INTRODUCTION

The prevailing time of changes and adjustments has not prevented us from launching the current volume in both formats, printed and online, although for the next volume we can already foresee the convenience of making some adaptations; the Journal will continue in electronic format available from our increasingly visited website, and we trust to be able to print a limited number of issues for authors and collectors. It is also already available through the Repository of the University of Almeria. Throughout the coming year we will be presenting ODISEA to a wide number of indexing agencies, and will keep this information updated on our site at www.ual.es/odisea

We are happy to be able to offer an article by Professor Suheil Badi Bushrui (B.A., Ph.D., Hon L.H.D), who was the first incumbent of The George and Lisa Zakhem Kahlil Gibran Chair for Values and Peace at the University of Maryland. A distinguished author, poet, critic, translator and media personality, well known in the United States, Europe, and the Arab world, Professor Bushrui is widely recognized for his seminal studies in English of the works of W.B. Yeats, and is also the foremost authority on the works of Kahlil Gibran and Chairman of the International Association for the Study of the Life and Works of Kahlil Gibran

The 26 contributions (after rejecting 28) to the current volume of ODISEA cover an even wider variety than the previous one. Within the clearly literary field, María Alonso analyzes the textual representation of the various distinctive features present within Chicana literary production in Sandra Cisneros' *Caramelo or Puro Cuento*. Iciar Álvarez investigates the parallelisms between Schubert and Joyce in an attempt to explain how Joyce succeeds in creating the necessary atmosphere that masterly illustrates the subject of his short story *The Dead*. Marta Miquel provides a comparative analysis of the works of Edgar Allan Poe and Edward Bulwer Lytton, exploring the influence their respective family backgrounds played on their literary creativity and ageing at such an early stage of their career. Agustín Reyes explains how Arundhati Roy, based on her *English* in *The God of Small Things*, represents the development of a hybrid conscience, reaffirms the Indian identity and makes English speakers feel as strangers in their own language. María del Pilar Royo discusses the portrayal of Irishness in Brian Friel's play *Translations*, focussing on his "translations" of established images and stereotypes. Esther González speaks about French influences on George Moore. Antonio José Miralles goes into the medieval fiction of Arthur Conan Doyle, who does not abandon his desire to show an honourable life in which fatigue and adversity are natural companions to a sense of duty and justice.

With a filmic taste, Beatriz Oria analyzes the representation of New York in *Sex and the City* by Woody Allen; and John D. Sanderson explains how the political extremism of H. P. Lovecraft survives the turn of the century in his cinema adaption of *The Shadow Over Innsmouth* (1931) under the title of *Dagon* (Stuart Gordon, 2001).

In a clearly more linguistic tone, María del Carmen Arau examines historical linguistics, linguistics, and applied linguistics relying on the tree structure even prior to the time transformative generative grammar was institutionalized. Nuria Edo analyzes and qualifies the high incidence of evaluative adjectives to be expected in promotional hotel websites, in order to understand the role they play in that genre, the way they work, their actual usage and possible classification, as well as the role they play in persuading the reader. Pilar Guerrero explores the classification of *States of Affairs* and the assignment of semantic functions within the Functional Grammar by S. C. Dik.

In the field of didactics and language for specific purposes, Laura Esteban presents a lexical study on the specific scientific field of medicine found in the 15th Century work *System of Physic*. Irina Argüelles summarizes the evolution of different subjects of English for Specific Purposes and English for Academic and Professional Purposes in the last five years in order to show a continuum of changes that have not started and finished in one subject alone but affect the whole curriculum. Raúl Ruiz tackles the teaching of reading within the teaching of English as a Foreign Language. Purificación Sánchez presents an integrated approach to the study of language and literature, highlighting the potential of literary texts when studying the features of a language and paying special attention to how linguistic functions can be explored, studied and practiced through literary texts.

There is a wide variety of contributions related to gender studies in English. Aída Díaz rescues from Elizabeth Hamilton the debate between women receiving the right intellectual and moral training and rebelling against the status quo. Aitor Ibarrola-Armendáriz explains how ZZ Packer, in her collection of short stories *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere* (2003), succeeds in transcending many of the age-old archetypes often used to analyze characters in texts by black women writers. Auxiliadora Pérez analyzes how Catherine Dunne's fiction masterly portrays ordinary themes like family relations and the process of identity formation, and the diverse ways whereby women transcend the social, psychological or material barriers that the Irish family ideology and the rhetorics of maternity have traditionally set upon them. Macarena García-Avello explores the prevailing sense of unease manifested by April, the female character in Richard Yates' *Revolutionary Road* (1961) with regard to the dominant discourse of the "feminine mystique". Almudena Gómez and Cecilia Fernández study the treatment of identity process in both the Belgian writer Claire Lejeune and the fictional character of Marlow (in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*). Carme Font, focusing on four issues of the magazine *Womanhood* (1894-1904), identifies the ways in which it departed from 'family' roles and emerged as an outlet for much of the New Woman thought.

Within the wide field of translation studies, Carmen Valero calls the attention of *Ecocriticism* to the importance of translated texts as main texts, and emphasises the opening of a new perspective in *Translation Studies* related to this new way of thinking about the relationships between literature and place when translating.

Finally we have two reviews. Lucía Romero presents a book by Laura Monrós, *Cassandra the Fortune-Teller: Prophets, Gypsies and Victorian Burlesque*. And Pere Gifra presents a title edited by José Ruiz and Carmelo Medina: *Las cosas de Richard Ford. Estampas varias sobre la vida y obra de un hispanista inglés en la España del siglo XIX*.

Nobel-Augusto Perdu Honeyman and Javier Villoria Prieto