
Wastes and wilds of the Third Text, a roving topos between Samuel Beckett's self-translations of L'Innommable and The Unnamable

Author : Lily Robert-Foley

Date : 10 June, 2017

Abstract

Using the theoretical tools of reflections on self-translation and the heritage of Deconstruction and Postcolonial thinking, this article strives to deform discourse surrounding a canonical author. It constructs a third text in-between the self-translation of Samuel Beckett's *The Unnamable* and *L'Innommable*. The third text is a performative space, where reading takes immediate form in its rewriting, its transformation. It creates new syntagms, figures, stories and themes in the transport routes shared by translation and metaphor. After a brief look at work on self-translation, specifically in Beckett, the article attempts to deconstruct theory with practice, reading (and thus rewriting) translations of the same, instances of self-allegory, and figures of displacement in time and space.

Keywords

Self-translation, deconstruction, Beckett, *L'innommable*, *The Unnamable*

[Full text \(pdf\)](#)