

Manchester in Translation will return as an online conference in February 2021



In February 2021, Comma Press will host a series of free online workshops and talks offering advice and insight into the world of translation. Manchester in Translation will be an opportunity for budding translators – or those with a passion for languages – in the North of England to develop practical skills for literary translation in particular, learn about the life of the translator and discover ways of getting themselves published.

The online conference will run over three days from the 16th to the 18th of February and will include a keynote from award-winning translator of Bengali-English, Arunava Sinha, two panel events and three workshops focusing on literary translation from Urdu, Punjabi and Spanish into English.

The keynote and panel events will all run from 11am-12pm each day, and the workshops will run from 2-4.30pm each afternoon. The keynote and panel events will be available to playback after the live events.

Keynote:

Arunava Sinha is the translator of over sixty books from Bengali into English. Winner of the Crossword translation award, for both Sankar's *Chowringhee* and Anita Agnihotri's *Seventeen*, his translation of *Chowringhee* was also shortlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. His translation for Sangeeta Bandyopadhyay's *The Yogini* has won an English PEN award. He was born and grew up in Kolkata, and lives and writes in New Delhi.

Award-winning translator Arunava Sinha reflects on his career as a translator and the joys and perils of linguistic multiplicity. This talk will be an opportunity to find out more about what makes a good translation and the tools you'll need to break into the industry.

Panel: How the publisher will work with you

Nichola Smalley is a translator and lover of Swedish and Norwegian literature and publicist at And Other Stories. Her translations range from *Jogo Bonito* by Henrik Brandão Jönsson (Yellow Jersey Press), a Swedish book about Brazilian football, to the latest novel by Norwegian superstar Jostein Gaarder, *An Unreliable Man* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson).

Sophie Hughes is a literary critic and translator from Spanish to English, known for her translations of writers such as Laia Jufresa and José Revueltas. In 2019 she was shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize for her translation of Alia Trabucco Zerán's *The Remainder*.

Sherif Dhaimish is the editorial and production manager at Medina Publishing and a curator. He previously worked at Darf Publishers as an editor. Now residing in London, Sherif is originally from Pendle, Lancashire. He graduated from the University of Leeds in Communications, and received an MA in Critical Theory from King's College London.

Panel: Surviving and thriving as a literary translator

Khairani Barokka is an Indonesian writer and artist. *Modern Poetry in Translation's* Inaugural Poet-in-Residence, she is Researcher-in-Residence and Research Fellow at UAL's Decolonising Arts Institute, and Associate Artist at the UK's National Centre for Writing. She is co-editor of *Stairs and Whispers: D/Deaf and Disabled Poets Write Back* (Nine Arches), author-illustrator of *Indigenous Species* (Tilted Axis), and author of debut poetry collection *Rope* (Nine Arches Press). Her next book is *Ultimatum Orangutan* (Nine Arches, 2021).

Ruth Clarke is a translator from Italian, French and Spanish. She has translated work by authors from Benin to Venezuela, including Mariana Enríquez, Cristina Caboni, Enoch Meyomesse and Leonardo Padrón. Her translation of Evelina Santangelo's novel *From Another World* will be published by Granta in 2021. Ruth is a founding member of the London-based translators collective The Starling Bureau.

Sawad Hussein is the winner of the 2019 Arablit Short Story Prize and two English PEN Translates awards. She co-teaches a workshop on translating Arabic comics at UK secondary schools via the collective Shadow Heroes. Her recent translations include resistance novella *Passage to the Plaza* (shortlisted for the 2020 Palestine Book Awards) and the groundbreaking experimental short fiction collection *A Bed for the King's Daughter*.

The talks and panels will be open to all. The workshops will be capped at 15 places and priority will be given to residents of Greater Manchester. All workshops translate into English, therefore it is essential that all participants must have proficiency in the source language (reading proficiency not just spoken) and have a high proficiency in English. Applicants will be asked to answer a few quick questions when booking to determine their suitability for the workshop. All places will be available to book through Eventbrite.

Workshops will be led by Kavita Bhanot (Punjabi), Gitanjali Patel (Spanish) and Anjum Malik (Urdu).

Manchester in Translation is part of a series of events held on International Mother Language Day 2021 celebrating and promoting literature in the community languages of Manchester, UNESCO City of Literature.

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