**Before Invisibility**

**Classical meets Vernacular in Early Modern Translation Studies**

The premodern period in Europe is defined by a rise in vernacular cultures and their translation and, in a broader sense, by cultural transmission as a phenomenon central to intellectual life. As a result, the dominance, prestige and cultural capital possessed by classical culture were constantly being contested, as is evident from the transnational Quarrel of the Ancients and Moderns.

How might we assess the production and reception of translations from ancient and from vernacular languages? What does this comparison reveal about national identity; about cultures of knowledge, particularly as they pertain to genre and authorship; and about translation and the book trade?

While focussed on the early modern initially, this project also poses broader thematic questions, and so would benefit from the perspective of colleagues working in Medieval and Modern European studies and in Translation Studies; such questions relate to the changing status of the discipline of translation and of the translator more broadly (starting from the premise that the ‘invisibility’ of the translator is a modern phenomenon); and bring in approaches from book history, translation studies, cultural history and literary studies.

This joint research initiative of KU Leuven and Exeter University comprises two workshops, on April 30 (organized online by Exeter University) and on June 2 (organized online by KU Leuven). Participation is free, but registration is required.

**For further practical information, please contact:** Helena Taylor ([H.Taylor@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:H.Taylor@exeter.ac.uk)); Freyja Cox Jensen ([F.Coxjensen@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:F.Coxjensen@exeter.ac.uk)) ; Beatrijs Vanacker ([beatrijs.vanacker@kuleuven.be](mailto:beatrijs.vanacker@kuleuven.be))

**Exeter 30th April 2021**

*N.B. Times are given in the local (Exeter) time zone: UTC.*

9:30 UTC(10:30 Leuven) Welcome and introductions

9:45 UTC (10:45 Leuven) **Research from Exeter and Leuven**

**Michelle Bolduc** (Exeter): Reception and translation of classical authors in the work of Duecento and Trecento Italian notaries.

**Rebecca Langlands** (Exeter): Exemplarity and classical reception.

**Eliana Maestri** (Exeter): Translation studies and working with creative practitioners.

10:30 UTC (11:30 Leuven) Break

10:45 UTC(11:45 Leuven) **Research from Exeter and Leuven**

**Ernest De Clerck** (KU Leuven/CERES): “Suffer[ing] from translation”: Cultural Transfer in British Late-Romantic Literary Magazines.

**Beatrijs Vanacker** & **Tom Verschaffel** (KU Leuven): Shaping Belgian literature: Multilingual patterns and cultural transfer in 18th-century periodicals.

**Louise Dumont** (UNamur/KU Leuven): French theatre adaptations in the 18th century: comparing *Théâtre des Grecs* (Brumoy) and the *Théâtre Anglois* (de La Place).

12:00 UTC(13:00 Leuven)Lunch

13:00 UTC(14:00 Leuven) **Information session: grants, funding, and collaboration**

Exeter: Assistant Dean for Global, Prof **Melissa Percival**.

KU Leuven: Research Policy Advisors on scientific collaboration funding, Dr. **Daniëlle de Vooght**

14:00 UTC(15:00 Leuven)Break

14:15 UTC (15:15 Leuven) **Finding common ground: breakout spaces and plenary discussion**

15:15 UTC(16:15 Leuven) **Conclusion**

15:30 UTC(16:30 Leuven) Finish

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**Leuven 2nd June 2021**

*N.B. Times are given in the local (Leuven) time zone: UTC+1.*

10:30 UTC+1 (9:30 Exeter) Welcome and introductions

10:45 UTC+1 (9:45 Exeter) **Information session: research centres and initiatives**

CETRA (Centre for Translation Studies): **Pieter Boulogne**

CERES (Centre for Reception Studies): **Tom Toremans**

LECTIO KU Leuven Institute: **Michèle Goyens**

CEMS (Centre for Early Modern Studies): **Freyja Cox Jensen** & **Helena Taylor**

CCR (Centre for Classical Reception): **Henry Power** & **Rebecca Langlands**

CTC (Centre for Translating Cultures): **Eliana Maestri**

11:30 UTC+1 (10:30 Exeter) Break

11:45 UTC+1 (10:45 Exeter) **Research from Leuven and Exeter**

**Michèle Goyens** (KU Leuven/LECTIO): ‘When Classical meets Vernacular: the case of the Problemata Translations at the end of the Middle Ages’.

**Hester Schadee** (Exeter): Neo-Latin to vernacular translations of Florentine histories.

**Alisa van de Haar** (Leiden University): ‘Visible Masters and Invisible Students: Educational Vernacular Translation in the Early Modern Low Countries (16th – 17th century)’.

**Raf Van Rooy** (KU Leuven – FWO/University of Oslo): ‘Letters at trial: Lucian’s *Judgement of the vowels* Gallicized (1654)’.

**Henry Power** (Exeter): Classical reception in the later 17th and 18th centuries.

13:00 UTC+1 (12:00 Exeter) Lunch

14:00 UTC+1 (13:00 Exeter) **Thematic discussions: breakout rooms**

14:45 UTC+1 (13:45 Exeter) Break

15:00 UCT+1 (14:00 Exeter) **Plenary discussion: next steps**

16:00 UTC+1 (15:00 Exeter) **Conclusion**

16:15 UTC+1 (15:15 Exeter) Finish