

## Guido Latré

Guido Latré is currently a professor of English Literature and Culture at the University of Louvain (French-speaking Belgium). He read English and Dutch Literature and Linguistics at Leuven University (Ph.D. Eng. Lit., 1982). From 1983 to 2001, he taught English Literature at K.U.Leuven (Belgium). In June/July 1999, he was a visiting professor at Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego (U.S.A.). In 2001, he became a Senior Lecturer at Université Catholique de Louvain. His main focus for research is on the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. From 1990-96, he was a member of the Board of Governors at Westminster College in Oxford. From 1999 to 2004 he coordinated a large-scale project on early English Bibles printed in Antwerp, and he is a Member of the Advisory Board of *Reformation*. In 2002, he was awarded the Churchill Medal for his research and teaching of English language, literature and culture in a European context. He has been involved in the production of several award-winning documentaries for, among others, the BBC and Channel 4 (including the BBC docudrama *Devil's Word: The Battle for and English Bible* - script by Peter Ackroyd).

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## CV

- **Date and place of birth:** 29-08-1954, Houthulst (Belgium).

- **Languages:** native tongue Dutch; foreign languages spoken (in order of competence): English, French, German; passive knowledge of Latin and Greek.

- **University studies** K.U.Leuven, Belgium: October 1972-July 1976 Germanic Philology (English and Dutch literature and linguistics; general courses on philosophy and history); 12-07-1976: diploma Germanic Philology, English Major (result: "summa cum laude"), plus diploma of the teachers' training programme (result: "magna cum laude").

- **Secondary school teacher:** September 1976-August 1977, St.-Jozefscollege, Izegem (Belgium); students aged 13-17; subjects: Dutch and English grammar and literature.

- **Academic career K.U.Leuven:** full-time since October 1977; until 1983: assistant to Prof. Dr. Herman Servotte (also Ph.D. supervisor), English Literature Unit; 16-12-1982: **Ph.D.** on the contemporary English poet Philip Larkin (result: "summa cum laude"); "premier assistant" ("eerstaanwezend assistent") in 1983; subsequent promotions in 1987 (permanent appointment), 1989, and 1991-92. Courses taught in each of the 4 years of "Germaanse talen" (Germanic languages), dealing with English literature from the Middle Ages to the present. Main emphasis on the Older Period (Chaucer, Shakespeare). Part-time teaching post (10 percent) from October 2001 onwards (Chaucer course in years 3 and 4).

- **University teaching posts in French-speaking Belgium** (in addition to the assignment in Leuven): 1989-91, "chargé de cours extraordinaire" in English Literature at Facultés Universitaires Notre Dame de la Paix ("candidatures") in Namur; since 1992, "chargé de cours visiteur/temporaire" at "Université Catholique de Louvain." Courses at UCL: "Shakespeare" and "Civilisation of the Older Period" (both

biennial, for students of Germanic Philology); "English-Speaking Europe" (annual courses 1997-99, for students of the European Studies programme).

- **Permanent full-time teaching post at UCL (Louvain-la-Neuve) as from 1 September 2001.** Status: "Professeur." Seniority: 12 years ("anciennité 12 ans"). See separate page for a more detailed description of UCL commitments.

- **Visiting Professor at Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego (U.S.A.):** June/July 1999, seminar on "Tudor and Stuart England."

- **Supervisor of doctorates at K.U.Leuven and UCL:** Jean-Jacques Weber on *Discourse Stylistics and Literary Narrative: The Linguistic Analysis of Ideological Structure* (1991); Géza Kallay on *Shakespeare* (1996); Beáta Tóth on *T.S. Eliot* (1998); Iván Nuysztay on *Shakespeare and Greek Drama* (2000); Isabelle Meuret (UCL) on *Writing Size Zero* (2001); Véronique Bragard (UCL) on *Coolitude* (2003), Virginie Renard on *The Great War and Postmodern Memory* (2009). Six more doctorates currently under preparation.

- **Involvement in the ERASMUS programme of the European Union:** Erasmus coordinator Arts Faculty K.U.Leuven from 1987 to 1991 and for English Literature and the interfaculty programme of Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies from 1992-2001; over the years, Erasmus coordinator of several ICP's (partners include Trinity College Dublin, Westminster College Oxford, the universities of Lancaster, Glasgow, Leeds, Helsinki, Groningen, and Poitiers). Involvement in UCL/K.U.Leuven "Erasmus" exchanges. Organiser and host of several "Intensive Weeks" in the area of Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies. Intensive teaching week, sponsored by the TEMPUS programme, in Tartu (Estonia) in May 1995. Since 2001 coordinator, for the UCL Department of Germanic Languages (GERM), of "Erasmus" contacts Arts Faculties UCL and K.U.Leuven (13 UCL students in Leuven for the complete academic year 2003-04; 14 in 2004-05); also responsible in Louvain-la-Neuve for exchanges with Trinity College Dublin and Royal Holloway London.

- **Primary responsibility for academic conferences and seminars:** among others, Edmund **Blunden Symposium** (Flanders Fields war poetry, Ypres 1996); **International Tyndale Conferences:** Leuven 1996, in cooperation with Hertford College Oxford and the Tyndale Society; Antwerp 30/08-04/09/2002 (100 participants, with keynote speakers from Stanford University, the British Academy, Japan, etc.); in June 2007 and June 2009, organiser, in conjunction with Prof. John King (Ohio State University) of the three Antwerp days of the **Ohio State University Seminar *The Reformation of the Book***, also lecturing for the participants from major universities and libraries in the U.S., on precious manuscripts and early printed books in the Plantin-Moretus Museum. The others parts of this programme are at the British Library in London, and the Bodleian Library in Oxford.

- **Lectures in Belgium:** amongst others, frequently for Davidsfonds (on the cultural history of the four English-speaking "nations" in Europe); also for Nederlands Klassiek Verbond (on "Shakespeare and Ovid"), Vlaamse Academië Mechelen (on Shakespeare), Instituut voor Middeleeuwse Studies en Vlaamse Werkgroep voor Mediëvistiek (on Chaucer), Plantin Moretus Museum Antwerp and Erasmus House Brussels, Anderlecht (on Tyndale).

- **Lectures delivered abroad on international occasions** include: "Forgiveness in Three Shakespearian Plays: *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet* and *King Lear*" (University of Edinburgh, 1997); "The Origins of the Coverdale Bible," for the academic members of the "Tyndale Society" and the American and British Bible Societies (keynote lecture at the *Pacific Coast Tyndale Conference*, San Diego, 1998); "How Antwerp Prepared for Tyndale," first keynote lecture at the *Third Oxford International Tyndale Conference* (Oxford, 1998); "Poetry as an Analogon for Prayer in T.S.Eliot's *Four Quartets* and "Antwerp and the Early English Bibles in print in Antwerp" (Kansai University in Osaka, Japan, 1999, and, for the Bible translation topic, also Trinity College Dublin, 2000); chairing a panel including Fay Weldon and David Daniell on the Bible as literature (Courtauld Institute, London, 2000); "keynote lecture" Geneva Tyndale Conference *Books for Burning*, 26-28/10/2001; lecture on "Allegory and the Renaissance Bible," International Tyndale Conference, Hertford College Oxford (17/09/2005); "keynote lecture" international conference *Reading the Bible* at Univ. Cath. de Louvain

(28/10/2005; hosts: Prof. Focant and Prof. Wénin), on "Cultural Readings of the Bible in English-Speaking Countries." Keynote lecture Feast of Saint Thomas, K.U.Leuven, 2006; keynote lecture 16/05/2008, at the Conference on "Exile and Religious Identity in Early Modern Britain and Ireland," Ohio State University, May 16-17, 2008; opening lecture (01/11/2008) of The First Belgian Cultural Festival in China 2008, "Chinese Labour in the Flanders Fields"; 40-minutes lecture on "English Bible Translators at the Time of Pieter Gillis," for the University of Antwerp on 24/02/2010, on the occasion of the presentation of Joris Tulkens' new novel *De verlorene droom van Pieter Gillis*.

- **Academic functions:** 1 January 1991 - 31 December 1997, **Member of the Board of Governors, Westminster College Oxford**, responsible for the European links and the International Report of the College (during these years, Westminster College had an academic association with Oxford University, which validated its diplomas); 1989-1998: organiser of the annual *Europe Today* conference, which K.U.Leuven prepares jointly with the English-Speaking Union of Belgium (keynote speakers have included Sir Leon Brittan of the European Commission, Soviet chess player and senior diplomat Anatoly Karpov, et al.); 2004-2009, Responsable de Langues et littérature modernes ("ROGE"), Louvain-la-Neuve; 2005-2009, Chairman of the Literature Unit (LICG), Langues et littératures germaniques, Louvain-la-Neuve.

- **(Co)-promotor of honorary chairs** offered to Stanley Cavell (Cardinal Mercier Chair K.U.Leuven, 1996); to Derek Brewer (Francqui Chair, Liège, UCL and K.U.Leuven, 1997). K.U.Leuven **Fellowship** offered to Dr Amanda Piesse (Trinity College Dublin) in the first semester of 1998-99.

- **Chairman of the English-Speaking Union of Belgium:** 1995-98 and again from 2002 onwards, taking several initiatives promoting a positive relationship between students from the two linguistic communities in Belgium; Belgian representative on the International Council on three occasions.

- **Member of the Board of scholarly societies and periodicals:** of the Institute of Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies at K.U.Leuven since 1992; of the Tyndale Society and its journal *Reformation* since 1994; of the Leuven periodicals *Mediaevalia Lovaniensia* since 1995 and *Leuvense Bijdragen* since 1996.

- **Publications** esp. in the area of English Literature of the Older Period. Main specialization at the moment: early Bible translations in print (16th century English, Dutch and French Bibles).

- **May 1998: discovery of the Antwerp origins of the first complete Bible printed in English** – the Tyndale/ Coverdale Bible of 1535, which in a slightly adapted version of 1538-39 unified the English language and to some extent the English nation, and is therefore rightly called the most influential book ever published in English.

- **Coordinator of a project on English Bible Translations in Antwerp in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.** Period: 1999-2003. Budget : BEF 13 million (sponsor: Research Council K.U.Leuven). Collaborators: Dr Paul Arblaster (historian, D.Phil. Oxford University), Andrew Hope (historian, also part-time lecturer Christ Church College Oxford), Gergely Juhász (theologian K.U.Leuven), Prof. Jean-François Gilmont (emeritus professor of theology, UCL).

- **Curator of the international exhibition *Tyndale's Testament*** (02/09-01/12/2002), in the Plantin Moretus Museum, Antwerp, 2 September to 1 December 2002. 30,000 visitors. Opening of the exhibition in the Cathedral of Antwerp on 2 September 2002 (1000 participants; Evensong and opening speeches with the Anglican Bishop for Europe and the Bishop of Antwerp). Loans from The British Library, Cambridge, Stuttgart, etc.

- **International award: the Churchill Medal** of the English-Speaking Union, for special merits in the areas of research and teaching of the English Language and Culture. The award was given in Antwerp by The Lord Watson of Richmond CBE, on 2 September 2002, in the presence of David Colvin, former U.K. ambassador to Belgium.

- Member of the Board of Trustees of the **Tyndale Society, Hertford College Oxford**, since 2007.

- Voted “**most inspiring teacher of the year**” (“le professeur le plus passionnant”) at the Arts Faculty in Louvain-la-Neuve, every year since 2001 (first year of the full-time appointment at Louvain-la-Neuve).

- **Scholarly contributions to award-winning BBC, Avalon Press and Channel 4 documentaries** on Tyndale in Antwerp (see bibliography).

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## LIST OF PRINCIPAL PUBLICATIONS

Guido Latré, Ludo Timmerman, Erik Hertog, *Heer Gawain en de Groene Ridder*, Utrecht: Het Spectrum, 1980. (Dutch verse translation and discussion of the Middle English Arthurian romance *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Main author: Guido Latré).

*Locking Earth to the Sky: A Structuralist Approach to Philip Larkin's Poetry*, European University Studies 14, vol. 134, Frankfurt/M., Bern, New York: Peter Lang Verlag, 1985 (474 pp.).

"Yelping for Arthur: Adventure and (Meta)fiction in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*," in Willy Van Hoecke, Gilbert Tournoy en Werner Verbeke (ed.), *Arthurus Rex*, vol 2: *Acta Conventus Lovanienses 1987*, Mediaevalia Lovaniensia, Series I, Studia XVII, Leuven: Universitaire Pers, 1991, blz. 186-203.

"Beguinages and Female Forms of Spiritual Life in the Low Countries," in Juliette Dor (ed.), *A Wyf There Was: Essays in Honour of Paule Mertens-Fonck*, Liège: L3, 1992, pp. 219-234.

"Traditional Universities in the New Europe: The Case of the K.U. Leuven," in *Westminster Studies in Education*, 14 (1991), pp. 5-13.

Ortwin de Graef, Vik Doyen, Erik Hertog, Guido Latré and Hedwig Schwall (eds.), *Acknowledged Legislators*, Festschrift for Herman Servotte, Kapellen: Pelckmans, 1994.

"Tuning an Instrument Cunningly: The Poetry of John Donne," in Ortwin de Graef, Guido Latré et al. (eds.), *Acknowledged Legislators*, Festschrift for Herman Servotte, Kapellen: Pelckmans, 1994, blz. 42-58.

"Sixteenth-Century Tempests and the Brave New World: Maps and Mapp'ry in Shakespeare," in *IMCOS (Journal of the International Map Collectors Society)*, 59 (Winter 1994), pp. 39-41.

Contributions to *Grote Nederlandse Larousse Encyclopedie/ Grote Oosthoek Encyclopedie* (5 items on Modern British Poetry).

"Tyndale the Translator Meets Plantin the Printer," in *The Tyndale Society Journal*, 1 (March 1995), pp. 44-51.

"De humor van de vergiffenis: Sporen van 'Herinnering en Hoop'," in *Jona: Maandblad van de Leuvense Studentenparochie*, 9 (May 1995), pp. 5-6.

"Glaubenserziehung und die Bibel: eine Lehre aus dem Mittelalter und der Renaissance," in *IBW* 17 (Dec. 1995), 24 pp. (12 pp. article + 12 pp. rendering participation in round table discussion).

"William Tyndale in Antwerp: Reformer, Bible Translator, and Maker of the English Language," in Dirk Imhof, Gilbert Tournoy and Francine de Nave, *Antwerp, Centre of Dissident Printing: The Role of the Antwerp Printers in the Wars of Religion in England (16th Century)*,<sup>1</sup> Antwerp: Plantin-Moretus en Stedelijk Prentenkabinet, 1995, pp. 55-66.

In Dirk Imhof, Gilbert Tournoy and Francine de Nave (eds.), *Antwerp, Centre of Dissident Printing: The Role of the Antwerp Printers in the Wars of Religion in England (16th Century)*, Antwerp: Plantin-Moretus en Stedelijk Prentenkabinet, 1995, the following dissident writings were discussed in shorter contributions by Guido Latré:

"William Tyndale, *The Obedience of a Christen Man and How Christen Rulers ought to Governe*," in p. 91 (item 5).

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<sup>1</sup> All the publications in this volume also appeared in Dutch.

- “*The Fyrst Boke of Moses Called Genesis* in Tyndale’s Translation,” pp. 92-93 (item 9).
- “A Proper Dyaloge, betwene a Gentillman and a Husbandman,” pp. 93-94 (item 10).
- “William Tyndale, *The Practyse of Prelates*,” p. 94 (item 11).
- “The Souper of the Lord,” p. 99 (item 20).
- “The New Testament” in Tyndale’s Translation,” pp. 100-101 (item 23).
- “The Byble which is all the Holy Scripture: Matthew’s Bible,” pp. 102-103 (item 26).
- “*The New Testament* in Coverdale’s Translation,” pp. 103-104 (item 27, co-author John Scattergood).
- “Beda: The History of the Church of Englande, Translated out of Latin in to English by Thomas Stapleton,” pp. 111-112 (item 35).
- “Richard Bristow’s *A Briefe Treatise of Diverse Plaine and Sure Wayes to Finde Out the Truthe in This Doubtful and Dangerous Time of Heresie*,” p. 124 (item 51).
- “Bi die Conincginne: Een verantwoordinghe van weghe der Conincghinne van Engellant, tegen een boecxken, het welck aldaer secretelijck is gedruckt, end haer Hoocheyt daer mede belogen hebben, en het lant in oproer te brengen,” pp. 130-131 (item 59).
- “Waerachtich verhael, hoe ende in wat manieren de conincginne van Schotlandt haer heeft ghewillichlijck begeven ter doot,” p. 133 (item 63).
- “Adam Blackwood, *Martyre de la royne d’Escosse . . . Contenant le vray discours des traïsons à elle faictes à la suscitation d’Elizabet Angloise*,” pp. 134-35 (item 65).
- “Warachtighe beschrijvinghe vant leven ende glorioos martirie der . . . princessen Maria Stuart,” pp. 138-39 (item 69).
- “R. Doleman (Persons?) and Richard Verstegen, *A Conference about the Next Succession to the Crowne of England*,” p. 146 (item 80).
- “The New Testament Faithfully Translated into English, with Arguments of Bookes and Chapters, Specially for the Discoverie of Corruptions in Divers Late Translations by the English Colledge then Resident in Rhemes,” pp. 150-52 (item 87).
- “The Place of Printing of the Coverdale Bible,” in *The Tyndale Society Journal*, 6 (November 1997), pp. 1-11.
- “Trinity College Dublin Ms 75: A Lollard Bible and Some Protestant Owners,” in John Scattergood and Julia Boffey (eds.), *Texts and Their Contexts*. Series: *Papers of the Early Book Society*, Dublin: Four Courts Press, 1997, pp. 223-240 (co-author: John Scattergood). Also in John Scattergood, *Manuscripts and Ghosts: Essays on the Transmission of Medieval and Early Renaissance Literature*, Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2006, pp. 163-180.
- “Het gat in de haag: Kijken naar koningsmoorden bij Shakespeare,” in Tom Verschaffel (ed.), *Koningsmoorden*, Leuven: Universitaire Pers, 2000, blz. 203-218.
- “Extracts on the English House,” in David Ireson (ed.), *Let There Be Light*, slide series, London: 2000 (contribution to the text of the series).
- “The 1535 Coverdale Bible and Its Antwerp Origins,” in Orlaith O’Sullivan (ed.), *The Bible as Book: The Reformation*, London: The British Library and Oak Knoll Press, 2000, pp. 38 b,c,d and pp. 89-102. *Publication of international renown on the Antwerp origins of the first complete English in print - the “Coverdale Bible,” which is considered by many to be the most influential book ever published for the formation of the English language and nation; “editio princeps” of the English Bible; basis of the Great Bible and the King James Bible.*

"But What *Does* the Fleming Say?: The Two Flemish Proverbs and Their Contexts in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*," in *Leeds Studies in English* (March 2001, special volume on mediaeval literature, New Series 32), pp. 255-73.

*Tyndale's Testament*. Turnhout: Brepols, 2002 (195 large format pages).

Guido Latré is one of the three editors of this standard work on the Antwerp context of the most important years of the English Bible translator William Tyndale. Co-editors: Paul Arblaster and Gergely Juhasz.

"William Tyndale: Reformer of a Culture, Preserver of a Language, Translator for the Ploughboy," in *Tyndale's Testament*. Turnhout, Brepols, 2002, pp. 10-24.

Shorter contributions by Guido Latré to *Tyndale's Testament*. Turnhout: Brepols, 2002:

Foreword written for Alderman Eric Antonis, pp. 1-2.

Contribution to the selection of 9 pages of illustrations (between pp. 48 and 57).

On John Foxe's *Books of Martyrs*, pp. 56-57.

On David Daniell's Tyndale biography, pp. 65-66.

On the Coverdale Bible of 1535, pp. 143-145.

On the first complete New Testament in English (Worms, 1526), pp. 148-149.

On Tyndale's *Obedience of a Christen Man*, pp. 155-156.

On Tyndale's Last Letter (written in Vilvoorde prison), pp. 172-173.

The Dutch version of this book, published by the same publishing house in 2002 under the title *Het Testament van Tyndale*, contains Guido Latré's Dutch translation from the Latin of Tyndale's last letter (p. 179).

*Devil's Words: The Battle for an English Bible*. Docu-drama on Tyndale's Bible, in collaboration with the BBC. Script: Peter Ackroyd. Producer: Tim Niel.

Guido Latré's contribution to this one-hour BBC programme includes elaborate scholarly advice, most of which has been taken on board in the script; the choice of locations for filming in Antwerp and Vilvoorde; and interviews. Nominated best BBC programme of March 2003.

"More than an Order of Words: Prayer as an Analogon for Poetry in T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets*," in Yoko Wada (ed.), *Peregrinator: Essays on Literature in English*. Tokyo: Shohakusha, 2003, pp. 72-85.

*Alledaags anders*, edition of contributions in Dutch on contemporary spirituality, in collaboration with IPB and the Theology Faculty at K.U.Leuven, Leuven-Brussels, 2004, 26 pp.

"Was van Haemstede a Direct Source for Foxe?: On le Blas' *Pijnbanck* and Other Borrowings," in David Loades (ed.), *John Foxe at Home and Abroad*, Aldershot and Burlington: Ashgate, 2004, pp. 151-55.

*William Tyndale: His Life, His Legacy*. The History of the English Bible Series, Tennessee: Avalon Press, 2005. One-hour DVD based on research by and interviews with Guido Latré and Emeritus Professor David Daniell (honorary fellow Hertford College Oxford; Chairman of the Tyndale Society), hosted by Dr. William H. Noah. Guido Latré contributed in conjunction with the Erasmus House, Anderlecht. The DVD received The Gold Special Jury Award of the Worldfest International Film Festival, 2005 and has had over a million viewers in the United States.

*The Bible Revolution* (TV documentary, U.K. version, 120 minutes) and *Battle for the Bible* (TV documentary U.S. version, 60 minutes), produced by Channel 4, U.K. and Pioneer Productions. Both versions were first broadcast in 2007. Producer: David Wilson. Presenter: Rod Liddle (U.K. version); Lori Anne Ferrelle (U.S. version). The U.K. version has interviews with Archbishop Rowan Williams, Poet Laureate Andrew Motion and Guido Latré, and Bible readings by Kenneth Brannagh. Guido Latré chose the Antwerp locations for filming and prepared the concept in close collaboration with David Wilson and Rod Liddle. The U.S. version won a Silver Hugo 'Special Achievement' award for Concept, at the 2008 Hugo Television Awards.

Both versions are available on video.google : for the U.K. version (TheBibleRevolution) :

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=6101527704063312894#>.

and for the U.S. version (Battle for the Bible)

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=6101527704063312894#docid=893348059179316802>

"Lectures culturelles de la Bible dans les pays de langue anglaise," *Revue théologique de Louvain*, 38, 2007, pp. 352-372.

"Chinese Labour in the Flanders Fields," China Lee et al. (eds.), *A Passage to Belgium*, Beijing: World Online Diplomatic Media Group, 2010, pp. 205-210.