



INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY 2014

The International Translation Day symposium is a collaborative venture, established and organised by several dedicated partners: Free Word, English PEN, the British Library, the British Centre for Literary Translation, Literature Across Frontiers, the Translators' Association, Wales Literature Exchange and Words Without Borders. International Translation Day is supported by the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society, Bloomberg, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and the European Commission.

Free Word

ENGLISH PEN

BRITISH LIBRARY



Culture

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protecting and promoting authors' rights



CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION

Bloomberg

9am – ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION

9.30am – OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

9.45am – 11.15am – CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Increasing professionalisation is often seen as a crucial step in raising the profile of translators and the art of translation. More and more translators are emerging from training schemes and university courses, but is there a need for longer-term skills development? What are the current continuing professional development opportunities for translators? From mentoring schemes to event and festival programming roles, our panellists – translator **Daniel Hahn**, Director of the Centre for Research in Translation and Transcultural Studies at the University of Roehampton, **Dr Lucille Desblache**, and Trustee Director of the Institute of Linguists Educational Trust, **Michael Cunningham** – will discuss what kind of opportunities currently exist, and contemplate what might be missing. Chaired by **Jo Glanville**, Director of English PEN.

11.15am – 11.35am – BREAK

11.35am – 1pm – SEMINARS

We have a series of seminars for you to choose from. From 11.35am – 1pm you can choose from seminars **A, B, C, D** or **E**. Then after lunch, from 2.30pm – 4pm you must choose again from seminars **F, G, H, I** or **J**. Seminars will be introduced and 'steered' by a guest host but these are open discussion forums in which we encourage you to bring your thoughts, opinions, examples of best practice and questions along with you to share and debate.

SEMINAR A: ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

Aimed at recent graduates from language, literature or translation courses, or anyone curious about the profession of literary translator, this seminar aims to introduce you to the ins and outs of the job. We'll cover how to start, the dos and don'ts, how to get work and how to juggle it with other jobs, as well as mentoring. We'll examine how an MA can help but also why you don't necessarily need one, and what else you can do as a translator to make ends meet and build up your profile. With **Rosalind Harvey**, Chair of the Emerging Translators' Network, and **Siân Mackie**, translator and recent recipient of a BCLT mentorship.

SEMINAR B: TRANSLATORS IN EDUCATION

What place does translation have in the classroom? And what role can practising translators play in schools? MFL policy advisor **Bernadette Holmes**, former teacher **Sam Holmes**, who has worked on both the Translation Nation and Translators in Schools programme, and translator **Ulrike Nichols**, a graduate of the Translators in Schools training programme, will discuss the social, cultural and academic benefits of translation activities, and demonstrate how they meet the requirements of the National Curriculum at both primary and secondary level. Chaired by **Robina Pelham Burn**, Director of the Stephen Spender Trust.

SEMINAR C: AMPLIFYING WOMEN'S VOICES THROUGH TRANSLATION

Whilst some of our finest translators are women, fewer female authors are translated, published, and promoted in the Anglophone publishing market than their male counterparts, and a female author has never won the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. Why are literary prizes and reviewers so slow to recognise the work of women? Would a dedicated prize or magazine for writing by women in translation be a boost to the industry? Join translator **Katy Derbyshire**, founder and Editor-in-Chief at For Books' Sake, **Jane Bradley**, and writer and academic **Sophie Mayer** to help draw together a battle plan to raise the profile of women in translation.

SEMINAR D: MIGRATING LANGUAGES

The British Isles is home to many kinds of languages. Some, like Irish and Welsh, are indigenous and alongside these we have different types of 'new Englishes' such as Jafaican and Hinglish, which carry the inflections of their countries of origin. Angharad Price's *O! Tyn y Gorchudd!* won the Welsh Language Book of the Year Award in 2003 before it appeared to great acclaim in English translation in 2010. **Darach Ó Scolaí** is an Irish-language writer and publisher who both translates and commissions translations from the Irish. They'll be in discussion with **Valerie Bloom**, a writer and performance poet who uses the language of her first country, Jamaica, to engage with a young generation of Londoners, and **Balraj Khanna**, whose novel *Indian Magic!* explores encounters between old and new London. Chaired by **Amanda Hopkinson**, Professor in Literary Translation at City University.

SEMINAR E: TRANSLATING COMICS

The world of comics presents many opportunities for literary translators. Translating comics or graphic novels can be an unusual and fascinating experience which offers the chance to learn new skills. The medium also provides innovative ways to promote the process of translation and the languages you are passionate about. What special skills does translating comics require? Do you need to be a fanatical comic reader to get started? Illustrator **Daniel Locke** and experienced translator **Sarah Ardizzone** will be offering the ideal introduction to translating words and pictures. Chaired by the translator and curator **Canan Marasligil**.

1pm – 2.30pm – LUNCH

During lunch the following optional drop-in sessions will be taking place:

Launching the Translator's Toolkit - a new resource for emerging translators, created and inspired by the Emerging Translators Network.

Funding International Literature - Supported by the Arts Council's Catalyst fund, the British Centre for Literary Translation and Free Word commissioned a report looking at the challenges and opportunities in funding international literature. From 1 – 1.30 there is a drop in session to talk about key findings in the report.

2.30pm – 4pm – SEMINARS Please choose from seminars F, G, H, I or J.

SEMINAR F: PITCH PERFECT

Welcome to ITD's very own 'dragon's den' style pitching session where translators and literary enthusiasts will have the chance to pitch foreign language books to a panel of publishers. Workshop participants are invited to come armed with a book that they feel passionate about and that, as far as they know, hasn't yet been published in English. Our panellists **Ellie Steel**, Editor at Harvill Secker, **Daniela Petracco**, Managing Director at Europa Editions and **Simon Smith**, Editor at Peter Owen, will provide top tips on what makes the 'perfect pitch' at the beginning of the session. Participants will then be invited to sign up to present a two minute 'elevator pitch' on the day. Please note, publishers will not be taking on any work pitched to them in this session! Chaired by **Max Porter**, Commissioning Editor at Granta.

SEMINAR G: CROSSING BORDERS

How, as translators, do we convey the complex dynamics of sensitive and weighted material? In this session we will consider the ethical issues raised when literature crosses borders and think about strategies we can use when translating dissident writers or work that addresses difficult political and /or personal circumstances. Join **Sasha Dugdale**, Editor of Modern Poetry in Translation, whose own practice includes translating Pussy Riot's legal testimonies, and **Alice Guthrie**, the Free Word Centre's Translator in Residence and translator of Palestinian and Syrian contemporary literature, in conversation with **Caroline Maldonado**, Chair of Modern Poetry in Translation's Board of trustees.

SEMINAR H: TRANSLATION GAMES MEETS ENEMIES

Translation Games is an exciting programme of work that explores the theory and practice of translation within literature and the fine arts. Curated by **Dr Ricarda Vidal**, *Translation Games* works via a series of workshops, exhibitions and rule-based games to explore the similarities and divergences of the translation process. The *Enemies* project, devised by the poet SJ Fowler, is about the possibilities of poetry in collaboration across artforms, languages and environments. In this session a specially devised game will allow you to experience poetry in translation as a collaborative event, offering you the chance to experiment and explode the definition of what it means to translate.

SEMINAR I: NEW DIRECTIONS

As a literary translator, it is unrealistic to expect a steady flow of work, especially at the start of your career. So what other avenues of freelance work will enable you to enjoy a steady income? Creativity and writing skills are prized and well rewarded in some areas of commercial translation, while editing complements translation work. **Anne de Freyman**, Vice-Chair of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting, will suggest potential new avenues for literary translators, and **Sarah Patey**, from the Society for Freelance Editors and Proofreaders will talk about editing work, translating non-fiction and the training offered by the SfEP. Chaired by **Ros Schwartz**.

SEMINAR J: THROWING THE BOOK AT THEM

As the translator, there are a number of things you can do to help promote a book. But working in a focused and targeted way is crucial to success. How do you make sure that you're using the right tools to reach the right audience? Translator **Nicky Harman**, freelance publicist **Rosamund Hutchison**, and **Sam Sedgman**, Digital Producer at the Free Word Centre, will be exploring some effective PR and marketing techniques, after which workshop participants will work together to design their own mini marketing campaigns.

4pm – 4.20pm – BREAK

4.20pm – 5.30pm SINGING THE MEANING: WORDS AND TRANSLATION IN OPERA

International dramaturge and opera director, **John Lloyd Davies** and music animateur, **Helen Porter**, present an interactive talk that investigates the job of the opera translator and asks whether they have a greater duty to the 'musical' integrity of the original than to its strict 'dictionary' accuracy. Drawing on recordings from across the repertoire - from Mozart to Janacek - the session will also explore how we receive meaning verbally and musically, what sung words need to achieve, the challenges of translating minority language operas, and what future movements of translation in opera might look like.

5.30pm – DRINKS

Sponsored by the European Commission