

## 會務簡報

### 一、“翻譯實踐”研討會

八八年十月八日市政局公共圖書館與我學會合辦自八〇年以來第七次的“翻譯實踐”研討會在香港大會堂劇院舉行。我會長劉靖之博士致歡迎詞。上午大會由金聖華博士主持。十時，朗文出版（遠東）有限公司辭書/翻譯出版總編輯黃邦傑先生宣讀論文：“翻譯研究的路向”（Roads Ahead for Translation Studies），評論員為浸會學院講師李成仔先生。接着由專業翻譯工作者關品樞先生宣讀論文：“香港應開展翻譯批評”（We Need Criticism on Translation Works），評論員是香港法律翻譯協會主席余文景先生。下午的大會由翻譯學會執行委員丁紹源先生主持。下午的第一篇論文由香港政府總即時傳譯主任龐林淑蓮女士宣讀，題為“投考會議傳譯員的竅門”（How to Prepare Yourself for the Conference Interpreter's Recruitment Test），評論員為香港政府即時傳譯員方蔚芸小姐。接着是香港政府律政署高級助理法律草擬專員張家偉先生宣讀論文：“現行法例翻譯上的幾個問題”（Practical Problems in Preparation of Chinese Texts of Existing Legislation），評論員是香港大學法律學院講師陳弘毅先生。最後一位宣讀論文的是基本法諮詢委員會秘書處高級翻譯主任陸文慧小姐，講題是：“基本法的英譯問題”（Translation of the Basic Law）。評論員由主持丁紹源先生兼。大會在五時半完滿結束。

二、是日午餐會上，舉行了頒授台灣翻譯家張蘭熙女士和北京翻譯家楊絳女士榮譽會士之儀式。首先由劉靖之博士介紹張蘭熙女士，張女士致答詞；接着由金聖華博士介紹楊絳女士，楊絳女士因事未能來港，寄來了答詞在會上宣讀。

### 三、接納新會員

本年度第一次執委會於一月十一日下午六時召開，會上討論了入會申請，一致通過張學廣、余懿迪、勞彥玲、林秀軒四人為普通會員；譚碧媚、黃璧筠、鄧詠茜、戴寶玲、伍燕玲五人為學生會員。

四、執委會初步討論了一九八九年九月九日舉行之翻譯研討會主題及講者。

五、最後還討論了一九八九年頒授榮譽會士的人選。

六、經劉靖之會長多次聯繫 International Federation of Translation，提出我翻譯學會加盟申請，現已獲正式接納為聯盟之一分子。

possibility of controlling the quality of the work, or assessing the work themselves. Most of the agencies use Free-lances, especially for Western languages, since the volume of work is not high enough to justify payment of a full time professional. Sometimes free-lances who are not qualified at all are used. QUOTE THE SURVEY CARRIED OUT FOR AIIC REGARDING INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION IN HONG KONG – ALSO – EXAMPLE OF THE LAW FIRM AND THE PROFESSIONALS – Some times customers feel secure recruiting through agencies; seem to think that in this way they will have better recourse before the law, should a law suit be necessary.

I would not like my words to be construed as derogatory towards agencies in general. There are of course a few very respectable reliable agencies, who themselves help promote our work and who have been well established in the market precisely because they know how to do a good job and I myself have got more than one good job through them.

It may be that some of you in your very specialized field of work have not come across poor experiences in this field. Perhaps in the Chinese/English combination the situation is not so tragic, and rightly so since these are the two official languages of the territory. However, have you ever read some of the instruction manuals for cheap radios, watches or computer games which are made for export? Tell story about poor English instructions. – Majong game.

**WHAT IS THE SUPPLY/DEMAND SITUATION IN THE MARKET?** Perhaps this is the best time for us, or for you I should say, to obtain a fitting place in the Hong Kong market for professional translators and for translation as a profession since demand seems to be quite high, due in my opinion to four basic facts:

- a) 1997 and what it implies: Drafting of Basic law, great Government demand for all texts and legislation to be bilingual, etc. –
- b) Booming China Trade – which also involves languages other than English – Hong Kong like a clearing house.
- c) Revaluation of the Japanese Yen and high cost of living in Japan: corporate trade moving to Hong Kong, meetings, printing, publications, etc., the Fax machine.
- d) Opening of the HKCEC.

However, when demand is high, the time is ripe also for opportunistic people to get on the band wagon. I can see now that “translators” are proliferating, schools are offering “crash courses in interpretation and translation”, most of the reputed tertiary education institutes offer now a diploma course in “translation and/or interpretation”, and of course companies and translation agencies appear on every corner.

I'm not advocating for a close shop or a limited cartel. Far from it. In my own case of Western languages I wish there were more qualified people in Hong Kong because it would be easier to operate. Today less than ever, can one work in isolation; the assistance, the support and the advice of reliable colleagues are needed to be able to offer a continuous, reliable service and break the vicious circle around which the market has moved up to now: there were not enough translators in Hong Kong because there was not sufficient work and the market was not created because there were not enough professionals to guarantee a good job. Even now, no freelance translator/interpreter can survive in Hong Kong. The income derived from the practice is good as a supplementary income, not as the main source for the breadwinner of the family.

However, I think that the potential is there now and that all together we can build up a sound market which will guarantee a respected professional and a decent income for the practitioner as well as good quality of work for the customer. A satisfied customer always comes back, and nothing better for him than to know not only that he is getting value for money but that Hong Kong offers in translation the same excellent quality of product that he can obtain in other fields.

In other words what I'm suggesting is that somehow an accreditation board be set up for the admission of members to the HK Translation Society and that only members of the Society be allowed to practice the profession in Hong Kong. In short, that to be a member of the Society be up to a certain point a quality guarantee. Difficult is true, but many professional bodies have done it like AIIC, the HKTA, the Bar Association, The Medical Association, etc. This will of course involve recognition of the profession as such by the Education Authorities, etc., and perhaps results will not be obtained immediately since a lot of red tape will be involved but if you start right now it will be easier to control the avalanche which no doubt will come over us very soon (I'm not a member, but I better apply quickly before the procedure becomes too tough!)

I'm afraid that I haven't said anything new. I have just intended to summarize my experiences and to share my thoughts with you because I think that it would be worthwhile trying to get translation recognized as a profession in Hong Kong.

And with that in mind, let's open a dialogue which will hopefully lead to some positive action in the future. Please feel free to ask question, refute my arguments or propose better ways than me to prepare for the future, which will indeed be very challenging and hopefully very prosperous for all of us.

## 譯訊

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# 讚詞——楊絳女士

金聖華撰

楊絳女士，本名楊季康，原籍江蘇無錫，於一九一一年生於北京。早年就讀於上海東吳大學政治系。一九三二年進入清華大學研究院專攻外國語文。一九三五年與新婚夫婿錢鍾書同赴英國牛津深造，一九三七年轉赴巴黎，一九三八年回國，在上海震旦女子文理學院任教。一九四二年，在文藝界朋友李健吾等人鼓勵之下，開始劇本創作，先後完成“稱心如意”、“弄真成假”、“遊戲人間”及“風絮”等作品，在上海陸續上演，獲得各界一致好評。其中“稱心如意”及“弄真成假”兩個劇本，初版之後，再經修改，輯為“喜劇二種”，改編在一九八二年福建人民出版社刊行的《上海抗戰時期文學叢書》第一輯中。

一九五三年，楊絳女士出任文學研究所外國文學組研究員，其後發表過不少作品，包括小說、散文、及文學評論等，其中尤以憶述文革期間與錢鍾書一起下放“五七幹校”勞改經歷而寫的“幹校六記”，最為膾炙人口，不但在國傳誦一時，在國外亦影響深遠，單英譯本就有兩種。七九年後，著述愈見豐碩，一九七九年出版文學評論“春泥集”，一九八〇年則出版短篇小說“倒影集”。此外，尚有“回憶兩篇”、“記錢鍾書和圍城”出版於一九八六年，“將飲茶”出版於一九八七年。

我國自五四以來，傑出的作家在創作之餘，往往兼及翻譯工作，以譯介外國經典文學名著為己任，楊絳女士自不例外。所不同的是楊絳女士不但慧識過人，而且博學多才，由於數十年來勤於治學，所以語言根基特別深厚，能夠翻譯英、法、西班牙文等多種語文的文學作品。其譯作包括自英文譯成的“一九三九年以來英國散文選”、自法文譯成的“吉爾·布拉斯”，以及自西班牙文譯出的經典名著“小癩子”及“堂吉訶德”等。

楊絳女士對翻譯的貢獻，不是以量見勝，而是以質著稱。她的翻譯態度十分嚴謹，根據她在《中國翻譯》

上發表的討論翻譯的專文“失敗的經驗”中所述，她所“翻譯的一字一句，往往左改右改、七改八改，總覺得難臻完善”。因此她的譯作“小癩子”於一九五一年由平明出版社新版之後，一九五六年重新改譯由作家出版社出版，至一九七八年又根據西班牙原文本重新翻譯一遍，由上海譯文出版社出版。她所翻譯的塞萬提斯名著“堂吉訶德”，自從一九七八年北京人民文學社新版以來，更是屢經修訂，如今已經四版了。由於楊絳女士對翻譯一絲不苟，悉心經營，加以她對原著的鑽研及語文的造詣，所以她的譯文忠實與流暢兼備，既富文采，又有學術價值。而我國的讀者，也由於楊絳女士的努力，才得以一睹“唐吉訶德”這部數百年風靡世界文壇的西班牙經典名著的全貌，曾經有人說，低劣的譯者，往往在譯文中將原作者扼殺；那麼，像楊絳女士那麼嚴謹優秀的大譯家，卻使塞萬提斯及其名著“唐吉訶德”在中國讀者心目中成為不朽了。

楊絳女士現任中國社會科學院研究員，並為中國譯協名譽理事。她在翻譯上的成就，她對翻譯的執着與熱愛，不但在我國譯壇上，名聞遐邇，在世界各地，亦獲得認可。一九八五年十一月，蘇聯當代名詩人叶甫圖申科在蘇聯《文學報》上曾發表一首長詩，題名為“中國翻譯家”，詩中稱道楊絳女士在文革期間為翻譯“堂吉訶德”而不怕冒險犯難的精神。一九八六年十月，西班牙國王卡洛斯因為楊絳女士在文化藝術方面的卓越貢獻，特別授予“智慧國王阿方索十世勳章”。而楊絳女士亦因其在文學創作與翻譯的傑出表現，成為榮獲此一勳章的第一位中國人。

香港翻譯學會為了表彰楊絳女士譯介外國經典名著的重大貢獻，以及她數十年來在中國譯壇以審慎嚴謹、精益求精的態度樹立楷模的深遠影響，經執行委員會一致通過，特授予榮譽會士銜。

## 楊絳女士答詞

翻譯大概是個沒有止境的工作。譯者儘管千改萬改，總覺得沒有到家。世界文學傑作儘管歷代都有著名譯本，至今還不斷有人重新翻譯，表示前人的譯本還有遺憾。所以譯者常感嘆「翻譯吃力不討好」，確是深知甘苦之談。達不出原作的好，譯者本人也自恨不好。如果譯者自以為好，得不到讀者稱好，費盡力氣為自己叫好，還是吃力不討好。

我缺乏自信，並且深知自己翻譯的種種缺點，不

過，如能討得讀者的好，我就忻喜感激；如果能討得行家的話，那就更不用說了。香港翻譯學會給我榮譽會士的稱號，想是我討得了他們大行家的話，這是使我喜出望外的榮譽。我翻譯的作品大小不過三部，可是感喜之餘，顧不得自問是否合格，就欣然接受了，我不能親來領受這份榮譽，改用書面方式，也免得我「亮相」時廁身於大譯者之林而自慚形穢。我謹向大家道歉並道謝。

## 讚詞——張蘭熙女士

劉靖之撰

張蘭熙女士於一九二〇年出生於文化古都北京，自幼受到中西文化的熏陶。張女士七歲隨父母移居上海，接受嚴格的英國式公學教育，假期則延師進修中文。其後，張女士又在煙台的聖方濟各天主教中學、南京的美國學校、上海的聖瑪麗女子學校、成都的華美女子學校肄業，直至一九四〇年考入西南聯大，生活和學習才安定下來。她在西南聯大主修英國文學，副修音樂，曾以“War-time Experiences”一文獲得全校英文作文比賽冠軍。

一九四三年從西南聯大畢業後，張女士留校任教，同年與殷之浩先生結婚。抗戰勝利後，她與殷先生從成都返回上海，一九四八年抵達台北，並在台北定居至今。曾任台北英文日報“China News”特約記者、台北東吳大學英國文學系副教授、國際筆會中國分會副會長、秘書長（1979—1985）、會長（1986）、季刊編輯（1972—1988）。在過去的四十年裏，張女士一直都獻

身翻譯事業。

張蘭熙女士出身於書香世家，自幼便浸淫在兩種不同的文化，對她後來從事翻譯和寫作極有裨益。一九六一年，她的第一本台灣青年作家的短篇小說和詩的英譯集“New Voices”出版，在《序言》裏，她道出了翻譯這些文學作品的原因：

“我們固然為我們國家的傳統文化而感到驕傲，也因能經常將我們的傳統文化介紹給西方讀者而感到喜悅。但是我們不想只限於介紹，更應該讓包括東方和西方的世界各國知道我們仍然在創作，我們並不滿足於過去的光榮，而是要努力跟上現代世界千變萬化的思潮。我翻譯台灣青年作家的代表作品的目的，正是如此。”

在這段話裏，張女士將她的時代感、使命感和對中國文化的熱愛充份地表露出來，使讀者深受感染。不僅如此，張蘭熙女士還能獨具慧眼，在“New Vocies”

所收入的十三位青年作家，其中有好幾位在二十餘年後已經譽滿太平洋兩岸。在此之後，她繼續埋頭翻譯台灣作家的短篇小說和詩歌，包括《綠藻與鹹蛋》（1963）、《象牙球與其他》（1970）、《智慧的燈》（1970）、《尹縣長》（1978）、《寒梅》（1982）、《夏照》（1982）、《黑色的淚》（1986）等，以及她從一九七二年便開始擔任編輯的《中華民國筆會季刊》等等，譯著豐碩，成績斐然。

早在五十年代末，張蘭熙女士便感到中國現代文學作品英譯之缺乏，介紹到外國的一般都是古典文學，如《紅樓夢》、《水滸傳》、唐代短篇小說、唐詩，宋詞等等。台灣的文學創作，到了六十年代，無論是質或

量，都有着顯著的進步，張女士感到有必要向英語國家介紹這些傑出台灣作家的作品。七十年代，台灣的經濟開始起飛，文學和藝術也因此有着進一步的發展，而張女士則將台灣的文學成就，通過她對兩種文化的修養和造詣以及對文化的獻身精神，忠實地介紹英文讀者，起了重要的橋樑作用。

張蘭熙不僅是位出色的翻譯家、編輯，而且是位詩人，她的詩集“*One Leaf Falls*”很好地證明了這一點。

香港翻譯學會爲了表揚張蘭熙女士在翻譯工作上的貢獻，以及她向西方讀者介紹台灣現代文學作品的成就，經執行委員會一致通過，特授予榮譽會士銜。

## 張蘭熙女士答詞

今年六月初劉靖之會長來台北時，我有幸能約他到我家來便餐。餐後我們在我書房中愉快的天南地北的談些關於寫作及翻譯的事情，劉會長忽然提起要邀我十月間來香港接受香港翻譯學會每年一次頒予的榮譽會士銜。我一時驚奇地脫口而出的問了一句：“你們怎麼會想到我呢？”實在來得太意外了。我心中充滿了複雜的感慨，深深的感動，一言難盡的被肯定感。

我從小就熱愛看書、寫作，但是從未想到有一天會走到翻譯的路上去，主要的還是因爲在一九五七年左右的時候開始在懷恩堂（位於台灣大學對面）開了一個一週一次的英詩班，和一些傑出青年的學生認識了，我很欣賞他們所寫的作品，無論是詩或短篇小說。而那個時代又有些評論指責我們台灣是“文化的沙漠”，當時我深感不平，同時也感覺到只有由翻譯的道路才能將我們的文學作品介紹到國外，而由此得到注目及肯定。我現在回想起來也不知我那裏來的勇氣去試探一件我本來不想做的事。大概真的是年青人不知天高地厚吧！

多年前，我就很希望我們可以成立一個翻譯中心，

專門訓練一些優秀的翻譯人才。多次試探但因家事及先生事業方面也需要時時參與輔助，以及各種其他難題都未能實現，但是去年台北的輔仁大學終於開始成立了一個正規的翻譯中心，我也從旁幫了一點鼓舞的忙，也算達成一個多年的心願及希望。

目前在國內已有多人從外文翻中文。因此已有大量介紹歐美各國的文學作品，這也可以加速促進我們國內一些不精於外語的讀者對外國文學加速了解與欣賞。也可以增加中外文化的交流。

我也深深的感覺，從事翻譯的人不但需要能真正體會他所譯的作品中內在含意，也應當對所譯的作品本身有所感觸，如此才能完美的把內在的感情充份的表現在譯文中。再美的文字如失去其中本有的韻味就很容易變成平淡無味（falls flat），含蓄的感情也需要含蓄的文字才能恰如其份的表達出來。

我更相信如果一位譯者去試譯一篇他所不喜愛的作品，絕對不可能把其中的特色譯得完美，因此我自己的原則是決不能去試譯任何不能使我有感觸的作品，

因為我不願意事後使作者失望而我自己心中有深深的歉疚。

我從事翻譯已有二十多年。至今欲罷不能。在一九七二年當林語堂先生做中華民國筆會會長時，他鼓勵了我開始創辦我們的季刊（The Chinese PEM）。中間遭遇不少的困難，也消耗了我不少的時間和精力，但是我始終捨不得讓這份刊物中止下來，不過，近來我發現翻譯工作作了太久，會深深的影響一個人創作的靈感。我

從小本有要作一個作家的願望，而如今精神時間都已投入在翻別人的作品，雖然翻譯的都是我喜歡的作品，但我仍然暗暗還是在念着我自已所要想而沒有時間去完成自己的作品。

就在此時，我能夠被 貴會選為榮譽會士，對我是莫大的鼓勵，也是我從事翻譯工作以來一個我很看重的榮譽。我由衷的感激你們每一位的盛意。 謝謝！

Text of speech delivered at Translation Society  
lunch meeting on 28 Jan. 1989

## THE WORK OF A FREELANCE TRANSLATOR/ INTERPRETER IN THE HONG KONG MARKET

by Socorro Botero – Browning

1. **VOTE OF THANKS** – TO THE HONG KONG TRANSLATION SOCIETY in the person of its President: Dr. C.C. LIU – HK UNIVERSITY Vice President: Dr. SERENA JING

Members of the Board – Mr. SAMUEL DING (American Consulate), Mr. WONG (Longman Group), Mr. LI (Readers' Digest), Mr. LO (Commercial Press), lecturers of the City Poly, Baptist College, Members, Colleagues AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST TO ELISABETH – HKG – my proposer.

What an honour – try not to let you down –

2. **PURPOSE OF TALK** – Although title is WORK OF A TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER IN THE HK MARKET I shall concentrate on the translator side a) because this is the Translation Society and b) because interpretation work seems to be more clearly defined and regulated here in Hong Kong.

No need to explain what translation is or what a good translator should be. All of you are practitioners, highly qualified and respected professionals, many of whom I had the honour of meeting and listening to during the Conference on Translation held here in HK in December 1987.

RATHER I thought it would be a good idea to have a dialogue amongst us about conditions prevailing in the Hong Kong market, how to face them, how to improve the image of the translator, the recognition of the profession and of course the quality of the work offered in the market.

3. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION** – My comments will be based on my experience of eight years work in Hong Kong.

Experience which is probably different from yours due a) to the language combination; and b) to the fact that most of you have a permanent job, the forces of the market are felt differently when there is sec-

urity of income; BUT I'M PURELY A FREELANCE – like a mercenary who goes with whoever pays!

Therefore I think that a dialogue will help us all and as a result benefit the customer who lives in this market of ours.

4. **WHERE DO WE OPERATE?** The Hong Kong market: four basic characteristics:

a) dynamic, competitive place, where the aim is to make money and to that end completely free enterprise is favoured, to the extreme that setting up a business is no cumbersome matter, practically anybody can get a licence to establish a business without need of financial support or proof of professional competence. All that is required is payment of the requisite fee. (TELL ABOUT MY SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP – I'm registered as a Translation/ Interpretation Business – got my license against payment of a HK\$650 fee.

b) the omnipotent Business Card. In Hong Kong, like nowhere else in the world, presentation of a business card seems to be guarantee of professionalism. Without a business card you are not taken seriously, but present a fancy card stating your line of business and your qualifications, and doors open as you passby.

c) Translation is not recognised as a profession. (PERHAPS THE QUID OF THE PROBLEM) – Many people seem to think that the mere fact of speaking a second language qualifies a person to translate, and what is worse still, that no special training or qualification is required to be a translator. And here I think that the Society can play a very important role, especially in the present circumstances. More of this later.

d) The power Translation Agencies – Many of which, unfortunately, are run by people who are not translators themselves, and have no