

## Translation-Related Events at AWP24

### Wednesday, February 7

9:00 am to 10:00 am

#### V123. **VIRTUAL: Writing, Translating, and Publishing Queer Ukrainian Literature**

(Oleh Kotsyuba, Alexander Averbuch, Vitaly Chernetsky, Ivan Kozlenko, Iryna Shuvalova)

*This virtual event was prerecorded. It will be available to watch on-demand online starting on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 through Thursday, March 7, 2024.*

Russia's war against Ukraine brought a realization that the global literary community had limited knowledge of Ukrainian literature past and present, and also a keen interest to learn more. Obscured by centuries of imperial discrimination and entrenched prejudicial stereotypes, Ukrainian literary voices are finally beginning to be heard. This roundtable spotlights Ukrainian queer literary voices and the challenges of bringing Ukrainian queer texts to English-language audiences.

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### Thursday, February 8

9:00 am to 10:15 am

#### T125. **Internationalism and Identity: A Need for Magazines to Transcend Borders**

(Abeer Hoque, Hananah Zaheer, Aditya Desai, Kamil Ahsan, Shubhanga Pandey)

*Room 2215C, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

When we discuss literature, literary communities clearly understand that going beyond national borders is integral. As writers we are inspired by works of translation, and many of us who are fluent in more languages read works in those languages. In this panel, editors of the South Asian Avant-Garde (SAAG), an internationalist magazine, South Asian-Americans hailing from four countries will discuss why literary magazines should aspire to be internationalist, and why that matters for representation.

10:35 am to 11:50 am

#### T148. **Nepali Anglophone Writing: Five Writers from the Nepali Diaspora**

(Khem Aryal, Rohan Chhetri, Pushparaj Acharya, Samyak Shertok, Saraswati Lamichhane)

*Room 2211, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

The event will feature five Nepali immigrant anglophone writers writing in the United States and Canada: Rohan Chhetri, Khem Aryal, Samyak Shertok, Pushpa Raj Acharya, Saraswati

Lamichhane. Spanning genres from poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, they will discuss the challenges of writing Nepali diasporic lives in North America drawing roots from Nepal and India, and their role as translators and anthology editors in building a robust and complex representation of Nepali literature in English and in translation.

12:10 pm to 1:25 pm

**T177. From the French but not from France: A Bilingual Reading of Francophone Poems, Sponsored by ALTA**

(Conor Bracken, Nancy Naomi Carlson, H  l  ne 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 C  te 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.

1:45 pm to 3:00 pm

**T202. Translation as Advocacy With/in Poetry’s Multilingual World**

(Martha M. F. Kelly, Rachel Galvin, Aaron Coleman, Vitaly Chernetsky, Chamini Kulathunga)

*Room 2210, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

As a privileged global language, English provides a powerful tool for centering diverse voices who speak in new ways into English-language cultures. This panel brings together translators who understand their work in part as advocacy for poets writing in languages other than English. Our panelists translate from French, Sinhala, Spanish, Ukrainian and Russian, and from cultures across the globe: from the African diaspora in the Americas to South Asia to the post-Soviet sphere and its diasporas.

3:20 pm to 4:35 pm

**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.

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**Friday, February 9**

9:00 am to 10:15 am

**F113. Amplifying Ukrainian Voices in the English-Speaking Literary Environment**

(Ostap Kin, Grace Mahoney, Olena Jennings, Oksana Maksymchuk, Oksana Lutsyshyna)

*Room 2102A, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

Russia's war against Ukraine brought a realization that the global literary community had limited knowledge of Ukrainian literature past and present, and also a keen interest to learn more. Obscured by centuries of imperial discrimination and entrenched prejudicial stereotypes, Ukrainian literary voices are finally beginning to be heard. Leading translators from Ukrainian into English reflect on their efforts and challenges they face.

10:35 am to 11:50 am

**F135. Breaking the Rules on Chapbooks: New Approaches to an Old Form**

(Aviya Kushner, Adriana Jacobs, Ruben Quesada, Michelle Gil-Montero, Jace Brittain)

*Room 2101, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

A chapbook is often a prelude to a first book—or so the conventional wisdom goes. But what if a chapbook comes along later in an established career? Or if it marks a turning point from scholarship to original poetry or from prose to poetry? Or if it is a way of introducing a writer in translation to English-language audiences? Four writers and publishers will discuss breaking the rules on chapbooks, what the future holds for this format, and how a well-timed chapbook can reshape a career.

**F141. Translation as Poetics, Sponsored by ALTA**

(Soleil David, 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 pm to 1:25 pm

**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.

**F181. My Feet, Whose Shoes? Writing and Translating “The Other”**

(Alison Lewis, Areg Azatyan, Laura Nagle, Yermiyahu Ahron Taub)

*Room 2503AB, Kansas City Convention Center, Level 2*

Writers and translators of fiction often put themselves in the shoes of some "other"—someone of a different culture, gender, time period. How do we understand this "other" and represent them with sincerity and respect, balancing artistic expression against a risk of cultural appropriation? The Armenian author and translators from French and Yiddish of three books with cross-cultural themes, all newly released in English, explore the line between "writing what you know" and depicting "the other."

3:20 pm to 4:35 pm

**F232. Emerson MFA at Forty: Celebrating Four Decades of Writing and Publishing**

(Rebecca Morgan Frank, Ciera Burch, Shuchi Saraswat, Kenan Orhan, Madeline Sneed)

*Room 2211, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

The Emerson MFA program, located in the heart of the Boston Literary District, celebrates its fortieth anniversary with readings from five alumni writers from Texas, DC, Chicago, Boston, and Kansas City. The panelists discuss how their work in publishing—founding journals; founding transnational literature series; and advocating for inclusive children’s lit—informs their writing. Readings showcase work they have published across genres: poems, essays, stories, novels, YA, and translation.

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**Saturday, February 10**

9:00 am to 10:15 am

**S121. The Criticism of Translated Books: A Words Without Borders Conversation**

(Adam Dalva, Sarah Chihaya, Laura Marris, Justin Rosier)

*Room 2208, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

Three leading critics and translators—Sarah Chihaya (book critic and author *The Ferrante Letters*), Laura Marris (translator of *The Plague*), and Justin Rosier (chair, National Book Critics Circle Criticism Committee)—will discuss the challenges and benefits of reviewing translated literature with Words Without Borders Books Editor Adam Dalva. The conversation will focus on

both the ethics of reviewing books in translation and practical tips on how to best write compelling contemporary criticism.

10:35 am to 11:50 am

**S136. Collaborating in Korean: The Value of Co-Translating**

(Jack Jung, Jeanine Walker, Jaekwan Shim, Marci Calabretta Cancio-Bello, Michael Joseph Walsh)

*Room 2102A, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

The particularities of the Korean language—from the disparities between spoken, written, and poetic Korean to the vast changes the lexicon has undergone within the past few generations—can make translating partnerships invaluable when working from Korean to English. Four cotranslators of poetry discuss their process and how having a partner of differing background, age, and familiarity with various versions of the language may lead to more accurate, creative, and engaging translations.

1:45 pm to 3:00 pm

**S192. Writing the Multilingual Poem: Code-Switching Across Cultures**

(Sylvia Chan, Gabriel Dozal, Geramee Hensley, José Olivarez, Jake Syersak)

*Room 2102A, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

Poets who engage in more than one language consider why and when they switch into non-English languages. Equally important is how the poet negotiates between their languages while keeping in mind possible readers, and how the multilingual poem can deconstruct a monolingual American culture. Poets and translators who work in Chinese, French, German, Spanish, and Tagalog discuss their code-switching process and future in navigating the ethical burdens of serving as a medium between cultures.

**S203. Writing and Translating “The Other”: New Fiction from Frayed Edge Press**

(Alison Lewis, Areg Azatyan, Laura Nagle, Yermiyahu Ahron Taub)

*Room 2210, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

Reading, particularly in translation, allows us insight into others' lives, cultures, and experiences. This event presents three books with cross-cultural themes, each set on a different continent. Originally published in Yiddish, Armenian, and French, all are newly available in English in their entirety for the first time. These works illustrate their authors' and translators' efforts to respectfully portray the "other"—those of a race, gender, culture, and/or time period other than their own.

3:20 pm to 4:35 pm

**S226. Writing and Translating the War in Ukraine**

(Peter Burzynski, Ana Božičević, Valzhyna Mort, Olena Jennings)

*Room 2104A, Kansas City Convention Center, Street Level*

Five Eastern European Poets discuss how the war in Ukraine has transformed purpose in our work. Each participant will read one to three poems and then offer a brief discussion about poetry and/or translation of poetry as it pertains to the war in Ukraine. Panelists offer perspectives from each of their unique home countries/cultures with Croatia, Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Russian Federation represented, respectively.

**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.