

## MULTILINGUAL PASTICCIOS: BURLESQUE HETEROGLOSSIA IN RABELAIS AND SWIFT

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It has been claimed that, owing to the rhetorical principle of purity, intratextual multilingualism had been a marginal phenomenon in literature at least until the 19th century. Nonetheless, literary enclaves of multilingualism and heteroglossia (as defined by Mikhail Bakhtin) developed into the linguistic hybridism of baroque and the burlesque literature of the 16th – 18th centuries. Referring specifically to mockery, our presentation will focus on multilingualism and heteroglossia employed as rhetorical tools in satirical oeuvres. In particular, we will discuss parallelisms between the ironical use of heteroglossia in Rabelais' *Briefve déclaration* and Swift's construction of the dialogues in the episode of Gulliver's journey to Glubdubdrib. The comparative analysis of the two texts, contextualized in the coeval debate on knowledge, will demonstrate that both Rabelais and Swift, by imitating the language of certain scholars of their times, critically reflect on modern sciences. Specifically, they debate the cognitive limits of the scientific language itself and especially the theories of knowledge formulated by Ramon Llull and Petrus Ramus.