

# Benchmarks

All the authors in this issue have already published in *Anthropoetics*. **Tom Bertonneau's** article on **Ralph Ellison**, his sixth for *Anthropoetics*, adds to his impressive bibliography on American literature. **Scott Sprenger's** article on **Balzac's** *La recherche de l'absolu* is a companion piece to his study of the same author's *Louis Lambert*, which appeared in *Anthropoetics* VI, 1. **Gabor Varga's** examination of the emergence of logical thought in **Homer** builds on his previous article on "Orality and Literacy" in *Anthropoetics* V, 2. Finally, **Peter Goldman**, who has written on **John Bunyan** (III, 2) and **Jacques Derrida** (IV, 1), offers a review article on **Stephen Greenblatt's** latest Shakespearean study, *Hamlet in Purgatory*.

## About our Contributors

[Tom Bertonneau](#) is a writer and teacher in Michigan affiliated with the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal, the Mackinac center for Public Policy, and Northwood University. An original member of the **GA** seminar, Tom has published and presented papers on William Carlos Williams, Wallace Stevens, Charles Olson, and other American authors, as well as on theoretical topics (and science fiction). Tom has also written for *Heterodoxy*, *Chronicles*, *Academic Questions*, and *National Review*, and is well known in Michigan for his controversial writings on college English teaching.

[Peter Goldman](#) is Assistant Professor of English at Westminster College of Salt Lake City. He attended Eric Gans's **Generative Anthropology** seminar in 1997. In June 2000, he received a Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Irvine for his dissertation entitled *'The Alien Word': Puritan Conversion Narratives and the Early Modern Crisis of Representation*. His publications include an essay on John Bunyan's spiritual autobiography for *Anthropoetics*, an essay on "Christian Mystery and Responsibility: Gnosticism in Derrida's *The Gift of Death*," also for *Anthropoetics*, and an essay on René Girard and Martin Luther for *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature*. Currently he is pursuing research on Shakespeare and Protestant iconoclasm.

[Scott Sprenger](#) is Associate Professor of French at Brigham Young University; he has just concluded a two-year stint as an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities Consortium at UCLA. He has published several articles on 19th- and 20th-century French literature and is currently completing a book on Balzac titled *The Scandal of Balzac's Realism*.

**Gabor Varga** ([sggvarga@netscape.net](mailto:sggvarga@netscape.net)) holds an MA degree in history from the University of Budapest (ELTE). He has spent several years researching the emergence of early Greek rational thought. He is currently studying business administration at the University of Munich (LMU).