

Introduction

Robert Bitsko

In 2010, the UCSB Arnhold Fellows Program began a literary journal, *Emergence*, showcasing work produced by second-year fellows. Every year, the journal includes a vast array of both literary criticism and fiction produced by the program's undergraduate students. These publications are made possible by a generous grant from distinguished alumni John Arnhold.

Now in the journal's fourth year, *Emergence* is shifting its annual publication date from May to November. To kick off this move, the 2013-14 second-year Arnhold fellows are re-launching Issue 4 with new attention to the journal's form and structure. This move – this re-emergence, if you will – presents a new era for the literary journal. It builds upon the journal's already solid foundation while suggesting a bold new direction based on the issue's division into three separate yet purposefully interlinked themes. The first two sections of this newly re-released Issue 4 highlight work from last year's scholars, while the third section showcases exciting new work by our current second-year fellows.

The **Review** section includes a wide variety of scholarship from across the spectrum of literary and cultural studies. From the earliest days of Old English prose to *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* to science fiction novels, this section showcases the rich variety of work done by our Arnhold fellows in the UCSB English Department.

The second section of this re-released issue is entitled **Revolutions**, which provides, through the use of fiction and creative non-fiction – and critical reflection on these genres – an exciting venue for exploring the boundaries of what counts as literary scholarship. The two pieces in this section push at these boundaries, suggesting new ways in which we might consider the divide between scholarship and creative work.

Finally, the **Response** section allows this year's crop of second-year Arnhold Fellows to both draw upon the framework of last year's students and to showcase new works in progress. The five pieces in this section represent a preview of the journal's next issue, which will be published in November 2014, allowing readers a glimpse of Issue 5. As preliminary explorations of some of the

topics this year's fellows will be writing about, the pieces in this section are necessarily more informal than the pieces in the issue's other two sections. This section offers a glimpse of several works and ideas in progress, works and ideas that this year's fellows will be returning to throughout the year as they work on their capstone research projects.

By re-launching and re-framing *Emergence* in this way, this year's editors hope to create a template for future second-year Arnhold Program students and for future issues of *Emergence*. By refocusing our attention on the emergent and re-emergent aspects of literature and scholarship, this year's issue showcases the value of returning to and revitalizing older ideas, while, at the same time, looking ahead to new ones.

Sincerely,

Robert Bitsko
Elaine Chong
Raquel Daher
Sam Humy
Thomas Skahill