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Contributors

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Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer is an associate professor of humanities at Utah Valley University. She previously taught at Boston University and Kenyon College. She received her PhD in English from Washington University in St. Louis, as well as an MA in American studies from Heinrich-Heine University. She is

a former fellow of the German Academic Exchange Service, the German National Merit Foundation, and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale. She has published in her field of specialty, American modernist literature, and is particularly interested in the intersections of literature, film, and the visual arts with science and philosophy.

Sam Gormley is a DPhil candidate in French literature at the University of Oxford. His doctoral research, funded by the Wolfson Foundation, examines the speculative fiction of four contemporary French novelists. Drawing widely on critical currents in posthumanism, the new materialisms, and philosophies of life, Sam's thesis situates this corpus within broader cultural anxieties about the survival of the human and the threat of species extinction. Alongside his research in French, Sam maintains close links with modern and contemporary American literature, especially the New Weird and the work of Jeff VanderMeer.

Christina Katopodis, MA, MPhil, is a doctoral candidate in English and New Media Lab fellow at The Graduate Center, CUNY. Katopodis records sounds at Walden Pond for her digital humanities project, The Walden Soundscape, an award-winning website that makes sounds at Walden Pond accessible to a wide audience, and calls for a new approach to reading as listening to a text. Meanwhile, Katopodis is currently completing her dissertation work on the influences of sound and music on American transcendentalism and pragmatism, attending to situated listening and sonic vibration in nineteenth-century American literature.

Margaret Kolb is a lecturer in English at the University of California, Berkeley, where she is completing a book analyzing the relationship between literary and mathematical probability, entitled *The Romance of the Probable*.

Benjamin J. Murphy is a doctoral candidate and teaching fellow in English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His dissertation focuses on crowd psychology, biopolitics, and mob violence and lynching in late nineteenth-century American literature and culture. Other writing, including articles, essays, and reviews, can be found in *Mississippi Quarterly*, *symploke*, *boundary2* online review, *The Millions*, *Gulf Coast*, *Full Stop*, and *The Carolina Quarterly*.

Jenny Sundén is a professor of gender studies at Södertörn University in Stockholm, Sweden. Her work is situated in the intersection of digital media studies, feminist and queer theory, and affect theory, and she currently works on questions of technological brokenness, disruption, and delay. Her articles appear in *Ada: A Journal of Gender, New Media & Technology*, *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Feminist Media Studies*, *First Monday*, *Games and Culture*, *Lambda Nordica*, *Somatechnics*, and *Transformations*.

Michael Uhall is finishing up a PhD in political theory at the University of Illinois. His dissertation is entitled "On the Political Uses of Creative Darkness: Nature, Companion Ecologies, Biopolitics." His work addresses biopolitics, ecopessimism, new materialism, philosophies of nature, and security studies. More information can be found at michaeluhall.com.