REVIEWS

HOLLIDAY, A. The Struggle to Teach English as an International Language Marko Modiano 167

BYRAM, M. (ed.) Routledge Encyclopedia of Language Teaching and Learning Sigrid Dentler 169

BRECKLE, M. Deutsch-schwedische Wirtschaftskommunikation. "In Schweden ist die Kommunikation weicher".

SIEGFRIED, D. Kultur in deutsch-schwedischen Wirtschaftsgesprächen. Eine gesprächslinguistische Analyse. Gregor von der Heiden 172

METZLER WIDMARK, C. Totalität und Ganzes versus Ausschnitt und Detail. Normbewahrung und Normveränderung im deutschsprachigen roman- und literaturtheoretischen Diskurs der 60er Jahre. Liliana Mitrache 175

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FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Reader.

This is the first number of the centenary volume of Moderna Språk, the academic journal published by LMS, the Swedish Association of Teachers of Modern Languages. For one hundred years, it has been the objective of Moderna Språk to promote the knowledge of the major educational languages in Sweden, and the literatures and cultures associated with those languages.

But Moderna Språk is more than just an academic journal. It is also a vehicle of further education for thousands of language teachers, to whom the journal offers insights into current language research, written by international scholars, as well as Swedish specialists. Because of this twofold ambition, Moderna Språk has a wider circulation than many academic journals, finding its way into private homes, as well as school staff common rooms, and university libraries worldwide.

To celebrate Moderna Språk's one hundredth anniversity, we have invited some of the finest scholars in their respective fields to contribute to the jubilee issue. The fact that so many of these eminent people answered our call is the best possible reward for the journal and the people working with the publication of it. We are proud to be able to offer to our readers two consecutive numbers of diverse and truly fascinating material during the centenary year, 2006.

This first number of the centenary volume is introduced by a historical account of Moderna Språk's one hundred years as a journal, written by professor emeritus Gustav Korlén, eminent Germanic Philologist and one of three (the others were Johannes Hedberg and Börje Schlyter) editors of the almost legendary editorial board that, during some thirty years (from 1957 and onwards), were in charge of publishing Moderna Språk.

David Crystal epitomises the ambition of this journal in being a highly respected linguist who at the same time has made major achievements in order to bring the study of language closer to the general public. His two great encyclopedias, one of language in general, and one of the English language, have become best-sellers, and his radio and television programmes about language have attracted large audiences. In this issue, Crystal discusses English in the context of scientific communication, paying special attention to the new situation following the introduction of the World Wide Web.

For over 35 years, the Welsh-American social psychologist Howard Giles has been in the vanguard of research on language attitudes, a field shared by sociolinguists, social psychologists, and communication specialists. In 1991, this journal had the pleasure of publishing an article co-authored by Giles and J.J. Bradac on the social and educational consequences of language attitudes. In this centenary issue, Giles and his colleagues offer an overview of language attitudes research with an extensive bibliography, leading up to a discussion of a new interdisciplinary application, with practical consequences for language education in multicultural settings.

Terry Eagleton needs hardly any introduction. He is the most famous, prolific and intellectually dazzling Marxist literary critic of our time. His introductory survey to *Literary Theory* (1983) is now the standard classic within the field and has been an inspirational guide to a whole generation of students. In his most recent works – *Sweet Violence* (2003), *After Theory* (2003) and *The English Novel* (2005) – Terry Eagleton weaves together questions of literature, politics, philosophy and ethics in ways that continue to challenge the very nature and function of literary criticism. We are very proud indeed to be able to publish for the first time Terry Eagleton's reflections on the death of Jacques Derrida – a moving tribute from one great radical contemporary thinker to another.

Another pioneering radical figurehead is Sheila Rowbotham, whose books *Women, Resistance and Revolution* (1972) and *Hidden from History* (1973) have had a huge international impact as part of the early women's liberation movement. Her recent memoir – *Promise of a Dream: Remembering the Sixties* (2000) – is a wonderfully evocative and still passionately committed personal account of those tumultuous times. Also her monumental history of women in Britain and the United States – *A Century of Women* (1997) – reaffirms her continued radical concern with giving a voice to those working-class women who traditional history has silenced. This often forgotten story of the inspired struggle of women to both understand and change the world is the subject of her fascinating survey published here on women and utopia.

Sheila Jeffreys is a leading scholar in the field of sexual politics, international gender politics and lesbian and gay politics. She has written five books on the history and politics of sexuality. She is also actively involved in feminist and lesbian politics, particularly around the issue of sexual violence and through the international non-government organization Coalition Against Trafficking in Women. Her 1997 book, *The Idea of Prostitution*, is on the international sex industry. This most urgent political and gender issue is something she also returns to in her article here, "Making Abuse Visible", which provides a much needed clarification of the misuse of language as part of the normalisation of prostitution.

Professor emeritus Albrecht Schöne is one of the most famous contemporary German Goethe scholars, who still, at the age of 80, is active in research and in publishing books and articles. Widely read – a true humanist – he has lectured at the University of Göttingen for several decades and is the author and editor of numerous works, especially on the time of the Baroque, Lichtenberg and Goethe. He is an honorary member of a great number of learned societies and an internationally renowned guest lecturer. In the articles published in this edition of Moderna Språk, professor Schöne returns to one of the masterpieces of literature – Goethe's Faust – in two articles that invite the reader to read Faust anew and to look at Goethe as a man far ahead of his contemporaries in his writing. Especially the second article – on the staging of Faust – makes anyone interested in literature want to read not only Faust I but also the less frequently read Faust II.

The French section of Moderna Språk's first jubilee issue includes articles by and on some of the most important human bridges of culture between Sweden and France. In the first one, Jean-François Battail, former professor at the Sorbonne, Paris, and one of the foremost Scandinavists in France, gives a short but still deep history of cultural connections between Sweden and France from the early days until today. Elena Balzamo, a French translator of Russian origin and a literary scholar (author of e.g. the Strindberg biography August Strindberg - visages et destin; Paris 1999), discusses in her article problems and solutions in connection with the current project of publishing a volume of Strindberg's letters in French translation in France. The third article is a cooperation between a translation scholar and a translator: Elisabeth Tegelberg, author of e.g. Från svenska till franska. Kontrastiv lexikologi i praktiken and a great number of translation studies articles, writes about her interview with Philippe Bouquet, researcher of Scandinavian studies, former professor at Caen and a prominent translator, in order to get to know his experiences and impressions of literary translations between Swedish and French in the last decade.

In the Spanish section, David Mighetto and Ingmar Söhrman introduce their work on a "Portfolio Electrónico Europeo de las Lenguas", how it works and how you can create your own portfolio. In his article "Iraq, y cosas así». Los apéndices conversacioneles en español coloquial. Dr Johan Gille shows evidence of how discourse markers are used in colloquial settings in order to modify what the speaker says and in order to give the conversation partner clues about how the words are supposed to be received and understood. Johan Gille is a postdoctoral fellow at the Spanish section of the Department of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies at Stockholm University. He has also studied structures of argumentation in Swedish and Spanish conversations.