

## She reads to write herself/ l'autobiographe en lectrice

### Who's who

Nicolera **Alexoae-Zagni** is currently a lecturer in a French Higher Education College (ISTOM) and a researcher affiliated with CREA (Paris Ouest Nanterre University). She received her PhD in American Studies from the University of Paris Diderot in 2011. She has been active in the field of Asian American Studies –she has been involved in academic events, published several articles and presented papers on subjects relative to her area of scientific investigation. Her most recent contribution is the volume edited with Sämi Ludwig *On the Legacy of Maxine Hong Kingston: The Mulhouse Book*, published in January 2014 by Lit Verlag, in the series *Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies*. Another recent publication is an essay entitled « Self-Referential Narrative and Creative Filiation in Chinese American Writing: Maxine Hong Kingston and Shirley Geok-lin Lim » published in *Asiatic*, June 2014.

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**Ann Jefferson** has been Fellow in French at New College since 1987 and is a Professor of French in the Faculty of Modern Languages. She has held visiting professorships at Columbia University and the Sorbonne and is a Fellow of the British Academy. She has research interests in French literature and thought from the eighteenth century to the present, but has concentrated chiefly on nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature with a particular interest in the development of the novel and in autobiography. Her most recent book is on the history of the idea of genius in France from Dubos to Derrida, to be published by Princeton University Press in 2014. She is currently working on a biography of Nathalie Sarraute. She is also an occasional translator of modern French fiction and her translation of Pierre Michon's *Winter Mythologies* and *Abbots* is due out (with Yale University Press) in 2014. Selected publications : *Le défi biographique: la littérature en question* (French translation by Cécile Dudouyt of *Biography and the Question of Literature*) (Presses universitaires de France, 2012) *Biography and the Question of Literature in France* (Oxford University Press, 2007) *Nathalie Sarraute, Fiction and Theory: Questions of Difference* (Cambridge University Press, 2000) Editor, *Nathalie Sarraute, Œuvres complètes*, under the general editorship of Jean-Yves Tadié in the *Bibliothèque de la Pléiade*, (Gallimard, 1996)

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