

UC Santa Barbara

Translation Studies Journal

Title

FOREWORD - VOLUME 1

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0rf071pz>

Journal

Translation Studies Journal, 1(1)

ISSN

1555-8614

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Publication Date

2005

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Foreword

Translation has sprung from the dialogue initiated during UCSB's Spring 2004 symposium, "Literary Translation: Revisiting the Text in the Humanities." On 29 April 2004, faculty and students from UCSB and other collaborating universities came together from across a variety of disciplines to address what has become an ongoing and dynamic inquiry into the interstices between the creative and scholarly activity of translation. The success of the symposium soon led to the formation of a Translation Studies Research Focus Group, comprised of faculty and graduate students who convene regularly to further examine the complex issues of translation. *Translation*, a literary journal dedicated to the publication of original translations and scholarly work exemplifying the problematic task of translation, is the most recent product of this joint interdisciplinary venture.

This inaugural issue of *Translation* features presentations given by invited speakers of the 2004 symposium, as well as original translations by graduate students and professors from the departments of Spanish and Portuguese, East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, English, and the Comparative Literature Program at UCSB, and by translators and authors from other institutions. We have divided the journal into four sections, beginning with scholarly essays by Alfred Mac Adam, Élide Valarini Oliver, John Nathan, and Viola Miglio that address the theoretical and practical challenges of literary translation. The following sections are dedicated to original translations into English of prose and poetry by authors writing principally in French, Spanish and Portuguese. Each work is prefaced by a brief translator's introduction to the specific challenges and surprises that presented themselves during the translation process, including discussions of word-play, etymology, the complicated conceptual relationships between languages, or the development of each translator's original, and final, intention. The journal ends with a section entitled "Transcreation," which showcases original creative works by Yunte Huang and Leonard Schwartz, in which the task of translating serves as a starting point for poetic invention and word games.

We are excited to share with you these works that have contributed to our lively dialogue of the practice of literary translation at the University of California at Santa Barbara. We hope you will enjoy this inaugural issue of *Translation* as much as we have enjoyed the collaborative effort of putting it together, and hope that it will encourage and contribute to the growing international and interdisciplinary field of translation studies.

The Editors