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Nonfictional Romantic Prose: Expanding Borders (review)

Gifra-Adroher, Pere, 1966-

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The image shows the cover of the journal 'LANGUAGE', published by the Linguistic Society of America. The cover is white with black text. At the top, the title 'LANGUAGE' is printed in a large, bold, serif font. Below it, in a smaller font, is 'JOURNAL OF THE LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA'. There is a table of contents on the cover, listing various articles and their authors. The table has two columns: 'TITLE' and 'PAGE'. The articles listed include 'The Role of the Speaker in the Interpretation of the English Verb 'to be'', 'The Role of the Speaker in the Interpretation of the English Verb 'to be'', 'The Role of the Speaker in the Interpretation of the English Verb 'to be'', and 'The Role of the Speaker in the Interpretation of the English Verb 'to be''.

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(e.g. [Coronal] in the consonants of [tʰiːŋ]). One of the most fascinating facts to emerge from S's study of PA is that the high vowels are completely transparent to uvular harmony across them (§2.5.5), and do not become phonetically backed, for example, [m̥u.hu.ʔi.ɐːtʰ], *[m̥u.ʔi.ɐːtʰ] 'fillies', [p̥ʔɜː.ti.ŋɐ.ʔ], *[p̥ʔɜː.ti.ŋɐ.ʔ] 'he doesn't give it to us' (158). S shows that even when comparing the [tiːn]/[tʰiːtʰ] pair, 'those vowels [in tokens of emphatic environments] did not reach and maintain a lowered F2 target' (159). The phonological and phonetic data lead S to conclude that NO-GAP, a putatively inviolable constraint on GEN that has recently become fashionable within the OT literature, must in fact be violable (161).

Ch. 3 is devoted to St', which also has distinct pharyngealization and uvularization harmony. St' has the three underlying vowels /i, u, æ/ and epenthetic mid-central vowels. Pharyngealization harmony causes [RTR] spread to vowels preceding (but not following) a guttural, for example, [tʰɪʔ^w-in'] 'to untie something'. Unlike PA, however, St' lacks the more spectacular cases of vowel harmony transmitting pharyngealization nonlocally to the left. In addition, St' lacks closed-syllable pharyngealization. Uvularization harmony in St' causes backing of low vowels and epenthetic vowels preceding an emphatic, for example, [pətʃkəɬ] 'leaf' vs. [ʔɛɬʃ] 'to cave in'. Like PA, high vowels in St' are unaffected by uvularization harmony, and S provides acoustic support here as well. In addition, a guttural in St' does not cause the backing that is characteristic of uvularization, lending support to S's claim that uvularization is distinct from pharyngealization in St' as well as PA.

This is a commendable study, and the comparison between typologically unrelated St' and PA make for important conclusions about the universal and language-particular nature of principles of postvelar harmony. It may be a difficult read for those who do not already have some familiarity with the intricate issues involved in describing the inventories of Arabic and Salish. Importantly, S's description of these fairly unique phonological patterns stands on its own as a valuable research contribution to the literature, regardless of whether one adopts a constraint-based ALIGNMENT approach to autosegmental spreading. [ANDREW NEVINS, *Harvard University*.]

Nonfictional romantic prose: Expanding borders. Ed. by STEVEN P. SONDRUP and VIRGIL NEMOIANU. (Comparative history of literatures in European languages 18.) Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2004. Pp. 477. ISBN 158811452X. \$238 (Hb).

Even though much of the best romantic writing present in the literary canon has been traditionally

and predominantly circumscribed to poetry, over the past two decades many critics and scholars have turned their attention to a handful of lesser genres hitherto considered unworthy of critical scrutiny. The twenty-four essays collected here contribute to a textually richer notion of romanticism not only by examining multiple forms of nonfictional prose, but above all by doing so also from a comparatist perspective that illuminates the crosscultural nature of this movement.

Virgil Nemoianu opens the volume with an introduction that charts the breadth of the terms ROMANTIC and ROMANTICISM; then several sections follow, each devoted to the main types of nonfictional prose writing. The longest in the book, Part 2, tackles romantic theoretical and critical prose. It begins with MONIKA SCHMITZ-EMANS's analysis of romanticism from a historical and transnational perspective, and continues with JOHN ISBELL's argument on how romanticism was disavowed by some of its very originators. GERHART HOFFMEISTER, on the one hand, and MANFRED ENGEL and JURGEN LEHMANN, on the other, subsequently study the influence of Hegel and German Idealism in European romanticism. To close this section MARY ANNE PERKINS reviews theoretical texts influential in the reassessment of several national languages and literatures, and CAROLYN BUCKLEY-LAROCQUE probes the ethnological discourse behind Sir Walter Scott's project of Scottish cultural recovery. Part 3, on political writing, features an essay by MICHAEL GASSENMEIER and JENS MARTIN GURR that traces the influence of Edmund Burke's conservatism, and another one where STEVEN P. SONDRUP examines how the Scandinavian countries resorted to their ancient mythologies in their nation-building processes. In the geography-based Part 4, MIRCEA ANGHELESCU dissects the genre of the travel narrative, while JOSELYN M. ALMEIDA surveys the nonfiction produced in Spanish America between 1780 and 1850 and how it contributed to raising its independent consciousness.

Two further sections focus on private and public matters. The genres that most relevantly developed the notion of romantic subjectivity are tackled in Part 5: FREDERICK GARBER first examines the role of diaries, EUGENE STELZIG then explores the autobiography, and CAROL STRAUSS SOTIROPOULOS and MARGARET R. HIGONNET finally investigate several minor textual forms like teaching tracts, letters, and treatises that were used to shape women's social roles. In contrast to this concern with the self, Part 6 expands toward the public sphere. While Frederick Garber considers the importance of the familiar essay, JOHN BOENING, MADISON U. SOWELL, and MONICA SPIRIDON, respectively, concentrate on the periodicals, almanacs, and pamphlets that played such an important role in shaping civic opinion. Equally important was the short sketch, whose influ-

ence in Spain and other European countries José MANUEL LOSADA discusses.

Relevant examples of scientific and artistic prose fall under scrutiny in Part 7. ALAN RICHARDSON and JOEL BLACK document the connections between romanticism and early psychological and cognitive studies; GERALD GILLESPIE and Steven P. Sondrup likewise provide separate readings of significant texts on music and the visual arts. Finally, Part 8 concentrates on religious writings: VIRGIL NEMOIANU examines several movements of theological renewal undertaken in the early nineteenth century, stressing their links to the aesthetic category of the beautiful, and José Manuel Losada in turn offers a comparative analysis of the myth of the fallen angel.

Romanticism, as Virgil Nemoianu argues in the conclusion, was a turbulent yet extremely fertile cultural movement that, despite its contradictions, had a far-reaching impact beyond elitist circles. If its influence still remains so visible in today's popular culture, it is not only thanks to the canonical penchant for its poetic achievements, but also to the development of the diverse types of romantic nonfiction that thrived across Europe and whose contours this scholarly volume so meticulously helps to delineate. [PERE GIFRA-ADROHER, *Pompeu Fabra University*.]

A grammar of Lavukaleve. By ANGELA TERRILL. (Mouton grammar library 30.) Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 2003. Pp. 562. ISBN 311017887. \$207.20 (Hb).

Lavukaleve, a Papuan language spoken in the central Solomon Islands, is classified as belonging to the East Papuan Phylum, Central Solomons family, although the languages of the family are all rather different structurally and share little common vocabulary. There has been almost no previous work on the language. Although most Lavukals still grow up speaking Lavukaleve as their first language, the language is under increasing threat from English and Pijin. Terrill's grammar is a welcome addition to Mouton's 'Grammar library' series, the second Papuan language in the series.

The grammar is organized into five sections (plus back matter, which contains forty pages of texts, an affix list, and a list of the hundred and fifty most frequent lexemes in the corpus). Section 1 contains introductory material, phonology, and criteria for defining word classes; Section 2, 'Arguments and adjuncts', provides details of noun formation and noun phrase syntax, gender, and the very complicated deictic system. The third section, on predicate structure, contains an overview of the marking of grammatical relations, agreement, TAM marking, nominalization, valency-changing derivations, focus marking, and complex predicates (labeled 'serial verbs' and 'compounds'). Section 4 contains two chapters on inter-

clausal syntax (coordination and subordination), while the last section is a discussion of questions and discourse organization. There is also a set of sample texts and a fairly detailed combined index of names, languages, and subjects. There are almost a thousand examples in the work, both elicited and textual. T writes clearly and has achieved the considerable accomplishment of providing a highly readable account of a set of highly complex systems.

The grammar is particularly strong in some areas, including focus marking and deixis. An entire chapter is devoted to focus constructions, and another to deixis. Complex predicates are also discussed in detail; Lavukaleve has not only serialization and compounding but also complex predicates involving the light verbs *hai* 'do' and *sia* 'do, be, become, happen'. Lavukaleve's gender agreement principles and split ergativity will interest many. Verb agreement is sensitive to focus marking; one type of focus marking interacts with agreement. Sentence focus triggers subject agreement, while predicate focus triggers object agreement. Agreement is found not only on the verb but also on the focus marker.

T's grammar of Lavukaleve will be of interest not only to Papuanists but also to anyone with an interest in typology, argument structure, and morphology. [CLAIRE BOWERN, *Rice University*.]

Regularity in semantic change. By ELIZABETH CLOSS TRAUOGOTT and RICHARD B. DASHER. (Cambridge studies in linguistics 97.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002. Pp. xx, 341. ISBN 0521583780. \$95 (Hb).

In the volume under consideration here, Elizabeth Closs Traugott, well known for her contributions to the study of grammaticalization and historical syntax, joins forces with Richard B. Dasher, a specialist in Asian languages, to investigate a hitherto generally neglected area of language change. The 'regularity' of the title is not the regularity of Neogrammarian views of sound change (as the authors explicitly note in the preface), but rather a regularity defined as 'typical change, or frequent replication across time and across languages' (xi). The book is therefore intended to defend the idea that 'there are predictable paths for semantic change across different conceptual structures and domains of language function' (1).

After the obligatory front matter, the volume proper begins with a chapter titled 'The framework' (1–50), which generally concentrates on outlining 'the assumptions and claims of the Invited Inferring Theory of Semantic Change (IITSC)' (49). According to this theory, 'historically there is a path from . . . pragmatically polysemous meanings . . . to new semantically polysemous meanings' (35). This