

Presentation

Jean-Marc Gouanvic

TTR is delighted to be able to present to its readers the works of the contributors to the FIT Committee for Translation Theory. We welcome this wide-ranging selection of writings dealing with the concerns of translation studies as exposed by some of the major scholars in the field.

Among these papers devoted to "Languages and Cultures in Translation Theories," it is possible to discern two main thematic orientations: those addressing linguistic and cultural — in the broader sense — issues by articulating both, and those focusing more specifically on the translation of artistic texts, such as theatre, poetry, and the novel.

Nevertheless, a common purpose and a general tone emanate from the whole; each of the authors presents an outline of current research in his or her chosen approach, thus opening the door to the theoretical perspectives that they think most fruitful in translation studies. No wonder most of these articles are largely *programmatic*.

The first four articles focus mainly on theories of translation in general, and on linguistic and cultural problems observed in the transfer from one language to another.

Eugene A. Nida delivers a broad survey of theories of translation. After recalling that, in his opinion, theorization of translation should be focused on the processes and the procedures involved in interlingual communication in order to understand the nature of translation, the author identifies four theoretical approaches which he considers complementary: the philological approach (from Cicero to Steiner, through Luther, Dolet and Pope), the linguistic