BOOK REVIEW

Sharon Deane-Cox and Anneleen Spiessens (eds.). *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory*. London: Routledge, 2022. 444 pp.

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Translation and remembrance share the aim to provide access to information in different languages or from different histories respectively. Contemporary social illnesses, such as the fake fluency of automated translation as well as fake news or biased representations of the past, have the potential to convolute such access. Both memory and translation have therefore become precious goods that each necessitate nourishing, along with the grounds they share conceptually as well as their application. Indeed, as stipulated by *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory*, edited by Sharon Deane-Cox (University of Strathclyde) and Anneleen Spiessens (University of Ghent), translating and remembering are "fundamental human endeavors that exist in a coterminous relationship" (p.1).

While much memory scholarship still regards translation as a self-evident and implicit process of transmission or regards it solely in metaphorical terms, scholarship in the field of translation studies has, for the past two decades, started to address the resonances and reciprocities between translation and memory (Deane-Cox and Spiessens 2022). The editors productively refer to pioneering work on translation as re-membering (Bassnett 2003) and the interdependencies of translation, memory, and trauma (Brodzki 2007). Work in the field has tended to focus on and amplify two specific domains of memory: the role of translation in the museum and the translation of Holocaust testimonies (Kuhiwczak 2007; Sturge 2007). A notable exception to this thematic clustering has been Siobhan Brownlie's pioneering *Mapping Memory in Translation* (2016), whose identification of the various reciprocities between memory and translation has become an important reference, not least because she allows fuzziness and fluidity to specific realities (p. 97). These works were extended in the 2010s by endeavours of several other authors, including the editors' own, but also more cursory ones such as Astrid Erll (2011) who examined how translocal mnemonic forms and practices are translated and integrated into local repertoires (p.93).[1]

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1. Other work, not listed here, includes that of Sherry Simon (2006, 2012, 2019), who has been working on the dynamic power of translation around sites and symbols in cosmopolitan and

The Routledge Handbook on Translation and Memory takes its impetus from these endeavors in the field of translation studies to further articulate the "untold connections between translation and memory" (p. 2). At the basis of the handbook lies an interdisciplinary integration of memory studies concepts in the study of interactions between memory and translation. The four blocks of the handbook, each containing six chapters, demarcate thematic, pragmatic, and figurative groupings that are ultimately meant to promote a holistic way of addressing the research landscape rather than to instill a concrete sense of order in the often overlapping configurations and contexts of memory and translation.

"Translation and memory of trauma" (chapters by David Bellos, Anneleen Spiessens, Sue-Ann Harding, Zhongli Yu, Flavia Aiello and Cecilia Rossi) explores the issues underlying the narrativization of trauma following the Holocaust and other violent, conflicting histories that still affect communities today. "End-users" (work by Jean Boase-Beier, Siobhan Brownlie, Jocelyn S. Martin, Robert Neather, Min-Hsiu Liao and a concluding chapter by Sharon Deane-Cox and Pauline Côme) looks at the pragmatic dimensions of translated memory in use, exploring how translation affects and shapes the ways in which mnemonic products, carriers of the past including anthems and museums, are received and acted upon. "Figuring memory and translation" (Carmen Ruschiensky, Claudia Jünke and Désirée Schyns, Lucía Pintado Gutiérrez and Alicia Castillo Villanueva, Eleonora Federici, Yan Ying, and Julie Tarif) looks at the more figurative relationships between memory and translation, including counter-memory, post-memory, collective and corrective memories. Eleonora Federici, for instance, relates two important literary works by Aboriginal writers to their "culturally specific way of storytelling, while their linguistic and stylistic choices articulate clear thematic connections between issues of memory, land, and language in particular" (p. 266).

Several contributions touch on the role of translators in the remediation of memory. Chapters address how translators may circumvent inflecting the source text with their own memories (Rossi), the way translation can counterbalance those voices that may require more careful remediation (e.g., Spiessens) or render visible voices that have been silenced or neglected (Pintado Gutiérrez and Castillo Villanueva, Boase-Beier). As Federici asserts: "translators have the opportunity and responsibility to amplify unheard voices and transmit important (counter-) memories of a culture that has been forced into silence or stereotypes for too long" (p. 279). Other contributions foreground the ways in which acts of translation may shift the remembrance of past events, push political agendas, and are used to steer commemorative practices (e.g., Harding, Liao, Martin).

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plurilingual cities (Declercq 2022, 168–169), or the volume on *Translating Worlds: Migration, Memory, and Culture*, edited by Susannah Radstone and Rita Wilson (2020).

Although the focus of the handbook lies mostly on the ways in which memory is remediated and negotiated through texts and other translated materials, the handbook is characterized by a somewhat traditional and strict understanding of translation. Wider conceptions, such as the approaches by Sherry Simon, for instance (see earlier), include the chapters by Harding, Brownlie, and Elsadda. The question of navigating between more expansive and narrow conceptualizations of translation in relation to memory work, itself a sphere of varying width, is touched upon by Jünke and Schyns, who flag the importance of more wide-ranging interpretations.

The final and fourth part, "Future trajectories," opens up current research areas ripe for future development, often revolving around data as contained in archives or as processed by technology (Hoda Elsadda, Michelle Woods, John Milton, Ruslan Mitkov, Roy Youdale and Andrew Rothwell, and Valerie Henitiuk and Marc-Antoine Mahieu). We see how this pathway into translation and memory will become more dominant in the near future. Ultimately, fighting for accuracy in the mediation of stories from the past or from a different language grew in importance but has also become more complicated with the disruptive avalanche that is the wave of artificial intelligence, its synthetic text creation capacities, including translation and historical accounts, and its fake fluency and lack (of verification) of accuracy.

Both translation and remembrance act as mnemonic processes, which carry sources from the past or another language into the future. To that end, *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory* offers a well-established and thought-through timely foundation for studies at the interface of memory and translation, and as such, fulfills its aim: to add to the development of translation and memory as a subfield (p. 2).

Funding

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