Prestigious Publication for Arts & Letters Scholar

BOCA RATON, Fla. (November 22, 2017) – Roderick Cooke, Ph.D., assistant professor of French in the Department of Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature, had an article titled, “The Collapse of Personal and National Identity in Maupassant’s ‘Le Horla’” accepted for publication in the 2018 French issue of the prestigious *Modern Language Notes* journal.

The article connects Maupassant's short story 'Le Horla' to the culture wars of France. The destinations of the protagonist's two journeys, Mont Saint-Michel and Paris, each embody a conflicting vision of French national identity at the time Maupassant wrote. The former is Catholic, rural, folkloric and pre-Revolutionary, the latter secular, urban, modern and scientific. Yet neither of these two ideologies can prevent the protagonist from sliding into madness by the tale's denouement; Maupassant thus suggests that grand visions of national identity are incapable of sustaining the individual subject's personal identity, a perspective borne out by his essays and correspondence.

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