

# Benchmarks

All the material in *Anthropoetics II, 1* was written especially for this issue. We are particularly fortunate to be able to include an original interview with **René Girard** and an article by **James Williams**, executive secretary of the *COV&R*, along with the works of faithful contributors **Tom Bertonneau** and **Matt Schneider**.

## About our Contributors

**René Girard**, to whom this issue is dedicated, recently retired as the Hammond Professor of Romance Languages at Stanford University. His major works may be found in the [GA bibliography](#).

**James G. Williams** received his Ph.D. from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1966. He first encountered Girard's work in 1985. He is the executive secretary of the **Colloquium on Violence and Religion**. His most recent book is *The Bible, Violence, and the Sacred*, published in paperback by Trinity Press in 1995. He is also the editor of the forthcoming set of selections from Girard's writings, *The Girard Reader* (Crossroad), and the translator of Girard's monograph on Dostoevsky, which Crossroad will publish as *Resurrection from the Underground: Feodor Dostoevsky*.

**Tom Bertonneau**, a veteran of the **GA** seminar, received his PhD from UCLA in Comparative Literature in 1990. His dissertation applied **GA** to the study of the modern epic, William Carlos Williams' *Paterson* and Stéphane Mallarmé's *Un coup de dés...* Since then he has published and presented papers on Williams, Wallace Stevens, Charles Olson, and other American authors, as well as on theoretical topics (and science fiction). He currently teaches English at Central Michigan University.

**Matthew Schneider**, another founding member of the **GA** seminar (who has managed to attend some portion of the seminar every year it has been given) holds an MA from Chicago and received his PhD in English from UCLA in 1991. The author of *Original Ambivalence: Violence and Autobiography in Thomas De Quincey* (Peter Lang, 1995), Schneider has also published articles on Jane Austen, John Keats, and critical theory. He is assistant professor of English at Chapman University (Orange, California).

**Markus Müller** holds a B.A. in French and History from the University of Tübingen and an M.A. in French from the University of Kansas. He is currently writing a GA-oriented doctoral dissertation on "The Fantastic" in the French Department at UCLA.

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

below.