

Acknowledgements

DUSTIN GEERAERT

This project began with an event entitled *Medieval and Modern: An Interdisciplinary Symposium*. The idea for it was first suggested by Birna Bjarnadóttir, who envisioned a discussion of Halldór Laxness's medievalist novel *Gerpla* (1952) over the course of a snowy Winnipeg afternoon in March of 2015. The original event was sponsored by the Icelandic Department and the English Department (now DEFTM), along with the University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities (UMIH). The symposium seemed to expand of its own accord, leading to further events including one in March of 2016 in which *Fóstbræðra saga* was the topic of Ármann Jakobsson's keynote address, with support from additional sponsors like the U of M's Arts Endowment Fund, Distinguished Visiting Lecturer Series, and *Mosaic: An Interdisciplinary Critical Journal*. I owe thanks to my fellow organizers for these events, the members of the UMIH research group Circle of Premodern Students (CoPS). I held a term as UMIH Research Affiliate while working on this project; particular thanks are due to David Watt and Paul Jenkins. The Icelandic Department's support was similarly crucial from start to finish, and I would like to thank P. J. Buchan and Catari Macaulay Gauthier.

When it came to the possibility of publications coming out of the symposiums, I noted the *Fóstbræðra saga* and *Gerpla* papers; I am grateful to Christopher Crocker for suggesting *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies* as a venue for this project, among other inspired suggestions. The Association for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies in Canada (AASSC) offered an incredibly welcoming forum for discussion of work related to the special volume at its 2017 and 2018 annual meetings in Toronto and Regina respectively, and I would like to thank the many members of AASSC who contributed to ensuring the success of those events. The final discussion of this research occurred in Ísafjörður in October of 2018, at a symposium entitled *Lesið í sköpunarkraft Vestfjarða* [*The Creative Power of the West Fjords*], organized by Birna Bjarnadóttir and Ingi Björn Guðnason, at which point this project may have in some sense come full circle. The support of the University of Iceland, and of Jón Alti Benediktsson and Guðmundur Hálfðánarson in particular, is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

I would like to thank Elin Thordarson and P. J. Buchan for their translation assistance on this special volume. Thanks are due to Stephen Cowdery of the web site *Laxness in Translation* for his help obtaining materials. Much of the research

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undertaken in Winnipeg was enabled by The Icelandic Collection of Elizabeth Dafoe Library, curated by the late Sigrid Johnson. Finally, I would like to thank Helga Thorson for her guidance, Martin Holmes for his patience, and the many scholars on both sides of the Atlantic who responded helpfully and humbly to requests for contributions, comments, and suggestions.