

Texts and Textiles: Translations and Transformations

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Abstract

Literary writing and philosophising dating back at least to Plato makes regular use of imagery translated (as in moved and also transformed) from textile work. Equally, the fabric arts often resort to ideas and phrases linked with narrative and textual practice. This article considers some of the transfers and transformations in this exchange, asks what lies behind it and what distortions occur. It draws on Harold Bloom's notion of misprision as a framing concept and argues for more careful attention to the specific nature of each creative medium — word or weave.

Keywords

Text, Textile, Trans-, Translation, Transformation