

## Interlingual Melodious Constructions: Romanian Translation of References to Songs in James Joyce's Ulysses

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**Abstract :** James Joyce employs several unconventional stylistic features in this landmark novel meant to experiment with language. The episode known as "Sirens" is entirely conceived around music and linguistic structures subordinated to sound. However, the aspiration to the condition of music is reflected throughout this entire literary work, as musical effects are echoed systematically. The numerous melodies scattered across the narrative play an important role in enhancing the thoughts and feelings that pass through the minds of the characters. Often the lyrics are distorted or interweaved with other words, preoccupations or memories, intensifying the stylistic effect. The Victorian song "Love's old sweet song" is one of the most commonly referred to and meaningful musical allusions in Ulysses, becoming a leitmotif of infidelity. The lyrics of the song "M'appari", from the opera "Martha", are compared to an event from Molly and Bloom's romantic history. Moreover, repeated phrases using words from "The bloom is on the rye" or "The croppy boy" serve as glances into the minds of the characters. Therefore, the central purpose of this study is to shed light on the way musical allusions flit through the episodes from the point of view of the stream of consciousness technique and to compare and analyse how these constructions are rendered into Romanian. Mircea Ivănescu, the single Romanian translator who succeeded in carrying out the translation of the entire 'stylistic odyssey', received both praises and disapprovals from the critics. This paper is not meant to call forth eventual flaws of the Romanian translation, but rather to elaborate the complexity of the task. Following an attentive examination and analysis of the two texts, from the point of view of form and meaning of the references to various songs, the conclusions of this study will be able to point out the intricacies of the process of translation.

**Keywords :** Joyce, melodious constructions, stream of consciousness, style, translation

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