Editor's Foreword

Robert Bray

The 1998 inaugural issue of The Tennessee Williams Annual Review appears at an exciting time for Williams scholars and enthusiasts. Within the next couple of years, Tenn (volume two of Lyle Leverich's biography) should be out, as well as a new collection of Williams's letters, edited by Nancy Tischler and Albert Devlin. At least three previously unpublished plays will be available shortly for readers, and one of these—Not About Nightingales—premieres in London (March 1998) as this journal goes to press. As researchers sift through the various repositories of Williams's unpublished works, it is likely that more new productions and printings may eventually follow. The articles in this inaugural issue serve as a scholarly complement to Williams's early, middle, and late work and also reflect academic interest in genres other than his drama.

Most of the essays in this issue were first presented at the Tennessee Williams Scholars' Conference, which is held each March in conjunction with the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival. Since these papers include original scholarship by some of the foremost Williams scholars in the world, it seemed only logical to make them accessible to a larger audience. In the near future the TWAR will go online, making this scholarship available to anyone with access to the world-wide web. The TWAR continues to invite essays for presentation at the Tennessee Williams Scholars' Conference as well as to be considered for publication in this journal. For more information, please see our copyright page preceding this foreword, and the web site for the Williams conference may be found at: <www.mtsu.edu/~english/twsc.htm>.
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Dakin Williams, Tennessee’s only brother, generously continues to send me information that only someone from his perspective could provide. Finally, this journal’s publication could never have been realized without the financial support of the Walter E. Dakin Fund, administered by the University of the South.