CEATL's Click List

Links to the world of translation

Free all words

#FreeAllWords is an international project organised under the umbrella of the European Writers' Council (EWC) with the aim of funding the translation of works by censored authors from Belarus and Ukraine into as many languages as possible. EWC has 46 member organisations from 30 countries. The project was initiated earlier this year by Authors of Switzerland (A*dS), Forfatterforbundet (Norway) and the Community of Belarusian Writers (Belarus). It is also supported by CEATL. The Lithuanian Writers' Union became a new partner recently. The authors' fees are paid from the #FreeAllWords fund and the goal is one million published words for peace and freedom of expression. #FreeAllWords has made a series of short videos to introduce the participating authors, e.g. Ukrainian author Svetlana Lavochkina. Click here to see her introduction.

#FREEALLWORDS

Translating the untranslatable

On the occassion of International Translation Day (30 September) CEATL members all over Europe joined forces to create a short video to celebrate translators' passion for literature, even when it's considered to be 'untranslatable'.

In the video thirteen translators from thirteen European countries each read a short passage from James Joyce's Ulysses:

Punkt

Leftherhis Secondbest

Leftherhis Bestabed

Secabest Leftabed.

Woa!

(Chapter 9, Scylla and Charybdis, lines 700-707)



The video was produced by CEATL's Working Group on Visibility, which collects data on translators' cultural visibility, and coordinates pan-European visibility initiatives such as those for International Translation Day. CEATL considers improving translators' visibility key to achieving a better socioeconomic position of translators.

'Translating the Untranslatable' can also be viewed on Vimeo.



Screenshot from 'Translating the Untranslatable'

Translating the future

'Untranslating the classics', 'A case study of publishing literary translation', 'Motherless tongues and multiple belongings', 'Children's literature in translation', 'Subtitling subtleties', 'Language as polis' and 'Democracy and translation' are just a few of the titles of a series of inspiring, one-hour talks between renowned translators that took place from May-September 2020. The conversations were organised and recorded by translators and researchers Esther Allen and Allison Markin Powell (both associated

with City University of New York) to commemorate PEN's 1970's 'World of Translation' conference and carry the work forward. A symposium on the translation of Olga Tokarczuk's work, with the contribution of many of her translators, was one of the larger events concluding the programme.

All talks can be watched here.



Poster of 'Translating the future'

French authors against machine translation

In November, the newly founded STAA ('Union of Artist-Authors') in France, issued a manifest against the "automation of arts professions". The text gives a detailed outline of the problems around machine translation, and concludes with a call. The manifest can be read here.

