

“Special Issues in the Translation of Modern Greek Literature”

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The “CENSUS of Modern Greek Literature” project is advancing towards publication, as a print volume and in the form of a fully searchable, extensible online database. The CENSUS, a 2nd enlarged edition of the volume published by the MGSA in 1990, attempts to record all published translations of modern Greek literature into English and all studies on authors, works and topics in modern Greek literature that have been published in English. With a current range of publications from 1812 to today and subject matter commencing as early as *Digenis Akrites* (12th century), the collection now includes ca. 7,000 entries.

The two philologists on the CENSUS project have been joined in the past year by professional librarians specializing in digital scholarship and web development, and a student research assistant. The team seeks to create a new bibliographical resource for faculty and students in university programs of modern Greek studies throughout the English-speaking world, as well as many other audiences (librarians, translators, et al.). As the CENSUS provides reference not only to books, but also to individual items (e.g., translated poems, or articles) within collective volumes and journals (for instance, it fully indexes anthologies and ‘special issues’), it offers a substantial amount of information not available elsewhere.

Consultation of the CENSUS will render answers to specific queries (e.g., what works of Thanasis Valtinos are available in English translation), but will also promote quantitative and qualitative observations (and new discussions) on trends. For instance, it will confirm: the numerical spikes in English-language publications reflecting historical, political, and societal events in Greece (e.g., the Junta years, or the economic crisis from 2008 onwards); qualitative differences such as the distinct lists of Greek authors most often translated in the US vs. in the UK, or the varying types of collective volumes produced on the two sides of the Atlantic. The CENSUS could potentially also become an agent for change: if translators, scholars, and others take notice of the authors, works and genres most often represented in the collection, they might be inclined to (re)direct their future efforts accordingly.