

Séance du séminaire EMMA du mardi 26 novembre 2024 à 18h en salle 126, Bâtiment Saint-Charles 1 et sur Zoom

“The world’s corolla of wonders”: Translation and Beauty

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The son of a village priest in Romania, Lucian Blaga (1895-1961) was trained in Eastern Orthodox theology and in classical philosophy, became a university professor and a member of the Romanian Academy, and wrote several volumes of philosophy as well as books of poems, plays, a novel, and an autobiography. After the end of World War II, the Communist regime which seized power in this Eastern European country removed many intellectuals from their posts, and Blaga was no longer allowed to occupy his Chair in the Philosophy of Culture at the University of Cluj-Napoca. He was forbidden to teach or publish, but continued to write and to translate. His most notable achievement in translation was a new rendering into Romanian of Goethe’s *Faust* (1955).

In this presentation, I will discuss the role of beauty - of its recognition, preservation, and transmission - in decisions to translate, retranslate, and publish Blaga’s poetry in French and English. What can (re)translation projects reveal about the translators’ intentions, motivations, and sensitivity to the beauty of Lucian Blaga’s writing? Blaga’s *ars poetica* “Eu nu strivesc corola de minuni a lumii” will make the object of special comment, not least because it is a plea for beauty to be recognised and increased. Furthermore, in this poem, Blaga suggests a way, his way, to do that.

Lien zoom pour suivre ce séminaire à distance : <https://univ-montp3-fr.zoom.us/j/92910915515?pwd=aPTbx7CXguyTpEn3VyExmBk...>