

# Poetry translators and regional vernacular voice: Belli's Romanesco sonnets in English and Scots.

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## Poetry translators and regional vernacular voice: Belli's Romanesco sonnets in English and Scots

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This study investigates how poetry translators tackle source regional voice within their wider approach to poetic translators' 'outputs' of Scots and English translations from Giuseppe Belli's 19th-century regional-language sonnets from working-class Rome. Each output was coded for voice (space, community, tenor marking), text-world space, and rhythm), then analysed quantitatively and qualitatively; translator interviews and translators' written commentary. Translators ranged along a spectrum (apparently genre-specific) between two extremes: (1) 'relocalising' voice in language/dialect with similar working-class and informal features to Belli's originals, whilst relocalising place and country analogies, and recreating rhyme and rhythm; (2) translating into standard (supra-regional, literary/educated) English, whilst preserving Belli's Roman setting, but replacing rhyme and rhythm by free verse. This reflects a spectrum of priorities: (1) creatively conveying poetic texture; (2) replicating surface semantics.

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The other 'Junius' in Oxford, Bodleian Library Ms Junius 74: Francis Junius and a Scots Glossary by Patrick Young, the flow of the medium, in the first approximation, compensates for the damage caused.

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