

Bennington Translates Offers Intercultural Discussions on Classic Literature and Diasporas

Bennington, VT: Bennington College continues [Bennington Translates](#), its innovative, multi-lingual, multi-disciplinary translation and interpretation project, with presentations by **Ilan Stavans** and **Katrina Dodson**. Presentations will take place in the Center for the Advancement of Public Action (CAPA) on the College's campus.

On [Monday, February 26 at 7 PM](#), Stavans, who is the Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities, Latin American, and Latino Culture at Amherst College, will present "**Translating the Classics**," a night of literature and languages. He will discuss Cervantes, Shakespeare & Spanglish; the Bible, Borges & Bishop; Latin, Ladino & Yiddish.

On Wednesday, April 4 at 7 PM, Dodson, who is the translator from the Portuguese of *The Complete Stories* by Clarice Lispector, and winner of the PEN Translation Prize, will join us for "**Diasporic Translations: A Conversation with Katrina Dodson**."

"This conversation will cover the topic of identifying as part of a diaspora as translator or writer: what that means for one's relationship to language and mastery, and to notions of the 'native' versus the 'other' in terms of both language and home cultures," Dodson said.

Bennington Translates, which began in spring 2015, spans literary, humanitarian, medical, and legal translation and interpretation, with a special focus on those who work in conflict zones. The program was initiated and is directed by literature professor **Marguerite Feitlowitz**.

"Bringing texts from one place to another, from one tongue, context, history, and human body to another, is itself a political act. We can tell the history of the world through the history of when major texts have been translated—and where, why, and by whom," Feitlowitz wrote in an article for Words Without Borders.

Each of Bennington Translate's distinguished visitors spend several days on campus, giving a large public presentation, meeting with classes, offering workshops, and advising students and faculty on proposed and/or ongoing research. Bennington Translates is embedded in the Bennington curriculum, amplifying the College's range of studies, and extending its reach internationally and in the surrounding community.

About the Speakers

Ilan Stavans is Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities, Latin American, and Latino Culture at Amherst College, publisher of Restless Books, host of the NPR podcast *In Contrast*, and columnist for the *New York Times* en Español. He has translated Pablo Neruda, Jorge Luis Borges, and Juan Rulfo into English, Emily Dickinson and Elizabeth Bishop into Spanish, Isaac Bashevis Singer from Yiddish, Yehuda Halevi from Hebrew, and Shakespeare, Don Quixote, and The Little Prince into Spanglish. His books include, most recently, *Quixote: The Novel and the World* (Norton), *Borges, the Jew* (SUNY), the book-long poem *The Wall* (Pitts Poetry series). He is the editor of *The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature*, *The Oxford Book of Jewish Stories*, *The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Latin American Poetry*, and *The Shocken Book of Sephardic Literature*. The recipient of numerous awards and honors, Stavans' work has been translated into twenty languages and adapted into theater, TV, radio, and film.

Katrina Dodson is the translator from the Portuguese of *The Complete Stories*, by Clarice Lispector (New Directions, 2015), winner of the PEN Translation Prize and other awards. She is currently adapting her Lispector translation journal into a book, translating the 1928 Brazilian modernist classic, *Macunaíma, the Hero Without a Character*, by Mário de Andrade (New Directions, 2019). She holds a PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of California, Berkeley, with a dissertation on Elizabeth Bishop in Brazil and a Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender, & Sexuality. Dodson has taught at UC Berkeley, Bard College, and most recently in the Mills College MFA in Translation Program. She will be the Fall 2018 Translator in Residence at the University of Iowa.

Bennington Translates Spring 2018

Dates and times are subject to change. Please check www.bennington.edu/events for the most up-to-date information. Both events are free, open to the public, and take place on [Bennington College's campus](#).

Mon. Feb. 26 | 7:00 - 8:15 PM

[Translating the Classics](#)

CAPA Symposium

Great books bridge all cultures! Join Ilan Stavans, Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities, Latin American, and Latino Culture at Amherst College, for a night of literature and languages.

Stavans will discuss Cervantes, Shakespeare & Spanglish; the Bible, Borges & Bishop; Latin, Ladino & Yiddish.

Wed. April 4 | 7 - 8:15 PM

Diasporic Translations: A Conversation with Katrina Dodson

CAPA Symposium

How does identifying as part of a diaspora as translator or writer affect one's relationship to language and mastery, to notions of the "native" versus the "other"? Katrina Dodson is the translator from the Portuguese of *The Complete Stories*, by Clarice Lispector, and winner of the PEN Translation Prize and other awards.

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

Located in picturesque Southwestern Vermont, Bennington College holds a distinguished place among American colleges and universities. It was the first to include the visual and performing arts in a liberal arts education. It is the only college to require that its students spend a term—every year—at work in the world.

Rooted in an abiding faith in the talent, imagination, and responsibility of the individual, Bennington invites students to pursue and shape their own intellectual inquiries, and in doing so to discover the profound interconnection of things. Learn more at bennington.edu.