

Hopps, Christine Marie Anne. *Carnival in Regional Canada: A Bakhtinian Approach to Content and Form in Three Contemporary Canadian Folk Novels*. Thesis (MA [English]), Université de Sherbrooke. Ann Arbor: ProQuest/UMI, 1993. (Publication No. MM85005)

Abstract

Comparative Canadian literature has been enriched by two recent developments: the study of contributions made by groups other than Quebecois and English-Canadians and the application of increasingly more sophisticated literary criticism. This thesis compares three novels, Robert Kroetsch's *The Studhorse Man*, Roch Carrier's *La Guerre, Yes Sir!* and Antonine Maillet's *Pelagie-la-Charrette*, using an approach developed by the Russian critic, Mikhail Bakhtin, in his study of the carnivalesque (*Rabelais and His World*) and dialogic elements (*The Dialogic Imagination*) in the novels by Rabelais and others. This approach, with its emphasis on carnivalesque imagery and dialogic formalistic elements, including heteroglossia, polyglossia, parody and intertextuality, reveals interesting similarities and differences between the English-Canadian, Quebecois and Acadian novels. In the manner of Rabelais, however, each novel denies endings and instead leaves a loop-hole towards a utopian future.