Alta-Sponsored Events at AWP24

Thursday, February 8, 2024
12:10 p.m. to 1:25 p.m.

Reading T177. From the French but not from France: A Bilingual Reading of Francophone Poems, Sponsored by ALTA. (Conor Bracken, Nancy Naomi Carlson, Hélène Cardona, Todd Fredson, Kareem James Abu-Zeid)
Room 2215B, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level.

Many of the poets who claim the French language and handle it in expansive ways come from non-French cultural backgrounds. Five translators of francophone poetry will read and discuss their translations of poets from Syria, Haiti, Algeria, Palestine, and Côte d’Ivoire who use French (and, through translation, English) and inflect it with a wider diversity of non-French cultural, exilic, and decolonial concerns, among others.

3:20 p.m. to 4:35 p.m.

Panel Discussion T220. Everyone is Multilingual: Inviting All Languages into the Writing Classroom, Sponsored by ALTA. (Nora Carr, Rebecca Suzuki, Francesca Hyatt, L Torres, Jacqui Cornetta)
Room 2102B, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level.

How can we decolonize the classroom through language? How can we resist the idea of English being the “universal language” when most academic conversations still happen in English? This panel will bring together several translators and writers who are also teachers at Queens College, CUNY, an institution at the forefront of multilingual writing education, to discuss translation as a pedagogical practice.

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Offsite Translator Meetup with ALTA and WWB
Parlor KC, 1707 Locust St, Kansas City, MO 64108

Join the American Literary Translators Association and Words Without Borders for a translator meetup at Parlor KC, 0.7 miles from the Kansas City Convention Center! Food and drinks available for purchase.

Friday, February 9, 2024
10:35 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.

Panel Discussion F141. Translation as Poetics, Sponsored by ALTA. (Soleil Davíd, janan alexandra, Samandar Ghaus, Amanda L. Andrei, Xiao Wen Li)
Room 2104A, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level.

This panel focuses on the generative links between translation and the writing process—two joint crafts that each inform the other. We are particularly interested in considering how the act of translation is in and of itself an act of creative writing, and how our work as poets, playwrights and interdisciplinary artists is expanded and enhanced by our practices in translation.

12:10 p.m. to 1:25 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION F174. Beyond the Limits of Loss: Translation as Generative Practice, Sponsored by ALTA. (Derick Mattern, Rebecca Hanssens-Reed, Becka McKay, Kelsi Vanada, Farid Matuk)
Room 2210, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level.

The craft of translation is more than a merely faithful replication—it has potential as an originary form. We ask how translation can spark the writing process, prompt revision of the source, and trouble the concept of authorial genius, while also bearing in mind the practical and ethical pitfalls that a disruption of originality can bring. Current practitioners of "generative translation" share how their work seeks to transcend the limitations of loss by focusing on what can be gained.

Saturday, February 10, 2024
3:20 p.m. to 4:35 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION S230. So You Want to Publish a Translation. A How-To Panel for Literary Magazines, Sponsored by ALTA. (Susan Harris, Jafreen Uddin, Arthur Dixon, Gerald Maa, Jim Hicks)
Room 2208, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level.

As translated literature commands greater interest in the United States, more literary magazines are looking to publish it. Words Without Borders Editorial Director Susan Harris will moderate a discussion on how to approach publishing and promoting literary translations in print and online magazines. The panel of editors and publishers from The Margins, Latin American Literature Today, and The Georgia Review will address editorial considerations, contracts, payments, and promotion and event opportunities.