

## A Sumptuous Salmagundi: *The North Carolina Literary Review*

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*North Carolina Literary Review*. (1992- ; Alex Albright, editor; Greenville, NC: English Department, East Carolina University (27858-4353). Telephone: (919) 757-4876; two issues per year; \$15 for one year, \$28 for two years).

North Carolina's state literary magazine, the *North Carolina Literary Review (NCLR)*, is published by the English Department at East Carolina University and the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association. *NCLR*, which began publication in 1992, is the long-awaited literary complement to the *North Carolina Historical Review*, also published by the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association since 1924.

With a circulation of approximately 1,200, *NCLR* treats its readership to a cornucopia of creative and expository writing, poetry and prose, fiction and nonfiction, current and retrospective items, all focusing on the lives and works of North Carolina writers. A very substantial publication, the first two issues include over four hundred pages of text, photographs, and original artwork.

Brief highlights of the first two issues include an essay by writer Fred Chappell, an interview with poet and novelist Linda Beatrice Brown, literary tributes to writers Thomas Wolfe and Manly Wade Wellman; poetry of A. R. Ammons, James Applewhite, and Randall Jarrell; short stories by Louise Anderson, Leon Rooke, and Michael Parker; a syllabus on "Black and White in North Carolina Literature" by Sally Buckner; and "A Directory of Small Magazines and Literary Journals in North Carolina" by Tim Hampton. Regular departments include essays on freedom of speech by Gene D. Lanier; descriptions of archival collections on North Carolina writers, including an article by Maurice C. York on the Inglis Fletcher Papers at East Carolina University; and an ongoing, serialized dictionary of North Carolina writers, compiled by John Patterson and dedicated to the memory of North Carolina literary historian Richard Walser.

Each of the two issues published thus far has included reviews of works by North Carolina writers, reports of literary events and gatherings across the state, current news items regarding North Carolina writers, portfolios of original photographs and drawings, and observations and reflections on North Carolina life by *NCLR* correspondent Linda Flowers. The editorial staff under the editorship of Alex Albright has integrated these diverse elements into a unified whole and, in the process, created a publication which is not only a delight to read, but also pleasing to the eye.

*NCLR* is nothing short of a sumptuous salmagundi — a literary feast to whet the appetites of North Carolinians and other Tar-Heels-at-heart who relish and savor the literature of North Carolina. *NCLR* should be found alongside the *North Carolina Historical Review* on the periodical display shelves of high school and public libraries in North Carolina and in the collections of academic and special libraries regardless of locale where readers turn for information on the Southern literary scene.



\*La•gniappe (lãn-yãp', lãn' yãp') n. An extra or unexpected gift or benefit. [Louisiana French]