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From the Editors

Ever since its “official” inception in the 18th century, the Gothic convention has shown inexhaustible potential for multifarious implementations in all fields of artistic creation. A truly transgressive phenomenon, the Gothic has crossed boundaries of literary genres, media and modes of expression, involving a diversity of themes and forms. The scholarly response to this diversity has confirmed the unquestionable status of the Gothic in modern literary and visual discourses.

This special issue of *Lublin Studies in Modern Languages and Literature*, which is a sequel to *Expanding the Gothic Canon: Studies in Literature, Film and New Media* (ed. Anna Kędra-Kardela and Andrzej Sławomir Kowalczyk; Peter Lang, 2014), reflects the dynamic development and topicality of the academic research carried out within Gothic studies. The articles in this collection attest to the inexhaustible diversity of manifestations of the Gothic mode.

Individual essays dwell on romantic, Victorian, modernist and postmodernist variations of the Gothic in fiction, film, and television series. The authors refer to Gothic-related concepts such as the abject, the numinous, the neo-baroque, and the sublime. The plethora of themes and motifs discussed include, for instance, the concept of evolution and science (Katarzyna Pisarska), identity and monstrosity (Dorota Babilas, Jorge Bastos da Silva, Anna Kędra-Kardela, Andrzej Sławomir Kowalczyk), human waste (Jarlath Killeen), the theatricality of crime (Aleksandra Kędzierska), the supernatural and haunting (Jacek Mydła), terrorism (Anne

Keithline) as well as political commentary (Zofia Kolbuszewska). The articles also show the coexistence and interplay of the Gothic with genres such as the crime/detective novel (Joanna Kokot), utopia and dystopia (Marta Komsta, Justyna Laura Galant), and the novel of manners (Urszula Terentowicz-Fotyga), to mention but a few.

The editors of this volume firmly believe that the essays included here will prove inspiring to scholars and students alike.