ALTA46 - List of Accepted Sessions

Note: A draft of the ALTA46 schedule will be shared in late July.

Panels

Session Title: Between the Living and the Dead
Moderator(s): Sebastian Schulman
Panelists: Shoshana Olidort
Session Description: How does the presence of a living author—or the lack thereof—affect the work of translation? This panel considers how translators approach their craft differently when translating works by living writers vs. works by those who have passed. How and to what extent is a literary translator’s sense of obligation toward the author of an original text determined by the author themself—when alive—and how does that change when the author is dead? Can a living writer ever be considered “historical”? At what point does a dead writer cease to be contemporary? Bringing together translators working across a range of literary traditions, time periods, and cultures, each of whom has translated works by both living and dead authors, we hope to shed new light on this oft-overlooked aspect of our craft.

Session Title: Beyond the Preface: Writing About Translation
Moderator(s): Becka McKay
Panelists: Daniel Hahn, Bonnie Chau, Mira Rosenthal
Session Description: From reviews to diaries to opinion pieces, writing about translation is an art form in itself. This panel considers where we place our own voices in relation to the voices of those we translate—and thereby considers the place of the translator in the literary world. How is our writing about translation similar to our translation work? How does it differ? Whether we want to explore the translation process or expand translation’s reach, how do we invite the world in to share the discoveries, errors, and insights of our craft? Inspired by Daniel Hahn’s translation diary Catching Fire, as well as the insightful analysis and poetic writing of Bonnie Chau and Mira Rosenthal, this panel gives these writer-translators space to discuss the challenges, offer ideas, and share inspiration.

Session Title: Co-Translation as Reorienting Place in the Translator-Author Encounter
Moderator(s): Diana Arterian
Panelists: Margarit Ordukhanyan, Lynn Xu, Aron J. Aji, Jeffrey Angles
Session Description: The relationship between the translator and the original work is often a kind of dyad. Yet what of translations in which two translators work together—wrestle and inspire, in turns—to bear a work into another language? What is otherwise an intensely intimate experience between translator and author/text becomes an intellectual throuple. These panelists discuss their experiences, which vary from strangers brought together over a project to a couple who translate together, and consider how the orientation toward translation changes once a third party enters what is often a dialogue. Co-translation makes space for translators to locate overlaps between knowledges, foster trust, as well as further inform one another—grapple not only with the words on the page, but with each other.
Session Title: Cultural and Linguistic Hybridity: The Dynamic Craft of Translation
Moderator(s): Swati Anwesha
Panelists: Lauren Brazeal Garza, Jennifer Cantrell-Sutor, Bahareh Momeniabdolabadi, Clara Burghelea
Session Description: In the multicultural, ever-shifting world we live in, everything is subject to the impulse of movement. Thriving at the interface between cultures, translation as an element of craft, is a meeting site for cultural and linguistic hybridity, as well as dynamic exchange. From bilingual collections including commentary or text exchanges between poet and translator to code-switching and multilingualism within a dominant language, what does translation make possible and how do writers employ it to build their hybrid worlds? This panel draws upon the experience of translators and writers of different national origins, ages, and professional occupations to generate an inspiring and intersectional conversation, deepening the engagement attendees have with translation as a hybrid, dynamic exchange.

Session Title: Dealing with Shame and Source/Heritage Languages
Moderator(s): Amanda L. Andrei
Panelists: Soleil Davíd, Vivian Li, Aruni Kashyap, Bonnie Chau
Session Description: Shame is a painful feeling associated with guilt, shortcomings, or impropriety. In some cases, translators may feel shame surrounding their source or heritage languages. Where do these feelings of shame surrounding our source or heritage languages come from? How does it influence our work, translation process, and personhood, and how do translators cope with the feeling of shame? In particular, we will discuss how displacement, historical events, and availability of language learning resources emphasize, contribute to, or alleviate feelings of shame.

Session Title: Displacement, Terror, Power: Places of Translation
Moderator(s): Daniel Borzutzky
Panelists: Vivek Narayanan, Aditi Machado, Kristin Dykstra
Session Description: This panel offers a conversation about the place of poetic translation in relation to state and social hierarchies that displace bodies: bodies living, unliving, imprisoned, liberated, elevated, submerged, proliferating, decreasing. When and how might translators handle hidden or placeless bodies, their disclosures, their burials? What might it mean to claim space for a body through translation? To enact a body’s putative errancy? What strategies and risks must a translator take to convey the terror of displacement?

Session Title: Dissonance, Community, and Care: Creating New Spaces for Translation
Moderator(s): Nuzhat Abbas
Panelists: Nedra Rodrigo, Suneela Mubayi, Otoniya J. Okot Bitek
Session Description: What, and where, is the time and place of translation, and of literary translation in particular? Of the translator as writer, as attentive listener, as co-creator, responsible to what Spivak calls the “the trace of the other within the self?” Or of the editor-publisher as convener and gatherer in the project? This panel (like its companion anthology, River in an Ocean: Essays on Translation (trace, 2023) emerges from curious and communal conversation, to offer a space for the soundings of different trajectories—connecting spaces,
times, languages and bodies with origins in East Africa, the Middle East and South and South-East Asia. These geographies also point us towards older histories of third world, anti-colonialist, and feminist resistance and creativity that continue to inspire.

**Session Title:** Exploring Gender-Conscious Translation  
**Moderator(s):** Madeleine Stratford  
**Panelists:**

**Session Description:** In recent years, gender-consciousness has gained visibility in the literary world, amongst authors and translators alike. However, different people have different views of what “gender-conscious translation” entails. Does it exclusively have to do with the use of inclusive language? Does it embody a kind of third-wave feminist approach to translation? Can it unwittingly distort the meaning or style of the source text, or disrupt its flow? Should translators always be gender-conscious, regardless of the author or type of text they are translating, and if not, when should they be? This panel invites literary translators to explore the concept of gender-consciousness and reflect upon its multiple manifestations in their own practice.

**Session Title:** Grant-Getting for Literary Translators  
**Moderator(s):** Ken S. McAllister  
**Panelists:** Minda Dettman

**Session Description:** There are relatively few grant programs specifically designed around literary translation. The British Comparative Literature Association’s “John Dryden Translation Competition,” the New Brunswick Arts Board’s “Career Development Program” in Canada, and the NEH’s “Scholarly Editions and Scholarly Translations Program” are three well-known opportunities, but there are many others. This panel will offer a set of techniques designed to help literary translators seek out and compete for grants even when the sponsor does not specifically list “literary translation” as a fundable area, or when the translator does not meet eligibility requirements involving citizenship, institutional affiliation, and so on. To ensure maximum utility, the presenters will reserve at least 30 minutes for Q&A.

**Session Title:** I, We, Who?: A Subject’s Place in Translation  
**Moderator(s):** Cynthia Shin  
**Panelists:** Bill Johnston, Nuria Alishio-Caballero

**Session Description:** This panel discusses joys and sorrows of translating the subject and subjectivity across different languages. How do we settle the multiple meanings of the French pronoun on? How do we determine the subject when the source language is comfortable eliminating the subject as does Japanese and Korean? What do we do with a narrator that comfortably moves in and out of different subjectivities, embodying multiple perspectives in one narrative? What are some linguistic, aesthetic, and ethical challenges we face when we have to decide the subject in translation? This is a multilingual panel, all translating into English, organized by graduate students studying literary translation at Indiana University Bloomington.

**Session Title:** Islands in Translation: Translating Insularity  
**Moderator(s):** Lourdes Molina
Panelists: Joseph Brockway, Shelby Vincent
Session Description: How are islands and “islandness” evoked in and through a text? How does a translation recreate island experiences? This panel explores the intersection of literary translation and the burgeoning field of Island Studies, focusing on the particular challenges of translating the experience and identity of insularity as it relates to islands as both geographical and imagined places. By examining the role of translation, we will discuss how texts represent and forge insularity, the possible universal qualities/experiences of islandness and place that might inform the translation process, the possibilities of island literature in translation, and the ways an English translation might represent unique cultural identities and anxieties, particularly in the context of globalization.

Session Title: Last Words: Translators’ Experiences Losing Long-Term Authors
Moderator(s): Mark Schafer
Panelists: Paula Haydar, Aruni Kashyap, Ellen Elias-Bursac, J. Kates
Session Description: Literary translation creates an intimate relationship between the translator and the language, thought, imagination, and creativity of the author they’re translating—that is, their text. Sometimes we get to work with the living authors we translate, and, on occasion, we find ourselves in ever-deepening relationships with these authors, relationships that can span years, even decades. When one of our long-term authors dies—whether we’ve finished translating one of their texts, are working on another, or are planning on the next one—the loss of our friend and author(ity) is deep and can be hard to explain to others. We’ll share some of our experiences working closely with authors over many years, then losing them. And then we want to hear about yours.

Session Title: Layers of Displacement: On Translating Diasporic Poetries
Moderator(s): Seth Michelson
Panelists: Kareem James Abu-Zeid, Michelle Har Kim, Edith Adams, Jeannine Marie Pitas
Session Description: This panel will engage audience members in a vibrant, practical, and informed conversation about the specific challenges, intricacies, and joys of translating diasporic poetries. The conversation will be geographically, culturally, linguistically, and aesthetically ranging, thanks to the panelists’ diverse areas of expertise and bodies of work. These include award-winning projects of translation of poetry of the Arab diaspora, poetry of the Asian diaspora in Latin America, poetry of the Black diaspora in the Caribbean, and poetry by displaced Indigenous writers in South America. Within those various contexts and more, special attention will be paid, too, to intersectional considerations by translators of questions of poetry, translation, diaspora, gender, and sexuality.

Session Title: Lusophone Literatures in Translation: Geographies of the Imaginary
Moderator(s): Elizabeth Lowe
Panelists: Grace Holleran, Maggie Felisberto, Mario Pereira
Session Description: This panel will explore the specificity of place and the intersection of language and space in translations of Portuguese, Azorain, and Brazilian literature. Our panelists will discuss their translations of work by Azorian novelist João de Melo (Elizabeth Lowe, “Remembered geographies of the Azorian diaspora”), Brazilian writer Noemi Jaffe (Grace
Holleran, “Instagram in Moving Translation”) and Portuguese novelist Rui Zink (Maggie Felisberto, “Rui Zink’s Interpretation of the relationship between Portugal and Japan”). Mario Pereira will address how Tagus Press, dedicated to the publication of Lusophone literature in translation, considers the treatment of space and language in translation. The presentations will be followed by a discussion with the audience.

**Session Title:** [Mis]Translation for [Non]Translators  
**Moderator(s):** Kristen Renee Miller  
**Panelists:** Katrine Øgaard Jensen  
**Session Description:** The poet-translators on this panel will reflect on the place of translation within their wider creative and generative practices. Panelists, who have published their experimental translations in outlets including *Poetry Magazine*, *BOMB*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere will read from their work and discuss their experiences developing, publishing (and explaining) these experimental forms. They’ll share some of their favorite tools and techniques including sonic translation, intentional mistranslation, collaborative translation, and use of AI and auto-translate technology. In addition to a Q&A, attendees will be invited to participate in a generative exercise using one or more of these techniques, and may leave with a new experimental translation of their own.

**Session Title:** More than a Side Dish: Translation in Undergraduate Education  
**Moderator(s):** Aron Aji  
**Panelists:** Marguerite Feitlowitz, Brian Baer, Adrienne Rose  
**Session Description:** For the most part, the study of translation at the undergraduate level in the US has been limited to discrete courses, tracks, minors or certificate programs. This translation-as-side-dish approach appears increasingly out of step with concurrent calls for stronger emphasis on global engagement, diversity, equity, and inclusion. The panel will discuss approaches to incorporate translation at the undergraduate level: the multi-faceted interdisciplinary program Bennington Translates; the new Translation BA at Iowa; and the upcoming Summer Institute on Translation across the Curriculum co-sponsored by ATISA and UI’s Center for Translation and Global Literacy. The audience will be invited to collaborate on action steps to widen the hold of translation in undergraduate education.

**Session Title:** No Translator is an Island: Collaboration in Translation  
**Moderator(s):** Lisa Katz  
**Panelists:** Jim Kates, Jeffrey Diteman  
**Session Description:** Who helps us decipher/delve into the original, and who helps also with the editing of the resulting translation? The living writer of the original, perhaps, to ask about what is said, and also but not necessarily what is meant. Scholars, perhaps. Experts in/practitioners of various fields. English writers with no knowledge of the original, for sure. Let’s share the collaborative/communal nature of translation work.

**Session Title:** Performing Translation Beyond the Script  
**Moderator(s):** Zhixuan Zhu  
**Panelists:** Yiwen Wu, Xuezhao Li
Session Description: This panel advocates a position of translationality in theater and performance, proposed by Jean Graham-Jones, by asking: how can translation be incorporated into dramaturgy? How does translation influence performances’ intermedial “afterlife” on the screen and internet? What challenges would a multilingual cast and international audience pose for the translator/interpreter? How can translation cultivate or disrupt performance communities? As translational works are often undocumented beyond the script and marginalized in theater history, how do we renew our historiographical methodology with a translational mindset? We hope to highlight the translator’s central role not just as a linguistic medium but as an active and creative participant within the global performance landscape.

Session Title: Places and Traces: The Translation Archive
Moderator(s): Chris Clarke
Panelists: Mara Faye Lethem, Daniel Hahn, Esther Allen, Susan Bernofsky
Session Description: Literary translation is a profession that is relatively portable. And yet, translation also leaves its trace. Translators’ papers, or their hard drives, can be a treasure for those interested in exploring the work of their predecessors. Often these documents are incidental to the archive of a writer or scholar who also happened to translate. Archives can also be the result of diligent work by scholars or librarians. Participants will explore ways translators can interact with translation archives. This will include the use of archives for socio-cultural and biographical ends; pedagogical possibilities; their role in practical and scholarly research; and views on how such archives are established, curated, and maintained.

Session Title: Poetry’s Geographies: Poet-Translators Re-Mapping the “World”
Moderator(s): Michelle Gil-Montero
Panelists: Katherine Hedeen, Johannes Goransson, Kareem James Abu-Zeid
Session Description: On this panel, four prominent poet-translators will discuss their work in Poetry’s Geographies, a new transatlantic anthology that radically foregrounds the role of translators in revealing how poetry moves and circulates: relationally, serendipitously, errantly. How do translators, in their poetics and practices, subvert national canons and shape new understandings of contemporary poetry’s transnational commitments? Panelists will explore key ideas in their translation poetics—including the very notion of the “poet-translator” itself. In the spirit of the anthology, this conversation will celebrate poetry translation as, in the words of anthology co-editor Zoë Skoulding, “the chance to live in the multiplicity of languages and the spaces of relation that it opens up.”

Session Title: Recreating Place: Habitations, Peregrinations, & Possibilities of Being
Moderator(s): Laura Cesarco Eglin
Panelists: Kristin Dykstra, Seth Michelson, Urayoán Noel
Session Description: We focus on the translation of poets who displace cultural expectations by moving through multiple places and times. How can they be translated—successfully displaced again—if at all? To open this question, we trace poetic voyages, inflections, and expression in works by diverse writers from Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Galicia, and Uruguay. How does their work signal new ways of being present through poetry? How does their work mobilize new and alternative modes of conceiving of self and community? Such questions will lead to a
vibrant discussion of the transcultural, translingual, transhistorical, and intertextual possibilities of translating poetry. Panelists and audience alike will enjoy a literary conversation of translation that can reanimate conceptions of belonging, both home and away.

Session Title: “River Plate” is not Rio de la Plata: Translating the Spoken
Moderator(s): Andrea G. Labinger
Panelists: Amalia Gladhart, Amanda W. Powell, Suzanne Jill Levine, Jill Gibian
Session Description: Back by popular demand, the Latin American Translation Slam explores the intersections of place, voice, and narrative. This year’s text comes from Angélica Gorodischer’s Historia de mi madre, with a focus on the local “lengua”—or should we say “lenguaje”—and the text’s evocation of highly specific geographical (and temporal) placements. This panel format provides rich insights into the mysteries of translation, and at the same time engages the audience in very productive ways as we compare and debate alternatives.

Session Title: Scale, Mapping, Connotation, and Subtext | Translating Place and Space
Moderator(s): Alejandro López
Panelists: Anna Zielinska-Elliott, J. Keith Vincent, Allisa Valles, Josh Dunn
Session Description: Faculty and students from The Boston University’s MFA in Literary Translation panel will explore the challenges of translating space and place. Place names carry a whole range of historical, cultural, topographic and emotional connotations. Words describing spaces are also culturally specific: a “veranda” or a “garden” may be considerably larger or smaller in different cultures, and words like “river,” “mountain,” or “house” evoke very different images in different languages. Whether a space is cramped, crowded, dry or humid, rural or urban, real or imaginary, the translator needs to negotiate those differences and to provide enough—but not too much—context, so as to create a text that makes sense to the reader and allows them to orient themselves in the spatial world of the text.

Session Title: Shared Places: The Writing Translator and Translating Writer
Moderator(s): Erin Riddle
Panelists: Naomi Nancy Carlson, Christina Daub, Canaan Morse, Boris Dralyuk
Session Description: Cole Swenson writes in her essay “Translating Writing/Writing Translation” that within the space of translation there is “a conversation through literature…about poetics, about linguistics, about the nature and potentials of language.” Swenson further notes that translators engage in an act of writing “into” a second language after translating “out of” the first language. Translators are writers, engaging in a practice and craft of writing, informed by theories and practices of the writers they translate. Furthermore, many writers are also translators, and they are likewise informed by their theories and practices (craft) of translation. Participants in this panel share their experiences as both translators and writers in various genres and how these dual roles have informed their work.

Session Title: Tell Me What You Want, What You Really, Really Want: Contracts
Moderator(s): Alex Zucker
Panelists: Mara Faye Lethem, Jessica Cohen
Session Description: Many translators worry that if they ask for changes to their contract, the publisher will drop them from the project and walk away. That’s not likely. In fact, it’s a give and take. So, what is the best way to ask for different terms than the ones the publisher offers? And which terms are the most important ones to look out for, given your priorities? The panelists will share their experience and field questions from the audience.

Session Title: The Place of Journals in the Literary Translation Ecosystem
Moderator(s): Arthur Malcolm Dixon
Panelists: Susan Harris, Corine Tachtiris, Joaquín Gavilano
Session Description: How do literary journals build a readership for translation? How do journals serve as bridges connecting readers, writers, translators, and publishers? And how do journal editors curate and cultivate writing in translation? This panel will unpack these questions with a behind-the-scenes look at translation in literary journals, featuring diverse perspectives from editors of The Arkansas International, Latin American Literature Today, The Massachusetts Review, and Words Without Borders on the role and importance of print and digital journals in the translation world. Audience members will have the chance to share their perspectives as well and will leave this panel with a better idea of how to situate journals on the map of the translation ecosystem.

Session Title: The Place of Scholarly Translation
Moderator(s): Sean Cotter
Panelists: Brian Baer, Russell Valentino, Karen Emmerich
Session Description: How can we apply the lessons of literary translation to the translation of scholarly texts? Scholarship apparently transcends place, offering universal knowledge in purely instrumental language. Yet here, as in literature, translators must make choices to render the terms particular to one investigation legible to interested scholars in other languages. And as in literature, these intellectual exchanges are unequal, shaped by English-language dominance and misrecognition. This panel will investigate the international circulation of ideas: traveling theory, practical problems, and transformative solutions.

Session Title: The Place of Scholarly Translation: Tech Platypus or Literary Unicorn?
Moderator(s): Zakiya Hanafi
Panelists: Lisa Dillman, Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Dominique Hoffmann, A. L. Price
Session Description: Scholarly texts occupy an ambiguous space between the literary and the technical. Their translation demands keen research skills to track down obscure quotations, detailed work on footnotes and bibliographies, terminological consistency, subject-matter expertise, and a specialized vocabulary. Yet the prose of these texts frequently demands the rich cultural and intellectual background and writerly talents that only a literary translator can provide. Scholarly translators also dwell in a different publishing environment with its own challenges and opportunities. This panel gathers four professional translators who work on both literary and academic texts to discuss the special challenges and working conditions of this literary sub-species and define its taxonomy: platypus or unicorn?

Session Title: The Place of the Translator As Educator
Moderator(s): Nathan H. Dize
Panelists: Conor Bracken, Lucy Swanson
Session Description: Translation, like language, is as much about culture as it is about words. So, the translator's role isn't limited solely to finding the or a "right" word in the target language to approximate/convey the original, but to help the target reader, language, and culture engage with the world from which the text originally springs. Three French-to-English translators of contemporary Haitian literature will discuss their approach to translation as teachers and cultural informants, how this can ground the reader in a space of both mystery and curiosity, while revealing idiosyncratic nuance and safeguarding an essential opacity. By situating translation as a site of pedagogy, the participants aim to provide insight into mindful approaches to training future generations of translators.

Session Title: The Politics of Reading
Moderator(s): Marguerite Feitlowitz
Panelists: Lisa Rose Bradford, Tenzin Dickie, Marian Schwartz
Session Description: Time and place color the perception and fortune of all works of art, especially translations. Politics–linguistic, national, aesthetic–inevitably influence a work's production and reception, as seen in the publishing and funding trends that determine what gets translated, the prizes and reviews that follow, and the books that find readers. A translator's personal activism, which includes their choice of texts and translation approaches, the apparatus they create, and their role as champions of authors and books, directly influences the work's fate. This engagement, of course, functions within a political context. This panel will address how politics resonate in the translation of specific works from the politically beset cultures of Tibet, Russia, and Latin America.

Session Title: The Translator's Place when Translating Marginalized Voices
Moderator(s): Conor Bracken
Panelists: Tess Lewis, Daniel Borzutzky, Lynette Yetter
Session Description: The place of a translator is as much beside the original, as an ally, as it is between it and the target language and culture, as a liaison. In this panel, several North American translators will discuss their translations of marginalized voices, and how they adapted their translation process to acknowledge the role Western white- and male-supremacist society has played in making those very voices marginalized. What historical, geopolitical, and sociocultural pressures marginalize these voices? How do the poets push back against these pressures, as well as other patriarchal and hegemonic ideas and norms and how can, and should, these kinds of resistances affect a translator’s approach to the poems?

Session Title: Translating (No) Place
Moderator(s): Bill Johnston
Panelists: Amélie Lespillette, Alan Reiser, Ari A. Plymale, Madeleine (Mindl) Cohen
Session Description: Accurately conveying a sense of place – of site, location, space – is always a challenge for the translator. But what if the place in question is inaccessible to us? If it no longer exists, or has become utterly changed over the course of time? What if the writer herself has subtly transformed a real place for literary purposes? How can the translator convey
a sense of the physical space and, just as important, the personal, cultural, historical meanings that it embodies in a given work? Examples from French, Japanese, Spanish, and Yiddish will explore the translational poetics of (no) place.

**Session Title:** Translating from a Marginalized Literature: Hong Kong Cantonese  
**Moderator(s):** Chenxin Jiang  
**Panelists:** Jennifer Feeley, Tammy Lai-Ming Ho, Wong Yi  
**Session Description:** What is at stake when a marginalized literature is translated and read? The panel will explore this question with reference to Hong Kong literature as a case study, drawing from the panelists’ experiences of translating and editing Hong Kong literature and being translated (as a writer). How do editors and publishers respond to work from Hong Kong, a literature from the edge of such a dominant language as standard Chinese (with fifteen times more speakers than Cantonese, the language spoken in Hong Kong)? And how do translators represent the Cantonese inflections in writing from Hong Kong?

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**Session Title:** The Place of Artist Residencies in Translation  
**Moderator(s):** George Henson  
**Panelists:** Arthur Dixon, Steve Bellin-Oka, Rhett McNeil  
**Session Description:** The Tulsa Artist Fellowship is a place-based, durational arts initiative that brings contemporary artists across all mediums, including literary translation, to Tulsa, Oklahoma. This panel, composed of four Tulsa Artist Fellows, all of whom translate in the same geographic place, poses whether translating as part of a placed-based artist collective creates “a more inclusive space for the production and reception of translation.” It also asks whether belonging to a multidisciplinary collective informs the choices that the translators make. Lastly, it interrogates whether the physical place in which the translators work informs the choices they make. Put another way, does the translation become marked by the same sociocultural and linguistic features that characterize the place itself?

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**Session Title:** Translating in Troubled Times: Literary Translation, War, & Conflict  
**Moderator(s):** Jamie Olson  
**Panelists:** Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Margarit Ordukhanyan, Josie von Zitzewitz  
**Session Description:** On this panel, participants will discuss the choices that translators make when wars and other hostile acts cast a pall over the cultures and languages we translate. What is our place as cultural liaisons when the regions we focus on are marred by geopolitical disruption? How can we avoid feeling complicit when the languages we translate are associated with violence and atrocity? What impact can literary translators make in such times by pivoting geographically, selecting texts to translate, or adopting methods to translate them? In particular, panelists will consider the current war in Ukraine and other conflicts that have shaped our work translating texts and authors from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia.

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**Session Title:** Translating Literature of Resistance in Putin’s Russia  
**Moderator(s):** Brian James Baer  
**Panelists:** Ellen Vayner, Marian Schwartz, Sibelan Forrester, Josie von Zitzewitz
Session Description: In the Russian literary tradition, the role of the writers has always been on a par with that of political leaders: "A poet in Russia is more than a poet." In times of unrest and conflict, the role of literature is amplified, and translating the works of progressive authors becomes a matter of utmost importance. This panel invites translators engaged in translating Russia’s literature of resistance, that is, works written by authors who oppose the authoritarianism of Putin’s Russia and the war against Ukraine, and are fighting for a new society. Literature here will be understood broadly as poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and journalistic writing.

Session Title: Translating Setting in Fiction
Moderator(s): Elizabeth Harris
Panelists: Curtis Bauer, Jessica Cohen, Sean Cotter, Russell Scott Valentino
Session Description: This panel will focus on some of the nuances of translating setting in fiction: how translators grapple with and render setting to make it as real (or unreal) as they find in the original, how point of view, characterization, time, theme, and style influence our choices in translating setting, and more.

Session Title: Translating the Diaspora
Moderator(s): Catherine Fisher
Panelists: Elina Alter, Garrett Phelps
Session Description: A diaspora is a group of people united by a shared connection to another place—a homeland that may or may not exist. To what extent does literary translation participate in, reflect, or disturb the formation of a diaspora, and what role does translation play in a diaspora’s continuation? Is it possible that translation helps to constitute a diaspora for the outside world, making diasporic groups intelligible to other cultures? To whom is the literature produced by diasporic writers addressed, and how does translation alter this conversation? This panel convenes translators of diasporic writers past and present, who’ll discuss the work they’ve translated and its intended audiences, as well as their own understanding of/participation in diasporic communities, as translators and as writers.

Session Title: Voice, Translation, Authorship
Moderator(s): Matt Reeck
Panelists: Laura Marris, Karen Emmerich, Matvei Yankelevich, Teresa Villa-Ignacio
Session Description: Contemporary art discourse privileges the word “voice” as an earmark of authorship. Authors and artists are “voices” before they are “authors” or “artists.” Attendant upon this word’s usage, several questions are pertinent to translators. First, could this usage allow a wider acceptance of translators as author-artists? Or does the word expose some of the antiquated expectations surrounding authorship? Second, due to the way that “voice” is also used to signify minority authorship, how might the word impact translation, seen as a minority form of publication within the larger landscape of literary publishing and situated, moreover, at the crossroads of cultural, racial, religious, and other differences?

Session Title: Working toward a Transnational Persian Literature in Translation
Moderator(s): Hajar Hussaini
Panelists: Jawid Mojaddedi, Ghazal Mosadeq, Kaveh Bassiri
Session Description: Persian poetry has a history of being stripped from its rich theological connotations, and modernist Persian poetry is overshadowed by political readings which, although prescient, don’t exhaust the poet’s project. As Persian translators, how do we work against such biases? Considering that Persian authors engage with works from multiple Persian traditions, should we emphasize regional particularities or work toward transnational Persian literature in translation? What influence might the anglophone places where our panelists translate Persian have on such a transnational project? Does this provocation help build an interest in Persian literature for nonacademic audiences? Could it bridge gaps between Persian literatures of Iran, Afghanistan, and their diasporas?

Roundtables
Roundtables aim to foster considered exchange, discussion and debate around one central theme, issue, or question. Roundtables are proposed and led by 2 or 3 organizers. 12 to 13 participants per roundtable will sign up, first-come first-served, to become part of their roundtable(s) of choice (no audience members). ALTA46 conference attendees will be able to sign up to join ONE or TWO roundtables as a participant. Sign up when you register for the conference starting July 25. For those seeking conference funding from an institution, please note that roundtable participation has equivalent status to presenting on an ALTA panel, and should be considered of equal merit.

Session Title: A Clean (Tran-)Slate: Research & Practice of Literary Translation
Organizer(s): Patrick Ploschnitzki, Sonia Colina
Session Description: Despite obvious overlaps, there is a traditional divide between practice of and research on literary translation that often leads to unproductive friction and unnecessary overidentification. This roundtable seeks to build bridges between literary translators, researchers, and those who navigate their place in both of these seemingly separate places. The roundtable actively provides a space that allows to define frictions between the translational worlds and to develop strategies for reconciliation. We offer an opportunity to explore questions of placement, positioning, in-betweenness, representation, and belonging, as well as the place and irreplaceability of translation studies scholars and (literary) translators, the parallels in their work, and to improve potential future collaboration.
Format: Each participant is asked to come prepared with one or more examples and potential solutions to share orally.

Session Title: A Long Time Coming: Translating Long Poems
Organizer(s): Derick Mattern, Edith Adams
Session Description: Long poems are “too expansive, too grand, too banal, too weird, too much” writes Rachel Zucker. Yet long poems are hardly “too often translated.” If long poems suit
both the epic scale of the world's catastrophes and the fragmented attention spans of our times, surely they do so beyond the Anglosphere. Where is the long poem in translation, and where are the translations of long poems? What are the pleasures and pitfalls of translating long-form poems? What are the best practices for pitching them to editors and anthologies? How is translating a long poem distinct from translating short poems or long prose? With these and other questions, this roundtable invites translators to share their experiences, struggles, and tips for bringing long poems to new languages.

**Format:** After a brief primer on long poems, each participant will offer their reflections on translating long poems that confirm or confound Zucker's claims (we'll read her "Anatomy of the Long Poem" beforehand), and then share their projects, experiences, and tips for translating and publishing long poems.

**Session Title:** A Place of Our Own: Mentor Relationships and Translation  
**Organizer(s):** Madeleine (Mindl) Cohen, Aviya Kushner  
**Session Description:** For over a decade, the Yiddish Book Center has transformed the world of Yiddish literary translation through a fellowship program built on mentorship. In this roundtable, we will discuss what mentorship is, what emerging translators need, what mentors learn, and how a seemingly surprising pairing can often be best. The roundtable is open to participants with experience from other translation mentorships, as mentors or mentees.  
**Format:** Roundtable participants should come prepared to share their experiences as translation mentors and/or mentees and to ask questions of others. Organizers will prepare discussion questions.

**Session Title:** Creative Possibilities in Digital Translation Publishing  
**Organizer(s):** Laura Moser, Adrienne Rose  
**Session Description:** Rejecting the cliché that digital publishing is either a technological rival to the printed word or its poor substitute, how can we embrace the possibilities of digital publications to support and generate creative and experimental approaches to translation? What can an online platform offer in terms of publishing translated texts that are experimental or intermedial in form and genre? What possibilities afforded by this medium remain unexplored or under-utilized? To explore and engage these and related questions, this roundtable seeks participants who work as editors and publishers of digital publications dedicated to translation, as well as translators whose work has been supported or shaped by innovative practices in digital publishing.  
**Format:** Organizers will lead participants in an active discussion grounded in their collective experience in the field. Participants will be encouraged to share examples from their own practice and/or publications and to approach the topic from creative and collaborative perspectives.

**Session Title:** Dislocating Translation: Possibilities and Provocations  
**Organizer(s):** Kanika Agrawal, Poupeh Missaghi  
**Session Description:** This roundtable will consider the dislocating possibilities and provocations of translation. When, how, and why might translation force us out of place, position, or pattern? What are the borders, imagined and/or constructed, between who and what
we translate and who and what we translate for and into? How, through the choices we make in translation, do we address classification, exclusion, dispossession, appropriation, and assimilation? We will discuss in particular whether and how translation is responding to the mass displacement of communities and populations of human and non-human beings. How might these migrations reshape language(s) and the ways we identify or find ourselves and others in and through language?

**Format:** The organizers will share texts, ideas, and practices of translation that dislocate/are dislocated. We will ask participants to do the same and/or raise questions and share relevant experiences to further the conversation and engage with its complexities.

**Session Title:** Practicalities of Translating and Publishing Unknown Poets  
**Organizer(s):** Piotr Florczyk, Don Bogen  
**Description:** The goal of this roundtable is to share ideas and experiences of navigating the fraught process of choosing, translating, and publishing unknown poets in the U.S. and elsewhere. Topics will include how and why to choose an unknown author, when to pursue certain kinds of projects, how to approach paratext, and what strategies work well for pitching, especially if the new poet’s work differs greatly from that of their predecessors who’ve already been translated and are seen as representatives of their country’s or culture’s poetry. This roundtable seeks to include translators working on living and deceased authors as well as publishers/editors whose mission is to disrupt the literary center’s expectations.  
**Format:** Each participant should come prepared with one example to share orally.

**Session Title:** Spanish Prose Translation Workshop  
**Organizer(s):** Sandra Kingery, Catherine Nelson  
**Session Description:** If you’re currently at work translating literary prose from Spanish to English, especially if you’re relatively new to the field, this workshop is for you! Join others like yourself under the mentorship of two experienced translators in sharing 3-5 pages of a manuscript in progress. Mentors and group members alike will offer suggestions.  
**Format:** If you submit 3-5 pages ahead of time (kingery@lycoming.edu), we will share them with everyone who signs up. If you want to simply bring copies to the session, that is fine too. Please come prepared to participate!

**Session Title:** The Unknown and the Unseen: Translating (Un)Intentional Ambiguity  
**Organizer(s):** Jenna Tang, Isabella Corletto  
**Session Description:** What can ambiguity mean in literary translation? Why do translators keep ambiguity and what is its place in translation? How do we determine the difference between intentional and circumstantial ambiguity? What are ways we can balance purposeful ambiguity in a text while ensuring clarity for readers, without sacrificing an author’s intention or style? We will discuss issues we’ve come across in our own translations, like stream of consciousness, ambiguous pronouns, and long, complex sentences and aim to explore ways that we can preserve ambiguity when texts are purposefully experimental, surreal, or told through subtext without resorting to too much explanation. Most importantly, what can ambiguity manifest in the place of translation?
**Format**: We invite participants to bring examples (a paragraph, maximum a double-spaced page) of texts they have had to navigate in their own work or from their own languages and to discuss their experiences navigating through different ambiguities.

**Session Title**: Translating from “More Foreign” Languages: What’s the Difference?
**Organizer(s)**: Lola Rogers, Laura Nagle, Subhashree Beeman
**Session Description**: In this roundtable, translators from Finnish, Irish, Tamil, German, Arabic, and other languages will discuss the artistic and professional challenges and rewards of working with source and target languages that have very divergent grammars and structures. How is translating from a “more foreign” language different from working with more structurally similar languages? Does it tap into a different kind of creativity? Is it harder to do? How does it color our ideas of concepts like faithfulness and foreignization? And how does it shape how we see our place in the profession and culture of translation?

**Format**: Organizers will provide examples of their artistic and professional joys and challenges working across divergent languages for participants to read before the session. Participants are asked to come prepared to discuss their own experiences.

**Session Title**: Translation and Translator’s Archives
**Organizer(s)**: María Constanza Guzmán, Suzanne Jill Levine, Odile Cisneros
**Session Description**: Translation emerges in specific contexts and networks of relations. Published literary translations are the final forms of individual and collective processes, in which several other materials have been produced. These include drafts, correspondence, contracts, and various other unpublished materials – the so-called modern manuscripts. This roundtable will discuss the nature and contents of these translation and translator-related archives and the ways they are stored and can be studied. We will underscore the value of these archives for literary history and for translation as a field of knowledge and practice.

**Format**: Participants will be sent a couple of questions beforehand so they can come prepared with a short description of their experience with or approach to studying translation-related archives.

**Session Title**: Translators and Generative AI: What’s Our Place?
**Organizer(s)**: Lisa Dillman, David McKay
**Session Description**: It seems clear that AI is already changing the world of translation (and the world writ large). In this roundtable, we examine the “place” of generative AI in our professional lives. What positions do we take on ethical issues, such as the use of copyrighted materials to train AI systems? Staving off panic, how can we respond to AI in constructive ways and move forward as literary translators in this landscape? Are you currently using AI in your work? Where, when, and how? What strengths and weaknesses have you discovered? Topics of particular interest include: how can those who teach translation adapt assignments for students, given the temptation of using AI? How does ChatGPT handle poetry? Can it capture idiosyncratic tones in literary fiction? Let’s discuss where we stand.

**Format**: We will open by comparing a sample of human translation to AI. Next, we will ask each participant to share an example of how they’ve used AI (successfully or not) in their work,
including the exact wording of the prompts used. (If not already familiar, please read about how to use nuanced prompts in AI).

**Session Title:** Translators in the Spotlight: How to Give a Successful Reading  
**Organizer(s):** Arwen Dewey, Andrea Nemeth-Newhauser  
**Session Description:** As translators, our place is often a solitary one: seated comfortably in front of our computers, surrounded by the books we love, far from the spotlight. So what happens when we are called upon to stand in front of a crowd of people and give a public reading of our translations? Explore tried and true strategies for dealing with stage fright, engaging your audience, and showing your work to best advantage with fellow translators and seasoned performers Arwen Dewey and Andrea Nemeth-Newhauser.  
**Format:** Participants should bring a one-paragraph excerpt from their own translation work. We will analyze photos and descriptions of readings, discuss tips and tricks for giving a public reading, and put these new techniques into practice.