

Editorial Statement

The editors would like to welcome our readers to our Winter Issue, the thirtieth volume of *49th Parallel* and the final one of 2012. As another academic term draws to a close, we hope that this issue will contribute to the continuing excellence currently being demonstrated within the field of American and Canadian Studies.

This term has been one of change for *49th Parallel*, and we would first like to thank two departing members of our editorial team. Articles editor Dan King and community editor Madalina Stalniceanu have contributed a great deal to the journal over the last eighteen months, and we wish them both well in their future work. On that note, we would also like to welcome four new editors to the journal. Martin Walter (Nottingham) and Lou Stratton (Birmingham) join *49th Parallel* as our new articles editors, while Chiara Morbi (Birmingham) and Tom Cobb (Birmingham) as our new reviews editors. We look forward to working with all our new recruits into the Spring term.

As well as expanding our editorial team, *49th Parallel* recently hosted its first annual conference at the University of Birmingham on September 7th, 2012. The conference welcomed speakers from around the UK, as well as Europe and the United States, and delegates from a variety of institutions. We would like to extend our thanks to those who presented papers for making it such a successful and enjoyable day, and in particular to Professor Scott Lucas, who served as keynote, and the Journal of American Studies, for chairing a stimulating roundtable session on the Re-Negotiation of American Studies in the

21st Century. A conference report will be published in a subsequent issue, and we look forward to publishing a number of papers from the conference in the future.

Our Winter issue features two articles, the first of which, written by Rebeca Maseda and Patrick Dulin of the University of Alaska at Anchorage, explores the development of the representation of PTSD in American war films. The second, written by Holly Karibo, a Postdoctoral Research Associate in Comparative Border Studies at Arizona State University, examines the connections that linked heroin economies across the Michigan-Ontario border region during the post-World War II period.

In addition, we are delighted to feature an art submission from Bobby Nixon, the Artist in Residence at the University of Birmingham, and Jamie Kinroy, who is currently studying at the University of Minnesota. This short article, “Conveyor Belts of the Apocalypse”, showcases a number of pieces of art by the contributors, exploring themes of visual experience, the trope of ‘the Road’, serial killers and fragmented images of the American landscape.

The editors would like to thank all the authors who have contributed articles and book reviews to the Winter issue. In addition, we would like to extend our thanks to all the peer reviewers who have been involved in this issue for offering their time and expertise.

We wish you all an enjoyable winter break, and hope you enjoy this issue of *49th Parallel*.

Katie Barnett, Rebecca Isaacs, Galateia Demetriou, Daniel King, Madalina Stalniceanu, Bart Verhoeven and Martin Walter.