

CALL FOR PAPERS

SPECIAL ISSUE: SPACES AND PLACES OF TRANSLATION

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and Federico Montanari (University of Bologna, Italy)

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The issue will explore the different processes of translation that occur in the continuous negotiation of and in spaces and places.

The initial idea is that all translation takes place in spaces and is both conditioned by space and able to promote or provoke changes in the perception and the use of spaces. The main attention will focus on places in space, mainly physical, architectonic places such as squares, official buildings, places devoted to religious cult, museums, schools, and the like, but also specific translation zones defined by a relentless to-and-fro of language, by an acute consciousness of translational relationships, and by the kinds of informal translation practices characteristic of multilingual urban areas, *banlieues* and slums, infra- and inter-urban boundaries, scenarios of social conflict and change. It is also impossible to ignore virtual spaces, as they today increasingly define the reality of all living spaces as transactional and plural.

A particularly intense locus of translation are borders, refugee camps, sites where refugees and immigrants arrive, as well as passage-ways, crossing points, and mediation places in postconflict situations (see, e.g., examples from postconflict countries of the former Yugoslavia such as Bosnia and Kosovo), and sites of conviviality that are staked out in hostile cities, sites such as railway stations where migrants gather.

In the recent past we have seen different examples on how spaces and places are vulnerable to natural disasters (tsunami, Katrina, Sandy,

earthquakes in Italy). These improvised catastrophes causes traumas and force people to reinterpret their lives and their spaces.

We will consider the following main areas of investigation:

1. Physical spaces and their traversing
 - Emblematic city spaces with historical resonance as sites of translation, rewriting, negotiation of shared meanings and memories.
 - Practices of mapping that account for translation zones and language flows. What kind of maps can reveal successive overlays, expungings, and interactions of languages, and how can maps take account of virtual spaces?
2. Places of worship
 - The transformation of cities where places of different worship cohabit.
3. Spaces and places of migration
4. Spaces and places of conflict
 - Postwar places (e.g., Kosovo).
 - Social conflicts in urban areas (*banlieues*, slums).
 - Natural catastrophes (Katrina, Sandy, earthquake).

DUE DATES

Abstracts (ca. 300 words) or drafts can be sent to:

- Sherry Simon: Sherry.Simon@concordia.ca
- Federico Montanari (federico.mont@gmail.com).

When submitting, please consider the possibility of including videos and photos; in general we encourage submissions that consider other forms of expression than the written language.

- Deadline for submitting abstracts is **September 30, 2013**.
- Deadline for submitting completed articles is **December 31, 2014**.

For additional information, email Cristina Demaria at cristina.demaria2@unibo.it.

THE JOURNAL

translation is a new international peer-reviewed journal published twice a year. The journal, a collaborative initiative of the Nida School of Translation Studies and leading translation studies scholars from around the world, takes as its main mission the collection and representation of the ways translation is a fundamental element of cultures' transformation in the contemporary world. Our ambition is to create a new forum for the discussion of translation by offering an open space for debate and reflection on post-translation studies. *translation* moves beyond disciplinary boundaries toward transdisciplinary discourses on the translational nature of societies, which are increasingly hybrid, diasporic, border-crossing, intercultural, multilingual, and global.

Translation studies is enjoying unprecedented success: translation has become a fecund and frequent metaphor for our contemporary intercultural world, and scholars from many disciplines—including linguistics, comparative literature, cultural studies, anthropology, psychology, communication and social behavior, and global studies—have begun investigating translational phenomena.

The journal starts from the assumptions that translational processes are fundamental to the creation of individual and social histories and to the formation of subjective and collective identities—that is, to the dynamic transmission and preservation of culture(s). From here the journal invites reflection and exchange on translation's role in memory-making through the representing, performing, and recounting of personal and collective experiences of linguistic and cultural, psychic and physical displacement, transfer, and loss.

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translation is published both as print and electronically, with the two versions conceived together, in constant dialogue, stimulating reflection, discussion, and debate in an open intersemiotic space where all forms and channels of communication are welcome.

The journal's online version is not simply a copy of the paper version but much more. There you find reviews, video interviews, shorter articles, debates, and news. Whereas the paper version is English only, we desire to open up opportunities for articles beyond English with the online version. With this translanguing aspiration, we wish to create a space for continuous translations, language encounters, and hybridity.

SUBMISSIONS

We accept article proposals for both the journal's paper version and website.

We welcome articles of various length and format in both media (paper and web). Texts that consider other forms of expression than the written language—multimodal texts—are also welcome.

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Musa Dube

For us Africans who come from largely oral communities yet in a historical context where the first written stories—whether they are cultures, history, religion, language—were written by Westerners, especially during colonial times, it has been excruciatingly painful to read the anthropological record, the travelers story, the missionary record: for the most part, one cannot recognize herself. It is a different story, precisely because it is an African story that is grafted into and interpreted within a Western culture. Unfortunately, the colonial context, which entailed the collection of the stories of the Other, who is different, was a time when the Other was already despised. Consequently the refraction of our stories was informed not only by Western cultures but by racism and Eurocentricism.

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak

I am saying that translation *is* the most intimate act of reading, whatever you choose to do. Even as a bad translator, that is about as intimate that you can get. ... When the desire to translate grabs you, it is an unexpected thing that you welcome. You begin to feel, and the trouble is, this is so without guarantees, so without the ability to test, that people will claim it. It's too bad. People will always claim that they are doing this. You cannot do anything about it. But you begin to feel that you are writing the text.

Loc Pham

Yet far from being homogenous, the multilingual and multicultural territorial state is invariably split between mainstream and ethnic cultures, and translation thus plays a key role in providing the condition for the flow of justice across ethnic differences. Translation constitutes the very means whereby ethnic subjects of justice speak and are spoken to. In this way, the political dimension of justice ... intertwines with the problematic of translation.

The problematic at hand is, I argue, the translation of distributive justice into local language and culture, a translation of the material into the cultural, if the material is to be accepted as justice.