

Introduction

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All work, Derrida told us, works *at mourning*, even the work of an editor, which has the power to bring something to light. The essays that come to light in this very special issue of *Mosaic* were presented at the October 4–7, 2006 international and interdisciplinary *Following Derrida: Legacies* conference, held at the University of Manitoba to mark the second anniversary of Derrida's death. A collective work of mourning, then, the issue remembers Jacques Derrida—by reflecting on the promise engaged by his work; by reading “in the title, ‘Following Derrida’ not simply an act of memory or remembrance,” Michael Naas writes, “but an invitation to think, from out of this memory, about the future—and about this memory as the future.”

Mosaic does not usually publish acknowledgements, but I must depart from that tradition in offering my gratitude here. The conference, and this issue, would not have been possible without the financial support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The Office of the President and a number of units at the University of Manitoba contributed generously to the event. Many University of Manitoba faculty and students participated as organizers, conveners, hosts, session chairs, and coordinators. Guest faculty and students travelled to the conference to serve as session chairs. Thanks should be given to the hundreds of individuals around the world who responded so overwhelmingly to the conference Call for Papers, and to the some one hundred and twenty five conference presenters, an extraordinary community of Derrida scholars and students who invited us, in session after session, to think his memory as future. I regret that, although this is the largest *Mosaic* issue I have edited to date, it does not, and could not, include the full slate of conference papers.

For all aspects of the conference organization and production of this issue—work spanning over two years—I have relied, as always, on the generosity, good humor, energy, and expertise of *Mosaic* staff and students interns. I want to take this

opportunity to thank the interns who assisted in preparation and promotion of the conference, and to acknowledge *Mosaic* staff members, Jackie Pantel, Donna Danyluk, and Greg Renegar, who embraced the project with such enthusiasm; special thanks to Lisa Muirhead for her tireless efforts on behalf of the conference and for her patience and skill in producing this special issue.

Finally, I am deeply grateful to the three conference Keynote speakers: Rodolphe Gasché, Catherine Malabou, and Michael Naas, three learned and gracious Derrida scholars with whom it has been my privilege to collaborate.

Two of the Keynote speakers, Catherine Malabou and Michael Naas, were able to contribute their addresses to this special collection. Their papers, along with eighteen others, comprise this truly remarkable collection. For Jacques Derrida.