Seventh Annual International Graduate Student Workshop

Translating Armenians, Armenians Translated: Rethinking Methodologies for Armenian Studies

April 22 and 23
1644 International Institute

Organizers: Ali Bolcakan and Etienne Charrière, PhD candidates in the Department of Comparative Literature
Friday, April 22

10:45 – 11:00 Welcome message
   Kathryn Babayan, Director of the Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan
   Ali Bolcakan and Etienne Charrière, Workshop organizers

11:00 – 12:30 Armenian Literature in Translation, Armenian Literature as Translation
   Alex MacFarlane, Oxford University
   "This servant gave a reply: ‘Translating Linguistic Registers in the Kafas of the Armenian Alexander Romance’"
   Christopher Sheklian, University of Chicago
   "Armenian Hermeneutics as a Method for the Social Sciences"
   Deanna Cachoian-Schantz, Sabancı University
   "Deviation and De-domestication: The Politics of Translating Shushan Avagyan's Book-Untitled"
   Discussant: Michael Pifer, University of Michigan

12:30 – 2:00 Break

2:00 – 3:30 From Translation to Performance: Global Perspectives on Zabel Yessayan
   Thijs Witty, University of Amsterdam
   "Opacity of the Outre-Langue: Marc Nichanian on Translation and Testimony"
   Jennifer Manoukian, Columbia University
   "Translating the Colloquial Armenian of Late Nineteenth Century Constantinople in Zabel Yessayan’s Gardens of Silihdar"
   Duygu Dalyanoğlu, Istanbul Şehir University
   "Translation as Performance: Zabel Yessayan’s Gardens of Silihdar on Stage"
   Discussant: Mehmet Fatih Uslu, Istanbul Şehir University

3:30 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 5:30 Keynote address
   Prof. Hervé Georgelin, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
   "Translating Western Armenian Literature: What is at stake?"

Saturday, April 23

11:00 – 12:30 Transnational/Translational: Perspectives on Armenian History in the Long Nineteenth Century
   Veronika Zablotsky, University of California, Santa Cruz
   "Colonial Modernity and the Liberal Art of Government in The Life and Adventures of Joseph Emin, An Armenian, Written in English by Himself"
   Neveser Köker, University of Michigan
   "Narratives of Nativeness, Decline and Progress: A Transnational Perspective on Politics of Historiography in The General Tableau of the Ottoman Empire"
   Ararat Şekeryan, Istanbul Bilgi University
   "Translating Post-Genocidal Armenian Nationalism into Poetry: The Rebirth of the Nation and the Eight Lost National Anthems of Western Armenia, 1919"
   Discussant: Devi Mays, University of Michigan

12:30 – 2:00 Break

2:00 – 4:00 Translating the Armenian Experience from the Early Soviet Period to the Present
   Jeremy Johnson, University of Michigan
   "Translating Literacy and Citizenship in Early Soviet Armenia"
   Tamar Shirinian, Duke University
   "Translating Negation into Affirmation: Perversion, Presentlessness and ‘Passivity’ in Post-Soviet Armenia"
   Milena Oganesyan, University of Montana
   "Translating Armenian Intermarriage in Georgia: Crossing Ethnic and Disciplinary Boundaries"
   Daniel Ohanian, Istanbul Bilgi University
   "Narcissism, Assimilation, and Lezvin Srput‘iwn: On Using Armenian as a Diasporan Researcher"
   Discussant: Vahe Sahakyan, University of Michigan

4:00 – 4:30 Break

4:30 – 6:00 Roundtable: What/How/Why Do We Translate?
   All presenters and discussants
   Moderator: Tamar Boyadjian