

ABSTRACTS

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Around the Research Interests of Andrzej Uggla, the Swedish Specialist in Slavic Languages

The aim of the article under the title *Around the Research Interests of Andrzej Uggla, the Swedish Specialist in Slavic Languages*, is the attempt to point to the most important trends visible in his works and studies. The majority of his publications, both monographs and papers is devoted to the problem of Polish literature reception, especially 20th century poetry and prose. The way of his presenting and analyzing texts shows that Uggla does not concentrate on literary influences and connections. He explains how the two cultures, Polish and Swedish differ from each other, which, in his opinion, is responsible for reception processes. According to his methodological assumption, the reception of Polish literature in Sweden, and Swedish literature in Poland (the object of the study was also the reception of August Strindberg's drama in the Polish theatre) appears in the field of tension between reception aesthetics, its sociocultural aspects and its intercultural understanding. Therefore, he emphasizes the fact that the historical, cultural and social contexts, the knowledge of which allows the Swedish reader to feel the foreign world as well as the foreign consciousness, are of utmost importance in decoding the text meanings. In the course of the time the works of the Swedish scholar became the essential source of knowledge concerning the picture of Polish literature in Sweden which is also the encouragement for the researchers to organize further studies in this field. The paper also stresses the efforts of Andrzej Uggla to make the modern Polish literature popular in Swedish press, his activities as a translator as well as his presence during different events connected with Poland.

Elżbieta Gieysztor Ingvarsson

Prof. Andrzej Nils Uggla – Friend of the Association of Polish Women in Stockholm

Since 1987 Professor Andrzej Nils Uggla was a frequent speaker at the Association of Polish Women in Stockholm. He willingly shared his knowledge about Polish literature, Polish-Swedish literary and cultural contacts and the results of his research of Swedish Polonia. From 1987 to 2010 he gave the so-called literary "Thursday meetings" of the Association for more than 20 very interesting lectures. One of them titled "Polish woman seen by the Swedes in different historical periods" was particularly interesting for the members of the Association. The lecture consisted of three parts: "A faithful queen, Catherine Jagiellonka – the wife of Swedish King John III Vasa", "Polish woman – fighting patriot: about women-knights, including Emilia Plater" and "The Samaritan woman, that is, Frederica Bremer and her support for the Poles fighting with

Russia". Association of Polish Women underestimated highly cooperation with Professor Uggla and gave him handmade diploma.

Per-Arne Bodin

Christmas as a Theme in the Poetry of Czesław Miłosz and Hjalmar Gullberg

The task of this paper is to examine and compare the use of Christmas as a theme in the poetry of Czesław Miłosz, and the Swedish poet Hjalmar Gullberg. Both of them thematize Christmas at about the same time and use it in a somewhat new poetic function. Neither of them had a firm Christian belief and they use the theme in a number of common ways: to mark a poetical simplicity, to connect their poetry to a common European cultural tradition, to express the agonies of the Second World War and, as claimed, to invoke belief when no simple belief is possible for modern man.

Piotr Cegielski

Letters to the Occupied Homeland

Based on the correspondence found in the author's family archive the article presents a previously unknown episode in the history of Poles in Sweden during World War II. The manager of the Polish House in Stockholm Marta Łukomska in 1943–1944 brokered a clandestine exchange of letters between members of the Polish government in exile in London and their families in Nazi-occupied Poland. Direct contact was not possible or threatened grave danger to people in Poland.

Jacek Gancarson

Internet Presentation of the Polish-language Documents of Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries in Swedish and Russian Collections

Digital copies of Polish-language manuscripts of the sixteenth and seventeenth century have been published on the Internet: www.eurofresh.se/manuscripts, as a result of inspiration by researches of Polish, Swedish and Russian researchers on documents of Polish origins in the Swedish and Russian collections. The chosen manuscripts still not have their public available copies in any of Polish public libraries or archives. In case of the manuscripts held by Swedish National Archives an own digitization has been made for the purpose, using a specially developed technique, in line with Archive procedures. The goal of digitization and online presentation is to help the researchers, for whom a direct access to the resources is difficult for logistical reasons, while it may be desirable for current critical content verification.

Janina Gesche

Omissions in the Swedish Translation of Stanisław Lem's 'The Futurological Congress'

Stanisław Lem is one of the most widely translated and internationally read contemporary Polish writers. Almost all of his literary, philosophical and journalistic works have been translated into German, whereas only 12 of his texts are available in Swedish, mainly novels created after 1972. Lem likes to put effort into the creation of words. Some of Stanisław Lem's novels are particularly rich in neologisms. 'The Futurological Congress: From the Memoirs of IjonTichy' is one of them, others are 'Observation on the Spot', 'The Cyberiad', 'Mortal Engines' and 'Peace on Earth'. Foreign environments, future societies and alien civilizations are to be presented using an equally foreign terminology. That imposes high demands on the translator. In part – as is the case with *The Futurological Congress* – the Swedish translation is not based on the Polish original on the already available German translation. This paper compares different approaches of the translators – valid and questionable ones – in the treatment of neologisms, and points to general problems with retranslations.

Ewa Gruszczyńska

News Pamphlets in Swedish Connected with Poland

Among retained news pamphlets (old newspapers from 16th, 17th, 18th century) connected with Poland and kept in Polish collection there are 49 newspapers printed in Swedish. Some of them were probably published originally in Swedish language but other were translated between Swedish and German. Most of the prints pay attention on Swedish-Polish warfare and represent Swedish perspective.

Włodzimierz Gruszczyński

Polish-Swedish and Swedish-Polish Dictionaries

This review of Polish-Swedish and Swedish-Polish dictionaries is the continuation of the review published in the first issue of the journal "Acta Sueco-Polonica" in 1993. In the present article, the author discusses first of all dictionaries published in Poland and Sweden after 1993, but also returns to some of those issued earlier (if their characteristics included in the preceding paper was found to be incomplete). The author also includes a brief description of manuscript dictionary of the early 18th century. The material is presented – as in the article of 1993 – in chronological order. Presentations of dictionaries also have a similar character as in the previous text. By contrast, the set of dictionaries has been selected on a different principle – this time

dictionaries included in textbooks of Polish for Swedes and Swedish for Poles are omitted. The author also ignored phrasebook dictionaries, dictionaries in guidebooks and similar publications intended for tourists. The dictionaries discussed in this article differ in one characteristic feature from those discussed nineteen years ago. Before 1993 dictionaries were mostly published in Sweden, and the newest ones were published in Poland. This shows that there is no longer need for dictionaries for Polish immigrants in Sweden. Currently dictionaries are produced primarily for tourists and foreign language learners.

Dag Hedman

"Without Doubt Poland is also a Country of the Future". Poland in the Works of Frank Heller

This essay deals with the representation of Poland in the works of the Swedish author and journalist Gunnar Serner (1886–1947), popular under the pen name Frank Heller. The works discussed in the essay are an article, "Det befriade Jerusalem" (1922, "Jerusalem Liberated") and two novels, *Kejsarens gamla kläder* (1918, *The Emperor's Old Clothes*) and *Du dår, i denna natt* – (1922, *Thou Fool, in this Night* –), and five articles written for Sweden's most prestigious popular magazine in the inter-war period, *Vecko-Journalen*, in 1936. While the novel from 1918 is neutral, the two works from 1922 show a marked scepticism towards Poland and its inhabitants, totally absent in the five pro-Polish texts from 1936. As a result of the political development (Serner was a pacifist and anti-communist), the author sided up with the Poles, whom he described as victims of Russian atrocities in the 19th century and brave adversaries to Communism in the 20th century.

Witold Maciejewski

Translation, the Orient, Secret Services and Action

A warning letter from somebody at the Turkish Court to His Lordship Castellan of Czernihow is one of the oldest translations from Polish into Swedish, published probably 1673. The text is also known in its Latin translation, while the original Polish version is probably lost. The analysis opens a field for questions of both linguistic and historical nature about the text itself, its anonymous author, the addressee and about relations between Poland, Sweden and the Ottoman Empire during the last decades of the 17th century. The conclusion suggests that the addressee is Jan Sobieski, the future king John III, and the author must most probably be his soldier and spy, Jerzy Franciszek Kulczycki (known also in Austria as Georg Franz Kolschitzky).

Sylvia Liseling Nilsson

The Impact of Time Aspect on the Polish Translations of Figures from Folklore and Popular Belief in the Works of Astrid Lindgren

In the article the transfer of the Swedish folk or popular beliefs, is examined. The transfer is extremely polarized, linked to the historical time when the translation process was carried out. The cultural code that includes belief in *spöken* (ghosts or spirits, Polish “duchy”) succeeds in crossing the cultural border and is mirrored in the Polish text. The transfer of *troll* presents a problem and takes various forms in the Polish: “troll,” “chochlik” (the equivalent in English of: elf, leprechaun, hobgoblin), as does *tomte*, in Polish “krasnoludek” (English: dwarf, gnome), and *Jultomte* “Santa Claus,” likewise rendered in the early translations as “krasnoludek.” The figure of the *Näcken* (Polish “wodnik,” English “water sprite”) does not fully cross the cultural border. This disorientation on the part of the translator in the world of folklore and popular beliefs was probably the result of her inadequate cultural competence. A contrast to Szuch-Wyszomirska’s translation of the term *troll* and *Jultomte*, is the later translation by Węgleńska. While Szuch-Wyszomirska seems lost in the world of Swedish folklore, Węgleńska is already familiar with this world. Her translation therefore “reflects” the world represented in the original. This is a result of the time difference between when the translations were done, the subsequent domestication of Swedish folklore within Polish culture, as well as the full cultural competence of the translator. Hence the temporal aspect, or the moment when translations first appeared on the Polish book market, seems to play a specific role in the translation of folklore and popular beliefs. Ghosts (Polish: duchy) had been domesticated in Polish culture for centuries. The troll, on the other hand, began to gradually infiltrate from Scandinavian culture only in the second half of the 20th century.

Tadeusz Nowakowski

Polish Emigration Press in Sweden

The history of Polish emigration press goes almost as far back as the history of emigration. When you look at the special phenomenon that is emigration press, you should do so from a perspective which takes into account the process in which local emigrations are created as well as their range and quantity. If you take those parameters into account, it will be easier to understand why the first real and regular press publications in Polish only started to appear during the second World War. Polish emigration press in Sweden was of a political and patriotic nature in the beginning. Later on, it also started being informational and cultural as well as used to spark opinions. In the article, the history of Polish publications in Sweden is separated into three periods: the first stage being the patriotic and ideological editorial work, the second being idealistic works, and the third stage that began in the nineties, mostly dealt with normal commercialism – the situation on the press market shapes the market. In the article, the history of the most important publications that were

appearing in Sweden is described. For instance, it describes the history of the weekly magazine “Polak”, the always politically interchangeable magazine “Wiadomości Polskie” and the quarterly magazine “Jedność”.

Dorota Tubielewicz Mattsson

Sweden and Poland. Culture Codes in the Time of Changes

In the article, the historical and ideological background against which the literature of Sweden and Poland arose and functioned, is examined. In Sweden the dominant tradition was one that had grown out of rational thinking or rationality, what Max Weber called “lay asceticism”, and out of the Protestant work ethic. The down-to-earth philosophy of peasant traditions, together with Sweden’s favourable geopolitical position, contributed to the country’s relative political stability. In these conditions a belief in progress flourished, seasoned somewhat with a dose of determinism, and in human being’s ability to influence their fate. The Polish cultural tradition had grown out of the Catholic, peasant, szlachta (i.e. noble) inheritance, where the romantic tradition of resistance to rationalistic and liberal worldviews – but also a tradition of critical philosophy and philosophical reflection – came to fruition in sharp criticism of social and political attitudes.