



## A Space for Translation: Thresholds of Interpretation

| <b>Presentation Details</b> |  |
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| <b>Title of Paper:</b>      | On Cultural Spaces Embedding Linguistic Acts in Translation  |
| <b>Speaker:</b>             | Ralf MÜLLER, Guest Researcher, Institute of Philosophy,<br>University of Hildesheim  |
| <b>Abstract:</b>            | <p>The concept of translation has gained momentum in academic discourse over the past 20 years. This is particularly visible in the cultural sciences where a paradigm shift known as the »translational turn« has taken place, encompassing not only linguistic acts, but also cultural spaces.</p> <p>The broadening of the use of translation e.g. in the translation studies, responds to a legitimate desire to encompass spaces related to or, even more so, spatially embedding linguistic translation, which until then were rarely explicitly theorized. The presentation will determine the cultural spaces of translation in two ways: What range of spaces shall it cover? And what is its conceptual structure and framework?</p> <p>1) The first step will consider the range of spaces of cultural translation: This range can be determined by way of comparison with the concept from which »cultural translation« is derived: linguistic translation. The model of linguistic translation is also spatial, since it designates the transfer of a text written in one natural language into a text written in a different natural language.</p> <p>2) The concept of a cultural space of translation is intrinsically linked to linguistic translation: The text to be transferred is necessarily embedded in an encompassing texture of sense which as such localizes texts in a particular space of culture. The main challenge for its conceptualization is to explain how the specific contexts in which translation shall take place are to be negotiated beyond the anthropological invariants that serve as an essential base.</p> |

## Author's Biography

**Ralf MÜLLER** is currently a research fellow at the Institute for Philosophy at the University of Hildesheim (Germany). His research interests involve philosophy of language and culture, particularly the intercultural philosophy of Ernst Cassirer. His research also encompasses regional philosophies including pre-modern Buddhist and modern Japanese philosophy. After completing a doctoral dissertation, “Dōgen’s Language Thinking: Systematic Perspectives from History and the Theory of Symbols” at Humboldt University (Berlin, Germany) and postdoctoral studies at Kyoto University (Japan), he has become the principal investigator for the research project “Translating Philosophy in/to Japan” (“Übersetzung von Philosophie nach Japan in kulturphilosophischer Perspektive”). Müller is also the founding member of the Research Network “Morphology as Scientific Paradigm” (both funded by the German Research Council, DFG). He has published widely in various languages with recent works such as “The Discovery of Language in Zen: Inoue Enryō’s Prolegomena on the Philosophy of Zen School of 1893” and “The Becoming of Form and the Formlessness of Form: Contributions to the Philosophy of Life by Ernst Cassirer and Nishida Kitarō” (2018). For further details, see [www.ralfmueller.eu](http://www.ralfmueller.eu).