

## Translation-Related Events at AWP22

### Thursday, March 24

9:00 am to 10:15 am

#### **T113. Disrupting the Lexicon: Making Meaning with Polyglot Texts**

(Amy Brill, Nathalie Handal, Ru Freeman, Courtney Maum, Rosa Alcalá)

*Room 111AB, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Poets and novelists who collectively speak ten languages will explore how words, phrases, and cadences in other languages—in or out of translation—help create meaning, context, atmosphere, and connection in English-language texts. Are there rules for writing with multiple languages? Who makes them? Whom do they serve? What are practical, artistic, and ethical considerations for writers incorporating other languages? How does language inform the way we navigate and write the world?

10:35 am to 11:35 am

#### **T157. Mi Casa Es Su Casa: A Bilingual Event for Latinx Writers**

*Virtual*

(Anjanette Delgado, Hernan Vera Alvarez, Caridad Moro-Gronlier, Daniel Reschinga)

Uprooted writers discuss themes of home, displacement, and rerooting in aid of diverse literature. These authors had one more barrier: their work had to be translated or reconceived to reflect their uprootedness for this book, giving us a view we seldom see: the path of the writer before he becomes acculturated. What happens to the work of those "just-arrived"? Is it lost? How can we prevent it if so? (This event will be held mostly in Spanish.)

10:35 am to 11:50 am

#### **T152. Translingual Poetics, Transgression & Resistance**

(Clara Burghlea, Brenda Cárdenas, Joan Naviyuk Kane, Beatrice Szymkowiak)

*Room 126A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Poets and translators discuss how translingualism, defined by Dowling as “a set of strategies by which writers engage with diverse linguistic codes in ways that are context-dependent,” can constitute transgressive acts of resistance, in contexts where political, patriarchal, and settler colonial powers have encoded hierarchical values to languages, bodies, and cultures. They consider interlingual dynamics and tensions between translatability and untranslatability at play in translingual poetics.

12:10 pm to 1:25 pm

#### **T169. Translation: The Alternative MFA, Sponsored by ALTA**

(Becka McKay, Derick Mattern)

*Room 118A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Many translators now begin their careers in MFA programs, while those writing original texts in English are increasingly finding their way into translation workshops. Even as translators learn their craft by writing creatively, many writers learn come into their voice via translation and an engagement with international literature. What can translation programs offer writers, and what can writing programs offer translators?

12:10 pm to 1:10 pm

**T184. L'Chaim! Celebrating Jewish Poetry in the Third Millennium**

(Matthew Silverman, Nancy Naomi Carlson, Ilya Kaminsky, Joy Ladin, Zilka Joseph)

*Virtual*

What is a "Jewish poem"? Come find out as we read from *101 Jewish Poems for the Third Millennium*, a new anthology, featuring voices that range from emerging to established, both Jewish and non-Jewish, as well as several translations. The themes range from observing Jewish traditions to more modern ones, such as same-sex marriage and nonfaith. With the rise in anti-Semitism and other hate crimes in this country, it is more important now than ever before to celebrate diversity.

3:20 pm to 4:35 pm

**T224. A Tribute to Monica A. Hand: Poet, Playwright, Translator, Mentor, Activist**

(Aliko Barnstone, Cornelius Eady, Rebecca Pelky, Evangelia -Liana- Sakelliou, Lauren K Alleyne)

*Room 115C, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Monica A. Hand (1953–2016) was a brilliant poet, playwright, book artist, translator, Cave Canem Fellow, mentor, and activist. Her poetry books, *me and Nina* (2012), winner of the 2010 Kinereth Gensler Award, and *The DiVida Poems* (A2018), reveal a profound, major voice for the experiences of African Americans, women, and artists and for peace and social justice. Panelists will talk about her, read her poems, and show images of one of our most beloved poets whose loss is felt all over the world.

**T230. The Spillover: The Translator's Memoir/Novel/Imaginary Epistolary Dialog**

(Marcela Sulak, John Keene, Liliana Valenzuela, Judy Halebsky)

*Room 121A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Four writers translating between English, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, Czech, French, and Hebrew (over)whelm the conventions that separate reading and writing, writing and translation. They reflect on how their own writing continues their affective, political, and transcultural work of translating literary texts. In their work, they attend to the consequent reconfigurations of race, ethnicity, gender, class, and status that are marked by language and which change over time.

**Friday, March 25, 2022**

9:00 am to 10:15 am

**F122. Poetry of Iran & Its Diaspora**

(Christopher Nelson, Kaveh Bassiri, Sholeh Wolpé, Athena Farrokhzad, Armen Davoudian)

*Room 120C, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

This reading features four of the most significant poets and translators of Iran or Iranian descent. They are representatives of an anthology published by Green Linden Press in September 2021, *Essential Voices: Poetry of Iran and Its Diaspora*, which includes 130 poets and translators from ten countries. Collectively, the readers explore themes of identity, oppression, freedom, language, translation, and the potential for poetry to help us understand and navigate social and political complexity.

12:10 pm to 1:25 pm

**F177. Voices of Exile: Translating a Lost Homeland, Sponsored by ALTA**

*122AB, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

(Nancy Naomi Carlson, Ye Chun, Mauricio Espinoza, Jennifer Rathbun, Russell Valentino)

Exile has inspired a diverse body of literature from around the world. Translating exile-themed writing takes into consideration the cultural, historical, personal, and especially political differences unique to each language and country. This panel of writers and scholars, translating from such languages as Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Chinese, French, and Spanish, will briefly discuss, then read bilingual examples of the many faces of exile, then address audience questions.

1:45 pm to 3:00 pm

**F192. Writing Southeast Asia Away from the Western Gaze**

(Jeremy Tiang, YZ Chin, Sunisa Manning, Thirii Myo Kyaw Myint, Gina Apostol)

*Room 109AB, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

How can we tell our stories on our own terms? Five anglophone writers from Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand talk about reclaiming perspectives and writing that does not pander to orientalist expectations. What does it mean to use English, an imperial language, in this decolonial work, particularly in such multicultural, multilingual countries, and what is the role of translation in navigating this cultural and linguistic fluidity?

**F202. A Reading & Conversation with Krystyna Dąbrowska**

(Karen Kovacik, Mira Rosenthal, Krystyna Dąbrowska)

*Room 120C, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

A bilingual reading by Krystyna Dąbrowska, one of Poland's most acclaimed younger poets, and her three award-winning translators, followed by a conversation on multiple techniques for translating the same poet, as well as collaborative strategies for promoting her work throughout the English-speaking world. Known for her inviting poems that investigate cultural

exchange, family history, and language itself, Dąbrowska is the winner of Poland's distinguished Wisława Szymborska Prize.

**F207. Translingual Philadelphia: A Reading by the Transversal Translation Collective**

(Elizabeth Rose, Hilah Kohen, Nicholas Glastonbury, Meg Arenberg, Carlos José Pérez Sámano)

*Room 124, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Transversal is a translation collective formed during the pandemic to give translators in the Philadelphia area and across the world a virtual place to form connections, build accountability, and share work and resources. A diverse assemblage of language pairs, backgrounds, and abilities, Transversal has quickly become an important gathering space for many. Five translators from the collective will contextualize their work, share insights into translator solidarity, and give a bilingual reading.

1:45 pm to 2:45 pm

**F213. Publishing Books in Translation: An Overview of Best Practices, Sponsored by CLMP**

(Bruna Dantas Lobato, Khaled Mattawa, CJ Evans, Sunyoung Lee)

*Virtual*

Editors of indie presses and magazines demystify the process of publishing works in translation, including what they need to know to acquire works, managing international rights, how they handle the editing process, and how translators can submit their work.

**Saturday, March 26, 2022**

9:00 am to 10:00 am

**S132. Translating Trauma: Poetry, Self, & Other**

(Yolande Schutter, Dan Kraines, Catherine Pond, Claire Foster)

*Virtual*

Trauma is universal, but since 2020 it has become vital that we explore our relationship to trauma and our translation of that trauma into words, between languages, from ourselves to others and from others to ourselves. This panel will explore personal and political traumas and their translations in and out of language and meaning across a variety of poetry, examining the wider implications of translation beyond just its literary usage.

10:35 am to 11:50 am

**S139. An Eternal Curse on Anyone Who Writes Only in English: Bilingual Lit in the US**

(Sara Cordon, Jeffrey Peer, Antonio Diaz Oliva, Ulises Gonzales)

*Room 118A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

Latinx and Hispanic books written in Spanish are systematically underrepresented in the US. With a literary market in which only three percent of books are translated, and with English as the lingua franca of globalization, writing and publishing in a different language in the US is an act of resistance. In this panel, writers, academics, and editors (Chatos Inhumanos

publishing, *Los Bárbaros* magazine, Suburbano publishing, CUNY) will discuss why we need more bilingual instances now more than ever.

12:10 pm to 1:10 pm

**S177. Deep Vellum Presents: First- & Second-Generation Immigrant Writers**

(Sebastián Páramo, Fowzia Karimi, Sophia Terazawa, Taisia Kitaiskaia, Mike Soto)

*Virtual*

In 2020, Deep Vellum, a press with its origins in publishing works in translation, made the decision to publish stateside authors. By happenstance, many of the debut authors were children of immigrants. Panelists discuss their work and what it means to be American authors publishing alongside works in translation.

1:45 to 2:45 pm

**S205. In the Cosmopolis of Memory: Women on Cultural Selfhood in a Globalized World**

(Alison Mandaville, Samina Najmi, Shadab Hashmi, Zeina Hashem Beck, Deema Shahabi)

*Virtual*

Setting and place are at the center of our stories and identities—yet globalization and territorial violences create a complicated spatial “belonging.” How do we place ourselves in our writing? Braving political strife, war, and displacement coupled with traumas of misrepresentation by dominant narratives, five women grounded in (global) Lebanese, Azerbaijani, Palestinian, and Pakistani cultures write and/or translate poetry, fiction, and memoir to recast histories and cultures in our own voices.

1:45 pm to 3:00

**S194. Embracing Bilingual Writing & Bicultural Narratives**

(Ofelia Montelongo, Gloria Muñoz, María Isabel Alvarez, Ernesto Abeytia, Isabel Díaz Alanís)

*Room 122AB, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

From the many phrases and words that can't be literally translated to all of those cultural differences, these five Latin American/Hispanic writers will share how they navigate and balance both languages in their work. The writers on this panel explore the advantages and the importance of bilingual writing across genres and how mixing language (code-switching), culture, and literary traditions helps them to find their unique voice while reflecting on the struggles found along their journeys.

3:20 pm to 4:35 pm

**S223. Crossing Languages: From First Draft to Publication, Sponsored by ALTA**

(Susan Ayres, Sophia Kouidou-Giles, Areg Azatyan)

*Room 126A, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level*

This multigenre panel focuses on strategies for international authors or their translators seeking to publish a translation of the work in English, as well as for international authors living in the US seeking to publish the work in their native country. From Greek memoir to Armenian fiction to Mexican poetry, the panelists will address the challenges faced by authors or by literary translators in spanning cultural differences and in bringing the manuscript to US readers.