

# The Creation and Evolution of *Clina*, a Journal of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Communication (2013-2017)

## *La creación y evolución de Clina, una revista de traducción, interpretación y comunicación intercultural (2013-2017)*

**Daniel LINDER**

*University of Salamanca*  
dlinder@usal.es

The journal *Clina* is the brainchild of two members of the Translation and Interpreting Department of the University of Salamanca, Ovidi Carbonell Cortés and María Ángeles Recio Ariza, with the pivotal early adherent Izaskun Elorza Amorós, from the English Philology Department. The official establishment of the Editorial Board took place in November, 2013, with the active, experienced collaboration of Fernando Toda Iglesia, Rosario Martín Ruano, Agustín Torijano Pérez, Eduardo González Gonzalo and Anna Gil Bardají, and the enthusiastic participation of a younger generation of scholars and professionals, including David González-Iglesias González, Reyes Albarrán Martín, and Miriam Pérez-Veneros. That core team, including me, Daniel Linder, began the task of structuring the journal and preparing the first issue, which appeared in June 2015.

*Clina* publishes monographic issues centered on translation, interpreting and intercultural communication. «Cline», whether it is a mathematical, biological or linguistic term, is a continuous, gradual change of an object over an area or time, a term

that alludes to the complex and interconnected nature of translational and interlingual communicative phenomena. The guest editors of each monographical issue are meant to be a member of the Department of Translation and Interpreting of the University of Salamanca, which sponsors the journal, and a prominent scholar from an international educational institution. This scholar should be able to understand articles written in Spanish, for the journal welcomes submissions in both Spanish and English. The recent issue on translation and interpreting of smaller languages in the EU, guest-edited by Goedele De Sterck and Anna Vermeulen, and the two upcoming issues on Interpreting in International Organisations, guest-edited by Icíar Alonso Araguás and Mariachiara Russo, are model issues in that sense. In addition to the articles, each monographic issue typically contains reviews of books published within the last two years on the same subject as the monograph. In this sense, the monographic issue on Arabic literature in translation, guest-edited by Tarek Shamma, is a model in that it contains five well-chosen, peer-reviewed articles and one topical book review. The journal is open to submissions of proposals for future issues, in particular to issues which focus on under-researched areas of scholarship and languages.

As mentioned above, the journal publishes monographic issues on current topical issues in the fields of translation, interpreting and intercultural communication. During these first years, open submissions were accepted and were published when enough of these could be collected into a topic-centered monograph. The first two issues explored intercultural communication and the current issue, our fifth, explores current aspects of translation, on the one hand, and interpreting, on the other, with articles that focus on either methodology or professional issues. A detailed description of the contents of the articles received as open submissions and published in two monographic dossiers in this issue are presented below. However, this issue marks the last in which non-monographic submissions will be accepted. The horizon for the next two years of the journal and for the foreseeable future beyond that will be filled solely with current-interest, guest-edited monographic issues.

The editor's seat in the journal, like the role of the journal's guest editors, is also a shared duty. When the journal launched in 2015, it did so under the co-editorship of María Ángeles Recio and Daniel Linder. The administrative model that our department has established for the journal seeks the participation of all members who wish to contribute. We have established that every two years one of the co-editors will be replaced by a new co-editor. With a four-year term length for each co-editor, the Salamanca model ensures that new co-editors will always work with an experienced co-editor, then in turn act as the experienced co-editor with a fresh co-editor until the end of his or her four-year term. In strict compliance with this model, a new co-editor, Goedele De Sterck, has joined the *Clina* team in order to take up the co-editor role formerly occupied by me, effective from this issue. With her experience in the role of guest editor, Prof. De Sterck is an ideal person to take up the responsibility of co-editing the journal with María Ángeles Recio for the next two years.

*Clina* is published by Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca (University of Salamanca Press) via an open-access platform for digital publication called Open Journal Systems (OJS). Throughout the period of creation and evolution of *Clina*, we have relied on the support of EUSAL managing directors María José Rodríguez Sánchez de León and Eduardo Azofra Agustín. The journal was initially conceived as a paper-print publication but quickly was encouraged to go paper-free. This 100% digital initiative not only applies to the end articles and book reviews but it also applies to the complex processing of all the work of authors, peer reviewers, copy editors and other professionals. Though this system is not without its almost daily challenges, there are advances in almost every issue: starting with the last issue all of our articles have a DOI, a unique identifier for web-published content; starting just weeks ago print copies of complete issues can be purchased on demand; and I am sure a new advance for *Clina* will have been enacted before the next issue is published. The special expertise and guidance of Digital Editor Ángel Redero Hernández has been a key to getting us where we are today.

This brief overview of the early history of *Clina* brings us to the current monographic issue, «Translation and Interpreting: Methodological and Professional Issues». Despite the fact that these articles and reviews were received as open submissions, an option that will end with this issue, there are two dual threads that cross-link this issue's contents. The first two articles, by Martínez Sierra and Santamaría Ciordia, hone in on the methodology of translation and interpreting, respectively, and the remaining four are case studies that showcase current professional issues in both fields.

Juan José Martínez Sierra engages in a theoretical discussion of the subtle difference between using literal translation as an overarching method and employing a variety of literal translation techniques as a skilled manner of attaining literal target texts. In the context of audiovisual texts, literal translation is more commonly used than oblique or domesticating methods in both dubbing and subtitling, so the thick discussion of the didactic usefulness of method, i.e. the macro-approach, vs. technique, i.e. the micro-solutions chosen, is a pertinent one for all AV translation trainers.

Leticia Santamaría Ciordia offers us the second methodological study in this issue, a research-backed didactic proposal for interpreter training in a blended learning situation with the support of on-line teaching/learning tools such as Blackboard. This interpreter trainer shows how deliberate, experiential learning, both within and beyond the classroom, can bolster learning outcomes when conducted in environments that ensure safety and efficiency. The process she proposes feeds off the expertise of professional interpreters while it also fosters the peer-to-peer cooperative interaction and evaluation of interpreter trainees.

Todd Womble, who presents the first of the four case studies, explores what it means for readers when authors use untranslated, unmarked instances of code-switching between English and Spanish in the same literary text: readers thrown into such bilingual environments are forced to become translators in order to tease out textual meaning from these multicultural textual milieu or risk feeling excluded if they

do not. Womble argues that the meanings thus enticed will vary greatly and lead to reader experiences in which these meanings conflict and vie for power. Monolingual English readers, unapologetically excluded by non-translation, have an entirely different «comprehension-without-translation» experience of these texts with embedded Spanish when compared to bilingual readers.

I would like to express my gratitude to Sue-Ann Harding, Professor of the Translation and Interpreting Institute at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (Doha, Qatar) and expert in narrative theory in translation studies, for bringing this article to our attention. I would also like to thank Prof. Harding for her valuable editorial opinion on a number of articles submitted to *Clina* and for the thorough, thoughtful academic guidance she gave to the authors whose articles she reviewed.

Bárbara Cerrato Rodríguez examines the incomplete narratives of history and of translation history with an eye to unearthing and exposing the microhistories of the many participants and practitioners who labor under the constraints of dominant power structures. She focuses on the way in which subalterns within power systems can subvert the dominating discourse and gain a foothold for resistance and visibility. She shows how history can provide us with information that changes how we interpret and thus translate texts, and she shows how translations of historical texts can provide new information which can alter our understanding of official history itself. This has been used especially by underempowered women to create a certain ideological awareness of language and activism against embedded linguistic forms and the uncritical use of language.

The novella *Queer* by William Burroughs is studied by Guillermo Badenes, who delves into the complex history of the source text, written in the early 1950s and published in the mid-1980s, and explores the 2013 Spanish translation by Marcial Souto. He also explores the link between translation and history and misrepresentation of the Other, this time focusing on queer history and literature. While Burroughs is reserved in his use of gay slang, though his novel is not devoid of it nor of «camp» passages, Souto's translation does attempt to use both extensively. However, Badenes detects loss in the translation of some of the source text's expressive power, particularly in the hollowing out of the main character's inner world.

Using a very rigorous methodology, Sofie Van de Geuchte and Leona Van Vaerenbergh have gathered data about social interpreters and intercultural mediators within a healthcare setting in Flanders (Belgium). They have compared what each kind of professional thinks their roles should entail with what other healthcare professionals, who use their services think these roles should entail. The study reveals several areas of disagreement between each kind of professional (social interpreters and intercultural mediators), between these professionals and healthcare providers (e.g. between interpreters and doctors) and among healthcare providers (e.g. some doctors have different opinions from other doctors). This study demonstrates the importance of this

kind of research in helping to develop more up-to-date, comprehensive, and specific codes of conduct for social interpreters in different settings.

This issue on «Translation and Interpreting: Methodological and Professional Issues» also has two book reviews. The first, written by Bárbara Cerrato Rodríguez, is a critical review of the volume entitled *Variación lingüística, traducción y cultura: de la conceptualización a la práctica profesional* [Language Varieties, Translation and Culture: From Core Concept to Professional Practice]. The second book review, by Alicia Silvestre Miralles, closely examines *Français juridique langue étrangère. Exercices de pratique linguistique pour la matière civile* [French Legal Language for Foreigners: Practical Exercises for Civil Law], by Danielle Dubroca.

As I send this fifth issue of *Clina* out into the world and step back from the journal to make room for it to grow and develop further under a rejuvenated editorial team, I only have words of thanks for all members of the editorial team, all members of the Department of Translation and Interpreting at the University of Salamanca, and all members of the international scientific committee who generously cast in their lot with us from the very start.