

ATLAS

Le Printemps

de la

TRADUCTION

★ 3<sup>e</sup> édition ★



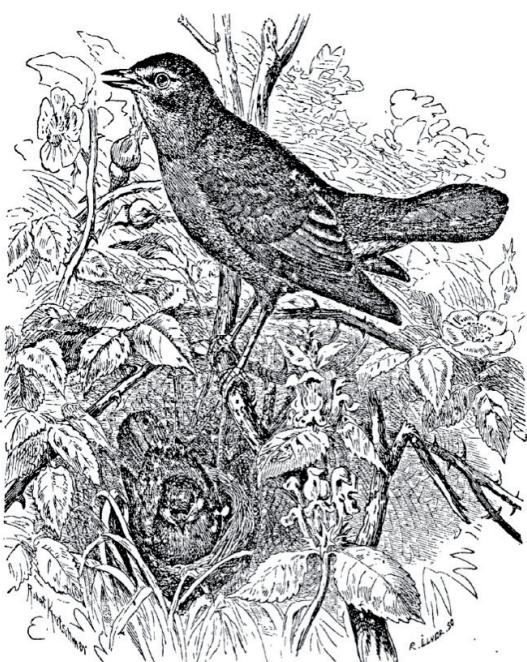
Les traducteurs parlent aux lecteurs

Ateliers « Traduire la contrainte »

Traduire les poèmes de John Clare sur les oiseaux  
Poète romantique anglais (1793-1864) et paysan pauvre du  
Northamptonshire

★ avec Catherine Selosse / Samedi 10 juin de 10h à 12h

SGDL- Hôtel de Massa  
38, rue du Faubourg Saint-Jacques - 75014 Paris



Cerbelot, Cuvier Fils, Imp.

Fig. 174. Le Rossignol philomèle.

Paris, Bailliére et Fils, édts.

Les textes sont tirés de *The Midsummer Cushion*, édité par Kelsey Thornton & Anne Tibble, d'après le manuscrit de John Clare A54 conservé au Peterborough Museum, Mid Northumberland Arts Group, Carcanet Press, 1990. J'ai choisi cette édition car elle reproduit fidèlement le manuscrit des poèmes choisis et recopiés dans un cahier par John Clare lui-même en vue d'une publication. La graphie originale a été conservée.

## 1) Le chant du Rossignol (Nightingale)

### The Progress of Ryhme, v. 235-258 <sup>1</sup>

The more I listened & the more  
Each note seemed sweeter then before  
& aye so different was the strain  
She'd scarce repeat the notes again  
—”Chew-chew chew-chew” & higher still  
“Cheer-cheer cheer-cheer”more loud & shrill  
“Cheer-up cheer-up cheer-up”—& dropt  
Low “Tweet tweet jug jug jug” & stopt  
One moment just to drink the sound  
Her music made & then a round  
Of stranger witching notes was heard  
As if it was a stranger bird  
“Wew-wew wew-wew chur-chur chur-chur  
“Woo-it woo-it”—could this be her  
“Tee-rew tee-rew tee-rew tee-rew  
“Chew-rit chew-rit”—& ever new  
“Will-will will-will grig-grig grig-grig”  
The boy stopt sudden on the brig  
To hear the “tweet tweet tweet” so shrill  
The “jug jug jug” & all was still  
A minute—when a wilder strain  
Made boys & woods to pause again  
Words were not left to hum the spell  
Could they be birds that sung so well—

**aye** = ever, always, continually; at all times, on all occasions

**brig** = bridge

1. Long poème de 346 vers qui témoigne du rôle de la poésie dans la vie de John Clare et constitue le credo de sa maturité.

## 2) Sonnets

### Emmonsails Heath in Winter <sup>2</sup>

I love to see the old heaths withered brake  
Mingle its crimped leaves with furze & ling  
While the old Heron from the lonely lake  
Starts slow & flaps his melancholly wing  
& oddling crow in idle motions swing  
On the half rotten ash trees topmost twig  
Beside whose trunk the gipsey makes his bed  
Up flies the bouncing woodcock from the brig  
Where a black quagmire quakes beneath the tread  
The fieldfare chatters in the whistling thorn  
& for the awe round fields & closen rove  
& coy bumbarrels twenty in a drove  
Flit down the hedgerows in the frozen plain  
& hang on little twigs & start again

**oddling** = one different from the rest of a family; solitary

**Crow** = Carrion Crow = Corvus corone = Corneille noire

**Woodcock** = Scolopax rusticola = Bécasse des bois

**Fieldfare** = Turdus pilaris = Grive litorne

**Bumbarrel** = Long-tailed Titmouse = Aegithalos caudatus = Mésange à longue queue. John Clare emploie ici le terme local.

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2. *Emmonsails Heath* est une lande située au sud de Helpston, le village de John Clare. Elle servait de libre pâture avant les enclosures et John Clare y gardait fréquemment les troupeaux quand il était enfant.

## The Happy Bird

The happy whitethroat on the sweeing bough  
Swayed by the impulse of the gadding wind  
That ushers in the showers of april—now  
Singeth right joyously & now reclined  
Croucheth & clingeth to her moving seat  
To keep her hold—& till the wind for rest  
Pauses—she mutters inward melodies  
That seem her hearts rich thinkings to repeat  
& when the branch is still—her little breast  
Swells out in raptures gushing symphonies  
& then against her brown wing softly prest  
The wind comes playing an enraptured guest  
This way and that she swees—till gusts arise  
More boisterous in their play—& off she flies

**Whitethroat** = Sylvia communis = Fauvette grisette  
**swee, v.** = sway, swing