

Translating Thought/Traduire la Pensée

The University of Nottingham

25 & 26 March 2009

As the first conference of its kind to be held in the UK, this event will break new ground in exploring issues relating to language, translation and thought. The conference takes as its starting point the *Vocabulaire européen des philosophies: dictionnaire des intraduisibles* (Paris, 2004) which was described as “a major philosophical event, not only in France, but for European philosophies as a whole” (Peter Osborne, *Radical Philosophy*). The conference will continue the discussions initiated by the *Vocabulaire*, asking what is at stake when thought passes from one language to another, and interrogating the liminal spaces of languages and the refractions of meaning that are imposed by experiences of difference and confrontations with the untranslatable. The conference brings together internationally acclaimed experts in this field: **Barbara Cassin**, editor of the *Vocabulaire* and specialist in classical studies, **Peggy Kamuf**, critic and translator of Derrida, Cixous and Nancy and editor of several collections of Derrida’s work, **Jean-René Ladmiral**, specialist in the theory and philosophy of translation and author of *Traduire: théorèmes pour la traduction*, **David Macey**, critic and translator of Lacan, Foucault, Fanon and Touraine, and **Michael Syrotinski**, specialist in postcolonial theory and French thought and translator of Jean Paulhan and Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe.

“Parler d’intraduisibles n’implique nullement que les termes en question [...] ne soient pas traduits et ne puisse pas l’être – l’intraduisible c’est plutôt ce qu’on ne cesse pas de (ne pas) traduire ”

“Untranslatable in no way implies that the terms in question [...] have not or cannot be translated – the untranslatable is rather that which one never stops (not) translating”

(Barbara Cassin, Introduction to the *Vocabulaire*)



ASSOCIATION FOR THE
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Programme

25 March 2009

9:30 – 10:00 Registration

10 – 10:15 Welcome and Introduction

10:15 – 11:15 **Jean-René Ladmira**l (Paris X Nanterre), *Babel et Logos revisité*.

11:15 – 11:45 Coffee

11:45 – 12:45 **Michael Syrotinski** (University of Aberdeen), *Translating the Subject à la française*.

12:45 – 14:15 Lunch

14:15 – 15:15 **Yves Gilonne** (University of Nottingham), *Y a-t-il Lieu de traduire ? Maurice Blanchot et la mise en demeure du langage philosophique*

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee

15:45 – 16:45 **Peggy Kamuf** (University of Southern California), *Passing Strange: The Laws of Translation*. .

19:00 Conference Dinner

26th March 2009

9:30 – 10:30. **David Macey** (Freelance writer and translator), *Translation, vocabulary, quotation*.

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee

11:00 – 12:00 **Barbara Cassin** (Paris IV-Sorbonne), *Philosopher en Langues*

12:00 – 13:00 Round Table Discussion and Closing Remarks