

## Editor's Preface

**Mustafa Kirca**

Editor-in-Chief

Çankaya University, Turkey

We have been striving to cope with the stress and the frustration from the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic amidst the turmoil and the global loss of many lives caused by Covid-19. However, we have maintained our efforts in adhering to and reaching the goals of academic discussion in these difficult times, and as of December 2020, we are honored to present the 14/2 issue of *Çankaya University Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*. As in our earlier issues, in this issue of the volume too, we continue to cover interdisciplinary studies at the intersection of different areas of the human sciences that fall within the scope of the Journal and to share new perspectives in the humanities. To this end, the present issue, consisting of articles originally presented as papers at the 24th METU British Novelists International Conference, is devoted to Julian Barnes's work. This conference series, organized by the Department of Foreign Language Education at Middle East Technical University, receives the interest of international scholars and welcomes fruitful discussions on a single British author each year. In 2018, the theme of the conference was "Julian Barnes and His Work," and the keynote speaker was Prof. Dr. Vanessa Guignery from École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France. We are honoured to give place to her stimulating study in this volume along with the work of the other authors whose research on Barnes is well-known. Guignery's study "uncovers the intricate palimpsest of Barnes's work" through the author's archives, and it shows in an astonishing way the novelist's careful character construction with specific traits and voices, particularly in the diptych *Talking It Over* (1991) and *Love, etc.* (2000). The articles in the present issue cover a wide variety of Barnes's novels, short stories, the author's personal notes and sketches, and also the film adaptation of his 2011 novel, *The Sense of an Ending*.

We, as the editorial board, would like to thank all the authors wholeheartedly for their scholarly contributions and the team of referees for their reviews. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nil Korkut-Naykı and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elif Öztapak-Avcı from Middle East Technical University for their valuable contributions as the guest editors for this issue and as the organizers of the 24th METU British Novelists International Conference. We also thank the Board of Trustees and the Presidency of Çankaya University, and the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for their continuous support.

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mkirca@gmail.com