

## PREFAZIONE EDITORIAL PREFACE

The contents of this fifth issue of RITT reflect the same balance between translation theory and practice as well as literary vs. non-literary translation that characterised the last issue (n. 3) of the journal. Sergio Viaggio's and Anna Giambagli's articles are very general in scope, the first dealing with a theoretical conceptualisation of such fundamental notions for translation – and, indeed, communication in general – as "context", "situation", "intention" and "sense", the second focussing on the importance of the pre-translation strategy of intralinguistic paraphrasing of the source text before beginning the interlinguistic transposition proper of that same text.

Translation training is the broadly common theme of Dominic Stewart's and Graziano Benelli's contributions, the first about translating into the foreign language which, according to the author, is the Cinderella of both the professional activity of translation and of the research on translation training, the second taking the opposite view that translating into one's mother tongue is only of secondary importance in translator training courses, which accounts for the poor quality of much of the published literary translation from French into Italian.

Less general in scope are Milana Piletic's and Tim Parks's articles on literary translation: the first deals with the problem of temporal distance in translation, which is exemplified by the transposition into Serbian of 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian authors like Matteo Bandello and Giordano Bruno, whilst the second is a vivid account in the first person of the inevitable and painful indefiniteness of the process of translating any literary works, the translation into English of Roberto Calasso's *Ka* being a case in point.

Lorenza Rega's and Marella Magris's contributions are both centred on a seldom studied stage in the translation process, that of post-editing and final evaluation. The first makes a tripartite distinction between subjective vs. objective interventions which aim at improving style and interventions which are justified by the specialised nature of a text, whilst the second focuses on the specific case of the revision and evaluation of the translation from English into Italian of a manual on medical-surgical nursing.

Specialised translation is also at the centre of three other case studies of this issue: Maria Teresa Musacchio's contribution on the process of rewriting in translation, where an analysis of the Italian version of an article on EMU from *The Economist* published by the Italian weekly *L'Espresso* is carried out by way of exemplification; Giuseppe Palumbo's survey of the strategies and techniques

adopted in software localization, especially as regards the cultural and extra-linguistic constraints placed on this extreme example of target-oriented translation; and Sonia Della Libera's contribution on the translation strategies involved in a very specialised type of translation, that of film dialogues, with particular reference to the transposition into Italian of Woody Allen's *Broadway Danny Rose*. The last paper in the Essays section is Michele De Gioia's analysis of the possible applications of syntactic dictionaries as tools for translators, with special reference to the bilingual lexicon-grammar of French and Italian frozen adverbs which has been developed by the author himself.

As regards the Book Reviews section – which was started in RITT n. 3 with the aim of providing short straight-to-the-point accounts of recently published books on translation and related issues – it contains six reviews of various books on translation and computer-based lexicography. The fact that this number has doubled compared to the last issue of RITT seems to indicate that the invitation outlined in the Editorial Preface of that last issue to provide such reviews has been wholeheartedly accepted by contributors.

Finally, the usual few words on very practical matters. The deadline for contributions to the next issue (n. 5) is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2000. Your articles should be sent to the Editor via e-mail or on a disk (preferably in Word for Windows), and in either case also a printout of the contribution should be sent via surface mail. Bibliographical references should follow exactly the style set out in the articles of the current issue of RITT. The working languages remain English, French, Italian, German and Spanish, and those of you not writing in English should provide an Abstract in English.

Federica Scarpa