

**Session Title:** Speaking Terms: Forging Healthy Translator/Writer Relationships, Communication, and Boundaries

**Moderator(s):** Maria Nazos

**Panelists:** Maria Nazos, Stephen Kessler, J. Kates

**Session Description:** Translation has long been considered a diversifying and generous practice. As "the person in between," we often forge long-lasting, complicated, and wonderful relationships with our authors. There is a sense of accomplishment and challenge when we bring an author's words into the correct light. But about when we are faced with trials that accompany even the best working relationships? This panel will examine the joys and the difficulties of maintaining realistic boundaries, healthy communication, and sound relationships between translators and authors. We will be using a series of perspectives ranging from funny to serious. We will be asking questions as well as searching for answers—all the while encouraging our audience to do the same.

**Session Title:** "I wish I had my problems": Re-weirding the weird in contemporary prose

**Moderator(s):** Bill Johnston

**Panelists:** Nathan Douglas, Maria Fink, Luca Fitzgerald, Tianrui Ma, Zachary Scalzo

**Session Description:** In its search for original forms of expression, contemporary prose can veer far from traditional patterns of narrative and description. In rendering such innovative prose into English, the translatorial gesture often involves first taming "weird" language by seeking to understand its meaning, intended effect, and relation to default options, then "re-weirding" it into an appropriately off-kilter English. This panel explores the re-weirding process in five contemporary novels being translated from Arabic, Catalan, German, and Italian.

**Session Title:** Advocate!

**Moderator(s):** Samantha Schnee

**Panelists:** Jeremy Tiang, Michael Holtmann, Mieke Chew, Steve Halle, Lisa Hayden

**Session Description:** This panel of translators and publishers will discuss some of the ways that translators can advocate for their work and for international literature.

**Session Title:** Alone, Together: Translation as a Collaborative Process

**Moderator(s):** Hilary Plum

**Panelists:** Hilary Plum, Karen Emmerich, Sabrina Jaszi, Harry Leeds, Roman Ivashkiv

**Session Description:** If translation is already a dialogue between author and translator, what happens when two or more sensibilities merge to reflect, or refract, a singular voice in another language? This roundtable brings together co-translators, writers, editors, and scholars of translation to consider the art of translating in collaboration. Discussion topics include the division of labor and the collaborative process, working with a language editor vs. one who doesn't read the original, navigating translation choices that pivot on questions of personal style, participation of living authors in the translation process, and translating into and out of one's native language.

**Session Title:** ALTA, meet TinT: introducing the Theatre in Translation network

**Moderator(s):** Neil Blackadder

**Panelists:** Neil Blackadder, Adam Versényi, Jean Graham-Jones

**Session Description:** Three of the founding members of this new network dedicated to the promotion of plays in translation will discuss the impetus behind the group and how they envision it contributing to the internationalization of theatre in the US. All three are experienced translators of drama (from Spanish, German, and French) whose work has been produced as well as published, and are advocates for the translator as an active collaborator in the process of staging

plays in translation. They will talk about their own past and future work and how it intersects with TinT, and with ALTA.

**Session Title:** Choosing to Translate Women Writers

**Moderator(s):** Pennell Somsen

**Panelists:** Margaret B. Carson, Dr. Sara E. Cooper, Kira Josefsson, Annie Weaver, Charlotte Whittle

**Session Description:** Translators from Spanish, French, Arabic and Swedish will discuss how and why they have focused on working with women writers as well as discussing their current projects. The panel represents not only a variety of source languages but also experienced translators, professors, and a publisher as well as emerging translators and students.

**Session Title:** Contesting Historical Narratives: Fact, Fabrication, Fiction

**Moderator(s):** Jeff Diteman

**Panelists:** Joe Keady, Krzysztof Rowiński, Jeff Diteman, Abdourahim Kebe, Matthew Chovanec

**Session Description:** Writers who describe encounters with historical events often express the tension between history as a personal experience and historical narrative as a means of stabilizing memory. If they thus represent an initial lens through which history is refracted, what is the translator's responsibility with respect to the author's narrative? How much authority do translators have to challenge the self-characterization of historical agents? If the author is already interpreting history, to what extent can or should the translator re-interpret? Exploring a variety of genres, this panel will examine the literary processes of knowledge creation and historiography, as well as the self-positionality of the translator in the arena of conflict over facts and historical truth.

**Session Title:** Creative Translation: Strategies for Translating Texts for Target Culture Readers

**Moderator(s):** Ying Kong, Jonathan Hiller

**Panelists:** Sally Ito, Kyoko Norma Nozaki, Ying Kong, Jonathan Hiller

**Session Description:** Although it is hard to generalize, some texts from other cultures do well in translation in the target language culture while others do not. In this panel, Sally Ito will discuss her recent translation of the poetry of Japanese children's poet, Misuzu Kaneko into English for the children's book, *Are You an Echo: The Lost Poetry of Japanese children's poet, Misuzu Kaneko* published by Chin Music Press in 2016. Ying Kong will talk about the process of translating Chinese contemporary writer, Zhang Yawen's autobiography, a best-seller in China. Kyoko Nozaki will discuss her collaborative translation project, Hiromi Goto's *Half World*, soon to be published in Japan. Jonathan Hiller will explore the issues that arise when working on translations from 19th-century Italian texts.

**Session Title:** Difficult Passages: An Interactive Workshop

**Moderator(s):** Clyde Moneyhun

**Session Description:** We all know those times: Despite our best efforts, the passage stares up at us from the page, obstinate, defiant, bitterly resisting our efforts to render it into the target language. We do translate it, in the end, somehow, because we must—but how? Bring to this workshop a stubborn, thorny, “untranslatable” short passage (a word, a phrase, a sentence, a bit of dialog, a couplet...) and share it with a roomful of translators who have struggled in the same situation. We will discuss possible solutions to each dilemma (including yours) and also share general approaches to “untranslatable” passages. Please bring a dozen or so copies of your passage (strips of paper rather than whole pages will save trees) labeled

with your name and the name of the original author and work.

**Session Title:** Double Lives: Grad Students Who Translate

**Moderator(s):** David Bendiksen

**Panelists:** David Bendiksen, Siobhan Anderson, Sarah Valente, Jonathan Becker

**Session Description:** A roundtable inviting all graduate student literary and non-literary translators, experienced and emerging, to come and share current work, discuss secrets of balancing life and labor, and to form bonds with your future colleagues and fellow translators. Jointly hosted by current grads affiliated with the Banff International Literary Translation Centre, the University of Massachusetts Amherst Translation Center, and the Center for Translation Studies at The University of Texas at Dallas. All are welcome!

**Session Title:** Exchanges Journal Reading

**Moderator(s):** Allana Noyes

**Panelists:** Allison Grimaldi-Donahue, Cecilia Weddell, Kimrey Anna Batts, Peter Sean Woltemade

**Session Description:** Readings of current work by recent contributors to Exchanges, the journal run by the University of Iowa's MFA candidates in literary translation.

**Session Title:** Experiments in Retranslating Ancient Classics

**Moderator(s):** Adrienne Rose

**Panelists:** Mani Rao, Laura Moser, Marci Vogel

**Session Description:** Classical translators encounter significant unique challenges when retranslating ancient canonical texts for audiences far remote from the original's history, language, and culture. Panelists representing ancient Greek, Sanskrit, Classical Tamil, Latin, Classical Chinese, and Late Medieval French, will discuss case studies in retranslating ancient

Classical poetic texts using experimental and unconventional translation strategies, such as unfamiliarity and estrangement (encoding?), reader response/interaction, reading experience, visual and tactile forms, performance, homophony, and intervention, fragmentation, repetition, linguistic and semantic constraints, and new media, often borrowing from contemporary Anglo-American poetics.

**Session Title:** Fifty Years of Solitude: Reflections on a Modern Classic

**Moderator(s):** Ezra Fitz

**Panelists:** Ezra Fitz, Elizabeth Lowe, Suzanne Jill Levine, Esther Allen, Gregory Racz, Susan Bernofsky, Peter Constantine

**Session Description:** This session is designed to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Gabriel García Márquez' classic novel, "One Hundred Years of Solitude," which was translated into English by the inimitable Gregory Rabassa and published three years later. The translation would go on to sell over 50 million copies worldwide, making it (according to Paul Elie) "the most acclaimed novel in translation and the most popular." Participants will share personal memories of Rabassa, read favorite excerpts from the text itself, and reminisce over how this seminal event in the history of world literature affected and inspired us as literary translators. Join us as we revisit the Latin American novel that made the biggest "boom" of all, and remember the translator who made it the global sensation that it is today.

**Session Title:** Foreign Worlds Beyond the Foreign Language: The Particular Challenges of Translating Science Fiction and Dystopian Literature

**Moderator(s):** Lourdes Molina,

**Panelists:** Shelby Vincent, George Henson, Lourdes Molina

**Session Description:** Science fiction and dystopian literature reflect distant and foreign settings; they anticipate, bend, and fracture reality. These texts resist domestication by design and thus require foreignizing strategies during the translation process. In this session, we will examine the ways speculative fiction simultaneously reflects socio-cultural elements of the original language community and also amplifies the distortion of these elements in a refracted representation. This panel will explore the unique challenges of, and strategies for, translating science fiction and dystopian literature including translating concepts, proper nouns, terminology, modes of communication, technology, and imagery characteristic of these genres that are often far beyond the foreignness of the original language.

**Session Title:** Fun with Form: From Homer to Hamilton and Beyond

**Moderator(s):** Jamie Olson, Katherine E. Young

**Panelists:** Karen Kovacic, Keyne Cheshire, Geoffrey Brock, Jeff Diteman

**Session Description:** How should translators handle material created using formal structures that are vital and compelling in the source culture but out of fashion in the target culture? Who IS the contemporary audience for translations of formal verse? While American audiences for performance and spoken word poetry incline toward rhyme, meter, and older poetic forms, many readers of “page” poetry incline more toward free verse. What distinguishes “page” from “stage” poetry – and how should translators respond? Put a different way: why do audiences swoon over Hamilton and shun Tennyson? During this roundtable, several award-winning poets and NEA translation fellows explore enduring concepts of form in translating ancient and modern texts by interrogating and responding to their contemporary American audiences.

**Session Title:** Grants, Awards & Residencies for Translators

**Moderator(s):** Nancy Naomi Carlson, Anne O. Fisher

**Panelists:** Alike Barnstone, Susan Bernofsky, Ellen Elias-Bursac, Allison Markin Powell, Barbara Paschke, Chad Post

**Session Description:** Translators can apply for support from a variety of cultural organizations, private foundations, state funding agencies, residencies, and workshops. What kinds of support might be best for which projects? How much time, effort, and third-party involvement (from publishers, recommenders, etc.) are required to apply to these opportunities? How can you maximize the chances of your application being successful? Come to share your experiences, ask questions, suggest new opportunities, pitch your ideas, and brainstorm with colleagues.

**Session Title:** How to Pitch Your Piece to Online Journals

**Moderator(s):** Katrine Øgaard Jensen

**Panelists:** Eric M. B. Becker, Jeffrey Zuckerman, Aditi Machado, Scott Esposito

**Session Description:** For many translators, publishing poems, short stories, and extracts from novels online can be an optimal way to give their work and their authors more visibility. Since many web publications have different stances and philosophies about the process, from pitching to publishing, a panel of diverse editors, from such publications as Words without Borders and Asymptote to Music & Literature and EuropeNow, will discuss their methods and their best practices. Generous time will be made available for audience questions.

**Session Title:** Instigating the Future: Cross-Pollinations of Race and Translation

**Moderator(s):** Adrienne Perry

**Panelists:** Yvette Siegert, Poupeh Missaghi, Madhu Kaza, Stalina Villarreal

**Session Description:** This roundtable continues a conversation started at ALTA 2016: How to address the ongoing underrepresentation of heritage speakers and writers of color as practitioners of translation. What are ways to address this critical gap and alter the substance, poetics, and politics of the translation landscape? How might translation process and ethics be shaped by identity, language, and inheritance, and/or views about race and ethnicity that don't originate in US American frameworks? Participants come from a range of backgrounds, languages, and perspectives, providing a framework that allows critical thinking about representation, difference and how our own racial, ethnic, national, or anti-national identities inflect our choices of whom and how to translate.

**Session Title:** Instructions Not Included: A Roundtable on Collaborative Translation

**Moderator(s):** Anne Fisher

**Panelists:** Aviva Kana, Derek Mong, Benjamin Paloff, Sasha Senderovich, David Shook, Eleanor Goodman

**Session Description:** Collaborative translation occurs in many combinations of native speaker, non-native speaker, poets/writer, and translatee; our roundtable offers insights into six different configurations. We describe rendering both poetry and prose, from writers both living and not, and discuss the difference between working in languages we know vs. working from cribs/native informants. We talk about translating from Bubi, Chinese, Czech, Russian, Spanish, and Yiddish, sharing best practices, bestowing nuggets of hard-won wisdom, and covering practicalities such as how to communicate, manage expectations, and divide

the labor. At its best, this translation mode yields far more than the sum of its parts; at its worst—well, you'll have to come learn from our accomplished panelists so as to never find out!

**Session Title:** It Takes a Shtetl: Celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of the Yiddish Book Center's Translation Fellowship Program

**Moderator(s):** Sebastian Schulman,

**Panelists:** Sebastian Schulman, Sean Sidky, Rachel Field, Anastasiya Lyubas, Mandy Cohen, Merle Bachman

**Session Description:** Now in its fifth year, the Yiddish Book Center's Translation Fellowship Program provides mentorship and training to a cohort of ten emerging Yiddish-to-English literary translators every year. Much of the success of the program has been due to the ALTA community, from which most of the faculty have come and which has provided a broader home for its translators. In recognition of this milestone and in thanks to our mentors and teachers at ALTA, this session will reflect on the program's successes and challenges, and provide a model for other such programs. After this short presentation, the session will feature the work of a group of past and present fellows, who will read bilingually from across a rich landscape of Yiddish poetry and prose from Ukraine, Poland, California, and Israel.

**Session Title:** IWP@50: five decades of translating in the trenches

**Moderator(s):** Nataša Ďurovičová

**Panelists:** Christopher Merrill, Nataša Ďurovičová, John Vater, Mary Jane White

**Session Description:** Translation has been part of IWP's DNA since the program's founding in 1967. Five decades and 1500 participants later, this panel will reflect on the origins, procedures, and recombinations of its translation work. Among topics will be translation's disciplinary history and cross-fertilization at UI between Comparative

Literature and Creative Writing; the strengths, weaknesses, and protocols of working in the workshop format with an unpredictable language/participant mix; and the effects of a rapidly changing global language climate (global English, machine translation, etc) on the workshop's procedures, and indeed on the residency itself. The panel will include the perspective of instructors as well as workshop participants, both students and visiting writers.

**Session Title:** Keeping the Gate Open While Keeping the Open Gate: Ensuring High Quality Translations

**Moderator(s):** Elizabeth Lowe

**Panelists:** Elizabeth Lowe, Katherine Hedeem, Kaija Straumanis, Jenny McPhee, Steve Halle, Aditi Machado

**Session Description:** In this panel, editors of literary journals and small presses reflect on the challenges of working during a moment when translation has started to become more visible and sought after in literary publications. We will consider principally how to embrace translation and yet at the same time ensure high quality at this exciting moment for our field.

**Session Title:** Kitchen Table Translation: Migration, Diaspora, Contexts

**Moderator(s):** Madhu Kaza

**Panelists:** Gabrielle Civil, Katrina Dodson, Sawako Nakayasu

**Session Description:** How might immigrant or diasporic translators bring a particular set of concerns to the task of translation distinct from the mainstream of literary translation in the U.S.? When the movement of texts (translation) is linked with the movement of bodies (migration), issues of language and culture necessarily collide with questions about politics, history, race and imperialism --the very contexts of migration and Diaspora. The Kitchen Table Translation panel creates an opportunity to hear from diverse

writers and translators who can speak about personal, cultural and political dimensions of translation in relation to the technical, aesthetic, literary aspects of the work.

**Session Title:** Locating and Representing Gender in Korean Fiction and Poetry

**Moderator(s):** Jake LeVine

**Panelists:** Sora Kim-Russell, Emily Jungmin Yoon, Jounghmin Comfort, E.J. Koh

**Session Description:** Gender identity and sexual behavior of foreign cultures can often be misinterpreted or mistranslated, stigmatized or exoticized through the process of translation. Often times works of literature and their translators will unknowingly propagate racial or cultural stereotypes regarding gender and sexuality. Conversely, translators may choose to translate works with voices and characters that challenge stereotypes. This panel will focus on how translators locate gender and sexuality within works of Korean poetry and fiction, and how they avoid misrepresentation and the pitfalls of cultural stereotyping.

**Session Title:** Neobarroco and experimental Latin American Poetry

**Moderator(s):** Donald Wellman

**Panelists:** Donald Wellman, Mark Weiss, Kristin Dykstra, Erin Moure, Jeannine Marie Pitas, Orlando Ricardo Menes

**Session Description:** 2017 marks the twentieth anniversary of *Medusario*, a ground-breaking anthology of Latin American poetry, a gathering of the promising neobarroco and experimental poets. A third edition has just been issued. Some contributors suggest we pay special attention to the concept of an American Baroque as raised by Lezama Lima and Alejo Carpentier. Panelists share an interest in trans-linguistic poets employing the different languages of the Americas. Latin American poets associated with the neobarroco whose work has been translated

by one or more of the panelists include Néstor Perlonger, Roberto Echavarren, José Kozer, Raúl Zurita, Wilfredo Bueno, David Huerta, Coral Bracho, Luis Cortés Bargalló, and Ángel Escobar.

**Session Title:** Positioning the Retranslation

**Moderator(s):** Gary Racz

**Panelists:** Gary Racz, Steve Bradbury, Marian Schwartz

**Session Description:** Among the many reasons a translator may undertake the retranslation of a literary work is the belief that a prior version has "aged" and no longer serves a contemporary readership; that past translations have inadequately or misleadingly refashioned the original, or that s/he can "improve" on existing target texts by bringing out aspects not addressed in earlier renderings. Whatever the case, the retranslator almost certainly positions the retranslation against its forebears. This panel will discuss the many aesthetic, even marketing concerns involved in the decision to retranslate classical Chinese poetry, a Latin American colonial drama, and a nineteenth-century Russian novel.

**Session Title:** Publishing and Promoting Korean Literature

**Moderator(s):** Chad Post

**Panelists:** Fiona McCrae, John Siciliano, Christine Dunbar

**Session Description:** Over the past few years, there has been a boom in the publication of Korean works in translation (from four titles in 2008 to eighteen in 2016), and in the public reception to books from South Korea (see *The Vegetarian* winning the Man Booker). On the panel, a variety of editors will discuss how they found the Korean works they published, their experiences working with Korean translators and the Literary Translation Institute Korea, and anecdotes about surprises and disappointments in the marketplace. Questions about the growing market for Korean literature and how lessons

learned from these experiences can be more generally applied to publishing literature in translation.

**Session Title:** Publishing Translations: From Manuscript to Reader's Hands

**Moderator(s):** Chad Post

**Panelists:** Caroline Casey, Hans Weyandt, Dan Wells

**Session Description:** Featuring professionals from a number of the steps in the publishing and bookselling process, this panel will explain the intricacies of how a translated manuscript is edited, marketed, fundraised for, and sold to readers. Along the way, panelists will discuss ways in which things can go off the rails, while highlighting promotional opportunities and sharing success stories. By the end of the panel, everyone will have a much better idea about the various roles publishers and booksellers undertake to bring great works of international literature to interested readers.

**Session Title:** Queerness in Translation

**Moderator(s):** Jennifer Zoble

**Panelists:** Jennifer Zoble, Bonnie Huie, Allison Grimaldi Donahue, Amanda Powell

**Session Description:** This panel will explore what it means to define a literary text as queer, and how such a definition might impact one's process of translation and one's approach to engaging potential publishers and readers. Whether deriving from the author's identity, the text's subject matter, or the explicit and implicit ways in which the text formally resists normativity, does queerness grant more interpretive space to the translator? Does it demand an even greater commitment to advocacy? How is queerness encoded in different languages, and how might a translator contend with this layer of translation? How are questions of visibility and fidelity complicated by queer translation? And how to attract supportive audiences while preventing the

marginalization of the text, the author, or the translator?

**Session Title:** Raising Valence: Giving Titles to Translations

**Moderator(s):** Kelsi Vanada

**Panelists:** Kelsi Vanada, Patricia Hartland, Laurel Taylor, Derick Mattern, Sarah Griebel

**Session Description:** For texts-in-translation, the title is often the first site at which reader, translator, and author engage. How do translators come to terms with the layers of nuance or valence a title may hold? How do we catch new readers without abandoning the original intent? In this panel, graduates and students of the MFA in Literary Translation at the Univ. of Iowa will open a dialogue about the delights and challenges of crafting titles for translated literary work. Panelists will present on the difficulties of titling texts from Spanish, French and Martinican Creole, Turkish, and Japanese, suggesting a variety of approaches. They will also discuss how translators may function as final arbiters of contextual valence, and how they can be conscious of their own perspectives toward source cultures.

**Session Title:** Refracting Meaning in Self-Translation

**Moderator(s):** Genevieve Waite,

**Panelists:** Xiaoqing Liu, Rebecca Dehner-Armand, Kaitlin Staudt, Christopher Clarke

**Session Description:** In recent years, self-translation has emerged as a new and growing field of interest. Contemporary scholars have, therefore, begun to examine how questions of literary creativity and agency can be applied to self-translation. As both authors and translators, self-translators are free to take ample linguistic and semantic liberties with their own work in translation, thus “refracting” the initial meaning of their texts within a new and arguably original work of fiction. In light of current research in self-

translation studies, this panel will seek to answer the following questions: What is at stake when we consider how meaning is “refracted” / altered in self-translation? And in what ways can self-translated texts be viewed as new and original works of literature?

**Session Title:** Re-Queering Translation

**Moderator(s):** Amanda Powell

**Panelists:** Lowell Bowditch, Suzanne Jill Levine, Jon D. Jaramillo, Paul Kaveney, Karen McPherson, Kevin Regan-Maglione

**Session Description:** Translation, like queer, exists in liminal space. How can translators attune our “queer ears and tongues” to bring queer texts and contexts directly (but not straight) into the receiving language? When does queer translation rightly identify and correct what was wrong or misleading in a former version – to reframe, un-straighten, retouch, reword, uptwist, and reveal the erotics or subversiveness of texts that have already been (mis-)translated? How does queer translation open a source-text to new readings and discovery for a general readership, or in classrooms?

**Session Title:** Rethinking the Homoerotic in Middle Eastern Literature

**Moderator(s):** Nicholas Glastonbury

**Panelists:** Nicholas Glastonbury, Josh Moore, Nariman Youssef, Alana Levinson-Labrosse

**Session Description:** Two primary paradigms animate Western understandings of homoerotics and homosexuality in the Middle East. On the one hand, dominant Western discourse casts Islam as anathema to homosexuality, legitimizing a liberal desire to save queer people in the Middle East from their cultures. On the other hand, Orientalist accounts see deviant sexualities and perversion as at the heart of Middle Eastern decadence and backwardness. This panel brings together translators of Arabic, Kurdish & Turkish who will present on work that complicates these

dominant paradigms. Through an examination of homoerotic poetry and fiction from across the Middle East, we highlight the need for a translational practice that complicates & subverts the sensational in favor of nuanced accounts of desire, sex & the erotic.

**Session Title:** Reviewing Translated Literature

**Moderator(s):** Russell Valentino

**Panelists:** Eric Lorberer, Scott Esposito, Susan Harris, Nathaniel Popkin, Stephen Twilley

**Session Description:** This group of editors, critics, writers, and translators will focus on topics like the following: the choices an organization makes as to what gets reviewed and who does the reviewing; what constitutes a quality review of a work in translation; how reviews reflect the audience for which they're intended; and how to review the translation, including when the reviewer does not know the original language.

**Session Title:** Russian Translation Workshop:  
Only in Russia

**Moderator(s):** Jamie Olson, Shelley Fairweather-Vega

**Session Description:** Translators from Russian will gather to discuss translating concepts, objects, or practices that are specific to Russophone culture (or that have no easily identifiable equivalent in Anglophone culture). For this workshop, participants will be asked to bring handouts with examples of their own approaches to rendering culture-specific realia. Bring your thorniest problems, most brilliant solutions, and unsolved mysteries so that we can all expand our repertoire of translation strategies. We will discuss how the best answer in any particular case may hinge on the target audience and the translation's intent. Anyone with an interest in Russian or another Slavic language is welcome to attend, and we encourage translators of all experience levels to participate.

**Session Title:** Setting the Stage: Theory in the Translation Classroom

**Moderator(s):** Brian Baer

**Panelists:** Brian Baer, Michelle Woods, Ben Van Wyke

**Session Description:** The purpose of this panel is to discuss a variety of "painless" ways in which theory can be introduced in the translation classroom. Particular emphasis will be paid to theoretical texts that serve to problematize the traditional conceptualization of translation as mere reflection in order to transform the practice of novice translators. Specifically discussed will be the ways in which theoretical texts can help to move novice translators from an unthinking literalist approach to a more complex view of translation as a decision-making process, and of the translator's agency. Panelists will share their most successful experiences using specific theoretical texts.

**Session Title:** Setting the Stage: Theory in the Translation Classroom

**Moderator(s):** Marguerite Feitlovitz

**Panelists:** Esther Allen, Peter Constantine, Marguerite Feitlovitz, Joyce Janca-Aji

**Session Description:** Translators, as we know, are the unsung heroes of the humanities. Especially in times of international crisis, when so much depends on the correct understanding of single word, image or phrase, translators are essential. How might we think about creating and developing multi-disciplinary translation initiatives? How might such programs dovetail with local initiatives for and with international students and visiting international faculty, writers, and artists? How might we encourage our students to be active beyond their own institutions by consulting and even collaborating with their peers in undergraduate consortia?

**Session Title:** Su voz poética / Her Poetic Voice: Women Translating Women in Spanish-Language Poetry

**Moderator(s):** Katherine Hedeem,

**Panelists:** Katherine Hedeem, Michelle Gil-Montero, Olivia Lott, Janet McAdams, Yvette Siegert

**Session Description:** To contribute to the larger conversation about Women In Translation, this panel gathers women translators of Spanish language women poets to consider the complexities of bringing female poetic subjectivity into English. We will discuss and problematize a variety of topics, including poetic expression, gendered language, the ideological implications of our choices, and the role of woman translators as both creators and promoters. Ranging from emerging to seasoned translators, panelists will offer a diversity of perspectives on this ever important topic that is beginning to receive the critical attention it deserves.

**Session Title:** Supporting Working Translators, Protecting Translators' Rights: The 2017 Authors Guild Survey

**Moderator(s):** Alex Zucker

**Panelists:** Alex Zucker, Jessica Cohen, Ryan Fox  
**Session Description:** For years, information about U.S. literary translators' compensation and contractual terms has been largely anecdotal, derived from translators sharing their stories and experiences with one another. In 2017, for the first time, the Authors Guild conducted a survey to collect data on the working conditions of literary translators in the United States today. ALTA members Jessica Cohen and Alex Zucker talk with Ryan Fox, Authors Guild director of policy and advocacy, about the survey findings and the guild's efforts to secure fairer rates and contracts for translators. Come and share your concerns.

**Session Title:** Surviving Financially as a Freelance Literary Translator

**Moderator(s):** Kareem Abu-Zeid

**Panelists:** Peter Constantine, Ellen Elias-Bursac, Ezra Fitz, Elisabeth Jaquette, Mara Lethem, Kareem Abu-Zeid

**Session Description:** It is no secret that the financial life of literary translators can be quite precarious, particularly for those who are not on a parallel academic career track. Some claim it's impossible to make a living as a literary translator without an outside income stream; others note that the digital age has expanded the field of economic opportunity for translators. This roundtable will bring together translators from different languages and different generations to share stories, experiences, and tips related to this broad-ranging topic. The speakers will provide insight into what works financially—and what doesn't—when attempting to make a living as a freelance literary translator.

**Session Title:** Tackling the Taboo: Translating Race, Class, and Sex from French into English

**Moderator(s):** Jeanne Garane,

**Panelists:** Nicole Ball, Noah Mintz, Nancy Carlson, Rita Nezami, Jeanne Garane, David Ball,

**Session Description:** Translators working on a variety of texts by writers from France and the Francophone world will explore and expose issues surrounding the translation of language and content involving sex, class and/or race in current or recent translation projects. The difficulties in confronting potentially offensive language and content will be discussed along with translations of such language and content.

**Session Title:** Teaching Translation II: Translation Pedagogy and Foreign Languages / Theory and Practice

**Moderator(s):** Aron Aji

**Panelists:** Aron Aji, Margarit Ordukhanyan, Curtis Bauer, Bella Brodzki

**Session Description:** The panel explores various pedagogical methods and approaches to incorporating translation into courses on comparative literature and creative writing. From raising the students' awareness about the presence of a second narrative voice in translated texts to studying multiple translations of a single text, from engaging students in large-scale translation projects to including literary translation in the creative writing curriculum, the panel seeks to address the issue of how to bring translation into a non-translation-specific classroom. All presentation proposals addressing practical approaches (especially those with a successful track record) or theoretical discussions regarding the efficacy of incorporating translation into the literary classroom are welcome.

**Session Title:** Teaching Translation III: Multi-disciplinary Translation Programs

**Moderator(s):** Margarit Ordukhanyan,

**Panelists:** Margarit Ordukhanyan, Heather Cleary, Roman Ivashkiv, Isabel Gomez, Joyce Janca-Aji

**Session Description:** The panel looks at the place of translation pedagogy at both undergraduate and graduate levels within foreign language departments. The growing demand for translation and knowledge of foreign languages outside the academe is not reflected in the university curricula, which rarely teach translation, and even more rarely with an eye towards training potential translators. This panel, conceptualized as an exchange of ideas, hopes to discuss both the dire situation in the foreign language departments and ways to ameliorate it by constructing translation courses and programs that strike the right balance of theory and

practice and that teach the students practical translation skills and strategies alongside literary translation.

**Session Title:** Telling the Whole Truth: Refracting Languages and Perspectives That Are Rarely Translated

**Moderator(s):** Aviya Kushner

**Panelists:** Niloufar Talebi, Allison Charette, Diana Arterian, Aviya Kushner

**Session Description:** The term "world literature" can be misleading--so many languages and perspectives are left out. As translators of languages that rarely appear in English, even within the translation publishing framework, and as translators of voices that are too rarely heard, we are concerned that even ardent advocates of international literature are participating in marginalization. Middle Eastern voices, female, and working-class perspectives are often rare and deeply misunderstood. Translators of such voices will discuss how to carve out a rightful, non-fetishized space and advocate for needed change within our community and beyond.

**Session Title:** The Brazil Boom: Translating Brazilian Fiction For New Audiences

**Moderator(s):** Minna Zallman Proctor

**Panelists:** Katrina Dodson, Sarah Ann Wells, Daniel Hahn, Padma Viswanathan

**Session Description:** While some of Brazil's most beloved writers remain unavailable in translation, a boom in Brazilian fiction may lead it to take a more central place for readers of English. From the 2012 Granta issue spotlighting young Brazilian writers to the recent success of translations of Clarice Lispector, translators are exploring and exposing the stylistic richness of Brazil's diverse literature. On this panel, translators of modernist and contemporary Brazilian fiction read from their translations of Lispector, Zulmira Ribeiro Tavares, Mário de

Andrade, Graciliano Ramos and Paulo Scott, and speak to the roles of translation and retranslation in popularizing Brazilian fiction in the Anglophone world. How do translations support, subvert, shape or otherwise respond to reader perceptions of Brazil?

**Session Title:** The Devil is Still in the Details: A Translator's Checklist for Negotiating Contracts

**Moderator(s):** Allison Markin Powell

**Panelists:** Allison Markin Powell, María José Giménez, Daniel Hahn

**Session Description:** You want to translate a book. A press is ready to publish it. They send you a contract. What should you be looking for? Fee, copyright, name on the cover, royalties, final say on the text? Due date? Publication date? With so many details to keep track of, it's easy to overlook something. In a reprise of last year's popular session, translators from the PEN America Translation Committee, the Literary Translators' Association of Canada, and the Translators Association (UK) present a checklist to help you use their model contracts to get the best terms you can get.

**Session Title:** The Fiction of Fujino Kaori: Translation and Collaboration

**Moderator(s):** Kendall Heitzman

**Panelists:** Kaori Fujino, Kendall Heitzman, Kendra Strand

**Session Description:** In 2013, Fujino Kaori was awarded the Akutagawa Prize, Japan's most famous literary honor, for her novella *Nails and Eyes*. Ms. Fujino has been called a practitioner of "literary horror," and has written a number of short stories and longer works that are unsettling in a surprising number of different ways. In this panel Fujino and two of her translators discuss the problems and possibilities that arise when a single contemporary Japanese author is translated by a diverse group of translators for a variety of purposes: publication, performance,

and pedagogy. The author herself, visiting the United States for the first time as a participant in the University of Iowa's International Writing Program, will also discuss her own role in these collaborative translations.

**Session Title:** The Mad, the Bad, the Dreamy: Translating Literary Rogues and Eccentrics

**Moderator(s):** Margaret Carson

**Panelists:** Annelise Finegan Wasmoen, Christina Svendsen, Gabriella Martin, Katrine Øgaard Jensen

**Session Description:** Visionaries, eccentrics, and literary outliers are often barely known in their own countries, much less in the English-speaking world. Yet their far-out novels, tales, eclectic writings and unclassifiabes have found an enthusiastic following in English translation, thanks to small indie publishers such as Wakefield Press, Action Books and others. Translators devoted to oddball, against-the-grain authors will discuss their projects and the cultish appeal of their authors.

**Session Title:** The Politics, Culture, and Economics of Slavic Literatures in Translation

**Moderator(s):** Elizabeth DeNoma

**Panelists:** Marian Schwartz, Ellen Elias-Bursac, Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Andrea Gregovich

**Session Description:** What impact do current political, cultural, and economic conditions have on what Slavic literature is—and isn't—getting translated and published today? How has this changed over time? Translators Marian Schwartz (Russian to English), Ellen Elias-Bursac (Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian to English), Shelley Fairweather-Vega (Russian to English), and Andrea Gregovich (Russian to English) will discuss these issues with respect to their own working languages and consider opportunities for raising the Slavic profile in literature in translation. The panel will be moderated by AmazonCrossing

senior editor Elizabeth DeNoma and will be followed by a book giveaway.

**Session Title:** Through the Looking-Glass: Reflections on the Art of Translation

**Moderator(s):** Dayana Stetco

**Panelists:** Dayana Stetco, Jenny Robertson, Daniel Bohnhorst

**Session Description:** There are several moments in *Through the Looking-Glass* that capture the essence of translation: Alice holding a text up to the mirror to be able to read it properly, and the conversations she has with Humpty-Dumpty on the nature of language and the behavior of words. “When I use a word,” Humpty-Dumpty says, “it means just what I choose it to mean — neither more nor less.” “The question is which is to be master — that’s all.” Is the almost-truth of the translated text merely a reflection of the original? Is the translator the master of the text? Is the play of surfaces (between the original and its reflection) the space where the transposition of languages and cultures can occur, and is the reflective and reflexive nature of translation a looking backward or a breakthrough?

**Session Title:** Translating at a Remove: Transiting Multiple Languages, Time, Media

**Moderator(s):** Alison Mandaville

**Panelists:** Alison Madaville, Steve Adisasmito-Smith, David Shook

**Session Description:** What are the particular challenges of translating literature that transits especially wide gaps – ancient languages (Sanskrit, Nahuatl); multiply translated texts (ancient Persian, to Russian, to Azerbaijani, to English); author and translator power differentials (indigenous American languages to English); oral to written forms (Azerbaijani lyrics or oral Burundi poetry to printed English). In many of these cases the translation cannot be “checked” against an “original” text or audience. Here, the concept of “refraction” works in both

directions: How does the translator choose to access and then “project,” or “slant” a text they can’t “see” directly? We will present work samples and discuss ways we have chosen to approach the challenges of translating at a remove.

**Session Title:** Translating Cuban literature in the 21st Century

**Moderator(s):** Anne Fountain

**Panelists:** Anne Fountain, Pamela Carmell, Esther Allen, Mary Berg

**Session Description:** Four panelists discuss their experiences in translating Cuban writers in the 21st Century. Pamela Carmell will discuss changes in the perspective of fiction by Ena Lucia Portela and Jesús David Curbelo since the influx of outsiders to Cuba, freer travel into and out of their country, and the Internet. Esther Allen will discuss recent turns in Cuban speculative fiction. Mary Berg will discuss different perspectives of stories by Laidi Fernández de Juan, a life-long Cuban resident, and stories by Francisco García González, a Cuban now living in Canada. Anne Fountain will explain the thematic evolution seen in stories by Nancy Alonso from depictions of the *balseros* era and the Special Period to changes in social norms in Cuba.

**Session Title:** Translating Haitian Literatures: Practice, Publication, and Circulation

**Moderator(s):** Siobhan Meï

**Panelists:** Siobhan Meï, Corine Tachtiris, J.T. Mahany, Danielle Georges, Susan Kalter

**Session Description:** Haiti is often considered to hold a unique place in the Caribbean, due in part to its long and well documented legacy of resistance to European and North American colonialism and its historic role as the first black republic in the Western hemisphere. Haiti, as both a nation and a diasporic community, has a rich and multilingual literary history, with Haitian authors writing in French, Kreyòl, English, and

Spanish, and in many cases weaving together two or more linguistic codes. This panel will address some of the specific challenges, joys, and strategies with regard to the translation of Haitian literatures and will include discussions related to packaging, circulation, and reception.

**Session Title:** Translating Living Writers

**Moderator(s):** Josephine von Zitzewitz

**Panelists:** Josephine von Zitzewitz, Carol Apollonio, Victoria Thorstenson, Jennifer Croft, Alexander Cigale, Catherine Ciepiela

**Session Description:** Being accepted (or chosen) by a living writer to translate their work is a privilege that brings its own sets of challenges and, in the case of emerging writers, great responsibility. Translating somebody with a degree of proficiency in the target language can be rewarding or utterly frustrating. Some writers leave their translators free reign, others insist of being involved very closely, some translations are collaborative projects between author and translator. We are all working with writers from the former Soviet bloc. This panel is practice-oriented and envisaged as a platform for sharing experiences of different forms of collaboration between author and translator, including the search for publication opportunities.

**Session Title:** Translating Obscenely: The Russian Context

**Moderator(s):** Caroline Lemak Brickman

**Panelists:** Caroline Lemak Brickman, Ainsley Morse, Alexandra Tatarsky

**Session Description:** In his 1941 manifesto "The Art of Translation," Vladimir Nabokov declared that a translator's "blunders and boners should be punishable by heavy fines." We disagree. Understanding translation as playful, often erotic, and rarely clean, this panel offers a variety of "obscene" theories and practices of translation. Taking as our common ground the translation of Russian literary works into English, we explore,

variously: contemporary options for retaining the shock value of 18th-century pornographic verse; the motion between obscene registers in pun-based kabbalistic poetry; and a translator's "strapping on" the original in order to perform the alternative sexuality it expresses.

**Session Title:** Translating Place

**Moderator(s):** Wendy Call

**Panelists:** Wendy Call, Alison Mandaville, Cecilia Martinez-Gil, Irma Pineda, Sidney Wade

**Session Description:** How do we translate place across places? Words carry the imprint of the natural and built environments that inspired them. How do we represent those imprints as we move those words across languages? The names of locations, landforms, plants, animals, foods, and weather patterns all must be grappled with as we move from one language to another. Which references and meanings do we carry with us as we translate and which do we leave behind? How do our choices impact the resulting translation's sense of place? And what can we learn from poems that attempt to translate directly from the other-than-human world? Five translator-writers will address these questions, drawing examples from Australian, Azerbaijani, Turkish, Uruguayan, and Mexican-Zapotec poetry.

**Session Title:** Translating Russian Poetry of the "Silver Age"

**Moderator(s):** Mary Jane White,

**Panelists:** Mary Jane White, Nina Kossman, Alexander Cigale, Tony Brinkley, Sibelan Forrester

**Session Description:** Translating Russian Poetry of the "Silver Age." (Traditionally, the last decade of 19th century and first two or three decades of the 20th century). Mary Jane White (moderator), Nina Kossman, Alexander Cigale, Tony Brinkley and Sibelan Forrester, all literary translators, and to varying degrees, scholars of Russian poetry of the "Silver Age" will present issues of reflection and refraction from their experience translating

Ahkmatoва, Mandelstam, Tsvetaeva and Pasternak. As near daily-communicating Facebook friends, they have supported and commented publicly and privately in support of each other's work and bring to this session a shared concern for this great bloom of poetry in Russia moving into English, and its refractions into the politics of the Silver Age and beyond.

**Session Title:** Translating South Asian Literature for a Multi-Lingual Anglophone Audience

**Moderator(s):** Daisy Rockwell

**Panelists:** Daisy Rockwell, Jason Grunebaum, Laura Brueck, Taimoor Shahid, Shabnam Nadiya

**Session Description:** The primary market for translations from South Asian languages into English is in South Asia, and especially in India, where Anglophone readers are growing more eager to read translated works. Many Anglophone readers have at least a decent command of one or more South Asian languages and many can even read them, but prefer English. This situation puts translators in a tricky position of needing to create a text legible to potential readers with no knowledge of the source language whatsoever, and only a rudimentary grasp of cultural phenomena, at the same time as they must not excessively flatten terminology widely used in South Asian Anglophone lexicons. This panel will explore strategies, discuss specific challenges and formulate approaches to a hybrid global readership.

**Session Title:** Translating the Disaffected

**Moderator(s):** Bradley Schmidt

**Panelists:** Bradley Schmidt, Boris Dralyuk, Sean Gasper Bye, Ainsley Morse, Michael Lucey

**Session Description:** Despite recurring laments about the demise of proletarian fiction, has there been a renewed attention in the social group alternatively called the working class, the proletariat, the working poor, or most recently, 'Trump Voters'. This has drawn interest increased

in works of literature ranging from Junot Díaz's to JD Vance's and Justin Torres. Various literatures from other languages, especially Europe, suggest this is not an isolated trend. Yet the so-called Rust Belt does not always equate post-industrial landscapes elsewhere. This imperfect reflection implies a refraction that entails specific challenges and opportunities for creative solutions. This panel aims to explore the complications and refractions involved, drawing on German, Polish, French, and Russian fiction and poetry.

**Session Title:** Translation as Reflections of Intimacy

**Moderator(s):** D. M. Spitzer

**Panelists:** Sevinç Türkkkan, Jen Bervin, Jennifer Feeley, D. M. Spitzer

**Session Description:** Reflecting on and beginning from Spivak's now famous phrase that "translation is the most intimate act of reading," participants are asked to reflect on and converse about this intimacy and what types of reflections and refractions emerge from such an idea or from resistance to it.

**Session Title:** Translation as Reflections of Intimacy

**Moderator(s):** David Spitzer

**Panelists:** Sevinç Türkkkan, Jen Bervin, Jennifer Feeley, David Spitzer

**Session Description:** Reflecting on and beginning from Spivak's now famous phrase that "translation is the most intimate act of reading," participants are asked to reflect on and converse about this intimacy and what types of reflections and refractions emerge from such an idea or from resistance to it. With sustained emphasis on the participants' specific translation projects, this panel will address questions of intimacy and erotics of translation and the ways such dynamics are reflected in those projects. What kinds of attractions set in motion these translation

projects? To what extent are these attractions reflected in the works, through process and into "product"? The panel's historical and linguistic range stretches from ancient (Greek and Latin) to modern and contemporary (Chinese, Turkish).

**Session Title:** Translation in a Political Mirror

**Moderator(s):** Curtis Bauer

**Panelists:** Curtis Bauer, Mira Rosenthal, Aviya Kushner, Sarah Stickney, Alana Levinson LaBrosse, Bonnie Chau, Charles Waugh

**Session Description:** A bilingual reading and discussion by seven translators of contemporary literature, followed by a conversation on formal innovation, cultural context, and translation in the new political experience. Drawing on Hebrew, Spanish, Italian, Polish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Kurdish traditions, we will consider how and why American readers are turning to foreign literature in this moment of crisis. We will also discuss why some literature attracts political attention in its home culture, and the role of translators in transmitting that political fire to the English-speaking world.

**Session Title:** Translation in Minneapolis: Editors Discuss their Presses' Histories, Current Projects, and Goals

**Moderator(s):** Don Bogen

**Panelists:** Daniel Slager, Katie Dublinsky, Chris Fischbach

**Session Description:** Minneapolis has a rich heritage of independent publishing, especially in the area of literary translation. In this panel, editors from the three major presses in Minneapolis--Coffee House Press, Graywolf Press, and Milkweed Editions--some of them translators themselves, discuss their presses' histories in publishing translations, their current lists, and their plans for the future.

**Session Title:** Translators at Work: Behind the Scenes on Methods and Practice

**Moderator(s):** Elizabeth Harris

**Panelists:** Esther Allen, Daniel Hahn, Bill Johnston, Stephen Kessler

**Session Description:** With this panel, four veteran translators will discuss their methods and practice of translating prose and poetry, whether or not there are differences in their approach across genres and across languages, and how they manage, day by day, to tackle this challenging work.

**Session Title:** Using Literary Magazines Well: How to Introduce a Writer to the English-Speaking World

**Moderator(s):** Mira Rosenthal

**Panelists:** Mira Rosenthal, Elizabeth Harris, Sarah Viren, Ignacio Infante

**Session Description:** For writers who are entirely unknown outside their country, literary magazines can be an essential way to build a reputation ahead of a book. Translators and editors discuss how literary magazines can help with this process. Topics discussed will include selecting appropriate excerpts, writing an introductory letter or translator's preface, and building a portfolio of lit-mag publications together with a writer to maximize the chances of book publication—and review attention after publication.

**Session Title:** Visual Images and Emotions in Literary Translation

**Moderator(s):** Tamara Cabrera, Maria C. Fellie

**Panelists:** Maria C. Fellie, Grace Aaron, Tamara Cabrera

**Session Description:** That Literary Translation is a creative act is a common stance among practicing translators and translation scholars. Clearly, this is evidenced by the use of the language's own expressive mechanisms, which stand as creative forces in Translation. But is language the only

creative force that exists? In this panel, literary translators and scholars will explore the role that language, visual and sensory images, and emotions play in Literary Translation. It will also discuss how a translation, like a refraction, opens the original to new readings. How do language, visual images and emotions mediate and facilitate what is translated, and how it is translated? What new sensory readings emerge from translations?

**Session Title:** What We Translate When We Don't Translate Words

**Moderator(s):** Minna Proctor

**Panelists:** Minna Proctor, H. L. Hix, Geoffrey Brock, Ping Wang

**Session Description:** Every translator knows well this truism: "No word is translatable." In *The Linguistics of Lying*, though, Harald Weinrich says that's not a problem, because "we don't ever have to translate words." In this discussion, the panelists consider what one might mean by saying we don't translate words, and reflect on what we do translate when we don't translate words.