

Cognition and Poetics Conference 2013

25–27 April 2013

Osnabrück University, Germany



sponsored by

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

 Niedersächsisches Ministerium
für Wissenschaft und Kultur

ifaa
Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik

www.blogs.uni-osnabrueck.de/cap12/

Slot III, Session C

Svitlana Shurma (National Aviation University, Kiev)
& Anna Chesnokova (Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University, Kiev)
**Emily Dickinson's Poetry in Russian and Ukrainian Translation:
Synaesthetic Shift**

Friday, April 26, Slot III, 11:00-11:30, Session C/Room 41/104

Verbalization of complex senses and feelings may take many forms. Among them, there is a multifaceted verbal and poetic phenomenon of synaesthesia (Day 1996; Tsur 2007; Redka 2009). Our research is in line with Redka's (2009) view of verbal and poetic synaesthesia as a trope which is structurally represented as a word combination, a sentence or even a whole poem, and manifests itself in the text as the author's perception of objective reality via color, visual, tactile, olfactory, auditory and gustatory sensation.

As there is no universally accepted theory on how synaesthetic images are adequately rendered in translation, the paper sets a hypothesis that synaesthetic shift between source and target texts leads to the change of original synaesthetic image and is triggered by changes in versification and instrumentation patterns in poetry, verbal images and conceptual cross-domain mapping.

The study aims at illustrating how Russian and Ukrainian translators cope with the challenge of rendering metaphorical and non-metaphorical verbal and poetic synaesthetic images or fail to do so, while translating poetry by Dickinson. The results show that in translations of Dickinson's verse there is certain change of non-metaphoric verbal poetic synaesthesia, represented by words that act as symbolic artistic details or as part of an extended metaphor, by sound symbolism, or by rhythm and meter. Additionally, there are alterations in metaphoric verbal poetic synaesthesia on verbal and conceptual levels, which might lead to unwanted shifts in the cognitive representation of the poet's "conceptual universe" (Freeman 1995).

Literature

- Day, S. (1996). Synaesthesia and Synaesthetic Metaphors. In *PSYCHE*, Vol. 2(32), July, 2 (10). Retrieved from <http://www.theassoc.org/files/assoc/2358.pdf>
- Freeman, M. H. (1995). Metaphor Making Meaning: Dickinson's Conceptual Universe. In: *Journal of Pragmatics*, Vol. 24, pp. 643-666.
- Redka, I. (2009). Synaesthetic Imagery of the Poetic Text: A Case of American Female Poetry of Late XIX – Early XXI Century. Kyiv National Linguistic University. Unpublished Ph.D. thesis.
- Tsur, R. (2007). Issues in Literary Synaesthesia. In: *Style*, Vol. 41, No. 1, pp. 26-45