

Sherry Simon

Cities in Translation: the Habsburg model

Habsburg cities present a particular configuration of language relations, each showing a similar overarching relationship to the imperial language of German but each exhibiting its own particular arrangement of contacts among competing languages. To look at these struggles from the viewpoints of the city--rather than from the perspective of the nation--reveals new understandings of translation and its influence on literature. Drawing on material from my recent book (*Cities in Translation*, to appear in the fall 2011 from Routledge) I would like to further examine the language landscape of a few Habsburg cities (Trieste, Prague) in order to draw comparisons.