



Prins Willem-Alexanderhof 5
2595 BE Den Haag
Postbus 90754
2509 LT Den Haag

Tel: 070 - 331 5800
Fax: 070 - 385 4098
info@huygens.knaw.nl
www.huygens.knaw.nl

Conference *Imitation, Translation and Transfer* (10-11 May 2012)

It has always been something of a paradox that the Renaissance, a movement that put enormous faith in the Greco-Roman cultural heritage of Europe and therefore elevated Greek and especially Latin to the rank of an undisputable cultural *lingua franca*, was the very era during which the whole of Europe would witness an increasing appreciation for the vernacular languages. This is partly explained by a growing national consciousness within Europe, but also by the didactic mission of Renaissance humanism: knowledge and culture were no longer to be exclusively accessible to those skilled in Latin and Greek philology. Previous research has tended to interpret this opposition between humanist fascination for the classical languages and keen attention for the vernacular in a strict binary scheme of a socially and intellectually elitist Neo-Latin culture on the one hand versus a popular or bourgeois vernacular culture on the other hand. More recently, however, there has been increasing attention for the dynamic interplay that surely existed between Neo-Latin and vernacular language, literature and culture. In this context the NWO project [*Dynamics of Neo-Latin and the Vernacular. The Role of Self-Representation, Self-Presentation and Imaging in the Field of Cultural Transmission, Exemplified by the German Reception of Dutch Poets in a 'Bilingual' Context*](#) (2010-2014) focuses specifically on the questions of language, self-(re)presentation and German reception in the works of four (bilingual c.q. vernacular) poets from the Northern Netherlands: Daniel Heinsius (1580-1655), Hugo Grotius (1583-1645), Jacob Cats (1577-1660) and Joost van den Vondel (1587-1679).

On 10 and 11 May 2012 the members of this project, in collaboration with the Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA), the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) and the Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, will hold a conference in Amsterdam under the title ***Imitation, Translation and Transfer. Perspectives on the Dynamics of Neo-Latin and the Vernacular***. This conference will focus on the issue of the dynamics of Neo-Latin and the vernacular from the perspective of three key notions: imitation, translation, and cultural and knowledge transfer. Imitation usually concerns the dynamics between models, translation the dynamics between languages, and transfer the dynamics between cultures. In this way, it should be clear that these notions cannot stand by themselves, but instead only represent stages within a continuum of cultural dynamics. For instance, the boundaries between imitation and translation can be very vague – in fact, Renaissance criticism often considered translation a species of imitation. Similarly, it is clear that translation and translatability are not purely linguistic or literary notions, but should be interpreted more broadly as matters of cultural and/or knowledge transformation as well. Still, it will prove useful to use the conceptual triad of imitation, translation and transfer to provide a theoretical and methodological frame for the study of the complex and diverse processes of integration, canonization, assimilation, transformation, interaction, interference, alienation, parody, appropriation, etc. that we observe in the Neo-Latin and vernacular field.

The conference program features **twelve international speakers** who will present papers about a variety of case studies, ranging from *Quattrocento* Italian translations, over elegiac poetry in sixteenth-century France, to seventeenth-century circulation of knowledge and scholarly debate in the German areas. In this way, this conference brings together a rich variety of themes from diverse areas of research such as Renaissance poetics and literary criticism, book history, descriptive and functional translation studies, or Early Modern literary and intellectual history.



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**IMITATION, TRANSLATION AND TRANSFER
PERSPECTIVES ON THE DYNAMICS OF NEO-LATIN AND THE VERNACULAR
(Amsterdam, 10-11 May 2012)**

10 May 2012

Welcome

- 9h30-10h00 coffee and registration

Introduction

- 10h00-10h30 **Tom Deneire**, *Opening Remarks, Status Quaestionis and Methodology*

Session one: Poetics I

chair: Harm-Jan Van Dam

- 10h30-11h15 **Paul White**, *The Complete Elegist?: the "Elegiae" of Marc-Antoine Muret (1552)*
- 11h15-12h00 **Eva van Hooijdonk**, *The Amsterdam Rhetoricians as vernacular counterparts of the Leyden humanists*

Lunch break

Session two: Poetics II

chair: Guillaume van Gemert

- 13h15-14h00 **Beate Hintzen**, *Daniel Heinsius, Martin Opitz and Paul Fleming. Translation and Transfer from Greek into German and from German into Latin*
- 14h00-14h45 **Ümmü Yüksel**, *Zum Verhältnis von Latein und Landessprache in den Niederlanden und den deutschen Landen in der Frühen Neuzeit aus der Perspektive der gelehrten Selbstdarstellung*

Coffee break

Session three: Translation I

chair: Jan Bloemendal

- 15h30-16h15 **Ingrid Rowland**, *Vitruvius and his Sixteenth-Century Readers, in Latin and Vernacular*
- 16h15-17h00 **Andrew Taylor**, *The Poetics of Paraphrase in Early Sixteenth-century Biblical Translation*
- 17h00-17h45 **Annet Den Haan**, *Translation into the sermo maternus: the view of Giannozzo Manetti (1396-1459)*

Conference dinner

- 19h00 (venue to be announced)

11 May 2012

Session four: Knowledge

chair: Guillaume van Gemert

- 9h30-10h15 **Ingrid De Smet**, *'An art not known to the Ancients': falconer's parlance in Jacques Auguste de Thou's Hieracosophion sive de re accipitraria libri III (1582/84-1612)*
- 10h15-11h00 **Bettina Noak**, *Glossemata and knowledge-transfer: Andreas Wissowatius and Abraham Rogerius*
- 11h00-11h45 **David Kromhout**, *Three Dutch Theocriti, or, A New Golden Standard? Imitation and Aemulation in Danielis Heinsii Emendationes et Notae in Theocriti Idyllia Bucolica (1603)*

Lunch break

Session five: Translation II

chair: Jan Bloemendal

- 13h00-13h45 **Brenda Hosington**, *Translation and the Dynamics of Cultural Transfer: The Case of Neo-Latin and Early Modern English*
- 13h45-14h30 **Demmy Verbeke**, *The English Vives: the first hundred years*

Conclusion

- 14h30-15h00 *Concluding remarks*



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Selected reading list

- Ash, Michael, 'Wissens- Und Wissenschaftstransfer: Einführende Bemerkungen', *Berichte Zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte*, 29 (2006), 181–189
- Burke, Peter, and R. Po-Chia Hsia, *Cultural Translation in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007)
- Even-Zohar, Itamar, 'The Making of Culture Repertoire and the Role of Transfer', *Target*, 9 (1997), 373–381
- Jansen, Jeroen, *Imitatio: literaire navolging (imitatio auctorum) in de Europese letterkunde van de renaissance (1500-1700)* (Hilversum, 2008)
- Moss, Ann, 'Literary Imitation in the Sixteenth Century: Writers and Readers, Latin and French', in *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism. Volume III: The Renaissance*, ed. by Glyn P. Norton, second edn (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), iii, 107–118
- Naaijkens, Ton, 'Tekstmobiliteit En Culturele Dynamiek – Vertalingen Als Lakmoesproef', in *Textual Mobility and Cultural Transmission / Tekstmobiliteit En Culturele Overdracht*, ed. by Martine de Clercq, Tom Toremans and Walter Verschueren (Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2006), pp. 15–26
- North, Michael, ed., *Kultureller Austausch. Bilanz Und Perspektiven Der Frühneuzeitforschung* (Vienna: Böhlau, 2009)
- Pigman, G.-W., 'Versions of Imitation in the Renaissance', *Renaissance Quarterly*, 33 (1980), 1–32
- Secord, James A., 'Knowledge in Transit', *Isis*, 95 (2004), 657–672
- Stockhorst, Stefanie, *Cultural Transfer Through Translation. The Circulation of Enlightened Thought in Europe by Means of Translation* (Amsterdam - New York, 2010)
- Toury, Gideon, *Descriptive Translation Studies and Beyond* (Amsterdam - Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1995)
- Wendel, Hans-Jürgen, *Brücke Zwischen Den Kulturen. Übersetzung Als Mittel Und Ausdruck Kulturellen Austausches*, Rostocker Studien Zur Kulturwissenschaft, 7 (Rostock: Universität Rostock, 2002)
- Worth-Stylianou, Valerie, "'Translatio" and Translation in the Renaissance: From Italy to France', in *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism. Volume III: The Renaissance*, ed. by Glyn P. Norton, second edn (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), iii, 127–135

For **more information** about the program, the abstracts of the lectures and practical information, see http://dynamics.huygens.knaw.nl/?page_id=464 or contact

Tom Deneire
Huygens ING
PO Box 90754
2509 LT The Hague
+31703315834
tom.deneire@huygens.knaw.nl

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