

Literary Translation Workshops:

Bridging Communities Affected by Past Conflict

(Part of the AHRC (OWRI) Cross-Language Dynamics: Reshaping Community)

A day-conference at BCLT on Friday 23rd November 2018, 9.15am - 6pm

Dragon Hall, Norwich

“The OWRI initiative aims to transform the discipline of modern languages and to find a new voice, a new vision and, above all, a new identity for languages.

The challenge for each of the successful four-year projects is to achieve all this through research which is more radically interdisciplinary than hitherto and more imaginatively collaborative with dynamic partnerships with other universities, with schools and, crucially, with non-academic organisations in the UK and abroad.”

– Professor Michael Worton, CBE, chair of the Open World Research Initiative

[In <https://crosslanguagedynamics.blogs.sas.ac.uk/about/>]

The aim of this day-conference is to bring together colleagues from a variety of disciplines involving the study of particular communities, cultures, regions, and languages. The event, organised by the BCLT, satellite partner in the ‘Cross-Language Dynamics: Reshaping Community’ project led by the University of Manchester, aims to create a space for researchers in modern languages and translation to share their interests and current projects. The event will contribute to debates centring on whether and how translation (both literary and non-literary) could reposition itself with respect to modern languages, literary studies, creative writing, cultural memory studies, human rights, paving the way for future collaborative projects, possibly in Area Studies (or, following recent disciplinary realignments, *New Area Studies*). At BCLT we are committed to working with professional literary translators, as well as partner professional associations, such as AATI, and thus, in the spirit of the OWRI initiative aims quoted above, have included a session centred upon the work of professional translators.

The workshop will be organised in three sessions, which will each seek to address the following questions, or some of them:

1. In the context of the literary translation workshops (organised by AATI and BCLT): what is the nature of this personal and collective space created by workshops which bring together literary translators and creative writers, and what is their potential contribution (as a methodology) to current debates in other disciplines?
2. What happens with works that represent or negotiate memories of past conflict as they are translated into, and circulated in, other languages and cultures?
3. What is the role of the professional translator in the context of government and non-government organisations? To what extent can a focus on translation process contribute to debates in other, related disciplines?
4. What does a translator (literary / non-literary) need to know when working in contexts which are difficult, conflict-ridden, multi-ethnic? How do they deal with these difficult contexts in practice?

9.15 am – 9.30am	<i>Registration and tea & coffee</i>
9.45am	Welcome followed by Session 1 : 'Literary Translation Workshops: Bridging Communities': presentation of research project aims and findings so far; project lead: Dr Cecilia Rossi, BCLT, UEA and project partner Lucila Cordone from AATI (Argentine Association of Translators and Interpreters).
11 am	<i>Tea, coffee & biscuits</i>
11.15 am	Session 2: Panel Discussion: presentation of research interests and projects by invited participants: Joanna Drugan, UEA, 'Process and conditions of production of professional translation/ Ethics and Professional Translation'; Hilary Footitt (Reading), ' The Listening Zones of NGOs: languages and cultural knowledge in International Development'; Dr Urvashi Sabu (Delhi University) on 'Translating Pakistani Women Poets'. Chair: Duncan Large.
12.45 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
2 pm	Session 3: Panel Discussion on the translation of works which capture the experience of past conflict: with Jen Calleja (translator of <i>Dance by the Canal</i> by Kerstin Hensel, Peirene, 2017) , Marian De Vooght, Essex, 'On Editing an Anthology of Poetry of the Holocaust'(Co-editor of <i>Holocaust Poetry: An Anthology</i> , forthcoming 2019 with Arc Publications) and Sophie Hughes (via SKYPE) (translator of Chilean novel <i>The Remainder</i> by Alia Trabucco Zerán (And Other Stories, 2018). Chair: Cecilia Rossi.
3.30 pm	<i>Tea, coffee & biscuits</i>
3.45 pm	Closing Plenary: Authors Giles Foden and Julianne Pachico, as well as translators and invited speakers. Reflections on the discussions of the day. Plans for future project collaborations (or panel proposal for the 'Translating Cultural Memory in Fiction and Testimony – Memory Studies and Translation Studies in Dialogue, Innsbruck, Austria 10-11 October 2019)
5 pm	<i>Drinks Reception</i>



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