

Editorial

Female water spirits have always haunted our imaginations, be it under the form of naiads, nereids, undines or mermaids. Far from receding into oblivion and retreating to ancient, medieval or Romantic shores, they continue to be a source of literary and artistic inspiration. Issue no. 6 of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism* is devoted to these creatures.

Two studies provide an overview of the presence of sirens and mermaids in contemporary Spanish literature: Eva Álvarez Ramos's, which focuses on poetry, and Catherine D'Humières's, on narrative fiction. In the same vein, the articles contributed by Andrea Maceiras, Carmen Morán and Ana Calvo address the works by Gustavo Martín Garzo, José Luis Sampedro and Gonzalo Hidalgo Bayal, respectively. Moving on to the Americas, two works explore the relationship between Mexico and water female spirits. Elisa Di Biasi pays attention to a novel by Fabrizio Mejía Madrid, and Berenice Granados collects a number of interviews on the popular assimilation of Lake Zirahuen to a female figure. In a similar spirit, Francisco Molina Moreno approaches the *rusalka* as orally transmitted. K. Maya Larson also deals with this creature, in connection with a play by Zinaida Gippius. The presence of female water spirits in the works by V. Voiculescu, Arthur Rackham, Rosa Guy, Jeffrey Eugenides and Andrée A. Michaud attests to their enduring allure in a variety of literary and artistic contexts, such as Rumania, England, Haiti, the United States and Canada.

The Miscellanea section includes works on Odysseus's contemporary wanderings, Sherlock Holmes's inexhaustible appeal, as well as the influence of *The Trojan Women* on Carlos de Montemayor's *Las mujeres del alba*.

Among the 36 articles received, the Coordinating Team has selected those published here. All articles have been peer-reviewed by at least two different referees. Both the editorial and coordination board, complying with the general rules of the Journal, have bestowed absolute freedom on the authors regarding the choice of works, literary genre and theoretical framework.

We would like to thank all authors and reviewers for their invaluable contributions, and wish you all a pleasant reading.

José Manuel Losada. General Editor of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism*.

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