Legacy of Popovič and Holmes beyond their century

EMÍLIA PEREZ – MARTIN DJOVČOŠ – MÁRIA KUSÁ

This issue of WORLD LITERATURE STUDIES focuses on the field of translation studies, particularly on the Nitra and Low Countries schools, which both significantly contributed to the creation of translation studies (TS) as an individual discipline back in the 1970’s. The issue focuses mainly on the two main representatives of these schools, Anton Popovič and James S. Holmes, who can be in many ways considered the pioneers of translation studies. Both figures, their work and research activities are examined in the context of their time as well as their common research intersections. This is also reflected in the thematic structure of the issue and diverse representation of authors. Most of the authors firstly introduced their views on the topic during the international conference Some Holmes and Popovič in all of us? The Low Countries and the Nitra Schools in the 21st century, which was organised by the Department of Translation Studies, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra (Slovakia); the Institute of World Literature, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava (Slovakia); and the Centre for Translation Studies, KU Leuven (Belgium) in October 2015. Both the conference and this issue were supported by the Scientific Grant Agency VEGA under grant No. 2/0200/15 “Translation as Part of Cultural Space 2. Fact, Phenomena and Personalities in Translation Activities in the Slovak Cultural Space and the Forms of their Functioning” (Preklad ako súčasť dejín kultúrneho priestoru II. Fakty, javy a osobnosti prekladových aktivít v slovenskom kultúrnom priestore a podoby ich fungovania v ňom).

As the title of this issue suggests, however, its ambition goes further, attempting to reveal additional applicability and usability in the new contexts in present-day translation studies. Therefore, besides the articles introducing the activities of Popovič, Holmes and their schools from a historical point of view (Katarína Bednárová, Ton Naaijkens, Mária Valentová), the issue also offers contributions focusing on their possible further impact on translation studies as such (Luc van Doorslaer) and on selected research areas (Iryna Odrekhivska, Igor Tyšš, Marie Krappmann, Anita Huťková, Ján Živčák). The articles are introduced in a wider context in the introductory study by Martin Djovčoš and Emília Perez.