

TRANSLATING DECOLONISATION

*Rodrigo Gomez**

L'auteur juriste chilien, s'est intéressé dans le cadre de sa thèse soutenue en 2010, à la lutte du peuple pascuan pour accéder à l'indépendance. Ses travaux commencent avec un poème en espagnol qui retrace en quelques vers et de manière poignante, le cycle successif des tentatives avortées suivies de la répression par le gouvernement chilien pour s'achever par une totale résignation du peuple pascuan. Deux traductions du poème sont proposées au lecteur, l'une en langue anglaise et l'autre en Te reo Maori.

Rapa

El rugir de las olas
 del incesante clamor
 en aguas transparentes
 y desordenadas
 con despertares irreverentes
 e inaprensibles
 de llamadas sencillas
 pero inmoderadas
 y a veces cuando cansados
 condenados a soñar
 de ser libres
 al fin

* Rodrigo Gomez is a Chilean lawyer who completed a Master of Arts in Pacific Studies with Distinction at Victoria University of Wellington in 2010. The thesis was on the self-determination of the people of Rapa Nui (Easter Island). The thesis begins with this poem. It was written before the troubles in Hanga Roa of July 2010 but is well contextualised by those and more recent events on Easter Island. "Sangrienta repression en Rapa Nui" (2010) The Clinic <www.theclinic.cl>.

Translations 1, 2 and 3 are something of a team effort by Tony Angelo, Joel Colón-Ríos, John Jamieson, Talei Pasikale, and Kate Stone. The translations are endeavours to reflect the physical imagery, the sentiment and the substance of the Spanish original.

Having read the translations, the author suggested the fourth translation as that which felt "most close" to him. That translation is produced alongside the translation in te reo Māori which was made by Tai Ahu.

Rapa

The roar of waves,
 the endless clamour
 in the transparent
 chaotic sea,
 with irreverent and
 unseen stirrings
 of simple,
 yet importunate demands,
 at times, tiring,
 condemned to dreams
 of finally
 being free.

Rapa

The roar of the waves
 of the incessant clamour
 of waters disturbed
 and transparent
 with irreverent
 and inconceivable
 awakenings
 of simple
 but untempered calls
 and sometimes when
 wearied
 condemned to dream
 of being free
 at last

Rapa

The roar of the waves
 of the unceasing clamour
 in waters transparent and in turmoil
 with the rude and unexpected stirrings
 of simple but untempered calls
 and sometimes when wearied then
 condemned to dream
 of being free
 at last

Rapa

The roar of the waves
of the incessant clamour
in waters disturbed
and transparent
with awakenings irreverent
and inconceivable
of calls simple
but untempered
and sometimes when
wearied
condemned to dream
of being free
at last

Rapa

Te wheoro o te wai karekare
e pakū tonu, e pakū tonu,
o te wai whakahōi
o te wai kōataata
he ohonga noa,
he ohonga kore kitea
o te karanga haumaruru
e kore e āraitia
engari i tōna takawhē
ka mauheretia kia moemoeā
noa,
kia tukua, kia pātea
kia ea