

Luoghi del tradurre nella Spagna medievale: il caso di Toledo

Ruggiero Pergola

The expression «School of Toledo» typically refers to the translation work of scientific texts from Arabic into Latin, which developed in Spain between the 12th and 13th centuries. However, this label does not do justice to the great cultural significance of the phenomenon. Moreover, it has also given rise to a legend: it is indeed a popular belief that there used to be a real educational institution for translator training in Toledo, supposedly founded by Raymond, archbishop of Toledo and apparent patron of translators. Today, the hypothesis of a real school, although attractive, seems to be unreliable and not supported by the evidence. The aim of this paper is to provide – in the light of recent research – a detailed analysis of the phenomenon known as the «School of Toledo», tracing its history between myth and reality.

Keywords: *Middle Ages, Philosophy, School of Toledo, Science, Spain, Translations, Translators.*

La civiltà dell'Occidente medievale si formò principalmente su traduzioni latine di testi di origine greca, araba ed ebraica¹. Nel corso dei secoli convenzionalmente noti come medioevo si identificano due correnti tra-

¹ Cfr. G. Contamine (a cura di), *Traduction et traducteurs au Moyen Âge: actes du colloque international du CNRS organisée à Paris, Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes, les 26-28 mai 1986*, Paris, CNRS, 1989; J. Hamesse (a cura di), *Les traducteurs au travail: leurs manuscrits et leurs méthodes*, Turnhout, Brepols, 2001; J. Hamesse, M. Fattori (a cura di), *Rencontres de cultures dans la philosophie médiévale: traductions et traducteurs de l'antiquité tardive au XIV^e siècle: actes du Colloque international de Cassino (15-17 juin 1989)*, Louvain-la-Neuve, Université Catholique de Louvain - Cassino, Università degli Studi di Cassino, 1990.