For over two years we have been studying the idea of publishing a scholarly journal devoted to international fiction and especially the fiction of less well-known literatures. The enthusiastic reaction to this idea among many scholars in different parts of the world has convinced us that there is a great need for this kind of publication.

The generous assistance of the University of New Brunswick has finally enabled us to translate our idea into reality. We wish, therefore, to thank Dr John M. Anderson, the President of the University and Dr Desmond Pacey, the Vice-President, for their aid. We also wish to express our gratitude to the Dean of Arts, Dr Thomas J. Condon, whose enthusiasm has sustained us from the very beginning.

The Editor