Machine Translation and Translation Machines

in Roberto Arlt's Los siete locos and Los lanzallamas



A Yale S&P Alumni Lecture

Contemporary literary translation theory stresses the untranslatable even as Google Translate promises to render human translators obsolete. Rereading Roberto Arlt's classic two-volume novel *Los siete locos* (1929) and *Los lanzallamas* (1931) through the prism of translation theory, Solomon will examine how an industrial aesthetics of translatability both automates and destabilizes meaning – and ultimately permits a less gloomy interpretation of the novel's ending.





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