

# Benchmarks

**Herbert Plutschow**'s article on the Japanese Tea ceremony, based partly on a talk given to the **UCLA Center for the Study of Religion**, was prepared specially for *Anthropoetics*.

**Erik Eisel**'s article is an expanded version of a contribution to a recent conference at UC Irvine honoring **Wolfgang Iser**. **William Mishler**'s and **Eric Gans**'s articles were revised from their talks at the annual **COV&R** meeting in Atlanta in June, 1999.

## About our Contributors

**Erik Eisel** received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1997. His dissertation, *The Works of Karl Philipp Moritz As Alternate Discourse of the Public Sphere*, investigates the role of Moritz's wide-ranging work in theater, aesthetics, and the science of empirical psychology in the formation of the eighteenth-century German public sphere. He is currently writing a study of the eighteenth-century "return to allegory" in the work of Rousseau, Moritz, Jean Paul, and Goethe.

**William Mishler** is Associate Professor of Scandinavian in the Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and an active member of **COV&R** (Colloquium on Violence and Religion). He is a specialist in Ibsen and in modern Norwegian literature. His current research is on the fairy tale, in particular, the works of Hans Christian Andersen.

**Herbert Plutschow** was born in Zurich, Switzerland and was educated in Switzerland, England, Spain, France and the U.S.A. He received his PhD in Japanese Literature from Columbia University and is presently teaching Japanese cultural history and advanced language in the Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures at UCLA. He is also a frequent participant in the GA seminar.

**Eric Gans** is Professor of French at UCLA. His CV is accessible by clicking on his name below.