

CALL FOR PAPERS
10.11.2014

Centre of Comparative and Cognitive Linguistics

organizes the first international conference on Catalan Studies in Romania

Languages and Cultures in Contact: Catalan and Today's Europe
Cultural Dialogues through Literary Translations

Bucharest, April 17 – 18, 2015

Within the EU cultural space, translation – understood not only as finding equivalents across languages, but also as a contact space between cultures, which stresses the importance of creating a positive relationship with the other – has played an increasingly important part. Paul Ricoeur outlines the political and ethical potential of the act of translating in *Sur la traduction* (2004), where he sees in translation a model for the political and cultural paradigm of a future Europe. In this context, literary translations are even more relevant in the process of establishing dialogues between cultures and mediating exchanges of socio-cultural experience, which can contribute to a society in which culture is the basis of true democracy.

As such, the Catalan politics of cultural emancipation constitutes a model that is worth pursuing across the whole of Europe, the more so as the promotion activities supported by the Institut Ramon Llull and Institució de les Lletres Catalanes have encouraged translations of Catalan literature into other languages and translations of other literatures into Catalan. Studies on such translations have been published, such as the special issue of *Translation Review* (87, 1, 2013) entitled *Catalan Literature and Translation*. However, the specific part played by literary translations into and from Catalan in configuring contemporary European identity has been insufficiently explored.

This conference is meant to analyse various aspects of literary translations from and into Catalan, with the general intention to investigate the Catalan model of cultural promotion in building a European meta-identity and encouraging cultural exchanges within the EU. We

invite 20-minute papers (followed by 10 minutes of discussions) which may start from (without being limited to) one or several of the following questions:

- ◆ What is the role of literary translations in establishing real dialogues between cultures?
- ◆ How important are such dialogues in the process of history rewriting and national emancipation through culture?
- ◆ How can we extrapolate the model of Catalan cultural promotion to other less visible European cultures (such as the ones in the former geo-political East of Europe)?
- ◆ What is the role of translations in the construction of literary languages and in the struggle against nationalism?
- ◆ What are the instruments in the hands of translators, editors and teachers of Catalan (and, by extension, of foreign languages in general) that can contribute to the promotion of an ethical relationship with the other as a basis of European identity?
- ◆ How can we define the role of the literary translator as a cultural agent?
- ◆ What translation difficulties are encountered when facing certain specific aspects of literary texts, such as culturemes?
- ◆ What suggestions can be brought for the enrichment of the theoretical framework of translation and what models of literary analysis of the translated text would you recommend?
- ◆ Translation: literary texts vs technical and scientific texts.

Presentations are accepted in the following languages: Catalan, English, Romanian and Spanish.

Calendar

Paper proposals will be accepted by **January 31, 2015**. Please use the registration form available at dctf2015.weebly.com. Participants will be notified by **February 1, 2015**.

Registration fee

200 RON / 50 € (payable upon arrival).

Publication

A selection of articles based on papers presented at the conference will be published in a collective volume.

Contact

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