

Cultural Memory and Translation

On 10 and 11 October 2019 the University of Innsbruck hosted the international conference *Translating Cultural Memory in Fiction and Testimony – Memory Studies and Translation Studies in Dialogue*, organised by Claudia Jünke (Institute of Romance Studies) and Désirée Schyns (Ghent University). Scholars from universities in nine different countries (Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal and the United Kingdom) met in order to scrutinise the points of contact and cross-fertilizations between cultural memory studies on the one hand and translation studies on the other. The event opened with a panel discussion in which the two keynote speakers, Susan Bassnett (Warwick) and Lucy Bond (Westminster) discussed the role of memory in translation and the importance of translations as a medium of transcultural memories. One of the aims of the conference was bringing together the narrow concept of translation in the sense of the re-writing of a source text in another language and the broader concept of translation as a transfer between cultures, nations, media and academic disciplines. The papers addressed a wide range of issues with a particular focus on memories of violent pasts: the representation and translation of memories of the Second World War and the Shoah, the genocide in Rwanda and the dictatorships in Latin America in fiction and testimony, the role of the translator as a 'secondary witness', the relationship between memory and self-translation, intersemiotic transfers between text and image in graphic novels or translational aspects of the poetics of different authors from a variety of cultural and linguistic spheres.

Photos (copyright: Eleonore Zapf):

- The two keynote speakers, Lucy Bond (centre left) and Susan Bassnett (centre right) with the organisers Désirée Schyns and Claudia Jünke (photo1.jpg)
- Conference opening at Claudiana (photo2.jpg)