

VII col·loqui internacional Mimesi



Vides d'escriptors a l'Edat Moderna: retòrica, història i poètica

I. MODELS CLÀSSICS I MODERNS

Adrián Izquierdo (Baruch College, The City University of New York)

Early Modern Life-writing and Translation

Many of the lives of poets known in Spain in the 15th through the 17th centuries followed well-known classical models, drew on details and events from disparate sources, or were mostly rewritten or translated from Latin. This paper seeks to establish some similarities between life-writing, in particular the lives of poets, and the practice of early modern translation. After introducing a short corpus of lives translated from other languages or rewritten in Spanish, I will delve into the life of the Greek lyric poet Anacreon translated by Quevedo, the lives of Góngora written by Hortensio Paravicino and José de Pellicer, and a recently found life of the Franco-Scottish writer John Barclay, written in Italian and translated into Spanish. I will highlight some of the discursive strategies and tropes recurrent in these texts, as well as their defensive intention in response to a changing intellectual reality. The analysis of these lives of poets in Latin and in the vernacular languages will reveal, in sum, some fundamental ideas about the craft of early modern translation, the adherence of the biographer to a particular interpretative or translative method, and the reception of ancient and modern writers.