

2018 Committee on Translation Report

The Committee on Translation, now in its fifth year, has had a particularly active few months. We ran a double seminar on the topic, “Delay and Immediacy: Translation Temporalities,” and held an annual Committee meeting during the ACLA conference at UCLA, March 29th-April 1st. At the same conference, we also presented a well-attended ACLA/ICLA plenary session on “Translators and Authors.” We are now finishing work on our Committee’s first joint publication on the topic “Translation Networks.” It will appear shortly as a special issue of the online translation journal, *Transfer*.

In the call for papers for this year’s ACLA seminar on the topic, “Delay and Immediacy: Translation Temporalities,” we sought texts that would explore issues of temporality in translation from various perspectives. We welcomed close and distant readings; political, historical, and practical approaches. The results were most encouraging and the papers selected engaged their audiences, generating new ideas and projects. The papers given were these:

ACLA Seminar: Delay and Immediacy: Translation Temporalities I

Friday, March 30, 2018

Akshya Saxena (Vanderbilt): “Sooner or Later or Never: The Time of Translation as Gift”

Jordan Smith (Josai International University): “The Translator as Activist Judge: Navigating Technologies of Recognition in Contemporary Literary Worlding”

Anandi Rao (UC Irvine): “Translating the Myth of Shakespeare: temporality and ‘un/translatables”

Saturday, March 31, 2018

Bella Brodzki (Sarah Lawrence): “Reading the Voice of the Other: Translation and Temporality in Audiobooks”

Helga Zambrano, (UCLA): “Translating and Scaling (Nicaraguan) Weltliteratur: Sergio Ramírez’s Clave de Sol and Werner Mackenbach’s Tropischer Walzer”

Heather Cleary (Sarah Lawrence): “First things Second: The Temporalities of Pseudo-Translation”

Roanne Kantor, (Harvard): “For the Record: Translation, Transcription and Reanimation in Nonfiction Audiobooks”

Sunday, April 1, 2018

Tse-Yin Teo, (U Oregon): “Dictee’s Delayed Translation”

Jenny-Marie Forsythe (UCLA): “Illustration as Immediacy: The Afterlives of La Florida del Inca in the Age of Engraving”

Isabel Gomez (UMass Boston): “Translation Futures: Haroldo de Campos and Literary Reciprocity”

Delay and Immediacy: Translation Temporalities II

Friday, March 30, 2018

Diana Thow (UC Berkeley): "Where Time Was Not: Italian Translations of Spoon River Anthology"

Youngmin Kim (Dongguk University): "Foreign Form versus Local Materials: East Meets West for Symbolic Hegemony?"

Yuki Morioka, (U Washington): "Biography Translation in Historical Context: George Washington's Biography in East Asia"

Saturday, March 31, 2018

Yoon Jeong Oh (NYU): "Stop, Pause, Repeat: The Untranslatable Fragments and Fragmented Time in Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's Dictee"

Claire Gullander-Drolet, (Brown): "Translational Form in Ruth Ozeki's A Tale for the Time Being (2013)"

Marlene Hansen Esplin (Brigham Young): "Retranslating the "American West": Early English Translations of Cabeza de Vaca's Relación"

Chloe Brault MacKinnon (Stanford): "Clarice Consecrated"

Sunday, April 1, 2018

Tatjana Soldat-Jaffe (Florida State): "Translation as a Form of Re-mediation"

Visnja Krstic, (U Belgrade): "Linguistic Fluidity and Translatability over Time: The Post-Yugoslav Dispute over the Folk Ballad "Hasanaginica""

Spencer Scoville, (Brigham Young): “Marie Corelli’s Temporal Power, Deferred: Revolutionary Translations in Russia and Palestine”

Chiara Benetollo, (Princeton): “Petrarch, His Readers and His Translators: Between Archaism and Modernity”

Annual Committee Meeting

At our annual Translation Committee Meeting (Saturday, March 31), we decided on the seminar topic and cfp for ACLA and ICLA 2019: “Polyglot Minds and Bodies Politic.” Our proposed seminars will discuss ways in which translation and cultural transfer inform new articulations of global civil society and solidarity building. We also considered the possibility of future translation-centered plenary sessions. Not all need involve invited speakers but might encourage broad audience participation through a translation slam, or a discussion of translation activism.

ACLA/ICLA Plenary: Translators and Authors in Dialogue

Later on Saturday, March 31, the Committee on Translation held a joint ACLA/ICLA plenary. We welcomed four speakers—Suzanne Levine and Eduardo Lalo; Carlos Rojas and Yan Lianke—who spoke to a large audience about experiences as translators and authors. Panelists spoke briefly and then responded to audience questions. It was a lively and exciting session. We remain very grateful to the ICLA and the ACLA who together deferred the substantial costs of travel and hotels for the four participants.

Special Issue of *Transfer*

As I write, we are completing the *Introduction* for a special issue of *Transfer*, a journal edited by Professor Assumpta Camps. The seven articles included focus on the topic, “Translation Networks;” all began as talks in the Translation Committee Seminars at Utrecht. We are very proud of this first publication and look forward to working on others in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

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