Workshop programme - Friday 1 March 2019

09.30-10.00: Arrive, tea/coffee.
10.00-10.30: Welcome remarks, and introductions of all participants’ work and interest in the topic.
10.30-11.15: **Keynote 1:** Dr Tiffany Watt Smith: “From Schadenfreude to Throwing Shade: Drag and the history of an ‘ugly feeling’”.
11.15-11.35: Q&A.
11.35-11.45: Break.
11.45-12.45: Discussion.
13.45-14:30: **Keynote 2:** Dr Severine Hubscher-Davidson: “Translation and Emotion: Perceiving, regulating, and expressing emotions between languages”.
14.30-14.50: Q&A.
15.10-16.10: Discussion.
16.10-16.30: Closing remarks.
16.30-18:00: Wine reception.
18:30-late: Dinner.

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**Keynotes:**

Dr Tiffany Watt Smith:

*From Schadenfreude to Throwing Shade: Drag and the history of an ‘ugly feeling’.*

Words are central to the project of understanding the emotional practices and experiences of the past, whether tracing the changing meanings and associations attached to words like ‘happiness’ or ‘anger’, or excavating lost emotional concepts such as Acedia or Melacholia. Less often acknowledged is how performance and theatre practices - especially those of the margins which leave few material traces - work to reform emotional sensibilities and fashions.

In this talk, I want to reflect on the history of the word Schadenfreude. From its first appearance in English in the mid nineteenth century, this word underwent several revolutions in meaning over 50 years, from a ‘linguistic token of sin’ (Trench, 1852), to a symbol of man’s natural competitiveness in an Age of Evolution, to finally, amidst growing Anglo-German tensions in the lead up to the First World War, evidence of cowardice and spite. Most of all, by the early twentieth century, Schadenfreude had become highly feminized. Women, wrote Max Scheler in 1913, are most prone
to Schadenfreude’s empty compensations ‘since she is the weaker and therefore the more vindictive sex’. In 1944, W.H. Auden wrote of ‘the Schadenfreude of cooks at keyholes’.

I want to read this changing word history together with the emergence of a sensibility of campy Schadenfreude in the history of male-to-female cross-dressing. I am particularly interested in how Schadenfreude was co-opted, aestheticised and given political agency in the convention of the bitchy, malicious Drag Queen whose failures and excesses were well established by the 1930s, from Mae West’s Drag (1927) to the British film First A Girl (1935).

Dr Tiffany Watt Smith is a Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow on the ‘Living With Feeling’ project at the Centre for the History of the Emotions at Queen Mary University of London, where she is also a Lecturer in the School of English and Drama. She is the author of three books, On Flinching (2014), The Book of Human Emotions (2015) and Schadenfreude (2018), and has recently been awarded the Philip Leverhulme Prize for a new project on sleep, starting in 2020.

Dr Severine Hubscher-Davidson:

Translation and Emotion: Perceiving, regulating, and expressing emotions between languages.

This paper will address the topic of language and emotion from a psychological perspective, focusing on translators, these interlingual mediators that haunt different emotional language worlds and inhabit different affective realities. Although interdisciplinary research has fast become the norm in Translation Studies, the role of the translator’s emotions from an affective perspective has remained almost entirely unexplored. The few studies that have investigated the topic of emotions in translation are overwhelmingly concerned with how emotive language is being translated. Research shows, however, that emotions are involved in all kinds of decision-making and problem-solving behaviours. In this talk, I will show that there are three distinctive areas where emotions influence translators: emotional material contained in source texts, their own emotions, and the emotions of source and target readers. The first area involves emotion perception, the second area involves emotion regulation, and the third area involves emotion expression. After explaining key concepts, I will draw on both qualitative and quantitative data to discuss the role of emotions in translation and the well-being implications for translators of various emotional entanglements.

Dr Severine Hubscher-Davidson is Senior Lecturer and Head of Translation at The Open University (UK). Her research interests are in the areas of translators’ emotions and psychological processes. In the last few years, she has published peer-reviewed articles on the topics of emotional intelligence, tolerating ambiguity, and intuition in relation to translation. She has also recently published a monograph with Routledge on the topic of translators’ emotion processes.