

“La traducción del teatro del Siglo de Oro en el contexto anglosajón: el efecto T”

Prof. David Johnston (Queen’s University, Belfast)

Thursday 3 April 2014, 11am, Facultade de Filoloxía e Tradución da Universidade de Vigo (room B2)

Abstract.- Professor David Johnston will discuss his experience as a translator of Spanish Golden Age Theatre for the *Royal Shakespeare Company*. His talk will focus on the convergence of theatre, translation and performance and will discuss theoretical models and paradigms as well as forms of cultural praxis. Thus, Professor Johnston will comment on his recent production of Lope de Vega’s *The Dog in the Manger* for English-speaking audiences. His emphasis will be on translation as dialogue, an encounter between two different cultures, since, as he maintains, like all subjects in the Humanities, translation is about thinking, about critical analysis and response, but, above all, translation is deeply involved with the making of culture in a very real way.

Bio.- David Johnston is Professor at Queen’s University (Belfast) and a translation studies scholar of international reputation whose work is noted for its emphasis on creative engagement and ethical responsibility. He is frequently invited to deliver keynote lectures both at academic conferences around the world and at symposia organized by a wide range of cultural bodies, including the National Theatre in London, the Mexican Ministry of Culture, and the Nobel Academy in Stockholm

It is this practical side to his work that has created immense international cultural impact. He has become a multi-award winning translator who, in the last three years alone, has had over twenty professional and thirty amateur productions of his work in eight different countries. In Ireland he has worked with the Lyric and the Abbey, and has had national tours with Galloglass and Bruiser theatre companies. But his translations have been performed by some of the leading companies around the world – from the BBC to the Royal Court to the Washington Shakespeare Company. Furthermore, he has been commissioned three times by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Much of this involvement has been with Spanish Golden Age theatre. Of the twenty-five professional productions of the great Lope de Vega on the British stage since 1900, fourteen of them have come from David, picking up a number of prestigious international awards along the way. And such audiences have turned up in numbers – his recent Washington production of Lope de Vega’s *The Dog in the Manger*, for example, played to over 26,000 spectators and was nominated for five Helen Hayes awards (including best play of the year).

His emphasis on translation as dialogue, an encounter, between two different cultures and languages has also led to success in securing external research funding. He is currently working with colleagues from Oxford and King’s College, London on a £1m grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

More info: [http://pure.qub.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/david-johnston\(31ef7ce2-a5ec-488d-8691-38c949aba005\).html](http://pure.qub.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/david-johnston(31ef7ce2-a5ec-488d-8691-38c949aba005).html)