

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021

Opening Welcome and Keynote Speech

(Online,

meet.google.com/ajt-uhmk-kwq)

9.00-9.15

József PÁLFI

Rector of Partium Christian University, PCU

Borbála BÖKÖS

Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Arts, PCU

Keynote lecture

Tímea Kovács

9.15-10.15

Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church, Budapest, Hungary:

From a Literary Approach to Eco-Translatology: A Subjective Interpretation of the Development of Translation Studies

10.15-10.30

Short Break

10.30-12.00

1st Sessions

12.15-13.30

2nd Session

13.45

Closing Words, Presentation of Conference Volume

(meet.google.com/ajt-uhmk-kwq)

10.30-12.00 SESSIONS no. 1

| | A.Nature, Ecology, Climate Change, E-Learning | B. Poetry, Crisis, Ethics, Environment | C. Trauma, Domesticity, Milieu |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| | Chair: Sorin Ciutacu meet.google.com/ajt-uhmk-kwq | Chair: Otilia Veres meet.google.com/qqn-uctp-cso | Chair: Éva Szabó meet.google.com/wme-szox-qkt |
| 10.30- | Sorin Ciutacu, The West University of Timișoara: Aesthetic Transcendentalism as Perceived in Landscape Paintings | Otilia Veres, Partium Christian University: Poems in Crisis: The Pandemic Issue of Modern Poetry in Translation: Clean Hands 2021 and the Window-swap Project | Éva Szabó, University of Debrecen: (Step)mother is as (step)mother does: (Step)Motherly figures in Kate Atkinson's Human Croquet |
| 10.45- | Eduard Blănariu, The West University of Timișoara: The Purpose of Nature in the Writings of H. P. Lovecraft | Alexandru Higedy, The West University of Timișoara: Redeeming the mic. Interaction and interplay in Performance Poetry | Paula Rebeca Cozma, The West University of Timișoara: Magic Realism and Trauma in Jewish-American fiction |
| 11.00- | Nicolae Bobaru, The West University of Timișoara: The Maritime World and the Ecological Hero | Edit Gálla, Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary: Laws of Nature in Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology | Soukayna Alami, University of Debrecen: The Mental Asylum as a Microcosm of Victorian Society: The Case Study of Robert Fuller's Autobiography An Account of Imprisonment and Sufferings |
| 11.15- | Oana Badea, Corina Lungu University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova: E-Learning – An Ever-growing and Ever-Challenging Method of Teaching | Titus Pop, Partium Christian University: Musical Features in the Early English Poetry | Xiaorui Du, The West University of Timișoara: Double-edged Blade of Grass: Herman Melville's Critique of American Democracy in Pierre; Or the Ambiguities |
| 11.30- 11.45 | | Iuliana Borbély, Partium Christian University: Translating Subtitles in Documentaries | Szilárd Kmeczkó, Debrecen Reformed Theological University: Intercultural Relations in Talamon Alfonz's Last Novel (The Relational System of Personal Fate, the Townlet and the Milieu) |
| 11.45- 12.00 | DISCUSSION | DISCUSSION | DISCUSSION |

12.15-13.30 SESSIONS no. 2

A. Black Culture, Ecomemory, Identity, Emotion

Chair: Péter Gaál-Szabó

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- 12.15-** Péter Gaál-Szabó,
Debrecen Reformed Theological University:
Black Culture, Religion, and Ecowomanism
- 12.30-** Bianka Szendrei,
University of Debrecen:
Environment as an Emotional Haven in Janelle Monáe's
Dirty Computer
- 12.45-** Yesmina Khedhir,
University of Debrecen:
Ecospirituality as Ecomemory in Jesmyn Ward's Sing,
Unburied, Sing
- 13.00-** Alexandra Erdős,
University of Debrecen:
Passing for Langston Hughes: Double Consciousness and
Spaces of In-Between
- 13.15-** Andrea Csillag,
Debrecen Reformed Theological University:
Prepositions of Surprise
- 13.30-** DISCUSSION

PLENARY SESSION ABSTRACT

From a Literary Approach to Eco-Translatology: A Subjective Interpretation of the Development of Translation Studies

Tímea Kovács

Before the 1990s, Translation Studies was mainly characterised by a literary approach, followed by a pragmatic, cultural, sociological, ideological, and cognitive turn. The formal emergence of Translation Studies is traced back to the scientific map sketched by Holmes in his seminal lecture in 1972. Since the 1990s, we have witnessed an array of emerging theories and approaches in Translation Studies. Among the theoretical approaches, Cognitive Translatology (Muñoz, 2010) and Translanguaging (García & Li, 2014; Li, 2011, 2017; Lee, 2015) have played a significant role. At the same time, new methods and applications such as corpus linguistics, machine translation and post-editing are gaining momentum thanks to technological developments. However, the question remains whether there is real progress in Translation Studies. According to several theorists (Collins & Halverson, 2010; Shreve & Angelone, 2010; Chesterman, 2013, 2018), there is no real definition of translation, no real theory, and no single model that unifies this academic field. Hu (2014, 2020) attempts to do this by building on the eco-holistic approach of eastern philosophies to create the model of Eco-Translatology. In this presentation, the speaker will illustrate the evolution of Translation Studies from a literary approach to Eco-Translatology through her own subjective filter, using examples drawn from her practical and research experience. Her presentation will seek to answer the question whether Eco-Translatology can be the model that unifies theories and research trends and, if so, what message it has for practising translators and those involved in translation education.

Key words: *theories, applications, methods, Cognitive Translatology, Translanguaging, Eco-Translatology, evolution, Translation Studies*

PROGRAMME

Soukayna Alami, University of Debrecen:

The Mental Asylum as a Microcosm of Victorian Society: The Case Study of Robert Fuller's Autobiography An Account of Imprisonment and Sufferings

The Victorian asylums were supposed to be the loci of cure and safety for the insane, yet they were historically regarded as places of maltreatment and violence. All the problems of Victorian society were reflected in the mental asylums, culturally, socially, and economically. This paper investigates the nature of the relationship between the mental asylum as an enclosed space and the individual in an Account of Imprisonment and Sufferings, an autobiography written by Robert Fuller. It draws on the injustices of the Victorian mental asylums in general and the institution where Fuller was staying in particular and highlights the interaction of the insane as an individual—who had been removed from his community and confined—with the institution and vice versa.

Oana Badea, University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova:

E-Learning – An Ever-growing and Ever-Challenging Method of Teaching

Abstract The importance of e-Learning lays in the economic development, both of the individual and of the society, as the economy worldwide nowadays requires an educated, highly skilled and technologically literate labor force. There is no question about the fact that E-learning has become more and more used and indispensable in large educational areas, starting from middle school to academic educational programs. The future will bring new discoveries in this field and, subsequently, teachers and students will have to adjust to a new educational era, mainly based on E-learning.

Eduard Blănariu, The West University of Timișoara:

The Purpose of Nature in the Writings of H. P. Lovecraft

The topic of this paper is the discussion of how H. P. Lovecraft uses the concept of nature within his body of work, specifically this paper will focus on the short stories The Colour Out of Space, The Call of Cthulhu and the novella At the Mountains of Madness. To be more precise, my research in this article examines how Lovecraft uses nature as a setting to further create a feeling of unease within his stories and how the oppressive environments add to the mystical horror of the stories set within the Lovecraft universe.

Nicolae Bobaru, The West University of Timișoara:

The Maritime World and the Ecological Hero

What makes an ecological hero? Can heroic self-assertion ever be compatible with ecological interconnectedness? Our present paper will focus on the problem of the hero who exacerbates of anthropocentrism. Literature reflects and modifies existing ideas about what human beings are and how we interact with large-scale natural systems. The oceanic world is less hospitable and, in human terms at least, less sustainable. The ocean is not really a home for people. But despite or perhaps because of the difficulties of living in or near the great waters, the sea has always been one of the most fecund sites of literary invention. These oceanic heroes, who exert themselves in intimate and dangerous contact with the fluid element, may provide models for surviving the present era of ecological crisis and disruption. Humans crave both heroes and ecological order, and it may be that we cannot have both.

Iuliana Borbely, Partium Christian University:

Translating Subtitles in Documentaries

Subtitle translation entails condensing or cutting the text. Due to the strict spatial and temporal limitations that rule this branch of audiovisual translation, the subtitle must be reduced, usually by cutting various elements of the audial utterances. There is no rule regarding which grammatical category should be eliminated first, but each case must be considered individually. Some audiovisual genres — e.g., documentaries in which the image may not compensate for any text reduction— pose challenges to translators. The present paper aims to analyze the translation of the English subtitles into Hungarian in documentaries. The analysis is conducted on episodes of the documentary *How the Universe Works*, Season 3.

Sorin Ciutacu, The West University of Timișoara:

Aesthetic Transcendentalism as Perceived in Landscape Paintings

The study seeks out the connections between the transcendental aesthetics as put forward by Emerson and the in-built aesthetic outlook of the American landscape painters Thomas Cole and Asher Durand. The theory of the Emersonian artist gifted with the intellect receptive draws on the theory of the Kantian genius that stands half-way between nature and art, through whose intervention nature “gives the rule to art” and the creativity of the genius is likened to the action-reception of the “gift of nature.” The study features some of the painters’ works and their aesthetic creeds.

PROGRAMME

Paula Rebeca Cozma, The West University of Timișoara:
Magic Realism and Trauma in Jewish-American fiction

Grounded in literature by Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Salman Rushdie, Magic Realism is a literary genre of contradictions and paradoxes, in which two incompatible worlds co-exist. Due to its paradoxical characteristics, Magic Realism succeeds in representing traumatic experiences and events like the Holocaust. This paper aims to analyze how contemporary Jewish-American writers use Magic Realism in their fiction to talk about the intergenerational aspects of the Holocaust trauma and how they manage to recreate the past of their ancestors using imagination and history. The focus will be mainly on the third-generation Jewish-American writer Jonathan Safran Foer and on his novel, "Everything is Illuminated".

Andrea Csillag, Debrecen Reformed Theological University:
Prepositions of Surprise

This paper is part of a larger study investigating the language of surprise, one of the six universal basic emotions (Ekman et al, 1972). Consulting related literature, I find that using the lexical approach Kövecses (2000) and (2015) investigates full sentences describing the surprise experience individuals have. As a result of his analysis Kövecses identifies metonymies and metaphors the sentences instantiate and outlines prototypical and non-prototypical features of the concept of surprise. Kövecses's analysis does not focus on the use of prepositions combined with the term surprise. The present paper aims at investigating the meanings of prepositions in surprise expressions and finding out what aspects of disgust they refer to and how they fit into the set of metonymies and metaphors conceptualizing disgust.

Xiaorui Du, The West University of Timișoara:
Double-edged Blade of Grass: Herman Melville's Critique of American Democracy in Pierre; Or the Ambiguities

My essay examines Herman Melville's critique of American democracy in his novel *Pierre; Or the Ambiguities*. This examination is approached from the perspective of the intricate and dynamic relationship between the American Revolution, democracy, nature, individualism, and urbanization. I argue that while the American Revolution elevated nature to the status of "patron saint" of democracy, America's urbanization, as an incarnation of the individualism instigated by democracy, is seen by Melville as an assault on nature and, consequently, destructive to democracy. The trajectory of *Pierre*'s life parallels the rise and fall of democracy in the American life. The tragic deaths of *Pierre*, his half-sister Isabel, and his fiancée Lucy reveals Melville's profound doubt of the sustainability of American democracy.

Alexandra Erdős, University of Debrecen:
Passing for Langston Hughes: Double Consciousness and Spaces of In-Between

In the midst of Jim Crow America, it was the black American's strife to attain their integrated selfhood, i.e., according to W.E.B. Du Bois in *The Soul of Black Folk*, to "merge his double self into a better and truer self" without losing one identity segment for the sake of the other. The problem of the African American dualism is that two "unintegrated consciousnesses" (see James Smethurst) exist in the African American simultaneously, which envisions the possibility of a space in which the focus is not on one or the other pole but on a bridging or overarching subjectivity. However, the process creates tension, even anxiety, in the black subject. In Langston Hughes's short fiction, the tension is not debilitating, but rather it represents a creative space that enables the subject to use humor, as in wearing a mask, to escape racism and 'pass.' The short stories rely on the reality of black existence in an attempt to provide an authentic representation that celebrates blackness. The aim of the research is to analyze Hughes's literary in-between spaces, where it is possible for the African American subject to resort to a certain kind of mask-wearing that, ultimately, enables for identity performance and self-authentication.

Péter Gaál-Szabó, Debrecen Reformed Theological University:
Black Culture, Religion, and Ecowomanism

Ecowomanism has become a defining reference for scholars in pursuit of identifying the nuanced complexity of African American culture. The term suggests the intersection of ecological thinking and black feminist endeavors but, at a closer look, it reveals the multiple embeddedness of African American cultural thinking. The paper explores the relevance of the advent of the environmental paradigm for African American studies and seeks to identify its roots as a source for the construction of black religio-cultural identity.

Edit Gálla, Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary:
Laws of Nature in Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology

Masters' volume of poetry, published in 1915, consists of short monologues, spoken by the dead residents of a fictitious town by the Spoon River, Illinois. As the speakers deliver their own epitaphs, encapsulating in free verse the principal tragedies, interpersonal conflicts, preoccupations or pleasures of their lives, the natural environment often figures in their recollections as an agent in their destiny. This paper argues that elements of the natural environment – landscapes, plants or animals – are represented in *Spoon River Anthology* as a measure of

human conduct and even as unwitting agents and executioners of a complex ethical code, dispensing punishments or rewards. The ideas of two early forerunners of ecocriticism will provide theoretical underpinning for this contention: Jeremy Bentham's arguments concerning the relationship between morals and the community as well as his condemnation of cruelty towards animals, and John Stuart Mill's concept of nature as a standard of human actions.

Alexandru Higyed, The West University of Timișoara:
Redeeming the mic. Interaction and interplay in Performance Poetry

Performance poetry has been a practice for many years and it has raised many questions regarding its legitimacy as a literary practice. Many authors such as Martin Amis or Bernadine Evaristo pointed out its commercial character, as well as its audience-oriented content. Umberto Eco, Nicholas Carr and Martin Puchner emphasise in their work a) our lack of concentration while reading, b) that the new technologies influence the way in which we perceive reading/literature, c) there is a tendency to popularize literature; facts from which we can say that there is a need for a new take on literature. Many studies have touched upon this commercial aspect, however, there does not seem to be a clear focus on how interaction with the public is obtained. For this paper, a close reading of poems performed on environmental issues would help us understand how performance poetry contributes to creating communities through acting out their poems.

Yesmina Khedhir, University of Debrecen:
Ecospirituality as Ecomemory in Jesmyn Ward's Sing, Unburied, Sing

In her National Book Award-winning novel *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (2017), Jesmyn Ward, an African American writer, explores some aspects of African American spiritual and ecospiritual practices and beliefs which survive until today among some Black communities in the American South, namely herbal medicine, voodoo, and conjure. Ward's utilization of these ecospiritual traditions serves not only to reclaim an original Africanist identity, but also to assert the symbiotic (yet ambivalent) relationship between nature and people of African descent. The presentation aims to examine the use of ecospirituality as a form of ecomemory in Ward's *Sing, Unburied, Sing*, and its role in recovering ancestral memory and asserting an often-denied environmental history.

Szilárd Kmeczkó, Debrecen Reformed Theological University:
Intercultural Relations in Talamon Alfonz's Last Novel (The Relational System of Personal Fate, the Townlet and the Milieu)

Talamon Alfonz was a Hungarian fiction writer in Slovakia, who tragically passed away young, at the age of 30. For his interpreters, he left behind an oeuvre consisting of four volumes and a number of short stories published in literary journals. His writings are difficult to read due to the characteristic serpentine sentences continuing for pages. His last unfinished novel sometimes presents the author in a cheerful mood, sometimes feeling a little sad, although he maintains his raconteur spirit throughout the whole book, and the text is a compelling read. In my presentation, I will attempt to explore the intercultural relations based on the relationships between the characters and the rest of the residents in the townlet, and also how the townlet and the environment, surrounding the scenes of the plot, form personal fate.

Titus Pop, Partium Christian University:
Musical Features in the Early English Poetry

Out of the different views on the status of sound in poetry, I will refer to the one that holds that the language of poetry is ambivalent and claim, as structuralists have pointed out, that language is a mere set of signs or sounds present in either one or both of the two media: the sonic and the graphic. As readers are more at ease with visualizing a poem in its written form, prior to the invention of writing and the spread of literacy, the primary condition of poetry was orality. In this context, most poetry was conveyed and accompanied by music therefore the sound features were embedded in poetry. After briefly outlining the links between poetry and music historically, I will discuss the main musical features in some of the earliest poems written in English which, before being printed, were spread orally.

Éva Szabó, University of Debrecen:
(Step)mother is as (step)mother does: (Step)Motherly figures in Kate Atkinson's Human Croquet

In my proposed paper I intend to examine how *Human Croquet* (1997) demystifies and challenges traditionally inextricably intertwined concepts of motherhood and nourishment. The narrative, in which the long-established correlation between motherhood and nourishment is revised and subverted, focuses on a heroine, who feels insufficiently mothered. There are surrogate maternal figures to make up for the insufficient biological mother but the substitutes are never able to replace her. As the concept of home is closely associated with the link between (step)mother and food, it is essential to note that pleasing food and the affections of a mother figure are not viable, unsatisfying meals permeate the text. By applying mothering theories of Nancy Chodorow and Sarah Sceats as well as food studies approaches by Deborah Lupton and Andrea Adolph, I will investigate how Kate Atkinson's novel deconstructs crucial concepts related to domesticity – home, family, mother and nurturing.

Bianka Szendrei,

PROGRAMME

University of Debrecen:

Environment as an Emotional Haven in Janelle Monáe's Dirty Computer

Environment is significant part of the African diasporic culture and history as it symbolizes and commemorates the traumatic past and aftereffects of colonization and slavery (Black Atlantic) while also serves as a source of power for Black communities in which they can rediscover and reassemble their Black identity. Janelle Monáe's recent emotion picture, *Dirty Computer* (2018) focuses on Jane 57821 journey in a dystopian wasteland ruled by The House of the New Dawn. Although the organization seeks to delete Jane's memories to colonize her body and mind, the cleaning is ineffective as Jane's memories about different spaces offer her a mental safety. Analyzing the meaning of desert, sand, and ocean in two scenes that are simultaneously dreams and memories, "PYNK" and "Don't Judge Me," the presentation demonstrates how Monáe uses environment to reflect on her past and maintain her Black queer presence in the present and the future.

Ottilia Veres, Partium Christian University:

Poems in Crisis: The Pandemic Issue of Modern Poetry in Translation: Clean Hands 2021 and the Window-swap Project

Human existence is so fragile a thing and exposed to such dangers that I cannot love without trembling," writes Simone Weil in a letter written to Gustave Thibon. Weil's words are the opening thoughts of the 2021 Spring issue of *Modern Poetry in Translation*, entitled *Clean Hands*, edited by Clare Pollard. Funded by the European Cultural Foundation with a focus on the pandemic in Europe, the idea behind the issue was to „reopen borders that had been closed, to process a trauma we were emerging from and imagine a hopeful future." The volume contains poems of poets of various nationalities translated into English, all written during the 2020 world pandemic, reflecting on the quarantine state (of mind)/situation, so that their raw material is crisis itself: they try to grab/speak the world fell apart in a poetic language, to (trans)form broken meaning into meaningfulness. Thus the poems speak about loss, vulnerability, yearning, mourning, loneliness, the search of God, tameness/tamelessness. The volume at the same time contains poems grown out of the Window-swap internet Project—the aim of which is to share our window views through video recordings to help others travel and relax in times when we cannot travel. Written by the poets in response to each other's window views based on a picture, these poems are inspired by the other's window view, trying to think themselves into the place of the other. The poems thus become gestures towards the other human being with a pointed sensitivity towards the place of the other. While they define one's environment as part of one's identity, they also function as tools and opportunities of communication and virtual travel in difficult times, following Simone Weil's idea according to which "the sea is not less beautiful in our eyes because we know that sometimes ships are wrecked by it."

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