

If you are interested in being on one of the panels actively seeking additional participants, contact the organizer of the panel(s) you would like to join. The deadline for organizers to finalize session lineups is June 2nd and panels may fill up, so make sure to write soon.

Contesting Historical Narratives: Fact, Fabrication, Fiction

Krzysztof Rowiński: krowinski@complit.umass.edu

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.

Neobarroco and Experimental Latin American Poetry

Donald Wellman: soaring2002@comcast.net

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 Kozler, Raúl Zurita, Wilfredo Bueno, David Huerta, Coral Bracho, Luis Cortés Bargalló, and Ángel Escobar.

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

Jeanne Garane: garanej@mailbox.sc.edu

We will consider the theory and practice of translating thorny language and content from a selection of French-language texts.

Translation in a Political Mirror

Curtis Bauer curtis.bauer@ttu.edu

A bilingual reading and discussion by five translators of contemporary literature, followed by a conversation on formal innovation, cultural context, and translation in the new political experience. Drawing on the Hebrew, Spanish, Italian, Polish 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.

Translating Haitian Literatures: Practice, Publication, and Circulation

Siobhan Mei: siobhanander@umass.edu

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.

Surviving Financially as a Freelance Literary Translator

Kareem Abu-Zeid: kareemabuzeid@gmail.com

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.

Experiments in Retranslating Ancient Classics

Adrienne Rose: adrienne.kh.rose@gmail.com

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, and Classical Chinese, 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.

The Mad, the Bad, the Dreamy: Translating Literary Oddities

Margaret Carson: margaret.b.carson@gmail.com

Visionaries, eccentrics, and literary outliers of the past are often barely known in their own countries, much less in the English-speaking world. Yet their far-out novels, tales, eclectic writings and unclassifiables have found an enthusiastic following in English translation, thanks to small indie publishers such as Wakefield Press (US), Atlas Press (UK) and Twisted Spoon (based in Prague), whose editorial vision tends toward the "anti-tradition" and the demimonde. Translators and editors devoted to these oddball works will discuss their projects and the cult appeal they've acquired in translation.

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

Curtis Bauer curtis.bauer@ttu.edu

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.