

About the Authors

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Moradewun Adejunmobi is Professor of African Studies at the University of California, Davis. She does research on popular media, literacy, performance, and intercultural communication in West Africa. Some of her recent publications include “Nollywood, Globalization, and Regional Media Corporations in Africa” (2011) and “Technorality, Literature, and Vernacular Literacy in Twenty-First Century Africa” (2008).

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Ildikó Bellér-Hann studied in Budapest, Cambridge, and Berlin. She has worked as a researcher at various British and German universities and is currently Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen. Her recent publications include *Community Matters in Xinjiang 1880-1949: Towards A Historical Anthropology of the Uyghur* (2008), and “The Mobilisation of Tradition: Localism and Identity among the Uyghur of Xinjiang” in *Ethnicity, Authority, and Power in Central Asia: New Games Great and Small* (2011).

Margo Kitts

Margo Kitts is Associate Professor of Humanities and Coordinator of Religious Studies and East-West Classical Studies at Hawai'i Pacific University on Oahu. Her research interests include Homer, ritual studies, religious violence, and the anthropology of revenge. Kitts is the author of *Sanctified Violence in Homeric Society* (2005, 2011) and co-editor of *State, Power, and Violence* (2010), *Princeton Readings in Religion and Violence* (2011), and the *Oxford Handbook of Religion and Violence* (forthcoming).

Paul Koerbin

Paul Koerbin's doctoral research in the School of Communication Arts at the University of Western Sydney focuses on Turkish Alevi song and particularly aspects of function and meaning in the self-naming convention employed in the lyrics. A former professional musician and a performer on the *bağlama*, he currently works at the National Library of Australia and has published a number of articles on various aspects of web archiving.

Christopher Livanos

Christopher Livanos is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. His publications discuss the literature and religion of the Byzantine Empire and medieval Italy, while his research interests include the Classical tradition in medieval literature and the history of relations between Eastern and Western Europe. His recent publications include *Greek Tradition and Latin Influence in the Work of George Scholarios* (2006).

Robert Mann

Robert Mann is a writer and researcher in Jupiter, Florida. Besides novels (*The Master and Marmeladov* and *Where the Ice Never Melts*) and short stories, his published work includes studies of Dostoevsky, Andrei Bely, Isaac Babel, Russian folk epics, and the twelfth-century Igor Tale. His commentary on the rare Golovin redaction of the *Skazanie o Mamaevom poboishche* recently appeared as Volume 8 of *Monuments of Early Russian Literature*.

Minako Sakata

Minako Sakata received a doctorate in Area Studies from the University of Tokyo. She is currently Research Associate at the University of Tokyo, and teaches undergraduate courses at Hosei University. Current interests include inter-genre referentiality in Ainu oral literature and Ainu ethnohistory. Among her recent publications are “Tukupita no shucho no monogatari: Ainu Ethnohistory o sozo suru” (2011) and *Ainu kosho bungaku no epistemology: rekishi no hoho toshiteno Ainu sanbunsetsuwa* (in press).

Raushan Sharshenova

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Eric Shepherd

Eric Shepherd is Assistant Professor of Chinese and Director of the Chinese Section in the Department of World Languages at the University of South Florida. He is the author of *Eat Shandong: From Personal Experience to a Pedagogy of a Second Culture* (2005) and has published articles on teaching Chinese, interpersonal relationships, etiquette, and oral traditions in China. He was trained as a Shandong fast tale performer by master storyteller Wu Yanguo and performs professionally in both China and the United States.

Aaron Phillip Tate

Aaron Phillip Tate is a visiting instructor and Coordinator of Classical Art and Archaeology Visual Resources at Cornell University. His research topics include comparative oral epic and lyric (ancient Greek and South Slavic), ancient Greek music theory, Presocratic philosophy, European philology and folklore relations ca. 1700-1900, comparative historical linguistics, and the musical techniques of oral epic performers. Recent articles have appeared in the journal *Folklore* and in the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Narrative Theory*. In 2008 he was an invited lecturer at the Institute of Ethnic Literatures in Beijing, China.