. He expects to complete his Ph.D. in 2012.

Jan Wickman, Dr.Soc.Sc, is a researcher at the Department of Sociology, Åbo Akademi University, Finland. His research interests have ranged from theatre and the sociology of culture to medicalisation and the social construction of gender seen through transgender studies and sexualisation of the male body in mass media. Wickman’s doctoral thesis was titled *Transgender Politics: The Construction and Deconstruction of Binary Gender in the Finnish Transgender Community* (2001). In recent years, he has focussed on the study of queer activism in the Nordic countries and is the author (with Marin Berg) of the text book *Queer*.