

## About the Authors

*Mark Amodio*, a medievalist whose interests range from Anglo-Saxon through the fourteenth century, has edited a collection on *Oral Poetics in the Middle English Period* (1994), and is working on a monograph on the implications of oral tradition for early English poetry. He has recently been promoted to Associate Professor of English at Vassar College.

Professor of English at Delaware State University, *F. Odun Balogun* specializes in African and African American literature. Among his publications are *Tradition and Modernity in the African Short Story* (1991) and *Adjusted Lives* (1995), a collection of his own short stories.

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*Jesse Byock*, Professor of Old Norse and medieval Scandinavian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, has published widely on early Germanic verbal art. Among his books are *Feud in the Icelandic Saga* (1982), *Medieval Iceland: Society, Sagas, and Power* (1988), and *The Saga of the Volsungs* (1990).

*Bonnie D. Irwin*, Assistant Professor of English at Eastern Illinois University, specializes in medieval Spanish, Arabic, and medieval English narrative. At present she is at work on a book-length study of frame tales under the sponsorship of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Formerly a lecturer in the Department of Xhosa at the University of the Western Cape, *Russell Kaschula* has accepted an appointment to the University of Cape Town. He has contributed such essays as "New Wine in Old Bottles: Some Thoughts on the Orality-Literacy Debate, with Specific Reference to the Xhosa *Imbongi*" (1991).

One of the originators of the interdisciplinary field of study that *Oral Tradition* serves, *Walter J. Ong*, now University Professor Emeritus of Humanities at Saint Louis University, has published a brilliant succession of books and articles, among them *The Presence of the Word* (1967), *Interfaces of the Word* (1977), *Fighting for Life* (1981), and *Orality and Literacy* (1982).

*Steve Reece*, formerly Mellon Assistant Professor of Classics at Vanderbilt University and presently Associate Professor of Classics at Saint Olaf College, recently published an authoritative book on type-scene composition in the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, entitled *The Stranger's Welcome: Oral Theory and the Aesthetics of the Homeric Hospitality Scene* (1993).

*Keyan Tomaselli*, who teaches film studies at the University of Natal/Durban in South Africa, and *Maureen Eke*, at Michigan State University's African Studies Center, have contributed to such periodicals as the *South African Theatre Journal*, *Media Information Australia*, and a collection of essays entitled *Oral Studies in Southern Africa* (1990).