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”Language Matters Exhibition”

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19 October 2017

PRESS RELEASE

Language matters

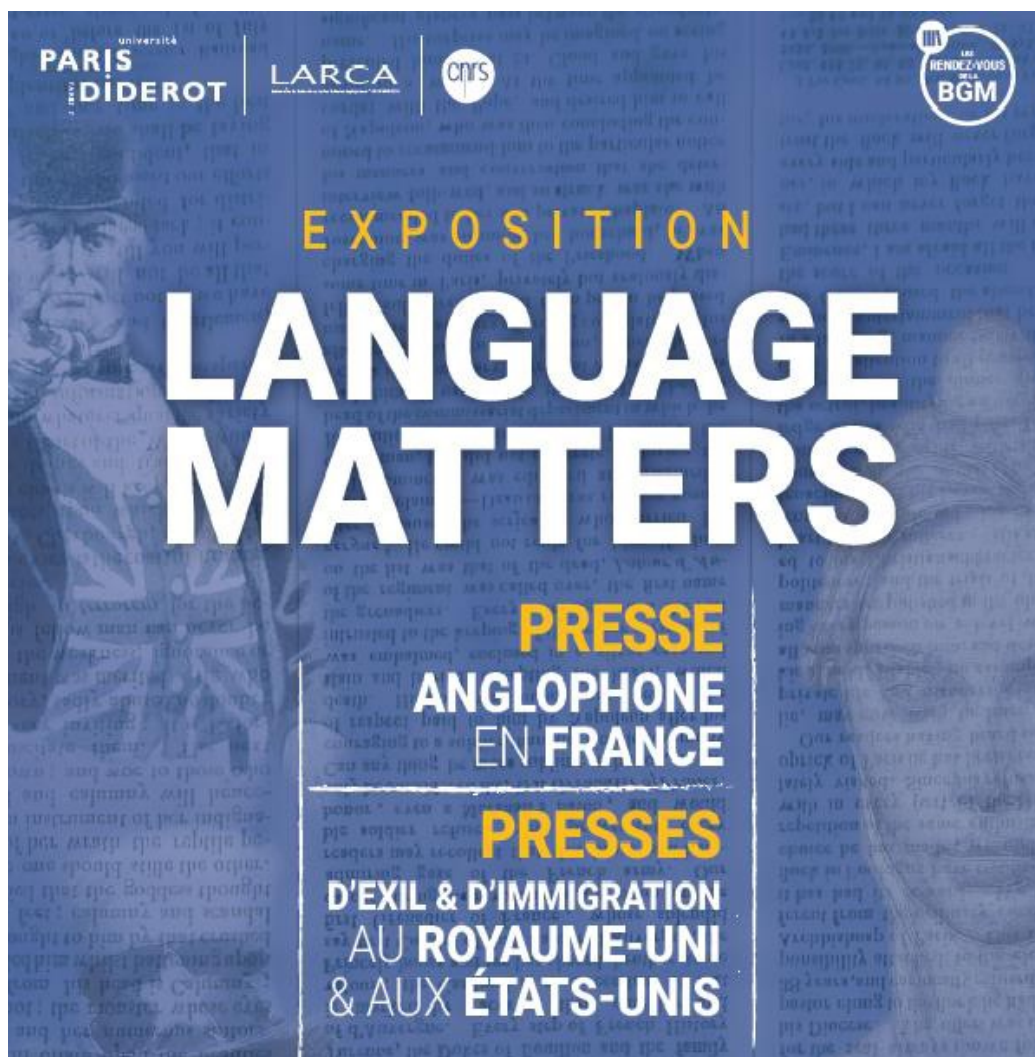
The English-Language Press in France

The Exile & Immigrant Press in the UK & the USA

Exhibition at the Bibliothèque des Grands Moulins (Paris Diderot University)

11 October 2017-20 January 2018

Curators : Bénédicte Deschamps & Stéphanie Prévost



Why this exhibition ?

Did you know that the French National Library held almost 6,000 English-language periodicals (broadly considered) that have been published in France since the Revolution? Such a large figure may come as a surprise, since these are but too only rarely dealt with in the history of the French press. The titles which are displayed in the exhibition come under the banner of a marginal category, that of the foreign-language press. It is defined as periodicals or newspapers written in languages other than the national language(s) – whether *de facto* or *de jure*.

Exhibiting the wealth of the English-language press in France

Digitisation operations that were launched in the 2000s in many libraries throughout the world have brought to light this global foreign-language press heritage. Its wealth is beyond imagination. Foreign-language titles cover every single domain and encompass newspapers, artistic reviews, association bulletins, academic societies' yearly publications, political organs, to list but a few. Their periodicity is just as varied, ranging from dailies – some with two editions – to almanachs, not to mention weeklies, monthlies, bi-monthlies or quarterlies. They often are born out of a group of immigrants, exiles or expats. The rationale for a foreign-language publications may be multi-pronged : reaching a readership beyond national frontiers, conquering new markets, circumventing censorship and having a dissident discourse, etc. Although this is too often overlooked, such titles are part and parcel of the press of the countries in which they are published. Yet, at the same time, they recount the story of other countries that they support or attack, of other countries that they are devised to keep contact with and for which they may offer a platform outside of their national space.

Retracing Anglo-Americans' economic and artistic ventures in France

The English-language press is the largest foreign-language press in France. The selected titles here highlight the long-lasting bonds between France, the United Kingdom and the United States. From *English Papers/ Papiers anglais* to *The Connexion*, this exhibition is inviting you to discover the over- 300-year story of British and American presence in France, as recounted by these publications which go from early printed matter to the digital. These newspapers and periodicals attest to Anglo-Americans' political, economic and artistic life in Paris and beyond the capital city. They also remind us of their key contribution to the war effort alongside the Allied forces during WW1 and WW2. They also serve to demonstrate that France is not monolingual. Rather, France is plurilingual: English, just as the numerous other foreign languages spoken by people whom this country welcomed, are spoken in the France and have contributed to shaping its national history. The foreign-language press has thus normally developed in France, under the aegis of immigrants and ethnic groups – a feature which France shares with Britain and the United States, where foreign-language newspapers and periodicals abound.

The exhibition in context

The exhibition accompanied the 'Language Matters' international symposium, which was held at Paris Diderot University, the Bibliothèque nationale de France and the University of Chicago Center in Paris from 16-18 October 2017. The conference, which was coorganised by the curators of this exhibition and which both addressed 'Printing news in English Abroad' and 'Foreign-

Language Publishing in the English-Speaking World', was a joint LARCA (CNRS research unit 8225 on the history and culture of the English-speaking world) and TRANSFOPRESS event. TRANSFOPRESS is a leading international network devoted to the study of the foreign-language press in the long run (from the 18th-21st centuries). It was set up in 2012 at the Centre d'Histoire Culturelle des Sociétés Contemporaines of Versailles-St Quentin University and is affiliated to the Laboratoire de Recherches sur les Cultures Anglophones at Paris Diderot University (LARCA). For more information on the network : <http://TRANSFOPRESSchcsc.wixsite.com/TRANSFOPRESS>.

Exhibition Plan

The exhibition is in two parts : the first one retraces the English-language press in France since 1760 and the second one is devoted to the ethnic press in the United Kingdom and the United States.

- **Part 1 : La presse anglophone en France / The English-language press in France**

The Bibliothèque nationale de France supports this section, which shall also have visibility on a dedicated website as part of an ongoing BA students' projet at Paris Diderot University (Faculty of English Studies).

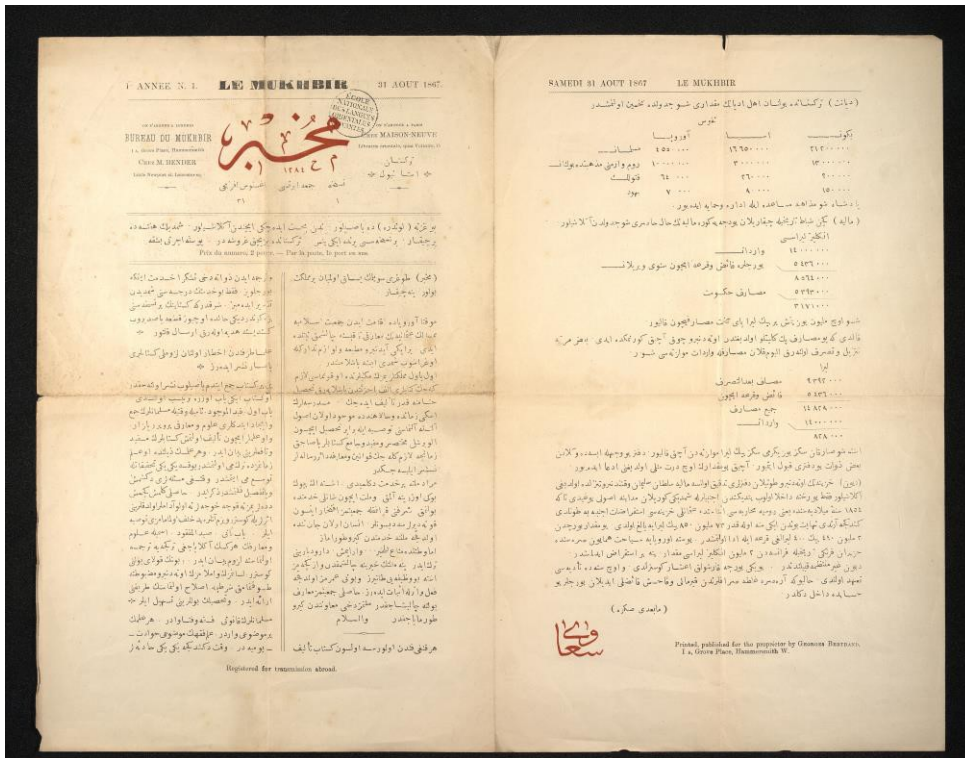
The exhibition opens on **scientific and technical reviews** that have been published in English in France. This particular section was sponsored by the French Science Week, which took place in mid-October. Some of these reviews are personal endeavours – like *The Paris Medical Record* which was published in 1874 by a former East India Company surgeon –, but most showcase the development of French science and medicine beyond national frontiers. Some are mere newsletters by scientific organizations or research institutes, while others were designed to present foreign technology in France. These publications have long evolved, some into international reviews that today enable the discussion of scientific ideas on a European or even global scale.

The variety of the almost 6,000 periodical and press titles published in English in France since 1760 is represented by a selection of about 70. The latter acknowledges the rich collections held by the Bibliothèque nationale de France and that have been unearthed thanks to its partnership with the TRANSFOPRESS network in a Bnf database called 'Presse locale ancienne' (<http://presselocaleancienne.bnf.fr/html/anglais>). Amongst others, this **retrospective exhibition on the English-language press in France since 1760** is a unique occasion to contemplate original editions of the *Galighani's Messenger* of the 1840s, *The Daily Mail Continental Edition* of the 1910s, *Paris Post* of 1945 or of the more recent, but defunct *International Herald Tribune*.

The exhibition also celebrates Paris as a capital city of foreign-language publishing, especially of English-language periodical publishing. One may wonder what *The Paris Mercury* – which is one of the earliest English-language titles in France (1792) –, *The Light of Paris* – which published its first issue a century later – and *Paris Voice* – which still presents itself as 'the magazine for English-speaking Parisians' although it is now only available online – have in common? Through an analysis of selected titles, the exhibition probes into this Parisian press printing phenomenon to try and highlight the importance of the foreign-language press in the capital city. The exhibition also assesses how the Parisian foreign-language press could also influence and shape Parisian intellectual and political life.



• Part 2 : « La presse d'exil et d'immigration au Royaume-Uni et aux Etats-Unis » / The exile and immigrant press in the United Kingdom and the United States



This section offers a snapshot of the variety of the foreign-language exile and immigrant press over time in Britain and the United States.

The 'One Nation with News for All' 2014 exhibition at the Newseum in Washington already had a similar ambition, only applied to the USA.

This part of the exhibition interrogates the contribution of the foreign-language exile and immigrant press over time in the national history of Britain and the USA respectively.

This press, which is often described as 'ethnic', enjoys a relatively large market today, especially for advertisers and is also worth studying from that perspective.

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A suggested bibliography is also provided as part of the exhibition, with some of related books and articles on display. Some English-language press originals from the world of science and industry are also presented in a cabinet.

Viewing the exhibition

It is free and open to all.

It can be viewed at the Grands Moulins Library from 11 October 2017 – 20 January 2018 at the opening hours of the library :

Mondays 11 am- 8 pm
Tuesdays-Fridays 9am-8pm
Saturdays : 11am-7pm

The library is located at 5 rue Thomas Mann - 75013 Paris.

Events

Guided Tours by BA students at the Faculty of English Studies, Paris Diderot University – Pre-registration recommended by phone 01 57 27 66 57 or email: claire.tirefort@univ-paris-diderot.fr

30 October 2017 @ 14h – Jordan Capra & Julie Poujol

20 November 2017 @ 14h – Timothée Legent, Jeremy Grogno & Clara Courty-Zanca

4 December 2017 @ 11h30 – Fleur Barbou & Nabil Bouzera

12 December 2017 @ 16h – Fanny Frau & Salma Navarre

13 January, 2018 @ 11h30 – Fleur Barbou, Clara Courty-Zanca & Jeanne Le Bozec

The meeting point is in the main library hall (ground floor).

Private tours :

- 16 October, 2017 @ 18h15 : reserved to the panellists of the Language Matters international symposium
- 6 November, 2017 @ noon : reserved to Paris Diderot staff
- 6 November, 2017 @ 18h30 : reserved to contributors and partners of the exhibition

Talks

- 13 November, 2017 @ 18h30 : « L'International Herald Tribune à travers l'histoire » - an event supported by Gale with Marianne Haska (Gale) & students from Paris Diderot University (Jeanne Le Bozec & Salma Navarre)
- 17 January, 2018 @ 17h : talk by Dr. Diana Cooper –Richet (Université Versailles-St Quentin) « Les Anglais en France et leur publications » (around her forthcoming volume)

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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Venue : Bibliothèque des Grands Moulins (ground floor & 2nd floor)

Address : Université Paris Diderot - 5 rue Thomas Mann - 75013 Paris

When ? From 11 October 2017 to 20 January 2018

Contact : Claire Tirefort (claire.tirefort@univ-paris-diderot.fr, 01 57 27 66 57)

Curators

Bénédicte Deschamps & Stéphanie Prévost, Paris Diderot University, LARCA research group (CNRS research unit UMR 8225).

With the collaboration of BA & 1st year of Master's students at the UFR Etudes Anglophones, Paris Diderot University : Fleur Barbou, Léa Borenfreund, Jérémy Grognu, Jeanne Le Bozec, Timothée Legent, Salma Navarre & Andréa Padron .

Texts by Bénédicte Deschamps & Stéphanie Prévost (curators), Jérémy Grognu, Lea Borenfreund et Andrea Padron (students' team), with the kind collaboration of Diana Cooper-Richet (Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines) & Nicola Bartolo (U. Paris Diderot, Equipe THEORIE, Laboratoire Matériaux et Phénomènes Quantiques, CNRS).

Organization

Mission d'action culturelle du Service commun de la documentation (SCD), Paris Diderot University, under the aegis of Christophe Pérales (head of the SCD)

Design

Pablo Goury

Guided tours in English & French

organisées en anglais et en français by students at the UFR Etudes Anglophones, as part of their tutored BA project: Fleur Barbou, Léa Borenfreund, Nabil Bouzera , Jordan Capra , Clara Courty-Zanca, Fanny Frau, Jérémy Grognu, Jeanne Le Bozec, Timothée Legent, Salma Navarre, Andréa Padron & Julie Pujol.

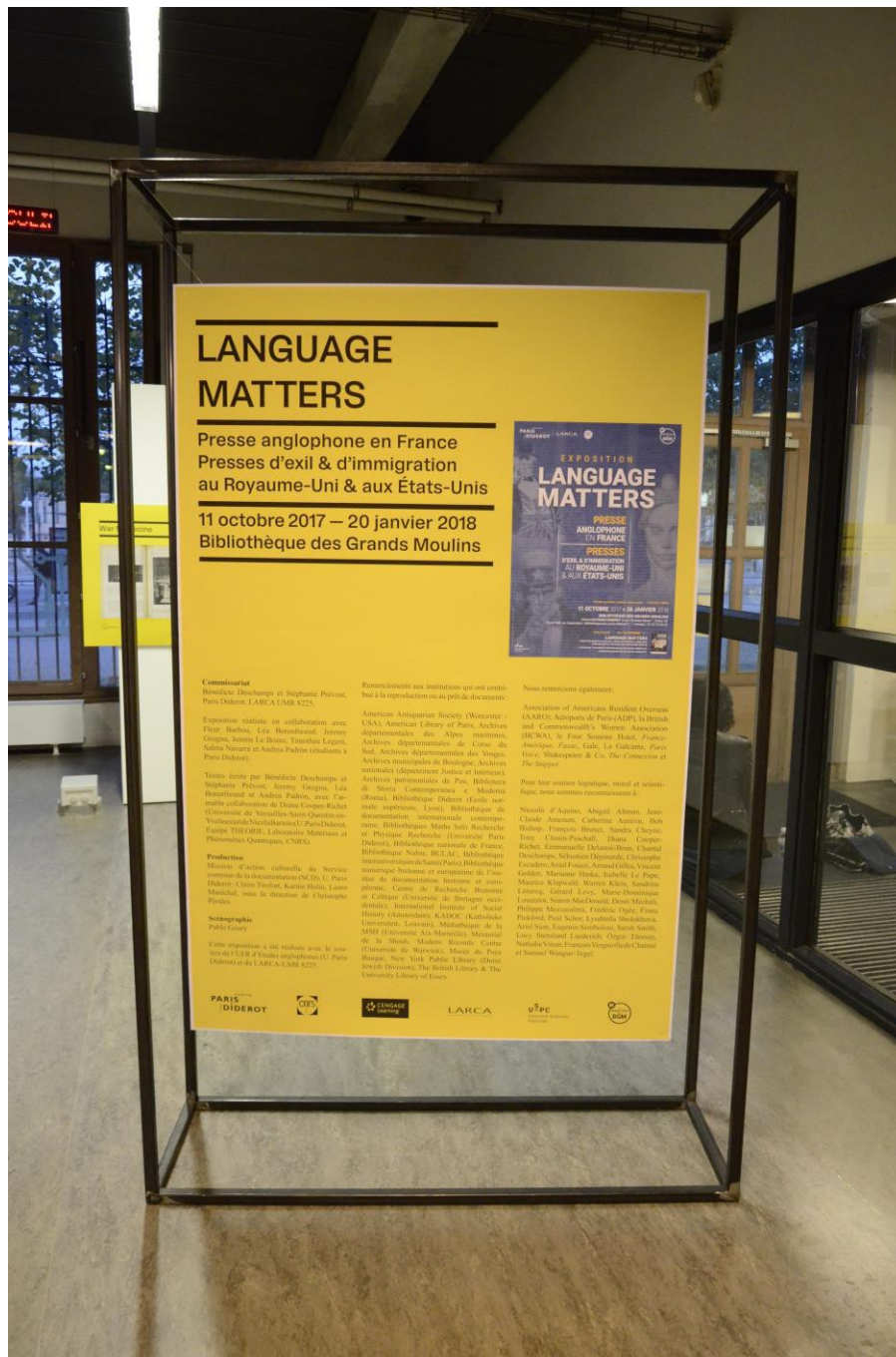
Exhibition volume : 50 panels, 65 reproductions of foreign-language press titles, 15 originals on display & a computer for the consultation of digital resources

This exhibition is presented with the support of the UFR d'Etudes anglophones (Paris Diderot University) & the LARCA-UMR 8225.

Partner institutions which contributed to the reproduction of items: American Antiquarian Society (Worcester - USA), American Library of Paris, Archives départementales des Alpes maritimes, Archives départementales de Corse du Sud, Archives départementales des Vosges, Archives municipales de Boulogne, Archives nationales (département Justice et Intérieur), Archives patrimoniales de Pau, Biblioteca di Storia Contemporanea e Moderna (Roma), Bibliothèque Diderot (Ecole normale supérieure, Lyon), Bibliothèque de documentation internationale contemporaine, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Bibliothèque Nubar, BULAC, Bibliothèque interuniversitaire de Santé (Paris), Bibliothèque numérique bretonne et

européenne de l'institut de documentation bretonne et européenne, Centre de Recherche Bretonne et Celtique (Université de Bretagne occidentale), International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam), KADOC (Katholieke Universiteit, Louvain), Médiathèque de la MSH (Université Aix-Marseille), Mémorial de la Shoah, Modern Records Centre (Université de Warwick), Musée du Pays Basque, New York Public Library (Dorot Jewish Division), The British Library & The University Library of Essex.

Private partners & associations that supported and contributed to the exhibition: Association of Americans Resident Overseas (AARO), Aéroports de Paris (ADP), la British and Commonwealth's Women Association (BCWA), le Four Seasons Hotel, France-Amérique, *Fusac*, *Gale*, *La Galcante*, *Paris Voice*, *Shakespeare & Co*, *The Connexion* et *The Snippet*.



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