

A. Robert Lee, formerly of the University of Kent, is a retired Professor of American Literature at Nihon University, Tokyo, 1997-2011. Lee has been instrumental in developing American Studies in the UK and Europe, and has held visiting professorial positions in the US at the University of Virginia, Bryn Mawr College, Northwestern University, the University of Colorado, the University of California Berkeley, and the University of New Mexico.

His impressive list of academic works includes *Designs of Blackness: Mappings in the Literature and Culture of Afro-America* (1998); *Postindian Conversations* (1999), with Gerald Vizenor; *Multicultural American Literature: Comparative Black, Native, Latino/a and Asian American Fictions* (2003), which won the American Book Award in 2004; *Gothic to Multicultural: Idioms of Imagining in American Literary Fiction* (2009) and *Modern American Counter Writing: Beats, Outriders, Ethnics* (2010).

He has also been responsible for collections like *Other Britain, Other British* (1995); *Beat Generation Writers* (1996); *China Fictions/English Language: Literary Essays in Diaspora, Memory, Story* (2008); *The Salt Companion to Jim Barnes* (2010); with Deborah L. Madsen, *Gerald Vizenor: Texts and Contexts* (2010); *Native American Writing*, 4 Vols (2011), *African American Writing*, 5 Vols (2013), *US Latino/a Writing* (2014); and, with Alan R. Velie, *The Native American Renaissance: Literary Imagination and Achievement* (2013).

His creative work is reflected in *Japan Textures: Sight and Word* (2007), with Mark Gresham; *Tokyo Commute: Japanese Customs and Way of Life Viewed from the Odakyu Line* (2011); and the poetry collections *Ars Geographica: Maps and Compasses* (2012); *Portrait and Landscape: Further Geographies* (2013); *Imaginarium: Sightings, Galleries, Sightlines* (2013); *Americas: Selected Verse and Vignette* (2015); *Password: A Book of Locks and Keys* (2016); and *Aurora: A Spanish Gallery of Image and Text* (IAFOR Publications on-line, 2016).