

Moving on and moving margins

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I'll keep it short and sweet this issue - though I would like to personally thank all of you who take the time to read these editorials!

In this issue, we have two articles and an essay which all look at margins – from ancient philosophy to modern cinema. Tracey Jean Boisseau examines Susie King Taylor's 1902 memoir of her Civil War experiences, *Reminiscences of My Life in Camp*, through the lens of black womanist theory and travel literature criticism. In "Travelling with Susie King Taylor" she looks at the past and continued issues faced by scholars wanting to 'place' Taylor's narrative as particular to the struggle of freed people, and black women in particular, to insert themselves into public dialogues as authorized subjects, asking: "How has our misplaced greeting of her as a narrating slave or woman delayed her, waylaid her journey, imprisoned her within our readerly gaze?"

In "Mothering and the Sacrifice of Self: Women and Friendship in Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*" Ann Ward faces the dilemma that Aristotle's analysis of perfect friendship appears to be only open to men. Against his absent or negative characterizations of women's capacity for friendship and participation in politics, Ward argues that Aristotle's conceptions of mothering and a mother's love suggest that a mother's love is the one example of unconditional love in human life and is thus a selfless form of friendship that is higher than the "perfect" friendship between two good men.

And Tamsin Whitehead discusses the films of Pratibha Parmar in "Rejecting the Margins of Difference: Strategies of Resistance in the Documentary Films of Pratibha Parmar." Through unconventional technique and breaking of boundaries in her choice of subjects, Parmar "works to create a form of visual resistance to standard definitions and identifications of community, race, sexuality and feminism, and to promote a way of thinking about self and social relations that pushes beyond the boundaries of fear, nationalism and protectionism."

In this issue we also present the second half of our first Dialogues collection (our new, non-peer-reviewed section selected by invitation only, bringing in discussions from a variety of scholars and activists on feminist theory and feminist culture). This issue we offer Barbara Findlay's excellent keynote to the conference, "Ruminations of an Activist Queer Lawyer," as well as Habiba Zaman's commentary on immigrant accreditation in the Canadian context.

Remember to explore our new **Comments** function for the journal. Registered users can comment upon articles just like we are now accustomed to seeing in a blog (and many online news sites). Please feel free to comment and contribute your thoughts! Signing up as a user is easy if you haven't done so yet – for more information, see our readers page (<http://www.thirdspace.ca/journal/information/readers>) or hit “Register” above.

We also have a new CFP out for our special issue on “The future landscape of sexualities,” due June 20 2008 – see the **Announcements** section on our home page and consider sending us your work.