

【Report】

**Viewing the Multilingual World through the Vanguard of Creative Activities in Spanish:
Toward Co-existence and Co-prosperity with the English Hegemony**

●October, 21st, 18:00~20:30

Lectures: “The Vanguard of Creative Activities in Spanish: Experiences of Three Writers”

Lecturers:

Juan Villoro (Mexico)

“As a Mexican Writer Who Learned German”

Horacio Castellanos Moya (El Salvador)

“Writing in Spanish under the English Hegemony”

Carlos Franz (Chile)

“Spanish, the Immense Common Language That Separates us”

Moderator : Gregory Zambrano (University of Tokyo)

Interpreter: Daniel Orozco

Site: Masaru Ibuka Auditorium, International Conference Center, Waseda University

Attendance: General 55, Waseda Students 16

* The three distinguished novelists: Juan Villoro, who incorporated his childhood lessons of German into his creative works; Horacio Castellanos Moya, who traveled across Central America before settling in the United States as a professor; and Carlos Franz, who began his literary career after living in various European countries as a diplomat and later in Chile and Spain; each shared their unique perspectives on the challenges and inspirations of engaging with literature in multilingual environments. The event was attended by notable figures, including the Spanish Ambassador to Japan, Fidel Sendagorta; the Chilean Ambassador to Japan, Ricardo Rojas; and the Director of the Instituto Cervantes, Luis García Montero. Furthermore, the presence of EFE, Spain's largest news agency, underscored the significant interest in this symposium in the Spanish-speaking world. After the three lectures, a lively Q&A session ensued, with questions and comments exchanged in both Spanish and Japanese from a variety of perspectives.



●October, 22nd, 18:00~20:30

Round table: “From Spanish to the World Literature: Role and Importance of the Translation”

Discussants:

Ryukichi Terao (Waseda University)

“Latin American Literature in Japan”

Kazunori Hamada (Keio University)

“My Experiences of Translating Latin American Literature”

Hiroki Tomita (University of Kitakyushu)

“Translating the Novel of Carlos Franz”

Carlos Franz

“Experiences of Viewing my Own Works Translated to Other Languages”

Horacio Castellanos Moya

“The Translators of my Novels”

Juan Villoro

“I Give You my Word: Itinerary of my Translation”

Interpreter: Daniel Orozco

Site: Masaru Ibuka Auditorium, International Conference Center, Waseda University

Attendance: General 40, Waseda Students 20

* After the three speakers from Japan shared their experiences regarding the state of Latin American literature in Japan, as well as the challenges and strategies involved in translating works into Japanese, the three novelists each spoke about their personal memories of having their works translated and reflected on the relationship between translation and creation. Thanks to the excellent work of the interpreter, a strong sense of unity was fostered in the venue, with students and general attendees exchanging questions and comments in Japanese, Spanish, and English. In this sense, the session became an opportunity to reaffirm the importance of translation and interpretation.



●October, 23rd, 15:00~15:30 (Private filming)

Lecture on “El crecúspulo maya” by Juan Villoro

●October, 23rd, 17:00~18:00 (Private session for the Waseda students)

Questions and answers with free discussions between the three writers and the students

Participants:

Juan Villoro

Horacio Castellanos Moya

Carlos Franz

Mayumi Kamijo (School of Social Sciences, Waseda University)

Miki Ihira (Faculty of Agriculture, University of Tokyo)

Sara Funazaki (School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University)

Shiori Nakashima (School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University)

Moderator: Shigeko Mato (Waseda University)

Attendance: Waseda Students 20、 Others 6

* The students asked a wide range of questions and shared comments, covering topics from the motivations behind the authors' creative work to the depiction of local customs and some place names in their stories. While some questions might have seemed overly simplistic, all three authors responded in clear and thoughtful English, making their answers accessible. A shared curiosity among the students was how personal experiences are transformed into creative work. The discussion, limited to the students and the authors (without general public attendees), progressed in an intimate atmosphere, further enhanced by the skillful moderation. Following the session, a lively reception brought together authors, students, university officials, publishers, and diplomats. Over the course of about two hours, attendees engaged in animated conversations, creating a vibrant and friendly exchange.



●October, 24th, 18:00~20:00

“Homage to José Donoso: Secrets of the Most Literary Writer of the ‘Boom’”

Discussants:

Juan Villoro

“My Acknowledgements for José Donoso”

Horacio Castellanos Moya

“José Donoso, the Writer in Spanish”

Carlos Franz

“Personal Memories of José Donoso”

Moderator: Ryukichi Terao

Interpreter: Daniel Orozco

Site: Auditorium, Instituto Cervantes Tokio

Attendance: General 65, Waseda Students 8

* The three novelists were surprised by the large turnout for an event dedicated to paying homage to Chilean writer José Donoso. Along with sharing various personal anecdotes related to Donoso, each author offered their unique perspectives on how his works could be read. At the closing of the event, Mr. Javier Fernández, Cultural Affairs Officer at the Instituto Cervantes, expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the occasion.



●October, 25th, 15:00~15:30 (Private filming)

Lecture on “Tonto y feo” by Horacio Castellanos Moya

●October, 30th, 18:00~20:00

Presentation in Japanese of *Conferencia sobre la lluvia* (one-man stage play written by Juan Villoro)

Direction: Waseda Association of Announcement

Acting: Vicenteakira Kagino (School of Social Sciences, Waseda University)

Comments: Juan Villoro

Site: “Espacio Mexicano”, Mexican Embassy in Japan

Attendance: General 50, Waseda Students 13

* The event organizer had been anxious until the day of the performance, as it involved a

student performing a one-man play written by Mr. Villoro. However, as soon as the act began, the audience was captivated by the student's outstanding performance, and even Mr. Villoro was deeply moved. During the tea gathering held after the performance, students, general attendees, Mr. Villoro, and representatives from the Mexican Embassy mingled and shared friendly conversations. Words of congratulations for the symposium's success were heard all over.



●November, 6th, 15:30~16:00 (Private filming)

Lecture on “Españoles perdidos en América” by Carlos Franz