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Elektronické pomůcky

Copyscape Free Comparison Tool (<https://www.copyscape.com/compare.php>).
MATLAB, verze R2024a (<https://www.mathworks.com>).

Summary

“TRANSLATED BY IVAN BUREŠ, ADAPTED BY RUDOLF MERTLÍK”: AN ANALYSIS OF REVISED CZECH TRANSLATIONS OF OVID’S *ARS AMATORIA* AND *METAMORPHOSES*

Ivan Bureš, when translating Latin authors into Czech, aimed at making classical texts more accessible to modern readers. He was criticized for his translation methods by other classical philologists such as Ferdinand Stiebitz and since his death the re-editions of his translations have been revised in a way that did not respect his authorial intentions. The article focuses on two posthumously revised editions of his translations, Ovid’s *Ars amatoria* (1947, revised in 1963) and *Metamorphoses* (1935, revised in 1974), which were extensively edited by Rudolf Mertlík. It reconstructs the circumstances of the revisions and assesses the extent to which they fulfilled their intended purpose: to eliminate alleged datedness and faults. The quantitative analysis demonstrates that the revised translation of *Ars amatoria* is more similar to Mertlík’s own translation (published only later in 1969) than to the original text by Bureš and that the revised translation of *Metamorphoses* is a rather careless compilation containing

verses from Stiebitz's alternative translation (also from 1935) with further modifications. The article argues that the nature and extent of the revisions, along with the absence of relevant information about them in the editions, result in a misleading notion of the original work by Ivan Bureš in scholarly literature. This extreme case of disrespecting the original translation and its author is placed in the broader context of studies on reprocessed translations.

Keywords: Publius Ovidius Naso; Ivan Bureš (1886–1947); Rudolf Mertlík (1913–1985); Ferdinand Stiebitz (1894–1961); revised translation; retranslation; compiled translation; text similarity

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