

Prof. Brenda M. Hosington

(University of Warwick)

Translation, Neo-Latin, and Some Early Modern English Women Translators

The contribution of Neo-Latin translators to the development of the theory and practice of translation is indisputable. It took the form of treatises, paratextual commentary, and pedagogical precepts, and of course consisted in a huge corpus of translated texts out of Greek and Hebrew into Neo-Latin, out of Neo-Latin into a range of vernaculars, and even, although to a lesser extent, from some vernaculars into Neo-Latin. These texts represented various types of translation, amongst which, direct, indirect or mediated, self-translation, and what I call interwoven or hybrid works, blending translated and original passages within one work. An overview of these dimensions of Neo-Latin translation will constitute the first part of my presentation.

Their presence in the body of translations made by early modern English women will be discussed in the second part. Translations out of Neo-Latin were made by Margaret Roper and Mary Tudor (Erasmus), Katherine Parr (John Fisher), Mary Basset (Thomas More), Anne Bacon (John Jewell), and Jane Saeger (Barbieri). Those made into Neo-Latin were by the Princess Elizabeth (Ochino), Mary Fitzalan (Elyot and Stobaeus), and Jane Lumley (Isocrates). Three types of translation are represented: Parr and Saeger used indirect or mediated translations but so, too, did Jane Lumley, taking Erasmus' *Iphigenia* as her source text; Jevon self-translated, with facing-page Neo-Latin and English odes celebrating Charles II's return to England; and Jane Owen interwove translated passages from Bellarmino with her own writing on Purgatory and the redeeming virtue of charitable deeds. Thus, despite earlier critical opinions to the contrary, these women addressed important Neo-Latin translation issues, while producing a variety of text types and genres.

Date and Venue:
Wednesday, 25th January 2023, 6pm
Zentrum für Alte Kulturen („Atrium“), SR 1
Langer Weg 11, 6020 Innsbruck