

CONTRIBUTORS

MATTHEW JAMES BABCOCK {babcockm@byui.edu} is Professor of English at BYU–Idaho. He is the author of two poetry collections, *Points of Reference* (Folded Word) and *Strange Terrain* (Mad Hat Press), winner of the 2016 AML Poetry Award. His first fiction collection, *Four Tales of Troubled Love*, is available from Harvard Square Editions, and his follow-up fiction collection, *Future Perfect*, is forthcoming from Ferry Street Books in 2019. His debut nonfiction collection, *Heterodoxologies* (Educe Press), was a finalist in the 2017 AML Awards. He was awarded a Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Award and Juxtapose Poetry Award and is the author of one critical study, *Private Fire: Robert Francis's Eco-poetry and Prose*.

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ANDREW BOLTON {abolton@CofChrist.org}, PhD, taught world religions and peace and justice issues at high school and college level in the UK and in the USA. He has written a number of books on peace and justice and papers on Latter Day Saint history that have been published in the *MHA Journal*, *Dialogue*, *JWHA Journal*, *Restoration Studies*, and *Sunstone*. Recently retired, he worked for the last eighteen years for Community of Christ. He first coordinated peace and justice ministries, and then helped coordinate the church in Asia for nine years as an apostle. He helped coordinate a symposium on resistance and conscientious objectors in WWI at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City in October 2017 at which 260 scholars from different traditions attended.

TYLER CHADWICK {tawhiao@gmail.com} lives in Ogden, Utah with his wife, Jess, and their four daughters. He teaches writing at Utah Valley University and is the editor of *Fire in the Pasture: 21st Century Mormon Poets* (Peculiar Pages), co-editor of *Dove Song: Heavenly Mother in Mormon Poetry* (Peculiar Pages), and author of *Field Notes on Language and Kinship* (Mormon Artists Group).

MICAH CHRISTENSEN received his Masters in Fine Arts from Sotheby's Institute (London) and PhD in the History of Art from University College

London. For more than fifteen years he has worked with institutions, including the National Gallery, Musée d'Orsay, Museo Nacional del Prado, and Metropolitan Museum, to study how artists were trained from the seventeenth to twenty first centuries. He lectures throughout the US and Europe, including for Cambridge University and at the British Library. He is the Co-Founder of the Zion Art Society and host of the podcast Mormon Visual Culture.

R. A. (ROBERT ALAN) CHRISTMAS {rachristmas@gmail.com} has a BA from Stanford, MA from UC–Berkeley, and a PhD from USC, all in English. He joined the Church in 1957, and has been publishing poetry, fiction, and criticism in *Dialogue* since the first issue. He left college teaching in 1973 for a forty-year career in business, twenty spent selling and investing in real estate in the Provo/Salt Lake City area with his late wife and partner, Carol Dennis, with whom he served three LDS senior missions. He has published seven books of poetry, a collection of stories, and a songbook from his years as a singer-songwriter in Hollywood and he is working on his first musical, “A Carol Christmas/Musical The.” He lives in southern Utah with a daughter and six of his twenty-some grandchildren. His publications can be found at www.lulu.com/spotlight/rachristmas.

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FIONA GIVENS {fionagivens@gmail.com} is a retired modern language teacher with undergraduate degrees in French and German and an MA in European History. She is now an independent scholar who has published in several journals and reviews. Along with her husband, Terry L. Givens, she is the author of *The God who Weeps: How Mormonism Makes Sense of Life* (Deseret, 2012), *The Crucible of Doubt: Reflections on the Quest for Faith* (Deseret, 2014), and *The Christ Who Heals* (Deseret, 2017).

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METTE IVIE HARRISON {ironmomm@gmail.com} is a critically acclaimed author of several young adult books including *The Princess and the Hound* series and the stand-alone volume *Mira, Mirror*. Her first novel was *The Monster in Me*. She began an adult mystery series in 2014 with titles *The Bishop's Wife*, *His Right Hand*, and *For Time and All Eternities*. She also penned a memoir, *Ironmom*, after the passing of her sixth child. She is an Ironman competitor and runs marathons. She received a PhD from Princeton University in Germanic languages and literatures and was an adjunct professor at BYU for a time.

TAIT R. JENSEN {tait@allredmail.com} is a native of Salt Lake City. Educated in Washington state, Tait currently resides in Memphis, where he teaches high school government and economics to underprivileged youth. Tait has been previously published in *Jeopardy Magazine*, where he also worked as nonfiction editor.

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BLAIRE OSTLER {www.blaireostler.com} is a philosopher and leading voice at the intersection of queer, Mormon, and transhumanist thought. She is a board member and former CEO of the Mormon Transhumanist Association, the world's largest advocacy network for the ethical use of technology and religion to expand human abilities. She presents and writes on many forums, and speaks at conferences promoting authentic Mormonism. Blaire holds a degree in design from the International Academy of Design and Technology-Seattle. She is currently pursuing a second degree in philosophy with an emphasis in gender studies.

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DAVID W. SCOTT {scottdw@uvu.edu} is a professor of communications at Utah Valley university. He has an MA in communications from BYU and a PhD in mass communication from the University of Georgia, Athens. His interest in media law focuses primarily on advertising law and coverage of First Amendment issues in the media.

RICHARD SLEEGERS {Richard.Sleegers@han.nl} lectures in philosophy, ethics, spirituality, and qualitative research methods at HAN University of Applied Sciences in the city of Nijmegen, the Netherlands, where he lives with his wife Sarah, two sons and two daughters. He completed a Masters' in Philosophy and in Education, focusing on hermeneutical phenomenology and the philosophy of religion. He eventually landed in the social sciences and is currently researching ethical and cultural dilemma's in both social work and health care for a minor program "Spirituality in Social Work" and for a Lectorate for "Health care sustainability." He also leads the student advisory board at his faculty and

is involved in creating curriculum for “Bildung,” to help social workers to be more spiritually and culturally sensitive. In his spare time Richard interests in Mormon studies and other theo-philosophical topics, one of which is interfaith dialogue. He especially reaches out to the Muslim community and volunteers as strategic advisor and researcher for a youth intervention in Nijmegen that uses soccer to motivate youth to succeed at school and help in their urban communities. He likes dialoguing about deep doctrine (like Socrates) and writing about it (like Plato).

REBECCA WAGSTAFF {WagstaffArt@cut.net} is an artist known for her realist botanic still life paintings in oil. Born in 1962 the eldest of eight children, she grew up in five different western states. She attended Brigham Young University, majoring in fine art. While working at a student job in the Book Repair unit of the library, she developed an interest in the work of Arno Werner, a German-born bookbinder, and moved to New York City where she both worked as a nanny and became Werner’s apprentice in Connecticut on the weekends. Returning to Utah she taught Traditional Hand Bookbinding for the BYU Department of Art where she renewed her acquaintance with artist Clay Wagstaff. They married and moved a few years later to Tropic, Utah—adjacent to Bryce Canyon N.P.—where they currently reside. Clay and Rebecca have two daughters, Hannah died in an accident at age 14. Miriam, an amazing violinist/violist is currently in her first year of college, which means her parents are no longer spending half of their time in northern Utah chauffeuring Miriam to lessons, orchestra, auditions, and performances. So they decided to turn their home in Tropic into a traditional Bed & Breakfast with a small Art Gallery in their living room and enjoy hosting guests from all over the world at RiverStoneInnandGallery.com

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