

## Liminaire

With this issue, the two co-editors of the magazine for the past three years leave the *Tessera* collective. Louise Cotnoir was present at the inception of the magazine during the Dialogue conference at York University in 1981. Her text "S'écrire avec, dans et contre le langage," translated as "Writing Ourselves With, In and Against Language" appeared in the first issue of *Tessera* in 1983-4. Many texts have followed since then. When Gail Scott, one of the original collective members, decided to leave, the collective turned to the most regular contributor from Quebec, Louise Cotnoir, and was delighted when she quickly agreed to join for the preparation of the "Auto-graph(e)" issue (8, 1989). Imaginative, resourceful, calm, speedy, and with an address book of incomparable volume, Louise has been ready to fill every breach from finding texts to revising translations with equal enthusiasm and effectiveness. Barbara Godard was a founding member of the collective. Her commitment to dialogue between Québécoise and English-Canadian feminists has been instrumental in shaping *Tessera* into a space of exchange. Barbara's energy and intellect have also made the magazine a generative space, in which texts anticipate other texts, call them into being. Her editorials – at once theoretical interventions, framings of debates, and empathetic, dynamic readings of the texts published in *Tessera* – have played an important role in creating a reading public for feminist language-centred writing in Canada. A lively participant in editorial discussions, a tireless promoter of the magazine, a careful and imaginative translator, a storehouse of critical theory, a scrupulous reader, a feminist cartographer of new realms, Barbara will be missed. She is presently busy at work editing "Collaboration in the Feminine: Writing on 'Women' and 'Culture' from *Tessera*," an anthology of articles from the past decade to be published in May. Although Louise and Barbara are leaving the collective, their collaboration has by no means ended. They hope to extend the pleasure of working together to produce translations of Louise's poetry. – K.B., J.H., L.M.