10 January 2018

*ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*

Department of English

University of Calgary

Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2N 1N4

Dear Dr. Clarke, Dr. Halpern, and Dr. Xie,

I’m writing to submit my accepted article, “Tracing Morocco,” and to outline the changes I’ve made to it based on the peer reviewers’ suggestions. I’m grateful to you for your support of my work, and to both reviewers for such thoughtful, perceptive feedback. I have enjoyed incorporating their suggestions, and believed that the piece is strengthened as a result.

I’m gratified that Reader 1 characterized the essay’s topic as “excellent and urgent,” and appreciate their attention to the nuance of my representation of the political situation in Spain. By the time of Franco’s coup, workers’ revolts across Spain were challenging the newly democratic country’s stability, and infighting amongst the many leftist factions of the Popular Front was ultimately disastrous to the war’s outcome, to say nothing of the many lives lost. Based on Reader 1’s suggestions, I have described this context in my introduction to the Spanish situation; however, I think the Spanish political context is most relevant to my essay as it relates to North American perspectives. That is to say, North American authors of the 1930s (and after) were unevenly aware of these Spanish political conflicts, at least insofar as they depict them in the literary texts I analyze. To that end, and following Reader 1’s suggestion, I have endeavored in my revision to emphasize Langston Hughes and John A. Williams’s own perspectives on leftism and internationalism as a way of nuancing my representation of the Spanish conflict as it was depicted by North American authors.

I’m equally appreciative of Reader 2’s broad feedback on my essay’s argumentative structure, and their specific attention to sentence-level clarity and terminology. I have responded to all of Reader 2’s questions and suggestions about these issues of wording and terminology in my revisions. In addition, I have restructured my essay following their suggestions. I have both shortened the historical introduction and highlighted the issue of the Second Spanish Republic’s racism earlier on. In order to respond to Reader 2’s helpful contextualization of these literary responses within Harlem Renaissance attitudes towards internationalism, I have also, as I mentioned in the previous paragraph, incorporated more information about Hughes and Williams’s political backgrounds. Altogether, I think the changes suggested by both peer reviewers help the essay immensely in terms of its structure, argumentation, and historical-political context.

Finally, I have updated my article and abstract according to the journal’s editorial guidelines. My thanks to both readers for such careful and comprehensive feedback, and to the editorial board for your support of my work. Please let me know if I can provide you with any further information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Robins Sharpe

Assistant Professor, English

Affiliate Faculty, Women’s and Gender Studies, Holocaust and Genocide Studies